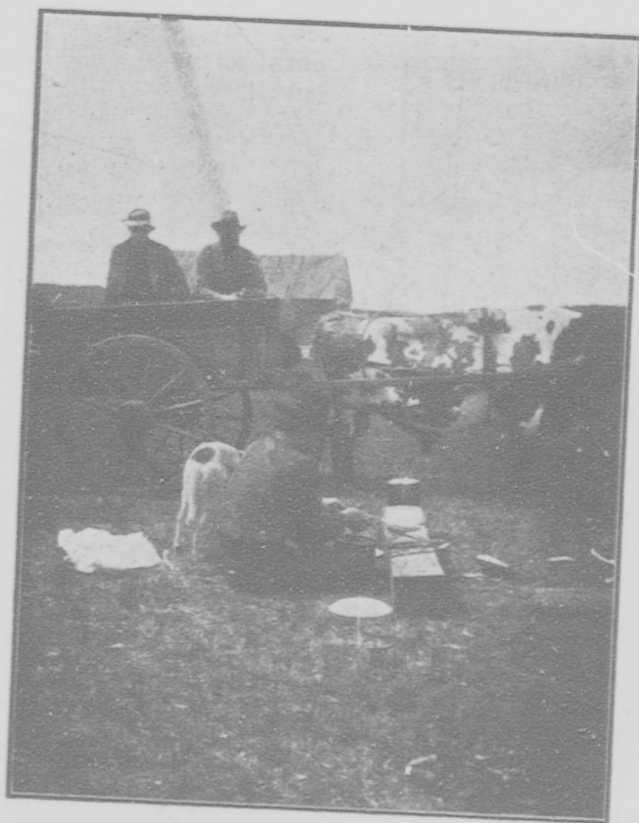


ers, one marking the way by blazing trees with an axe, the other carrying the tent and enough provisions for the trip.

Throughout the whole trip we were constantly pestered by flies of various species, the mosquitoes, black flies,

our return, there was no respite. It would be practically impossible to convey an adequate idea of the suffering which we were obliged to undergo from their attacks, and no application of oil or salve to our hands and faces seemed to have any effect in keeping them off.



FARMING AT FORT METAGAMIL.

sand flies, deer flies, and the bull-dog tabanus, being the most common. The level wooded country of the Abitibi region abounds in marshes and swamps and muskegs, which form ideal breeding places for mosquitoes and flies. They began to be very annoying soon after we took to our canoes at Metagama, and from that time until we reached Mattawa on

I was surprised that we did not occasionally meet with Indians in the woods. On enquiry I learned that they never hunt during the summer months when flies and mosquitoes are out, but congregate at the forts, where they can protect themselves to some extent from the insects by building smudges, and thus keeping the atmosphere constantly laden with