

THE COUNTRY NORTH OF THE MATTAWA RIVER AND LAKE NIPISSING.

Lakes, Rivers and Agricultural Capabilities.

On the north bank of the Mattawa a range of hills, of no great elevation, runs nearly the whole way from Trout Lake to the mouth, and between their base and the margin of the water there are good mixed wood flats, with elm, ash, maple, and a few oaks; but the slopes produce soft woods chiefly, the prevailing species being red pine.

To the north of Upper Trout Lake there is an extensive spread of flat hardwood country running in an east and west direction, possessing a good soil, consisting of loam in some places and clay in others, and the timber, in a great measure, composed of black birch, maple and basswood.

Associated with this tract is another, at the distance of five miles on the west side of Seven League Lake, on the Ottawa, between the Mattawa River and Lake Temiscaming, running in a south-westerly course to the vicinity of the Mattawa, and reaching as high as the Galere on Lake Temiscaming, though it is not there much nearer the lake than it approaches the river lower down.

Lake Temiscaming, a magnificent stretch of navigable water, the largest and deepest on the whole course of the Ottawa, extends seventy-five miles without any obstruction to vessels of the largest tonnage. It consists of three lakes, the lower, middle and upper, connected by narrow straits.

The Upper Lake extends from Fort Temiscaming to the "Head." This beautiful sheet of water has all the characteristics of a true lake. It is from six to eight miles wide, indented with deep bays, bold promontories, steep cliffs and low banks, and is studded with picturesque islands, two of which are of considerable size.

The Montreal River, its largest tributary, as regards both extent and volume, takes its source at the northern height of land, flows for about sixty miles in an easterly direction, and sixty miles more south-easterly, and discharges into Middle Lake by several mouths.