

amount of fine timber has been destroyed. Much excellent land occurs along this section, notably near Rushy Pond and towards the Badger Brook. The scenery on the Exploits River is very picturesque, numerous glimpses of which are had from the passing train. The confluence of the Badger is a pretty spot, and is now selected as a depot for storing provisions, &c., for the lumber-men engaged logging in the surrounding country. This industry has grown rapidly of late years; several hundred men are now employed cutting and driving the logs to the mill at Botwood. At the time of our visit last autumn some \$15,000 worth of supplies were stored at the Badger for winter use. Last season 60,000 pine logs were cut on this valley, and during the present season the drive is expected to reach about 80,000. The lumbering industry, both here and elsewhere, is now thoroughly established on a sound basis. Capital and experience combined are at length rendering our long-neglected timber resources available and it is a matter of congratulation to know that the business is thriving and giving remunerative employment to many of our people. That there is room for it to greatly expand is no longer a matter of doubt. Irrespective of milling and the manufacture of lumber, the business of pulp-making should soon take root here so as to utilize the vast amount of timber not suitable for sawing into lumber which exists in many districts of the island. It is to be hoped that ere long this new industry may be established and thus afford another source of employment for our people. Attention has been over and over again directed to the fearful destruction of our forests by fire, caused in most instances by wilful carelessness or even worse; still there appears to be no remedy applied, and every year sees the area of destruction greatly enlarged.

After leaving the Badger the line strikes west or rather a little north of west, till the valley of Rowsell's River is reached, near Skull Hill. This section, westward from the Badger River as far as Lake Bond, is fairly well wooded, but there are several extensive areas of marsh land after rising out of the valley of the Exploits, some of which marshes yield good crops of wild grass, and are capable of being greatly improved by draining.

Beyond Skull Hill the line trends away southwesterly to avoid the broken, hilly country westward, and, sweeping around again, comes out on the great, open, rolling plain which extends over the