

early stages of settlement would well repay the labor. The soil here will compare favorably with the best lands in southwestern Ontario, but the latter did not give the best returns until they were drained.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

Plenty of water can be had near the surface for the digging. What effect the clearing of the land will have on the water supply, time alone can tell. At present it is plentiful and fairly good. The small creeks are not to be depended upon for house supply, as after rain the water becomes quite muddy and thick from the washings of the clay soil. It is then neither palatable to the taste nor pleasing to the eye. Wells and natural springs must be depended on for the water supply.

The Temiscamingue settlement is quite young. Five years ago there were only about a dozen settlers on the Ontario side of the lake. Now, on the lake and river fronts where the land can easily be reached, the lots have nearly all been taken up. Lack of roads is at present the greatest drawback to settlement.

#### CROPS GROWN.

Vegetables of every kind grow to perfection and so do small fruits, while all the cereals grown in southern Ontario, with the exception of the more tender varieties of corn, grow well. Here I saw fine crops of peas, barley, fall and spring wheat, oats, timothy and clover hay, potatoes, etc. Some fields of hay grown on new land amongst the stumps would go over two tons to the acre. A piece of new land in fall wheat, the Surprise variety, on the 25th of June was fully headed out. It was over four and a half feet high and had all the appearance of a heavy crop. The soil seems to be especially adapted to the growth of peas, oats and potatoes. But the best results cannot be obtained from this strong, rich soil until the stumps are taken out and the land plowed into narrow ridges leading to open ditches, so that the surplus water will be quickly carried off. When the plow turns this strong clay up to the action of frost, sunlight and air, it crumbles like air slacked lime into small pieces about the size of peas or wheat, and when farmed under favorable agricultural conditions, yields good crops one year after another without becoming exhausted. On the Quebec side of the lake at Baie des Peres, there is a farm of 350 acres of cultivated land. The principal product is hay. This season they had 180 acres of mixed grass, timothy, common red and a little Alsike clover. It was estimated that there would be over 500 tons. Some of the fields had been mown for six years. I never saw so much fine hay growing in one place. The first and second year's cut would yield three and three and a half tons to the acre. This land never had been manured. This farm was in bush previous to 1884, but is now growing immense crops of hay, barley, peas, wheat, oats, potatoes and vegetables, without the aid of either artificial or barnyard manure. They keep about twenty-five head of cattle. The hay is pressed