

markets and is now attracting public attention, not only on account of the mining and lumbering operations carried on within its borders, but also because of its millions of acres of valuable lands, which offer a most desirable field for the profitable pursuit of stock-raising, as well as general farming. It contains several of the free grant townships, many townships not yet open for settlement, besides large tracts of government lands on sale to actual settlers at 20 cents per acre, and a considerable portion of these lands is of excellent quality and well fitted for the purposes mentioned. Among its advantages as a stock-raising country are an abundant supply of water—creeks, springs, rivers, and lakes being plentifully distributed throughout the entire district; absence of summer droughts and consequent abundance of green pasture, from the disappearance of the snow in spring till its falling at the beginning of winter; luxuriant hay and root crops, and a fertility of soil which in some localities is not excelled in any other part of the province. For cattle ranching there are special facilities in the lands stretching along the river banks, while on the high lands and rocky bluffs and ridges sheep can be pastured without cost through the spring, summer, and autumn seasons.”

A miller who removed from Eastern Ontario to the Algoma district some years ago, writes:—

“I feel satisfied that Algoma is fully equal to Eastern Ontario for mixed farming. All kinds of grain do well here. Grass cannot be beaten, we can raise better grass-fed beef in Algoma than can be produced in any part of Ontario (or Canada). As for grain I never milled better wheat than I have done in Algoma. I made quite a number of tests from farmers’ grists during the winter, and seldom found a test go below 60 pounds per bushel, and some as high as 65 pounds per bushel. For the vicinity of Port Lock, on the north shore between Bruce Mines and Sault Ste. Marie, spring wheat averages from 20 to 25 bushels per acre, fall or winter wheat 25 to 30 bushels per acre. Peas are easily grown and are a sure crop. They average about 40 bushels per acre. Oats are generally a good crop. All kinds of root crops grow well here. I have known potatoes to yield 50 bushels from one bushel planted.”

A farmer residing near Sault Ste. Marie, who came from Norfolk, England, and has spent over twelve years in Algoma, says:—

“A man coming here without any money, if he works hard and has a knowledge of the business, can perhaps get on better in Algoma than in other countries where there is no work or employment in the winter months as there is in Algoma, in the woods and mines, and on public works; but the kind of farmers to come here, and the men who would make themselves independently well off in a very short time, are tenant farmers and others with a little means or capital and a good practical knowledge of farming or stock-raising, men who understand it as a business, and who have a little money to buy good stock and implements and get well started.”