

Secretary of State apportions these areas thus: 76,800,000 acres are described as pure prairie lands, 300,000,000 part timber and part prairie, all suitable for the cultivation of wheat and other cereals; 600,000,000 suitable for the cultivation of barley, potatoes, and grasses, and having sufficient timber for ordinary purposes; while over 400,000,000 are described as rock and swamp. Later investigations and explorations place the area suitable for successful cultivation and settlement at somewhere exceeding 300,000,000 acres, and the country is represented on excellent authority as capable of sustaining over 50,000,000 of people. It will thus be seen that there is in this new country no lack of room.

Commencing at Port Arthur, on Lake Superior, you travel through a thickly-wooded country, which recent discoveries have gone far to prove to be also rich in minerals, and to contain a fair percentage of agricultural land. Considerable activity was shown during last season in mining operations in the country lying between the Red River and Lake Superior, which is now being opened up by the Lake Superior section of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Several workings of gold, silver, and copper have been carried on, but operations are greatly restricted by the want of capital and of practical men. The mining law is a good one. Patents in fee simple to the land can be had from the Government for one dollar (4s.) per acre, and, when in unsurveyed territory, the discoverer or patentee pays his own surveyor's expenses. There are, moreover, no royalties or Crown dues on the minerals. Mining timber and good supplies of water are said to be plentiful, and the mineral beds being of great extent and value, there is every reason to believe that the excellent railway facilities now provided will lead to the opening up of a great mining industry. The district along the banks of the Rainy River is especially worthy of mention, having already attracted a large number of settlers to establish their homes there. The scenery along the route from Lake Superior to the Red River is in many places magnificent, and when you come to Rat Portage—a distance of 135 miles east of Winnipeg—you find there probably the finest water-power in America, as it is acknowledged to be far superior to that of Minneapolis, and Minneapolis water-power is known as the most valuable of any in the United States. There is a strange similarity in the respective positions of Minneapolis and Rat Portage, Minneapolis standing in the same relation to the North-Western States of America as Rat Portage does to the Canadian North-West in the manufacture of flour by water-power and its shipment to Eastern markets. For these reasons, and also the facilities there offered for other manufactures, I look upon Rat Portage as destined to become one of the greatest manufacturing centres in the North-West. Already several large mills and manufactories are established there, and the recently discovered gold mines in the vicinity are being energetically developed, and are found to yield from 30% to 40% per ton of crushed ore. Passing on, you leave the