

river, in 1853, mentions Mr. Egan's farm at Eganville as growing excellent crops of wheat, oats, hay, potatoes, and other roots, besides having raised a large stock of horses and cattle. The country generally, however, throughout the whole region was essentially a lumbering rather than an agricultural district. Mr. Murray states, that "although the greatest part of the timber on the main river has long since disappeared—a large portion having been swept away by fire, independent of that removed by trade—there are still vast quantities brought down the river annually and made to descend to Ottawa by the course of the Bonnechere. On our way up the stream, we repeatedly found it almost entirely blocked up with squared timber, sometimes for miles together."

Eganville depends to a very small extent now on the lumber industry, being mainly a trading centre for the surrounding farming communities.

A large mass of boulder clay blocks the valley of the Bonnechere at this point, and the river has cut down through it to a depth of 40 feet. Good sections of this stony glacial clay are seen on the north side of the river just behind the post office. The business portion of the village is situated alongside the river in the bottom of the cutting and the residential section is on the terraces. Wooden stairs are used as short cuts by the residents when passing from one level to the other.

The soils derived from the boulder clay in the vicinity of the village are very productive, but further south the soils become more sandy in texture being derived mostly from fluvio-glacial sands and gravels. The presence of numerous rock ridges further curtail the agricultural possibility in this direction.

A curious condition due to glaciation on the slopes and top of the high southern escarpment is worth considering in more or less detail, as it concerns the geography of the district. The continental ice sheet moved nearly from north to south in this region so that it crossed the broad trough of the Bonnechere nearly at right angles. There was probably a considerable extent of the comparatively soft, flat lying paleozoic rocks consisting of limestones and shales, eroded from the valley bottom. The wet ground products of these made by the weight and movement of ice were carried along and plastered over the southern slope of the escarpment. This material contained a good percentage of clay substance and subsequently made good soils which were tilled wherever the slopes were not too steep. On the steeper slopes a magnificent crop of hardwood has grown up whose broad expanses of flaming color is one of the many attractions of the region every autumn.

The flat lying limestones and shales extended up the valley only a short distance beyond Eganville in pre-glacial times, so there was very little clay making material gathered up by the ice when passing this portion of the valley, consequently where the clay making materials cease in the valley the clay soils cease in the escarpments to the southward and are replaced by those of sandy texture.

Fifty years ago or thereabouts many people from middle Europe emigrated and settled in this and other parts of Ontario. A number of Germans and Poles were settled on the lands south of Eganville. It was the irony of fate that the people of that distressed country Poland were settled on the sandy portion of the escarpment and valley while the Germans were placed on the lands with clay soils.

The area lying between Wilno, Rockingham, and Barry Bay in Hagerty and Radcliffe townships is included in the Polish settlement. A great portion of this land is made up of porous gravel and sand heaps, mostly glacial moraine features (fig. 4) the remainder being rock ridges with thin sandy soils.

This district is mostly absolute forest land, unfitted for the cultivation of crops. The employment afforded by the lumber companies, however, enabled the Poles to maintain their existence in the face of great natural disadvantages.

Although the lands of the German settlement in Sebastopol township had a great deal of clay soils, the glaciation also brought along numerous boulders, which were strewn over the surface. With unremitting industry the men, women, and children of the community have cleared the fields from stones so that crops can be sown and harvested by machinery.

In recent years Eganville has become an important shipping point for live stock.

Owing to the uneven character of the surface and the spotted occurrence of land fit for cultivation, the farmers in this part of the Bonnechere valley frequently have considerable areas of wild land at their disposal. These lands are a source of fuel, pulpwood or cedar timber for posts, or grazing lands for cattle and sheep.

In some instances several adjacent farms have been entirely withdrawn from cultivation and the whole fenced in and used as a cattle ranch. The hay cut from beaver meadows and swamps in the vicinity is largely used for winter feeding for these cattle. This kind of farming is particularly well suited to the upland region remote from the railways as it is easier to have the crop walk down to the shipping points than it is to haul other produce over the hilly and poorly maintained roads of the region.

Kilns for the burning of limestone are located on the bank of the Bonnechere river a short distance