

scattered among the poplar. In the photo of the saw mill given herewith, some logs can be seen which are a fair average of those cut.

Spruce is the only kind of saw timber found. Tamarac is very scarce. There is abundance of wood suitable for cordwood. It might be fancied that this was a particularly fertile spot selected by the mission, but such is not the case. What has been done here could be done at a number of places in the section. The priest told me that in his opinion Ile a la Crosse was better adapted to farming than where he is stationed at La Plonge. This mission was moved from there two years ago. At Ile a la Crosse the priests have a very nice church and a comfortable dwelling house, also large barn and about three acres ploughed and in use as a garden. At the Hudson's Bay Company Post which is their district distributing point there is about 35 acres ploughed and last year about five acres was in oats. The company do not endeavour to grow much now as the Revillons have opened roads for winter hauling and things are brought by team from Prince Albert direct to Ile a la Crosse. I saw oats sold there for \$1.00 per bushel; this price was considered very cheap so it would evidently pay to grow them. The Hudson's Bay Company grow potatoes for sale but the native being almost entirely a flesh eater, looks on vegetables with contempt. The Revillon Post at Ile a la Crosse is their district distributing point. No cultivation has yet been attempted by their employees. Prof. John Macoun in the Dominion Government Canadian Pacific Railway Report, 1877-8, says: "I was at Ile a la Crosse on September 22nd, 1875, and saw potatoes still green as they were in July. I was told by Mr. Cummins that these potatoes hardly ever were killed by frost in September. Here there was a flour mill driven by horsepower and I am told that all kinds of grain ripen successfully." At the mouth of the Canoe River is a small patch of good land. At Canoe Lake I found a Chipewyan village, also a small Roman Catholic Church and an out-post of the Hudson's Bay Company.



GARDEN AT BUFFALO RIVER, SEPT. 12TH, 1908.

From Ile a la Crosse to Canoe Lake the river flows through immense hay swamps, and there was a large amount of hay stacked but of a rather poor quality being slough grass. At Canoe Lake the land is somewhat higher and there were some good gardens. One Chipewyan grew some barley but cut it too soon. At the south-west of Canoe Lake the country rises considerably and the soil is good.