

Lake Huron. The eastern boundary is a line from Georgian Bay due north to James'. The smaller triangle, Ontario, is bounded on the west by Lakes Huron and St. Clair; on the south by Lake Erie and Ontario and by the St. Lawrence; on the northeast there is the Ottawa, Lake Nipissing marks the junction of the two triangles. And the smaller triangle is itself divided, by Lake Simcoe, into two almost equal triangles, Eastern and Western Ontario.

Eastern Ontario is a rolling land of hill and dale, tending, in the northwest portion, to what is commonly called 'rough country.' It is everywhere well watered, being interspersed with innumerable lakes and streams. It is, as a consequence, naturally well wooded and lumber is one of its greatest natural resources. The waters abound in fish, from the lowly perch to the lordly maskinongé. In the woods of the sparsely settled portions there is an abundance of game, ranging from the squirrel to the big cariboo in the north. East of the air line from Renfrew to Kingston, the country is well cleared and, for the most part, cultivated. Here, the soil itself, on account of its fertility, is the greatest natural resource. And this rich soil is also found in the valleys of the 'rough country' to the west.

Throughout the whole of Eastern Ontario there are extensive peat bogs, but it is only recently they have begun to be worked. The government plant at Alfred, during its short existence, has already showed that peat is practical and valuable as a fuel, so that it must be counted among the natural resources. Building material is also plentiful; the best brick-clay and the best limestone is abundant; beautiful granites and marbles are found in many places, but as yet they, are not used to great extent. In the 'rough country' there are many minerals, even gold in small quantities. Back some miles from Barry's Bay there is a big mine of corundum, a mineral next to the diamond in hardness. Here and there throughout the district there are paying deposits of mica. Iron is found in great quantities, but, owing to the absence of coal, it is not mined. However, the Dominion Government is experimenting to find a means of smelting iron by electricity and success seems imminent. This electricity is to be obtained by means of the abundant water-powers of the district.

The next district to consider is Western Ontario. It is a land of gentle slopes and broad, smiling plains. It is famed for the fruitfulness of its soil and has been aptly termed "The Garden of Canada." Mixed farming and fruit-growing are carried on extensively. Among the natural resources must be mentioned