

at hand, convenient to the markets of the world, and being within some twenty-four hours' journey by rail or steamer from the older settled parts of Ontario or Montreal. Speaking about markets, the evidence of the settlers of Algoma, compiled in the pamphlet I have mentioned, and the many letters which have recently appeared in the Press on the subject of the colonisation of New Ontario, show that there is a home market in Algoma; that is, a market at the farmer's own door, so to speak, and the reason of this has been explained by the big lumbering and mining operations in different parts of the district, and the public works going on, &c. Then it must be remembered that these home markets are not transient home markets. They will be permanent home markets for the following reasons:—

First. The mining industry in Algoma is only in its infancy. (As to this I would call the reader's attention to the remarks I made a couple of years or so ago on the floor of the Legislature, and an extract from which may be found on pages 41, 42, and 43 of the pamphlet "Algoma Farmers Testify.")

Secondly. Even after all the pine in Algoma is cut, which will not be, of course, for a good many years, there are inexhaustible forests of paper-wood—that is, pulp or fibre-wood—and of merchantable hardwood, birch and maple for flooring, furniture, &c., and in time, of course, there will be a big demand for merchantable hardwood. In fact merchantable hardwood is coming into demand in older Canada and the United States, and now commands a good price.

Thirdly. The opening of the Canadian Ship Canal will in itself largely increase the present good market at Sault Ste. Marie, as Canadian vessels, and probably frequently American vessels also, will go through our Canadian Canal. At present they all go through the American Canal, and do not touch at the Canadian Sault at all. These vessels will need an immense amount of supplies of all kinds. The reason why the American Sault is a large place compared to the Canadian Sault is that they have had for years a ship canal, and we have had none. Directly our canal is finished, which will be about July, 1894, I understand, things will be revolutionised in that respect.

Fourthly. There is the effect the waterpower canal, now nearing completion on the Canadian side of the river, will have on the question of markets. As to this, read pages 39 to 41 of the pamphlet referred to.

But even if there were not such good home markets in Algoma, and even if the present good home markets ceased at any time in the future instead of being increased, as the facts I have shown go to prove, that is, even if in the course of time the people in Algoma had to become exporters—that is, if they had to sell what they grow and raise outside of Algoma—would it not still pay a farmer who is changing his residence to consider the fact that the further he goes away from the great lakes and rivers, the further he is going away from the markets of the world, and the higher his freight rates will be on anything he may raise or grow in the distant country to which he removes? I would call the reader's attention to a very thoughtful and able editorial, entitled a "National Problem," which appeared in the *Toronto Globe*, Saturday, the 8th inst. I quote from that article the following words and figures:—