

mostly filled with a stony clay. A few rock-basins remain and are occupied by clear lakes, such as Trout Lake, but most of the lakes occupy shallow basins in the loose

belts along the banks of the streams. Between the hills are more or less extensive mossy swamps, from the surface of which rise a few small scattered spruce and tamarack.



J. B. T. Photo.

Rocky Country at the Head of Cat River.

surface deposits, with low sandy or stony, rather than rocky, shores.

When the country is opened for settlement much of the loose surface clay will form excellent soil for the growth of farm crops, for where Indian hunters can grow potatoes, white farmers can grow very many other things.

Here and there, sand hills rise above the general level and form conspicuous objects in the landscape. On the tops of the stony knolls or of the sandy hills Banksian pine up to 10 inches in diameter is often growing, while on the sides of the hills, where the slopes are not too gentle, are groves of white spruce up to 12 inches in diameter, while similar spruce trees also form

Signs of Burning.

Along the course which I travelled in 1912 from Trout Lake up tributaries of Severn River to the headwaters of Cat River about half of the timber had been burnt a few years before, and was still standing as blackened or bleached tree trunks. On this route the timber, counting both burnt and unburnt trees, would probably average, over hills and swamps, about ten cords to the acre. I cannot say definitely whether this estimate would hold true for the country on the Wenisk and other rivers east of the route which I followed, but judging from a careful examination of the reports of Messrs. Bell, McInnes, Dowling and other explorers, I should think that it would.