

market *via* Clode Sound, and the timber produced here is said to be some of the best from the island. Gander Lake region will afford an abundant supply for many years to come. This beautiful sheet of water possesses many attractions, is well timbered all around, and the soil in many parts, but especially on the islands and intervals along the main inflowing rivers, is of excellent quality. It would be an admirable place to form a settlement. A large portion of the country above the lake had been swept by fire many years ago, but is being rapidly re-occupied by a young and vigorous growth of timber. The scenery around Gander Lake is of a very picturesque character, and no doubt will soon be a source of attraction to tourists when it becomes more generally known.

From Gander River to Norris Arm, Bay of Exploits, the country is again much varied. Numerous lakes occur, and timber of fair size is pretty well distributed, though here again fire has produced much havoc. There are several patches of nice land along this section. At Norris Arm and along the estuary of the Exploits the country is very attractive. It is all well wooded, and has a fairly good soil. Extensive settlement has taken place here within the last half dozen years. The establishment of the saw-mill at Botwood and the large lumbering operations now carried on in the Exploits Valley, with the advent of the railway, has given an impetus to the settlement of this district which is destined ere long to be one of the most flourishing parts of the island. It is a pity the idea of aiding settlement in this favoured locality, as proposed by an Act of the Legislature of 1886, had not been carried into effect. In that year the lands all along the estuary from Northern Arm up to the head of navigation, including Peter's Arm, Burnt Arm and Norris Arm, were all laid off in convenient-sized lots, and staked out so as to give every lot a frontage on the water side, with ample road allowances to the lands in the rear.

It was proposed by the then Government to assist any *bona fide* settler who would give satisfactory evidence of his intention to enter upon the cultivation of the soil, either as a sole means of livelihood or as an auxiliary employment to the fisheries, and to further stimulate agriculture in such settlement a bonus of twenty dollars for each of the first five acres cleared and cropped, and ten dollars for each succeeding acre up to ten acres, was to be given.