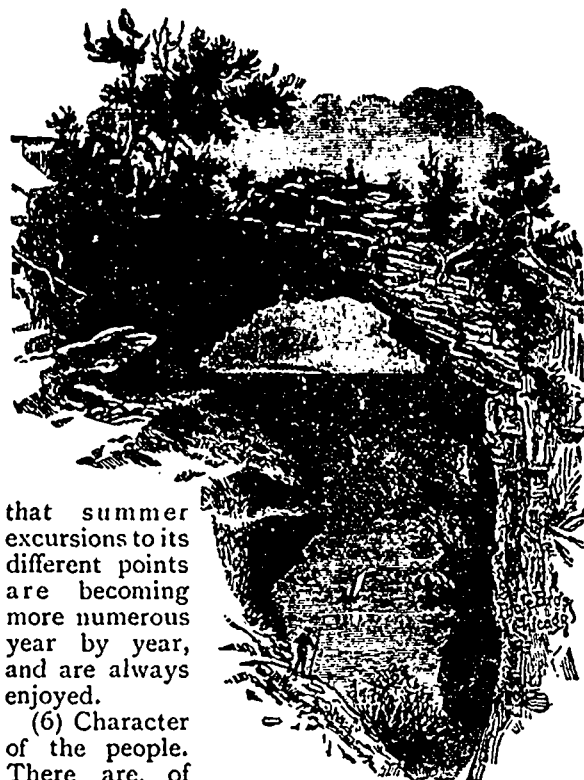




that summer excursions to its different points are becoming more numerous year by year, and are always enjoyed.

(6) Character of the people. There are, of course, many Indians. We

ARCH ROCK, MACKINAC ISLAND.

may say that Manitoulin Island is their headquarters for Ontario, and the very nature of the country, its facilities for hunting and fishing, make it suitable for their mode of life. Of the fifty-eight Indian reserves in Ontario, thirty-seven are within the boundaries of Algoma diocese; over 7,000 in number, or nearly half the Indians in Ontario. The government assists them to support themselves by reserving the rights of fishing near the coast for them and the white settlers, so that all fishing for export must be done in the deep waters of the lakes. Many of them, however, are becoming experts in this branch of the art. The Hudson Bay Company and other fur traders afford them a mart for the furs secured by them, and they use as food the flesh of fur-bearing animals. But as the settlements of the civilized man increase, the less can the Indians support themselves in this way, so they are gradually resorting to agriculture. In some parts they earn considerable sums during the summer from tourists who hire them and their canoes while they engage in fly fishing and other sports. In Muskoka and Parry Sound sawmills and other lumbering industries have been established, which affords almost constant employment to those willing to work. The reports sent to the government from the superintendents of the different districts speak of marked improvement and gradual civilization

from nearly every quarter. The white settlers number nearly 80,000. As the mines have not yet been developed, they are chiefly engaged in either farming or lumbering. While the farms are fairly fertile, the rocky nature of the country renders their labors much more arduous than those similarly engaged in this part of the province; while the distance from market not only makes their work less remunerative, but deprives them of many comforts which are to us necessities. To the Algoma farmer life must be one continuous struggle, and he must often need to be reminded of the One who makes all yokes easy and all burdens light.

Communication. The C.P.R. enters the diocese at the east, near the Ottawa River, and traverses it from end to end, striking the coast about the middle of the north shore of Lake Superior. It skirts the lake shore to Port Arthur, from which it proceeds north to Manitoba. It also has a branch running from Sudbury, in the middle of the mining district, to Sault Ste. Marie. The Northwestern branch of the G.T.R. also runs north from Toronto to Nipissing, and the C.P.R. have projected another branch to James Bay. The water communication by boat and canoe is very good. It was for this reason that the present bishop bought a small steamer, the "Evangeline," that he might visit many places accessible only by water. But the sum of \$500 per annum is necessary to keep the steamer in running order.

State of the Church. Practically without any Protestant church, except the Church of England; twenty-six clergy and five lay readers; two only self-supporting—Port Arthur and Sault Ste. Marie; 101 congregations, four to each. England has 24,000 clergy; Ireland, 1,807. Huron, one-quarter the size, with other churches in abundance, 130. Two Indian homes, Shingwauk for boys, and Wawanosh for girls. Clergy so hard-worked should be paid well. Refer to extracts of Report on Indian Affairs, pages 14 and 22.

Future prospects. The future prospects of the district, in a material point of view, are of the brightest. Lying in a latitude the same as that of France, there is no doubt that as the country is opened up the climate will become milder. Skirted on the north by the great inland sea, whose area is fully half that of the Mediterranean, and whose waters may yet be covered by the ships of many nations; and on the south by the largest body of fresh water in the world, the head of the great chain of lakes which forms the great highway of America; possessing in itself rich soil and mineral wealth incalculable, interspersed with river, and lake, and woodland, its possibilities pass the reach of man's imaginings. When the