

REFERENCE

What can stay the progress of a purpose being urged forward with an energy and vitality and faithfulness of this sort? Nothing! You need have no fear that the progress and prosperity of Sault Ste. Marie and the industries now founded therein will be checked or retarded by absence or the loss of any individual. The very progress of education which the citizens of Sault Ste. Marie have enjoyed in observing and participating in the construction and development of these works have qualified them to become associates and participants in its future career. You yourselves will see that these works are sustained and supported and continued. They are your sons who will become the operatives, the mechanics, the accountants and, yes, the managers of these various undertakings. The technical and professional training which now becomes available to the youth of this community through the medium of these works afford educational opportunities which will qualify them not alone to conduct the operation of these, but to originate and promote others. You have the right stamina; you have the right physical and intellectual attributes; you have the right climate, and above all, opportunities untouched and resources only awaiting your requests to yield to you success and profit. So much for the past relations between the town's people and our company.

Now, I know you will all like to hear some of the practical details of the operation of our works, and then you will, I also feel sure, expect me to make flattering prognostications of the future. I am too well satisfied with the present feeling of confidence which my fellow citizens have now acquired in me and my projects to imperil it by confessing to you what I really think about the future prospects of the two Saults. If I should tell you what is really in my mind in respect to this, you would, I am sure, feel that I had been carried away by the latest advance in real estate, that my capacity for judgment was gone, and that I myself had become a reckless boomster. I feel, therefore, that my good reputation requires that I should refrain from making a forecast of the future which would seem extravagant, but I will allow you to judge of the future by