

THE WABIGOON COUNTRY, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TORONTO, APRIL 1, 1898.

THE PROGRESS OF THE SETTLEMENT AT DRYDEN.

Since the spring of 1896, when the Department first called attention to the agriculture possibilities of the Wabigoon country, the progress of the settlement at Dryden has been continuous and satisfactory. Originally, two townships only were surveyed, Van Horne and Wainwright, but the demand for land was such that from time to time it was found necessary to make additional surveys, and the townships of Eton, Rugby, Sanford and Aubrey were added to the west, and Zealand to the east.

In Eton and Rugby, which were placed on the market last season, a considerable portion of the available land has already been taken up. The characteristics of the townships of Sandford and Aubrey are precisely similar to those already settled. The land is rather rolling throughout, and the soil, for the most part, a clay or clay loam of very good quality. The timber being small, and recently burned over, the land is easily cleared, in fact there are large areas almost fit for the plow at the present time, as the timber has been burned off almost clean and the land is growing up with wild peas, wild buckwheat, grass, and some small bushes. The Wabigoon river runs through Sanford from east to west, while a part of Eagle lake and river is included in the township of Aubrey. In these two townships rock outcrops very seldom, and taken altogether they may be considered as very desirable for settlement. The Canadian Pacific Railway runs along the line dividing the townships, Sanford being in the north and Aubrey to the south of the track.