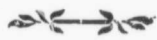


Can.
Prov. New Ontario.

NEW ONTARIO.



Numerous Questions Asked and Answered.

IT is evident that no one will change his place of residence in the United States or Canada, or any of the European countries, without first securing adequate information relative to the conditions which build up and make prosperous communities.

Social, educational and religious conditions are even more important to many than the natural, but the wise man is and should be anxious to become well informed.

We have an unusual desire to secure well informed men, with intelligent, thrifty families, not afraid to cope with some of the difficulties of a pioneer life.

It was a life of this kind which characterized our forefathers, and rendered them mighty men physically, intellectually and morally, enabling them to leave their impress upon a'l the walks of life.

I will endeavor to ask the common questions which are found in nearly every letter of inquiry, and will answer them to the best of my ability. There is nothing accomplished in the long run in misleading a people by false representations. It is our desire to see every family, no matter from whence they come, whether moderately rich, or abjectly poor, settled on a farm of their own, free from the lash of the landlord. Why be renters; why adorn another man's farm and build up riches for him, when there is one hundred and sixty acres free to you for the taking? I ask, why?

What portion of Canada is New or Western Ontario?

THE districts of Thunder Bay and Rainy River, a territory four hundred miles east to west, and two hundred miles north to south, directly north of Minnesota. Adding the districts of Algoma and Nipissing gives

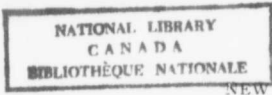
us three-fourths of the total area of Ontario. Within this district are many millions of acres of agricultural land, out of which fine homes may be made.

This district is also noted for its minerals Gold, silver, copper, iron and other valuable metals have been discovered, and are of great value, and as they are developed will give us one of the best local markets in the world.

Our lumber industry gives employment to thousands of men annually.

Port Arthur, the district town of Thunder Bay, is situated at the head of navigation on Lake Superior, the largest fresh water lake in the world, two thousand three hundred and eighty-four miles from the mouth of the St. Lawrence, giving us one of the longest continuous stretches of inland navigation in the world, as long as from

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Montreal to London. The commerce for the western provinces and territories arrive here by boat and are transferred to their destination by rail. It is no unusual thing to see five hundred thousand tons of coal transhipped, while from the west this fall there will be taken through our great elevators forty million bushels of wheat.

We have one transcontinental railway, four thousand miles in length, known the world over as the Canadian Pacific, and another railway which will traverse the continent is being constructed, called the Canadian Northern, which will have its eastern terminal for the present at Port Arthur. These two roads cross these districts.

Rat Portage is the district town of Rainy River. It is situated on the Lake of the Woods, one of the most picturesque lakes in the world, with over ten thousand islands specking her placid surface.

Probably no river on the continent will be so admired as Rainy River when made known to the pleasure-seeker. With our thousand miniture water-falls, and our great Kakabeka, we refuse to take second place in anything under the shining sun.

What are the Staple Crops and Average Yield ?

PROBABLY no country yields better timothy and clover. The second crop of clover is good, and frequently on Rainy River the second crop of timothy is good. Fall and spring wheat yield well; the same can be said of rye. We have a

fine country for oats. Three years ago a farmer on Slate River had twenty acres that yielded one hundred bushels per acre. For the truthfulness of this statement the present Mayor of Fort William purchased the oats. I never saw a country yield better potatoes. Prolific crops are grown, and this can be said of all root and garden crops with the exception of tomaotes. While we have ripened tomatoes occasionally, we have not succeeded yet in growing them for the market. People seem surprised because we do not ripen corn and tomatoes in this latitude, but when you think you do not ripen bananas and oranges in the eastern or middle states, the fact is no longer a surprise. In Port Arthur we can grow potatoes large enough for the table in sixty days from time of planting.

But go with me one thousand miles north or northeast to Moose Factory, on Hudson Bay, where we have the glorious growing sunshine for almost twenty-four hours a day, and we grow potatoes there large enough for the table in six weeks. It is the hours of sunshine which enables us to grow such phenomenal crops.

About How Long is the Season Without Frost ?

PEOPLE who reside in the east seem to have a horror for frost and snow. From Canada's earliest history to the present, her citizens have taken special delight in sending out to the world pictures of snow, ice and all kinds of pictures illustrative

of our northern climate until the people are educated to believe that we have nothing but winter. If they were with us now, (the middle of July), they would wonder what to do in order to keep cool. The thermometers are usually very conservative here, but some of them have lost their bearings under the burning wave and got pretty well "worked up." Think of mercury climbing up to the 100 mark, and it will take a little

of the frost idea out of you. True, we have frost in the winter, and plenty of it, but little of it in the summer. We have no more trouble about frost here than you have in your own country.

In the spring we are later getting in crops, but our long days bring us up in the fall with abundant crops, and no one here thinks much about frost until they see it. About the first of May stock can make their living outside on the green grass. Stock was turned out last spring in the Sate River Valley on the 9th of April and made it all right. There will be an abundance of grass all summer and until about the first of December. Our grass never buries up and becomes dry and unfit for grazing like it does in Illinois and other states, but remains green. I do not wish to leave the impression that nothing has ever been injured by the frost in the early spring, for at times potatoes and other tender garden truck have been frozen, but in a few days they are all right and the result is a good crop.

What Fruit Can be Raised. ?

ALL kinds of wild fruit, strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, saskatoons and plums. One lady last year used up one barrel of sugar in preserving berries. (This in the White Fish Valley). I know of another lady in the same settlement who gathered and put down two hundred and fifty quarts. I visited another lady last winter and she asked me what kind of fruit I liked best, that she could give me almost any kind I would ask for. Tame strawberries are being put out and do well. We can never grow peaches and grapes.

The above statement refers to this district. Let it be remembered that Ontario contains two hundred and twenty thousand square miles ; that it is seven hundred and fifty miles long from north to south, one thousand miles wide from east to west, and that we are noted for the best fruits shipped into the European market. No finer peaches, apples and grapes can be grown anywhere than in the eastern portion of the province. We may do wonders here, we are just unfolding our great possibilities.

Is Your Climate Severe in Winter ?

BY reason of the dryness of the atmosphere extremes of heat and cold are less acutely felt than one would expect from simply observing the thermometer. Our climate is dry, healthy, invigorating ; such a climate as conduces to the building up of a hardy, vigorous race. Instead of the perpetual winter so much talked about, the facts are, that the average winter is about four and a half months, and though spring may begin two or three weeks later than in Illinois, the conditions for rapid growth—warm sunshine and rain—are so favorable that the crops are seldom, if ever, a failure. It is a well recognized fact that a sharp, cold winter, with plenty of snow, is by far the most healthful as well as the most advantageous to business of every kind. I have travelled a great deal, but nowhere have I enjoyed the winters more. The young people take more outdoor recreation. Even the little ones are constantly out playing in the dry snow.

No wonder then that in our latitude can be found such beautifully developed men and women. There is nothing to prevent men working out every day during the winter. It is cold, but there is no rain or dampness of any kind ; we are free from

rain, the slush, the mud of the States. Our winters are healthful and enjoyable to all. Some people think we are snow-bound in winter. True we have snow all winter. The first that falls remains all winter.

Our roads become somewhat delightful. Nothing but sleighs, sleigh-bells, robes and fast horses. At times I have seen more snow in Illinois and other States than in this portion of Ontario. We are out of the snow belt. Think about the Canadian Pacific Railway crossing the continent on time almost every day. We seldom hear of the train being snow-bound. At no time but what men are at work in the lumber camps. Out in the camps monstrous loads of logs are hauled to the railway track. Think of a load of seventy-five logs, containing about twenty thousand feet, the average load about fifteen thousand feet, on one sled drawn by two horses. The delightfulness of this climate, both winter and summer, cannot be guessed at even by reading an article like this.

Is Wood Plentiful for Fuel; Is There Any Coal?

WE have no prairie land. The settler with plenty of money may wish to go to the great prairies of Manitoba or Alberta, where he can farm on a large scale. Think of this great field nine hundred miles long, and three hundred miles wide. If you wish to make farming count there it requires money to begin with. In New Ontario our land is covered with timber. This is valuable to the poor settler. He may have a family, with just enough money to pay his transportation and get on his one hundred and sixty acres of free grant. With his axe he can construct his own home out of logs. I have one gentleman in Burriss township, Rainy River, who came from Texas with wife and four children. In Rat Portage he spent about all his money for provisions. He went on his lot and erected a 300' house for forty cents. I heard him say, "I live on a fifty cent farm, in a forty cent house." Two years have passed by, and I find a commodious two story hewed log house, and about twelve acres under splendid cultivation. The timber here on the free grant lands at once affords a visible means of support. Timber for buildings, fencing, fuel and market. There is cordwood and ties to be taken out. This can be done in the process of clearing. More than this, we have some land easily cleared, "the burnt off land" as it is called. One man in Gillies township, White Fish River Valley, came last spring, one year ago, and now has fifty acres in cultivation, without a stump, and will cut twenty tons of timothy hay this year, which will be worth at least \$10.00 per ton. If a man will spend some little time he can find land quite open with sufficient timber to last a life-time. The settler does not require coal.

Is Your Water Hard or Soft? How is it Obtained?

IF YOU should visit this well-watered country once, you would not ask any more questions regarding this. One gentleman, a former Canadian, who has lived in South Dakota for seventeen years, recently wrote to me that he had been without water so long that he would like to have a river on his place. It is hardly necessary to dig wells here. It is hard to find a quarter section of land without a spring or creek somewhere on it; water of the very best quality, almost if not quite soft. We know nothing of alkali water. Very few wells have been sunk by the settlers anywhere. I know of a few. They had to go from six to twenty feet and found good water.



MORGAN'S FARM.—FIELD OF POTATOES ON NEW GROUND.



MORGAN'S FARM.—FIELD OF GRAIN ON NEW GROUND.

NOTE—Mr. Morgan is High School Teacher in Port Arthur.

Are you Subject to Droughty Weather and Frequent Failures of Crops ?

AN absolute failure of crops has never been reported here. Within the memory of the oldest settlers here last year was the poorest crop year known. It was unusually dry in the early spring, and very wet in the autumn. However, timothy made about one ton to the acre, clover frequently made two tons. I know of men who had twenty-five bushels of wheat per acre, and oats made a good yield. Potatoes and everything else yielded well. I exhibited a bundle of oats and rye at the Toronto Exhibition last fall which was seven feet in length. While all the country felt the effects of the dry weather last year, we can safely say by looking at the history of the past, that we are as free, if not freer from failures, than any other district on the continent. Our crops this year are first-class in every respect. I have not heard one discouraging statement from the settlers. We have had plenty of rain and sunshine.

Another feature of this country is, we seem to escape all cyclones and destructive storms. Lake Superior, like the ocean, is sometimes storm-swept. It is an inland ocean. Two Switzerlands could be sunk within its area, so could Belgium and Holland together. We do not wonder that storms rage there. But our fertile valleys, secluded amid the hills and mountains, have so far escaped these monsters of strength, whose visitations are so frequent to the country south of us.

Can Desirable Free Grant Land Be Had ?

WE have enough free grant land in Rainy River district, north of the Rainy River alone, to give five thousand men one hundred and sixty acres each. This valley is one hundred miles long, and the good fertile land extends back from the river ten to forty miles. There are twenty-four free grant townships surveyed there now. The river is navigable for large boats, and the Canadian Northern runs along the north bank, which will be completed by the first of October. Settlers from the Dakotas, Iowa and other States west of the Mississippi river may come in via Gretna and Winnipeg. This valley no doubt offers to settlers all the advantages desirable in a new country.

Near Dryden and Wabigoon, one hundred miles north of the Rainy River valley, is another large body of good agricultural land. This is not free grant, but is sold at fifty cents per acre, subject to the same settlement duties as the land in Rainy River valley. We have a very thrifty settlement here, and they seem to be happy. They are located on the main line of the Canadian Pacific.

The lands in the White Fish and Slate River valleys have been in great demand during the past two years, as they are within thirty miles of Port Arthur and Fort William. We have at least in the Thunder Bay district enough free grant land in view on which to place five thousand families. To open up all this land will require more colonization roads. The Government constructs the roads for the settlers. In other words, the settlers are permitted to work on the roads and get one dollar per day and board. The settlement has been so great the past two years that the colonization road work is far behind the settlement. Many settlers experience a great many hardships before the road reaches the door, but the industrious man cares little for this, when he has a fair prospect for a home before him. All of these lands are near railways. We have in contemplation the construction of another road to run north from Port Arthur, called the Thunder Bay, Nepigon and St. Joe. This road will open up a boundless tract of agricultural land, and no doubt great mineral and timber wealth.

As far as land is concerned we know of no limit. Industry and patience will open it up; first to come will have advantages over those who wait. The man who waits will always be found waiting. You may obtain lands under the following conditions:

Upon being located, the locatee may enter and improve his land, and he is required to do so within one month.

Settlement duties as follows must be performed by all locatees and purchasers:

(1) At least fifteen acres to be cleared and had under cultivation, of which two acres at least are to be cleared and cultivated annually during the five years.

(2) To have built a habitable house at least 16 x 20 feet in size.

(3) And to have resided actually and continuously upon and cultivated the land for five years after location, and thence to the issue of the patent.

The locatee, however, may be absent from the land on business or at work for not more than six months in any one year.

Where the locatee owns two lots, the improvement may be made on either or both.

A locatee purchasing an additional 100 acres must within five years clear fifteen acres and cultivate the same.

If the lot is adjacent to the lot on which he resides, the patent may issue for the purchased lot at the expiration of the time required by law, provided he has thirty acres cleared upon his homestead.

In order to obtain a free grant, one hundred and sixty acres, a charge of fifty cents is made for affidavit.

Have You Bad Roads and Much Swamp?

WHY refer to the difficulties characteristic of a pioneer life? In a new country we expect to find everything undeveloped, or in a primitive state. First, do we expect to find good roads?

How foolish for the Government or an individual

to spend time explaining to an intelligent people that these valleys do not possess pike or gravel roads. People of sense are aware of this fact. Good roads never come to any country before the people. First the people come and then the roads.

I do not believe any country is as free as these valleys from swamp. You can travel on foot along a given section line without coming to an impassable swamp further than in any other new country to my knowledge. How about the swamps of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois? How far could a man travel on foot till he came to the edge of a great body of water, or a dangerous swamp. Central Illinois was all swamp and sold as condemned land at fifty cents per acre to speculators. Today it is the most valuable farming land in the state.

Now permit me to record a fact. We have what is termed muskeg, which is composed of a vegetable decomposition. Cut a ditch through one of them and you will discover that the centre of it is higher than its edges and that the water flows from it freely. These muskegs will some day be like the swamp land of Illinois, the most valuable in the valley. Most of the settlers are anxious to secure from twenty to thirty acres of it for meadow land. So much for roads and swamps.

How About the "Bull Dog" Flies on Rainy River.

AGAIN, another characteristic of a new country is an overplus of mosquitoes and flies. Were there no mosquitoes and flies in the early settlement of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois? This was true of all the States and Manitoba. These insects, which torment man and beast, are found wherever you go. In the early settlement of all these countries they were almost intolerable. I am not surprised that they are unusually bad in this valley this year. It has been unusually wet, and vegetation is very succulent, consequently an over-production. They thrive upon the milky, succulent vegetation. But the prosperous farmer does not permit them to retard him in his work, as some would suppose. For six weeks they hold high carnival, but the thoughtful farmer is prepared with a dark stable or barn. These barns are constructed warm for winter; in fact not a particle of cold is admitted. In the summer time the doors of these buildings are kept open, and the stock, after grazing all night till late in the morning, goes to the barn, and the flies leave them as they enter the door. They remain there in safety till the night. They go and come at will. This does not mean death to the stock. The fattest of cattle and horses are seen in this valley both winter and summer. There are days together when the fly does not bother teams at work to any very great extent; then for several days they are bad. The farmers succeed in getting their farm work or any kind of work done all right. But whether we term these flies "bull dogs," as they do here, or "green heads," as they did in Illinois, it matters not; they are bad enough for the period they last, and we long for the day of their disappearance. As the country is developed, as the plastic hand of man subdues the forest, and the land becomes well drained, these pests will go. Every man of sound judgment will say that this is correct. The signature of every reliable farmer in Rainy River could be secured and placed at the bottom of this statement.

Is it Necessary to Become a British Subject Before Obtaining Free Land?

NO, we enjoy unequalled civic and religious liberties. If you wish the right of suffrage, the privilege of participating in the general elections, it is necessary to take out naturalization papers. Ninety foreigners became British subjects in Port Arthur this month alone, but unless it is desired to acquire the rights of Canadian citizenship, the American settler can take up free grant land, although retaining his American nationality.

Will There be any Duty to Pay at the Canadian Border?

NO. Settler's effects having been in use by the settler for at least six months are entitled to free entry into the country. According to the regulations a settler may bring ten head of stock in his car of effects free of duty, and the food necessary for the settler and his stock on their journey. One person is permitted free transportation with car to attend stock.

Transportation. FOR passengers from anywhere in Ontario to Port Arthur, all rail \$16.00, certificate necessary. Freight rates, carload, \$60.00, one man free if car contains stock. Effects, less than carload lots 50 cent's per hundred pounds.

SETTLERS FROM THE UNITED STATES. From Detroit to Port Arthur, all rail, \$13.00; certificates required. By boat, Northwest Transportation line, second class, \$7.00. Freight, less than car load lots 30 cents per hundred pounds. Would not advise women to come second class. People wishing to come from the States will be required to pay the local rates to Detroit.

From Buffalo, N.Y., to Port Arthur, via railway and boat, second class, \$11.55. Effects 60 cents per hundred pounds. From Chicago to Port Arthur, second class, \$8.00. I would not advise people to come via Chicago. The better way from Illinois and other states south is to come direct to Duluth; take boat to Port Arthur; second class charges \$2.50, first class \$5.00. This is a quick, delightful trip. From the western states pay local rate to Grenna, Manitoba boundary line south of Winnipeg. Rate to Port Arthur about \$6.50 all rail. Carload lots, 24,000 pounds, 27½ cents per hundred. Certificate necessary. It is well to correspond with me regarding rates for transportation.

After arrival in Port Arthur I can send you out on the several railways to the different colonies to look for location for one cent per mile.

"Settlers' Home." THIS "Home" is in connection with my residence, and is the property of the Department of the Interior at Ottawa. It is a building 40 x 100 feet, two stories high and divided into rooms. It is furnished with stoves, and is for the free use of the settlers. Settlers arriving can come to this building and space will be allotted them for beds and the storing of their effects until arrangements are made for a location or a residence arranged for. No bedding or food furnished. It is presumed the settler will vacate the "Home" as soon as possible to make room for others.

Land Guides. AS soon as the land seeker arrives he is placed in the hands of a competent land guide. It is the duty of the guide to show the settler a desirable location. This work is under the Crown Lands Department of the provincial government. The guide is free. All the settler has to do after selecting his homestead is to make application at the local office, and pay the charges, which is fifty cents, for the affidavit. Then he is in a position to go upon his land and make a home.

The Kind of Settlers Desired.

WE wish all kinds of desirable settlers, family men, men who are anxious to get away from the landlord, and be a free man on his own land. We do not wish to discriminate, but it is our object to build up fine communities. The rich do not require sympathy or help. It is the homeless man, the man with a family we would like to have. To colonize this class of men there is a desire on their part for schools and an immediate organization for that purpose is effected. Only men in earnest are solicited to apply for the advantages offered in New Ontario. We do not care from what portion of this continent you come, the same consideration to your welfare will be given if you are deserving.

Other Local Advantages Offered.

NEW ONTARIO offers advantages to all men of whatever class and condition. We are not simply limited to agriculture. Our great shipping facilities, lumber industry, mining enterprises, the construction of railways, with new towns all over our districts, offer a field nowhere excelled on this continent for the enterprising man with much or limited capital. The young man with some money can find many open doors inviting his energies which will yield him a rich reward in the near future if he will stay by it. Port Arthur and Fort William on Lake Superior, Rat Portage on Lake of the Woods, and Fort Frances, on Rainy Lake, at the head of Rainy River, are our largest towns.

Property in Port Arthur and Fort William has doubled in price within the past two years. Desirable residences for rent cannot be had. Houses rent from \$10.00 to \$35.00 per month. Many new buildings are being erected for business enterprises. New residences are going up all around. Good lots can be had for same from \$30.00 to \$250.00.

Why You Should Make Your Home In New Ontario.

UNDER the protection of Great Britain on one side and the United States on the other. No standing armies or navies to support. Uncle Sam says to all European powers with Great Britain "hands off." We possess all the elements of greatness. The province of Ontario is probably the only state or province in the world without a debt, with a million or more dollars in the treasury, and an income of \$1,000 per day. We have the best school system in the world; so affirmed at the World's Fair at Chicago. Our drink bill is only \$8.00 per head per population. England's drink bill is \$23.00, that of the United States, \$17.00. The publication of nefarious literature prohibited by law, not even permitted to cross the border into Canada. Sunday newspapers are forbidden. In a great number of our cities the street cars are not allowed to run on Sunday. These are national advantages. A free 160 acres of land. Good markets. Timber for buildings, fences, fuel and market, a visible means of support. No taxation until school is organized. Close proximity to railway and lake communication East, West, North and South; good water, a healthful climate, and fertile soil yielding a good support as a reward for cultivation. Men of recognized industry, with but little capital, can get a start here. We know they cannot where they live, where land is worth from fifty to one hundred

dollars per acre. Every condition of life is against them there. All must remember to be prepared to accept the social conditions of a new country. In the course of a few years these primitive conditions will yield to industry, and prosperity will crown any man's effort.

Men Like Our Grandfathers Called For.

WHO are willing to do as their grandfathers did? They left the old country; they can tell about the steerage fare; they went right into the howling wilderness, and carved out for themselves homes, and did not have one tenth of the advantages that we have, but they were in possession of one quality of which we can not boast, and that is termed "grit." We can not do under existing circumstances, which they did under the greatest disadvantages. Yet we subsist upon the fact, "Grandfather did so one hundred years ago. He came from the old country, and settled down in the wilderness." No, you can't do it. Rather live and die in poverty, or live as some other man's slave. You know the pangs of poverty! You know there are conditions of life, but you can not give up old associations, and begin at the bottom and carve out for yours. If an independence. We want men of the same stamp of character, men of the same brain power. These are the men from whom our great men came, whose generation are now passing. But what are we? I know many who are the snivelling sons of great men. They are spending their days boasting of blood of ancestry. What are they? What will their children be? What will their children have to say of their parents? They will be required to pass over their father to recount the history of a brave worthy man.

To you I dedicate this circular. If you are doing well, if you are prosperous where you are I do not want you to come. I wish you to pass this circular to some deserving man upon whom the burdens of life rest heavily. You may help some of your fellow men to a more favorable position in life; in after years he will call you a benefactor.

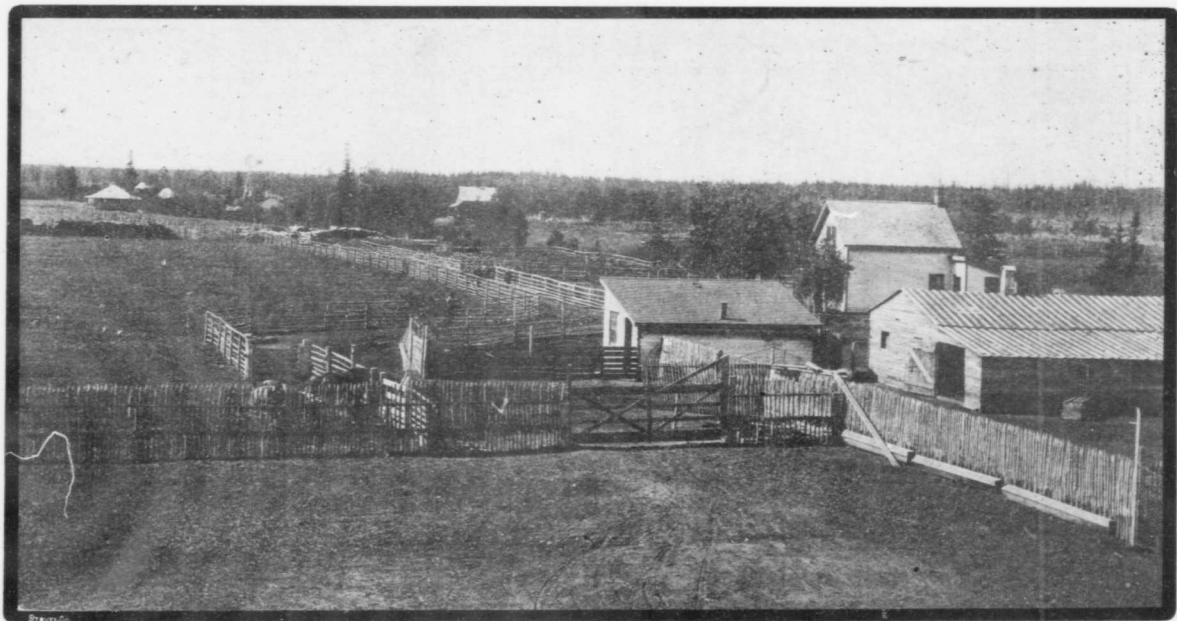
If there are questions unanswered in this circular; if you are not thoroughly satisfied with the statements made, I earnestly solicit a correspondence. Every thing in our power will be done to assist you to a home of your own in this favored land.

Yours, Very Truly,

R. A. BURRISS,

PORT ARTHUR, ONT.

Dominion Government Agent for Western or New Ontario.



SYDNEY STOCK FARM, FORT WILLIAM. R. SMITH, OWNER.