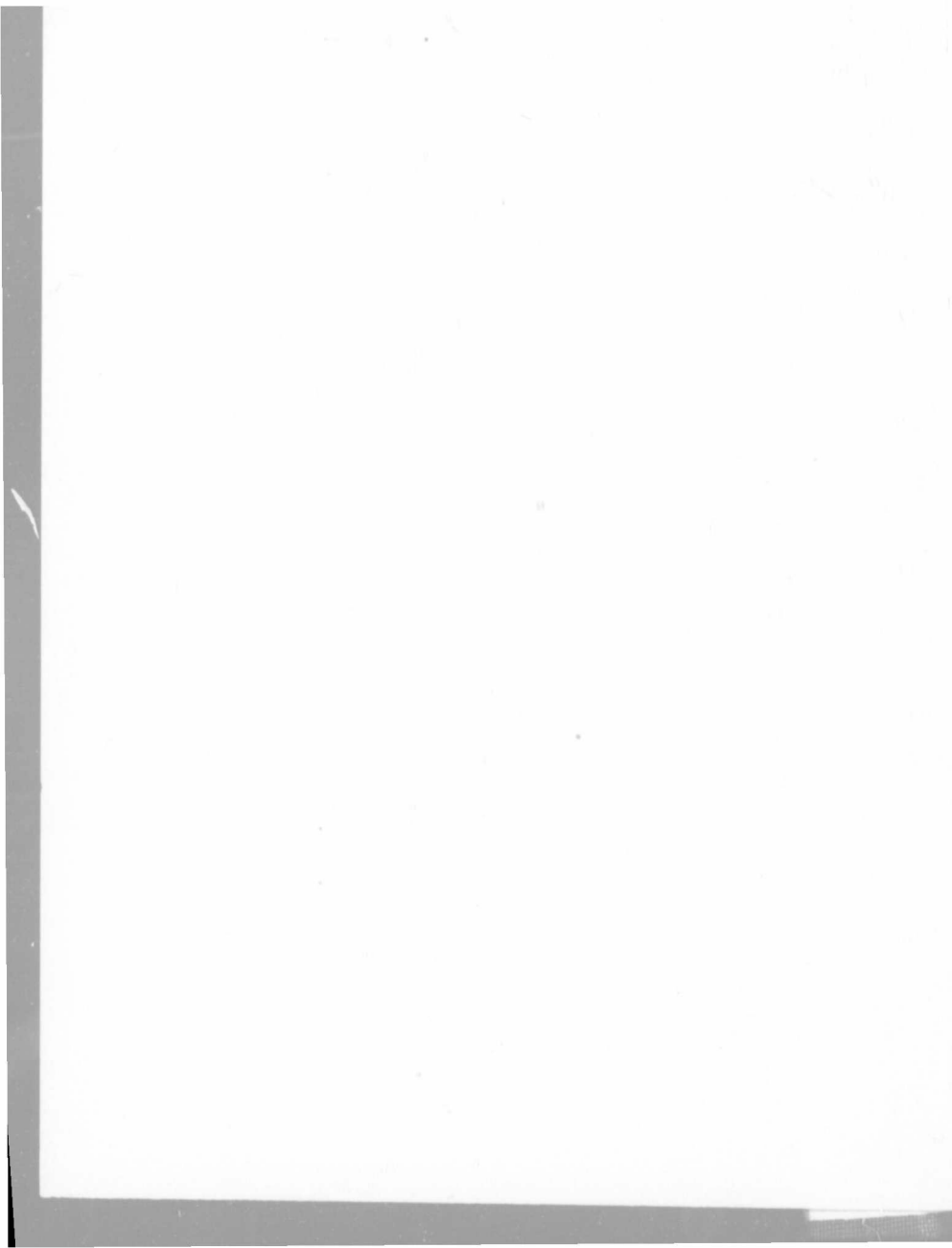


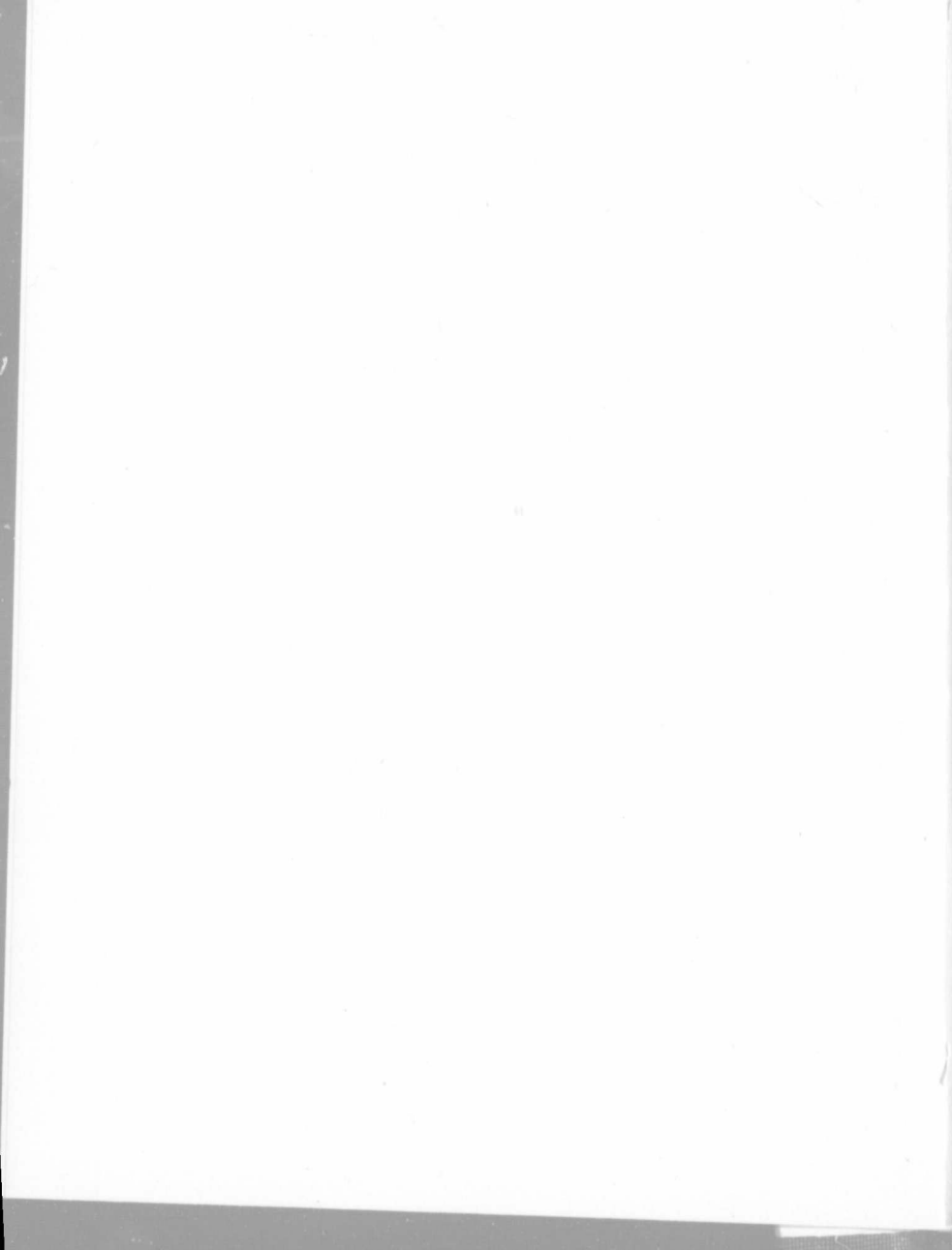
NEW ONTARIO

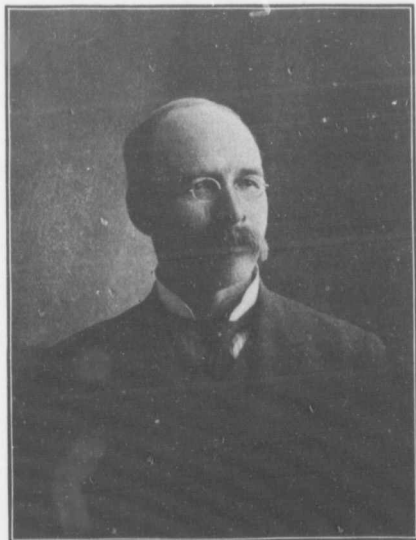
EXCURSION OF THE
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H. J. PETTYFIECE, M.P.P.
Forest Free Press
President Canadian Press Association.

NEW ONTARIO

The Canadian Press Association's
Excursion to Temiskaming.

BY THE EXCURSIONISTS



WELLAND
SEARS & SAWLE
1903

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... Introduction ...

ONE evening in the Summer of 1903, two men were smoking and chatting in the Rossin House. One was telling of a trip he had just taken to the great hinterland of Ontario. The narrator was enthusiastic. He described a beautiful lake, seventy-five miles long with immense wooded shores, now rising 500 feet sheer from the water, now receding gradually and always inspiring, grand, majestic. He told of navigable streams winding between picturesque banks; of twentieth century highways through dismal but interesting forests; thriving villages, virile in their infancy; of a hard-working population turning a land of promise into a land of realization. He dilated upon an oxonized, lung expanding, exhilarating air and the velvety breeze from the south—Hiawatha's Shanondasee.

"Grand!" exclaimed the listener, "that's just the trip for the Press Association to take. There's a meeting of the Executive, and I will tell them about it."

It was President Pettypiece who spoke, and the one who had described Temiskaming was Mr. A. W. Campbell. Such was the conception of the excursion of 1903.

As the "Admiral" of the party would express it, we "lifted our anchor" at the Union Station, Toronto, at 1.45 on Monday, the 21st day of September, and set sail for North Bay aboard the Pullman car, "Sacramento." There were thirty-four of us, not so many as had been expected, because at the last minute it was found that busy people who didn't want to go to a feast could find excuses similar to those in vogue 2,000 years ago. One had a wife who had taken sick, and therefore he couldn't go. Another had bought some land and was having a law suit over it, and therefore he couldn't go. However, the spirits of the thirty-four, who presumably had neither wives nor farms to bother them, were not dampened in the slightest, and they lost no time in developing a holiday camaraderie. In the smoking compartment the high spirits took the form

of song, and there occurred the first rehearsals of the masterpieces which made the trip famous from a musical point of view, and the strains of "Down! down! down! where the Wurtzburger flows! flows! flows!" soon rose above the din of the locomotive. North Bay was reached in eight hours. It was then a respectable bedtime, but some of the energetic sightseers persisted in having a look at the diamond-in-the-rough town forthwith.

As the guests of Mr. W. B. Russell, representing the Ontario Government, and accompanied by a score of North Bay citizens, we spent the second day in exploring the first twenty-eight miles of the new Government Railway—the exploration being carried on from the Sacramento, the first Pullman to go over the road. We saw a great deal of rocky, uninviting country, some land that held promise of agricultural possibilities, and great stretches of excellent timber. The sportsmen saw footprints of moose and harked to the whirr of the partridge. Mr. C. W. Young saw limpid brooks that made him instantly fondle his trout rod and long for a half hour's delay. Moose Lake was the terminus of the trip. There on the construction gang's commissariat train we sat down to a sumptuous meal of workingmen's fare, which gave us an opportunity to test the keen appetite produced by the northern air. We arrived in North Bay again in time for a citizen's banquet, an enjoyable function, at which the Mayor coined an immortal phrase by his reference to the "blessed Globe."

It was "Ho, for New Liskeard" at 6.50 the next morning. We journeyed east on the main line of the C. P. R. as far as Mattawa, a quaint little French-Canadian town nestling beside the Ottawa River and sheltered by the high Laurentian hills. Here we crossed the boundary into Quebec, and on the forty-mile spur of the C. P. R. ran along the brink of the river to Temiskaming station, the foot of navigation. The scenery along this bit of railway was engaging. The train twisted and squirmed along the blasted-out, shelf-like base of the rugged autumn-tinted Laurentians, while on the other side of the track, the river, with its numerous angry rapids, including the famous Long Sault, holds interest enough in itself for one journey. The Algonquins, who resided hereabout, had a strange legend about these rapids. The tribe was known as the Amikonas, or

“People of the Beaver,” and they claimed descent from the great original beaver, or father of all beavers. They believed that these rapids were caused by dams made by their ambitious ancestor. However, that has nothing to do with the modern chateau high-embowered in the grove, that we found at Temiskaming, or the dainty meal awaiting us there. After dinner Mr. Lumsden escorted us to his commodious steamer *The Meteor*, and we embarked upon the bosom of Lake Temiskaming.

Up to this point the weather had been simply glorious, but we had scarcely reached the boat when there were unseasonable peals of thunder. The rain came in torrents, while the mercury dropped about thirty points. But in sunshine or in rain, in hurricane or in calm, the trip up Lake Temiskaming is grand. Mr. H. P. Moore, who has been on press excursions for the last twenty-five years, has, since his return, staked his journalistic reputation on the assertion that, “this trip for grandeur and scenery is unequalled in America.” Some of the contributions in this souvenir, notably those by Mr. Wilgress and Mr. Walker, are descriptive of Temiskaming’s beauties. We sighted many points of interest, including *Ville Marie*, on the Quebec side, and *Haileybury*, the pioneer town on the Ontario side, but called nowhere because the boat was running a special trip for our benefit. We reached *New Liskeard* in the gloaming, early enough for the *Meteor* to safely feel her way through the precarious, brush-buoyed mile-and-a-half channel, which is the entrance to the harbor. Mr. Southworth met us on the wharf and welcomed us as heartily as though we had been bona fide settlers. Thereafter we found that much of our pleasure was due to his thoughtful arrangements.

We were on the move at 7 o’clock next morning, this time embarked on two smaller boats of the Lumsden fleet, chartered for us by Mr. Southworth. We set out under sullen skies, venting their ill humor in a disheartening benumbing drizzle, but the party with its gaiety shamed the weather, and before long the sun peeped out. We called at *North Temiskaming*, at the head of the lake, on the Quebec side, where there has been a *Hudson’s Bay* post for generations. We then veered into the *Blanche* or *White River* and explored it for

some twenty miles. Delays prevented us from reaching Tomstown, our prospective destination, a point about ten miles beyond the saw mill where we set about. At Tomstown Mr. A. W. Campbell and 200 settlers, with a freshly killed bear, waited on the bank to give us a real backwoods welcome. They waited until dark, but by that time we were back in New Liskeard getting toileted for the town's banquet. On this occasion we were glad to share the hospitality of the citizens with Hon. E. J. Davis. The menu was a pretentious one, and the affair did credit to the infant town.

On Friday Mr. Southworth took us for a drive to Milberta, twelve miles northwest of New Liskeard, and by the time we had returned the second annual fair of the Dymond Township Arts and Agricultural Society was in full swing. The exhibits were all fine, but the most interesting one was the beauty show, in which Dan McGillicuddy and Milton Cañr, M.P.P., displayed their taste as judges.

We were homeward bound, aboard the Meteor, at 5 a. m. on Saturday, during the forenoon the party held a meeting in the cabin and attempted to tell A. H. Notman and Mr. George Ham, of the C. P. R.; J. D. McDonald and H. R. Charlton, of the G. T. R., and Mr. John Lumsden what they really thought of them. "We love you for the transportation you have given us," was Dan McGillicuddy's way of expressing it.

It required a special train from Mattawa to North Bay to enable us to retrace our steps in 26 hours, and we reached Toronto, tired and sleepy, but content, at 7 o'clock on Sunday morning.

JOHN R. BONE, Assistant Secretary.



The Note of Confidence

WHAT struck me most forcibly was the note of confidence that was everywhere apparent. The missionary priest, the Protestant minister, the venerable pioneer, the youthful school teacher, the settlement matron, the Hudson Bay trapper, the man with lots to sell, the latest arrival—they all sang the praises of the New Land, and each and every one reached the high note of confidence in the future of Northern Ontario.

The men and women whom I met would do credit to any part of Old Ontario, and that means that they are equal to the best on God's green earth. They have pluck and perseverance to an extent as great as that which served the settlers of the Huron Tract in the days when the wilderness was reclaimed in Western Ontario, and they have the modern facilities that were entirely lacking in the earlier days.

New Liskeard—unknown yesterday but a thriving village to-day—is destined to be an important town to-morrow and a prosperous city in the not distant future. Its location is of the best. It is surrounded by a magnificent agricultural and lumbering country; its people are progressive; its business men enterprising; and men and women alike are proud of their present and confident of their future.

DAN MCGILLICUDDY, Signal, Goderich.

AFTER all, the aggravating American idea that Canada is a great wilderness is not so far wrong. Ontario itself is a great undeveloped country with only a fringe and polka dots of civilization.

Canadians, in the snugness of their cities and gardens along the southern border, cannot realize the bigness of their own Dominion. While Ontario is sending emigrants to the west there lies in this province north of the C. P. R. a of fertile land, untapped and unexplored, as big as all of Manitoba, and destined to be as great.

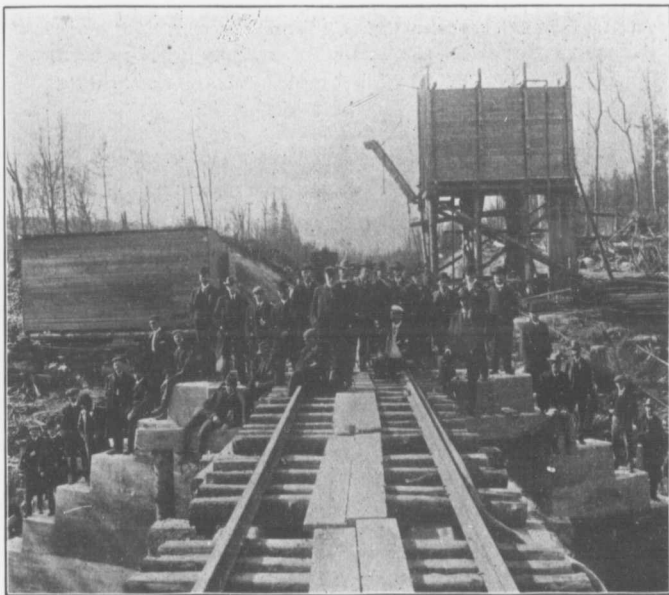
G. R. T. SAWLE, Telegraph, Welland.

IF I was impressed with one thing more than another, on my recent trip with the Canadian Press Association in the Temiskaming region, it was the hope and faith held by the settlers, in the future of their district. Each individual was enthusiastic in its praise, and I must say in this I heartily join. I have lived in these Northern Districts for twenty-eight years, and have travelled over a large part of them, and I believe the land around New Liskeard and up the White River, for future crop growing, especially wheat, cannot be beaten even by Manitoba soil. After a close examination of the soil, and the crops produced there this past season, I can see nothing but a very bright future for the people who have the pluck to stick to their farms and get the land cleared. I firmly believe that there are homes for thousands of people in that northern section which will prove equal to any other part of this Province.

MILTON CARR, M.P.P.

An Exciting Night

I ALONE flew to the party over a different route. Not caring for the fatiguing journey around the world by Toronto, I went straight west from Carleton Place to North Bay. At Mattawa it was my good fortune to meet Rev. J. A. McDonald, the new editor and manager of the Globe. The Pullmans and coaches were filled to their capacity, and he gladly accepted my invitation to join me in the smoking compartment, where, as all travellers know, souls fuse and the best comes out of the refining pot of intellectual exchange. The two hours to North Bay were like thirty seconds. He is a tall, burly man, and so I asked him at North Bay to look down from his eyrie upon the crowds on the platform and locate some newspaper man for me that I might at once get attached. He ploughed through and peered down. It was vanity and vexation. We learned that the Board of Trade of the town was giving the brethren a banquet and that every man was at his post of diet. The hotels also were crowded. Mr. McDonald used his arts and secured a room where others failed. Luckily



First bridge on the Government railroad.

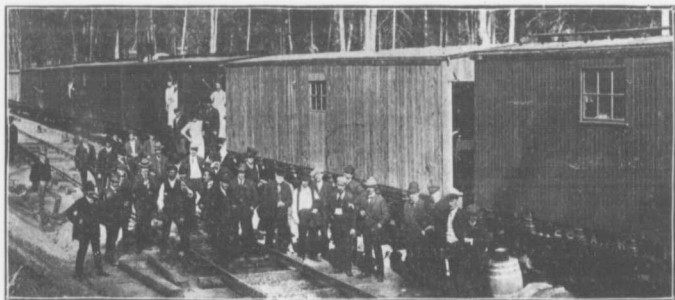
for me, there were two beds, and he and I exchanged our nasal salutations from high midnight to six a. m. As a real fact, he was so much stronger than I, that I was quite overwhelmed and though I tried all devices offered by ingenious humanitarians to coax, cajole and compel the elusive goddess to come and touch my racking brain with her potent fingers, it all availed nothing. At five o'clock a steam pump at the station took part in the orgie and I gave up the task.

W. W. CLIFF, Central Canadian, Carleton Place.

Facility of Securing Supplies

A GREAT advantage to the settlers, and a condition of affairs entirely unknown when the older sections of Ontario were being settled, is the facility with which supplies can be secured. Saw mills are in operation at convenient points on all the leading roads and upon the river fronts; lime and brick are both manufactured at New Liskeard. Nails are selling there at \$3.15, and other building hardware at similarly reasonable prices. The stores not only at New Liskeard and Haileybury, but at the interior villages are well stocked in all lines. Ogilvie's No. 1 flour sold at \$2.40 when we were at New Liskeard, and twenty pounds of the best granulated sugar for a dollar was the ruling price at the grocery stores. There are dealers handling agricultural implements, wagons, sleighs, pumps, windmills, sewing machines—yes, there is also a piano, wareroom. The old stories told by pioneers of Halton and Wellington, and similarly situated counties, of carrying flour on the back from Oakville, and groceries from Toronto and Hamilton, distances of thirty to fifty miles, will never be related by Temiscaming settlers. The boats run for thirty miles up the north of the lake and Blanche River, and the daily stages on the Government roads call at Hudson, Highland, Milberta and points beyond, so that supplies are always within reach.

H. P. MOORE, Free Press, Acton.



Outside the construction gang's dining car on the Temiskaming railway.

The New Railway

A GOVERNMENT build a railway? "That is not the business of Governments," says the critic. A Government build a railway as successfully as a private company? "Joke! Joke!" says the critic. And yet, the Ontario Government had sufficient faith in New Ontario to create a commission with power to pierce that district with 110 miles of steel roadway. The work has been well done so far, any eye would so decide. It will be completed within the appointed time, so the resolute-faced chief engineer says, and he talks but little. The cost will be very low, the secretary of the commission declares, much lower than was anticipated by the public. It will be a connecting link between the Canadian Pacific at North Bay and the Grand Trunk Pacific at Abitibi, between the populous districts of Southern Ontario and the rapidly-developing clay belt in Northern Ontario. It may eventually reach James Bay—and it may prove that Governments can build railways cheaply and expeditiously without having recourse to the hideous bonus system.

JOHN A. COOPER, Canadian Magazine, Toronto.

The Business Aspect

NEW LISKEARD has apparently a large number of stores, and all claim to be doing a fair amount of business. Prices and profits are good, and, until the completion of the railroad from North Bay, and its extension later well into the clay belt, the town will be a base for an increasing quantity of supplies. By the time rival towns spring into healthy life, it should be established on a sound basis—a community large enough to be a source of strength unto itself. The principal thing to be feared in the interval is excessive speculation. It aspires to become a wholesale, as it now is a retail, distributing point, but railroad facilities will enable the big city houses to keep these aspirations within reasonable bonds. A second bank would be one of the most natural additions to its business arena during the next year.—W. H. KELLER, Uxbridge Journal.

The Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Ry.

AT the Session of the Ontario Legislature in 1901 a vote was taken for the preliminary survey of a railway to extend from North Bay to the Temiskaming District. Surveyors were placed in the field and a line was located during the summer of 1901, and the winter of 1902. At the Session of 1902 an Act was passed authorizing the construction of the line by a commission to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. Tenders were called for, and on Oct. 3rd, 1902, the contract for building the line between North Bay and New Liskeard, a distance of 110 miles, was awarded to Mr. A. R. Macdonell; work was commenced immediately, and at the time of the visit of the Press Association the line was graded northerly 65 miles from North Bay and the rails laid for about 35 miles. Grading is being done all along the line, and the contract calls for the finishing of the work by December 31st, 1904. It is fully expected that the work will be finished well within the time.

The railway, for a new country, appears to be of easy construction, following the valley of the North River to the height of land between the Ottawa and Lake Nipissing waters, thence over comparatively level country to the Temiskaming Valley. The line passes through a heavily timbered virgin forest throughout its whole length, composed of large white pine, spruce, black birch, balsam, cedar, hemlock, maple, and other timbers.

The land along the line, while rich in timber and minerals, is only, in parts, suitable for agriculture until the Temiskaming Valley is reached. Surveys are now being made for the extension of the railway through the Temiskaming Valley to form an entrance to the 16,000,000 acre clay belt lying beyond the height of land between the waters of the Ottawa River and Hudson Bay. It is expected that the extension now being located will connect with the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific in the vicinity of Lake Abitibi, and will form a direct connection between the City of Toronto and the new trans-continent! line, and will be capable of a further extension to James Bay.

A. W. CAMPBELL,

Asst. Commissioner of Public Works.

AS soon as the new railway reaches New Liskeard, and the many advantages of that part of the province become better known it will be quickly filled with settlers from Old Ontario and other places. New Liskeard is 175 miles south of the latitude of Winnipeg, and the winters, though cold and steady, are shorter and milder than the Manitoba winter, and free from the sweeping winds of the prairie country, and also free from the dampness of the Southern Ontario winter; in short the climate is admirably suited to the requirements of vigorous and progressive people. Then the settler without capital can obtain an immediate return for his labor in the sale of whatever kind of timber he may have.

And this is only the fringe of the great timbered clay belt of over sixteen million acres, which stretches away to the north and west, the heart of which will be only 24 hours from Toronto by rail. The building of the new railway north from North Bay, which the Government is now pushing forward, will do wonders to build up the trade of Toronto, and, in fact, of the whole Province.

The movement of population and wealth to New Ontario has only commenced, and its golden opportunities only beginning to be appreciated, even by our own people.—From the Forest Free Press.

H. J. PETTYPIECE, M.P.P., President C.P.A.

The Immutability of Nature

MATTAWA, redolent with memories of Joseph C. Caron, lies before us. Can we go back to 1615 and catch a glimpse of this Recollet monk, dressed in his long gray robes, gird round the waist by a knotted cord, the peaked hood fallen back upon his shoulders, leaving his shaved crown bare, accompanied by his band of frowsy-haired Hurons pushing their canoes up the shallow and rapid Ottawa and entering the Mattawa on their way to the Mer Douce or Fresh-water Sea of the west?

All is now so changed, but still there is the rushing and foaming river, the receding hillsides clothed in interminable forest, the thousands of singing



A waterfall within a stone's throw of the C. P. R. line between Mattawa and Temiskaming station. The excursionists persisted in getting into the picture.

birds filling the air⁷ with melody, the open glades bespangled with wild flowers, the glorious russet and brown of autumn covering the vale and hillside with a glorious mantle of color, and over all, as in the days of Caron, there rests the calm beauty of perfect days. From Mattawa to Temiskaming over the C. P. R. the eye is fed on one ever-changing panorama. Crested rapid and foaming waterfall interspersed with quiet river stretches, and darksome waters; flaming hillside and rocky slope, mingled with bosky dell and gloomy pine grove, recur again and again as the train winds in and out on its sinuous path.

At last Temiskaming is reached. A sail of seventy-five miles on a well appointed steamer up a tortuous lake, between shores never more than six or seven miles apart, rising hill above hill a mass of color as far as eye can reach, past the site of old Hudson Bay forts once thronging with bushy life, past Ville Marie, the scene of the heroic self-denial of the oblate Fathers, on, on, to Haileybury and New Liskeard, and the busy everyday life of the settler in this New Ontario of ours.

M. PARKINSON, Canadian Teacher.

IT was midsummer in 1613 when Champlain and his fellow voyageurs reached the Mattawa, where they would leave the noble river over whose bosom they had so long been travelling to pursue a more westerly course. An interesting spot is this point of land where these waters meet. To Champlain, as to the reverend missionaries who had preceded him, it must have been one of great surprise, for gathered here he met for the first time, Indians of tribes of which he had never heard and whose strange pagan rights revolted his religious spirit with their horrid brutality. It was some years before that the Jesuit Fathers had witnessed the same wild scene as they passed from the Ottawa to the Mattawa, on their way to Lake Nipissing from whence by the descent of the French River, the Georgian Bay was reached. What may have been their feelings as they wended their way through the maze of islands into the open waters of this inland sea may best be gleaned from their "relations," and it is safe to say their interest and wonder was not abated on reaching the Huron country (now the County of

Simcoe,) with its many thousands of savage redmen. With a resolve, as noble as it was heroic, these Christian missionaries threw themselves into a work as hopeless as it was fatal. So, also, Samuel De Champlain viewed the wondrous stretch of water which presented itself to his gaze, and it was with feelings of most grateful respect he clasped once more the hands of his dauntless countrymen, who through many perils had sought to plant the Cross of Christ and the flag of France among these restless and savages hordes.

JOSEPH J. CAVE, Express, Beaverton

SAILING northward between the hilly shores of Lake Temiskaming, clad in unbroken forest gorgeous in autumnal tints, it required but a slight effort of imagination to picture the days, long generations ago, when the Indian alone stole quietly over the still waters of the lake in his birch bark canoe; and those still later days when the adventurers of the Hudson Bay Company and the Northwest Company began to push their hazardous way into the vast solitudes of the Great Lone Land of the Canadian Northwest, dotting the terrible wilderness with stockaded fur-posts and leaving their bones to bleach in unbroken graves. In time there crept deep down into the Indian's heart the suspicion that a superior race was coming with an irresistible advance. Is it any wonder that he viewed the white usurper with sullen resentment? To-day the Indian is but a degenerate remnant, and the *coureurs des bois* and the *bois brules* of the old rival fur companies are but a memory, their palisaded forts are fast disappearing, yet the light of romance still clings about and illuminates the almost obliterated trails of the daring spirits and nameless heroes to whom Canada owes so much. Lake Temiskaming is full of the inspiration of those bold days; the steamboat and the telegraph wire seem an intrusion and a profanation in its historic water reaches, but even these prosaic forces of modern civilization cannot entirely dispel the romantic charm of these rock-bound, forest shores.

A. T. WILGRESS, The Times, Brockville.

Northern Development Begets Southern Prosperity

TWO cows, call them "New Ontario" and "Old Ontario," one sultry afternoon stood in the shade of a tree, side by side, tail to head, the tail of each flicking the flies off her sister. That is co(w)operation. If we but follow the example of our foster mothers and co-operate with New Ontario, the advantage will be mutual. The North country will soon show grand results. Let us send more of the sturdy, stocky, stalwart sons of Old Ontario to New Ontario, and we shall have a vast field to exploit for our manufacturing and mercantile interests. No country offers more handsome certain returns on investment. A Klondike this side of the height of land would be less valuable. No country has more fertile lands. Tickle them with a hoe and they will smile with a harvest—a material, tangible, convertible, bankable smile that comes off. Not many smiles like that these days! New Ontario is capable of producing 100,000,000 or more bushels of wheat and other things annually. New Ontario says: "You provide the means, we do the rest." Let us "get into the game." Others may soon be taking the lead. Let us co-operate.

H. S. SCOTT, Globe, Toronto.

Game and Fish in New Ontario

HUNDREDS of sportsmen, who have hunted the red deer for years in Muskoka, went up the new Government road this fall for moose, and ninety per cent. of them came back without seeing one. And yet there are moose a-plenty there. The woods have been filled all summer with timber-lookers estimating the value of the pine for the sale this fall, and these with the continual blasting and work on the railway, have driven the moose a bit farther back. Around the lakes, within a day's walking distance of the railway, there are plenty of moose tracks, but old, and it was only after an arduous trip back over the lakes



The photographer marshalled the party in front of the general store at North Temiskaming, Quebec, which has been a Hudson Bay post for generations. The contents of the store are varied and wonderful, and the owner has made a fortune in a few years.

and portages that the writer got into country where the moose were. Here we put up moose, single bulls or herds, every day we were out.

Moose have feeding grounds and pass from one part of the country to another over well defined tracts for the most part, and when one gets to know the country, and will watch his chance for a few days, he is almost sure of a shot at them.

In this district, 25 to 50 miles north of North Bay, there is not much feed for red deer, and they cannot be said to be plentiful. Where they do exist they are preyed upon by wolves which infest the country. Nor did we find many partridge or duck, though we shot enough for camp use from day to day. It is only by coming right on to a partridge, however, that it will give any sign, and, no doubt, we passed many a bird unnoticed.

The lakes and rivers undoubtedly teem with fish; brook trout are plentiful in the streams, running up to a pound or a pound and a half in weight. Larger speckled trout are caught in the lakes, while bass and pike, in many of the inland lakes, are quite plentiful.

It is next thing to impossible to enforce game laws in so wide a district of unbroken forest land. We found three carcasses of moose undoubtedly killed before the season opened, and several places where traps were set for beaver.

This region contains, perhaps, the largest area of unburned forest in Ontario. Lumbermen, hunters, trappers and Indians are all exceedingly careful of fire; they know how much it means for them to keep the fire out. It is from the tourists, whom the new railway will attract, that danger of fire is to be feared. The bulk of the country south of the clay belt is totally unfit for settlement, and if the forest fire can be guarded against, and the game laws enforced, there will be, in this section, for all generations, a magnificent hunting ground for moose.

W. CLIMIE, Listowel Banner.

The Settler's Chances

THE clay belt in New Ontario is said to be between 50 and 60 miles wide and 600 miles long, and contains about 16,000,000 acres of fertile soil. Before many years this region in its consumptive and productive capacity will be as important to Toronto as the Northwest is at present.

In the vicinity of New Liskeard the clay is covered with a rich black mould from four to eight inches deep, which is very productive. If this is mixed with the clay underneath, and with proper rotation of crops, the farmers' chances are magnificent. I saw oats that would harvest 40 bushels to the acre. Potatoes planted in May produced at the rate of 250 bushels per acre, and some planted in the end of June turned out 50 bushels to the acre. Fall wheat, spring wheat, peas, clover—in fact, everything grows well.

Any man who has had some experience in Old Ontario, and is willing to work, can do well in New Ontario. The land is covered with small timber, mostly spruce. Stumping is easy, cut the big roots with an axe and a span of horses will pull them up.

The settler without capital can obtain immediate return for his labor in the sale of timber. One man that I heard of sold \$800 worth of spruce off his farm last winter. It is said that the timber on a 160 acre lot will sell from \$500 to \$1,500.

L. G. JACKSON, Era, Newmarket.

The Drive to Milberta

THE drive to Milberta was an education and revelation to me. The road is one of the best I ever drove over, being well built and well drained, and in many respects the equal of many roads in my own County of Huron. The democrat I rode in contained nine persons, was drawn by two horses, and the distance of twelve miles was easily covered in two hours. I expected to be taken through a country of bush, but I found a great deal of cleared land. The farms are all taken up, the majority of the settlers going

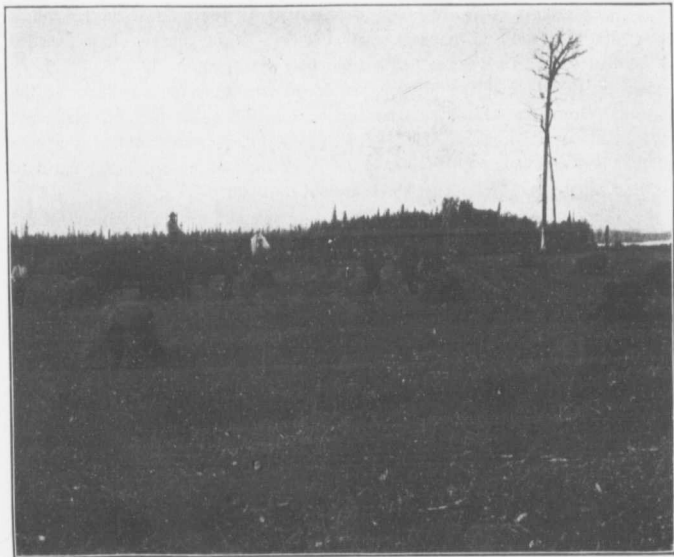
in within the last two or three years. One man who went in three years ago has thirty-five acres of cleared land. Most of the houses are frame, although a log one here and there was to be seen; the barns and outbuildings are chiefly log and well built. The homes of the settlers are neat and tidy, and show progressiveness, intelligence and refinement. On the windows of the houses were to be seen lace curtains, and the latest and most modern style of blinds. The land is high, not too high; mostly level, with an occasional roll.

A. E. BRADWIN, Standard, Blyth,

Wild Fruits of the Country

ON the trip through the virgin forest directly north of North Bay, on the shores of the numerous lakes and streams we had the pleasure of seeing the wild fruits of the country growing in all their natural abundance. Wild plums, cherries, gooseberries, blueberries, raspberries, strawberries and high bush cranberries were observed, and in some cases these fruits were equal to many of the cultivated varieties. Wild fruits growing to such perfection, as they do, make it quite evident that many of those varieties cultivated in the older portions of the province will succeed admirably. After passing north through this section of the country, where the soil varies from sand to light clay loam, where birch, maple and pine abound, we enter into the great clay belt of the north, where the wild fruits are not so plentiful and are principally confined to raspberries and plums. On the lake shores and higher elevations the climatic conditions are such that with careful draining for the aeration of the soil, most of the above named fruits will succeed. In the vicinity of New Liskeard, I had the pleasure of seeing Wealthy and Hyslop crabs in full bearing, Concord grapes ripening on the vine, and black and red currants doing splendidly. Those intending to settle in New Ontario may have all the hardier fruits in abundance by using a little intelligence and care in selecting favorable positions and giving proper cultivation and protection,

HAROLD JONES, Canadian Horticulturalist.



Harvesting Oats on Sept. 24, 1903, on the banks of the Blanche River. Mr. Southworth, Director of Colonization, and Dan McGillicuddy are in the foreground.

As Others See Us

IN June, 1901, I had the honor to conduct a large party of land seekers from Older Ontario to the Temiskaming District in search of land for themselves and their sons. Their appreciation of the soil and general characteristics of the district as a field for settlement was very gratifying.

In 1903 I had the privilege of accompanying some members of the Canadian Press Association on a hurried visit to the same district, and I am happy to say I found my former brethren of the fourth estate, quite as appreciative, and just as quick to notice the good and bad features of the northern farming country as the farmers who inspected it in 1901.

The former excursion was productive of splendid results in the settlement of that part of New Ontario, and I have no doubt that, with the great influence of the men composing it, the excursion of 1903 will prove of great profit both to the Province of Ontario and to the members of the excursion whose knowledge of their own country has, I feel very confident, been augmented by coming in personal contact with Temiskaming.

THOMAS SOUTHWORTH, Director of Colonization.

IT was a good thought to time the visit of the Press Association to New Ontario so as to include the Fall Fair at Liskeard. At the end of a long drive over splendid roads, during which the land could be seen in all stages of settlement, we came upon the Fair and obtained a concrete view of what farmers were doing in the country, that could be had in no other way.

But interesting as was the display of live stock and farm products—the roots and vegetables equalling in quality those at any country fair in older Ontario—to my mind the human exhibit was by all odds the most attractive. It was not mankind in the rough, as might have been expected, but an assemblage of cultured and refined people, handsome, bright-eyed women and bronzed and sturdy men, all well dressed, with the look of present prosperity and abundant

faith in the future in their countenances. Children were plenty, with the glow of health in every feature, the hope of any country, and especially a new one. Surely a bright future is in store for our New North land.

C. W. YOUNG, The Freeholder, Cornwall.

Lake Temiskaming

THE lake is an expansion of the River Ottawa, and in its long reach of seventy-two miles, its width of half a mile at the lower end increases to a breadth of seven miles at the upper extremity. Its trend is southeast and northwest, and its course is nearly as straight as that of the Hudson River. The word Temiskaming is of Algonquin origin, and means in English, "deep and shallow water," a name which is full of significance when it is understood that in the shadow of the gloomy and precipitous mountain shores a depth of fifteen hundred feet has been found, while at the landing places, where the high hills are left behind, careful steering has to be observed on the steamers to escape the shallows and reefs.

The Laurentian Mountains form a majestic shore line for many miles at the foot, but these give way to high sloping hills, which die away in turn near the head of the lake to gentle declivities on both shores. The mountains and hills are clothed from foot to summit with a thick forest growth, and at this season of the year the trees show the vivid effects of the September frosts. The original green of the leaves has become a luminous expanse of vivid color, and scarlet, gold, yellow, orange and green make gay and brilliant these hill-parks for scores of miles. Earth can present few fairer scenes than this fairy landscape of the Temiskaming.

J. M. WALKER.

The People of the Land

THE stranger from old Ontario does not find himself in a strange land. With the rocks, the rivers, the timber, the soil, he may not be familiar although this may only be due merely to the lack of opportunity of knowing thoroughly his old vicinity; but the people he recognizes at once. They are Anglo-Saxons, Canadians, just the men and women who have made old Ontario what it is; thrifty, wholesome citizens with the same ideals and the same mother tongue. There are Indians to be found, and half-breeds, and French Canadians; but they are rare, and in the assayer's analysis would be put down as "traces," compared with the hundred parts. New Liskeard's fall fair had just such an attendance as the annual show at Woodbridge, West York, or any similar institution. Bronzed farmers with rosy-cheeked wives and daughters came in by the wagon load; and their equipages showed that they had brought the ideals and comforts of Old Ontario along with them. The solid-wheeled ox-cart, with which the imagination delights to people the new land, was not in evidence. There was an occasional lumber wagon, cosily padded with straw, fir boughs, or blankets; but a great majority of the turnouts were the shining, new-varnished buggies, single or double seated,—the joy of the farmer and the farmer's son in Old Ontario; and the occupants wore, not homespun or blanket suits, but the regulation "store clothes" of no ancient date, which constitute the gala attire of the landward dwellers of the older parts of the province.

CHARLES H. SNIDER.

The People

FROM the time we left North Bay on our way north, the writer was particularly impressed with the superior class of settlers that were taking up holdings in this new country. The strong healthy, intelligent and well dressed appearance of the settlers everywhere, male and female, was in marked contrast to what one expects to find in a country that, until recently, did not have a

place on the map. At New Liskeard, situated at the head of navigation, on Lake Temiskaming, 160 miles beyond North Bay, the entrance to the new territory, the people are the equal in intelligence and appearance of those to be found in any of our Ontario towns. There is no lawlessness and but little drinking, less, in fact, than one would find in a town of the same size in Ontario, and as a consequence a spirit of satisfaction and hopefulness for the future of the district pervades the whole people, who are disposed to welcome new arrivals in a friendly and helpful spirit. The Government, through Mr. Southworth, director of colonization, is doing much to assist the new settlers and open up the rich country that lies beyond. Colonization roads are being constructed that would do credit to a much older country. The climate is bracing and extremely healthy. The summer is not so hot as in the southern parts of Ontario. With such conditions and the great possibilities for the future of this new country, we would say to our young men, go to New Ontario.

GEO. C. PATTERSON, Masonic Sun.

The Children of the Temiskaming

THE air of the Temiskaming District is redolent of making a home. Every person you meet speaks of it. It is as if there were no other thought to be compared with it. The instinct for home-making, so greatly fostered in Great Britain by the late Queen Victoria, here finds its most strenuous expression. I am afraid, however, that the material side of the home is that chiefly thought of.

What is making a home? In Temiskaming the details seem to be lost sight of. The place for the home is uttermost in the minds of everyone who tells you what he went up there for. The mental, moral and spiritual sides of a home are seldom mentioned. A gentleman of the press party said to me that if he breathed the air much longer his feet would stick in the mud and he would

become sordid. While I think he is too sensitive for this present evil world, there is a substratum of truth in his remark.

While there I interviewed over fifty children. I had been impressed with the idea that it was an awful country to take them into. The result of the interviews disabused my mind of that idea. They are happy. Most of them had to do something useful daily, but I am sorry to say they are largely imbued with the material side of things. Perhaps in the stress which causes their parents to provide the material home they hear of no other side. Do not misunderstand. The people are good people who are engrossed in their material development, and it would be unfair to expect anything further from those who are well on in life.

But the children—they can be saved. The "getting rich" should be taught to be the lowest aim of their lives. To be a man or a woman, well-rounded in character, is much better than to have "much goods." And these children are worth the trouble. They are bright and intelligent, and in that new country the setting up of an ideal at the beginning is everything.

W. J. WATSON, Central Press Agency.

A GREAT deal has been said and written about that part of New Ontario about to be opened up by the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. As a lumbering region it was known, but that any part of it should be an agricultural country, was scarcely understood. The exploration parties sent out by the Ontario Government three or four years ago found what is known as the clay belt. The beginning of this tract is reached at the north end of Lake Temiskaming, and although the Press Association only penetrated it for a short distance, they saw enough to convince them that Ontario has sufficient good land to provide homes for thousands of her sturdy sons. Though far north the climate, we are assured, is no more severe than in many parts of old Ontario. It will never be a wheat growing country, but the coarser grains will do well, while roots, if the specimens seen at the New Liskeard exhibition were fair samples, are simply magnificent. While we do not regret the population we



Homeward bound, the editors encountered the first daily newspapers they had seen in three days. Bellevue House, Temiskaming Station, constitutes the background.

have sent to build up Manitoba and the Northwest, it is satisfactory to know that the young men of Ontario, who seek homes for themselves, can still find them within their own province. Truly Ontario has a goodly heritage in the fertile country which lies to the north of Lake Temiskaming.

J. J. BELL, Canadian Engineer.

THE most prominent items of interest noted while with the recent Press Excursion to New Ontario by me were :

First—The thorough and complete construction of the new Government railroad.

Second—The great display of vegetables and cereals at New Liskeard Fair, showing the richness of the soil and the possibilities of farming in the so-called "Clay Belt."

Third—The system and excellence of the Government-built wagon roads, the aid they will prove to the farmer and the value they will add to the country through which they pass.

Fourth—The large and valuable markets that will be provided for Canadian manufacturers of all kinds of carriages, sleighs and wagons, mowers, rakes, feeders, plows, harrows, harness, blankets, threshers' engines, and, in fact, everything that is bought by a first-class, progressive, successful, money-making farmer in Ontario.

P. G. VANVLEET,

The Canadian Implement and Vehicle Trade, Toronto.

New Liskeard

BOTH by natural situation and the progressiveness of its inhabitants, New Liskeard is destined to become one of the finest and most important commercial centres of New Ontario. Bordering on what is familiarly known as the "clay belt," it should receive all the advantages that must necessarily come from a first-class agricultural district, which this belt is said to be. In the water which lies at the very doors of the town are avenues for trade and commerce,

the magnitude of which it is impossible to imagine. In a country of inestimable mineral resources and possibilities, "blossoming" with colonization and gigantic enterprise, it is not extravagant to predict that New Liskeard will be to New Ontario what Winnipeg is to the West.

New Liskeard, formerly known as Thornloe, is beautifully situated on the northwest shore of Lake Temiskaming, at the mouth of the Wahbee river. It has a population of about 1500, two large and commodious hotels, and the mercantile and other business interests are well looked after by a number of energetic and enterprising men. While there is a striking newness about the town, that which impresses itself most upon the visitor is its splendid appearance and the unmistakable evidence of solidity. In this particular it is not to be classed with the average frontier town. It has grown from a few scattered houses to its present proportions in four years. New Liskeard was incorporated this year with Mr. John Armstrong as mayor.

R. ELLIOTT, Ingersoll Chronicle.

New Liskeard Fair

AS to the possibilities of the Temiskaming district, the Agricultural Fair at New Liskeard, which was held during the visit of the pressmen, is an indication. The exhibition in many respects was excellent, and the exhibitors deserve much credit for the display made by them. The show of vegetables proved conclusively that in New Ontario vegetables are grown which cannot be excelled in any part of the Province. The exhibit of fruit was meagre, and of so poor a quality (with the exception of a few crab apples) that it would have been better had it not been made, as it emphasized the fact that while the district was a good one for roots, it was no good for fruit. The stock exhibited was in poor condition, and the animals appeared to have experienced much difficulty in obtaining pasture. The samples of grain shown were fair for a new country, and would lead one to suppose that the clay land is not as bad perhaps as its appearance denoted. The exhibit of art work was decidedly above the average

of country fairs, and reflected much credit upon the women of New Ontario.

It may be there is a great future in store for New Ontario, but the settlers there may expect to encounter hardships and disappointments.

H. GUMMER, Herald, Guelph,

The Prose and the Poetry

THE era of romance has all but faded. First from the St. Lawrence, later from the Ottawa. The chanson of the river-driver has flickered into the roar of the locomotive and the toot of the steamboat whistle. The Ottawa pines are gone. But the granites remain. They are the eternal poetry. Now, as in the days of old, they rear their "sublime heads" along the Ottawa, veined with the rich browns and dusky reds of geology, and in September galleried with the crimsons, golds and yellows of an unrivalled foliage. Then to finish the poem you behold the white dots of old Fort Temiskaming, redolent of the fur days, the smoky camps, and the pack-trail; or brown little Ville Marie with its spire, suggestive of the black-robed, oblate priest and the jargon of romantic Frenchmen. This is the poetry and the fossilized romance of the upper Ottawa.

The poetry ends with the granite, and the prose begins with the clay. The plow is the homely epic of development. The barn and the farm house, the saw-mill and the road-gang, the construction camp and the fall fair—all speak of a practical future. Freight goes up the streams, and the surveyor with his chain-gangs drives out the forest-runner. New Liskeard is a solid chunk of unromantic prose. Its straight antipodes is Ville Marie. But it takes prose to develop a new country. The grandchildren of pupils now at the New Liskeard school may behold another poetry,—of trade, commerce and practical development.

AUGUSTUS BRIDLE, The News, Toronto.

“JUST like Winnipeg mud!” Such was my exclamation as I slid off the sidewalk at New Liskeard the day it rained a little. The same greasy, stick-to-you quality it did seem to be for a few hours. But, it did not need to be “filed” off like the Winnipeg substance, but quickly responded to brisk brushing at the Canada Hotel.

“That’s what makes our potatoes so large,” said Dr. Byron Field, just the same words exactly as I had heard in Manitoba nearly a quarter of a century ago, when I was a “Tenderfoot from Ontario.”

The soil of the Temiskaming District—or the mud, as denizens of the city are apt to call it—is a revelation to all visitors. It grows not only big potatoes and monster cabbages, but magnificent grain. It is easily worked into good roads, as those built less than two years ago by Deputy Minister A. W. Campbell prove. It produces magnificent timber, and no doubt will produce apples and other fruit in time, as well as the beautiful strawberries and other wild fruits which are now so plentiful. In fact, it has all the elements that go to make up excellent farming land. And the further north you go the better the land is said to be.

LUD. K. CAMERON, King’s Printer.



The ancient town of North Temiskaming in the Province of Quebec.

Information for Prospective Settlers

AT present the Temiskaming District is reached by two routes. The most direct from the western part of older Ontario is by the Grand Trunk Ry. to North Bay, thence by C. P. R. via Mattawa to Temiskaming Station, where steamer is taken to New Liskeard or Halleybury. The other route is over the C. P. R. via Carleton Place to Mattawa and Temiskaming Station. Over the latter route the Government have been able to make a very generous arrangement with the C. P. R. by which a special reduced rate is furnished bona fide land seekers or settlers. The rate is obtained by presenting to the local ticket agent at any C. P. R. point a certificate signed by the Director of Colonization. It applies only over the C. P. R. via Carleton Place, and not by North Bay.

The land in the district of Temiskaming is disposed of in 160 acre lots to actual settlers only, subject to the usual settlement conditions and the payment of 50c per acre, or \$80.00 for a 160 acre farm. The payment required by the Public Lands Act and Regulations for land of this description was half at the time of location and the balance in two annual instalments at 6 per cent. interest. When the Temiskaming District was opened for settlement, it being so remote and little known at that time, the Commissioner of Crown Lands decided to allow settlers to secure a location on making a cash deposit of \$5.00 instead of the \$40.00 usually required. This has been of great advantage in the settlement of the district.

It is quite easy to understand that, with the expense of moving a man's family and effects, and starting in to clear the land, which are considerable, \$40 at that time would be in the case of most settlers of very great importance. The action of the Government in accepting a deposit of \$5.00, giving him credit for the balance, while no loss to the Province, is of very great advantage to the settler, and has aided much in the rapid settlement of the district.

To the intending settler it might be said that on arriving at New Liskeard, where the local Land Office is situated, he should apply to Mr. John Armstrong, Crown Lands Agent, who will advise as to the lands still open for settlement, and

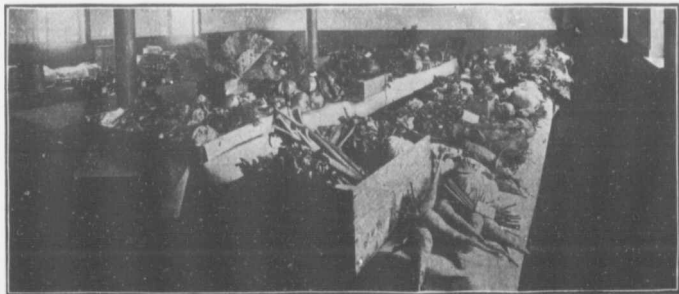
supply him with a guide at Government expense, who will show him over the district, and assist him in findnig a suitable location if possible. The land seeker will, of course, be required to provide his own provisions and expenses en route, but the expenses of the land guide will be paid by the Department. On return from selecting his lot the settler is required, in addition to making a payment on the land, to make affidavit to the effect that he has examined the land, found no one in occupation, and no adverse claim, and that he intends to become an actual settler upon it, and does not desire to purchase the land for the purpose of speculation. This must be accompanied by the affidavits of two other parties to the effect that the land applied for is unoccupied.

After location it has been the practice to allow the settler six months in which to enter upon the land to complete the settlement duties. These include the erection of a habitable house of at the least 16x20 feet in size; the clearing and cultivation of two acres per year, and residence upon the land for at least six months in each year for four years. If a settler at the end of four years has been duly resident upon the land, and has sixteen acres cleared and under cultivation, he will be entitled to a patent in fee simple for his land upon payment of the \$80.00, and what interest may have accrued.

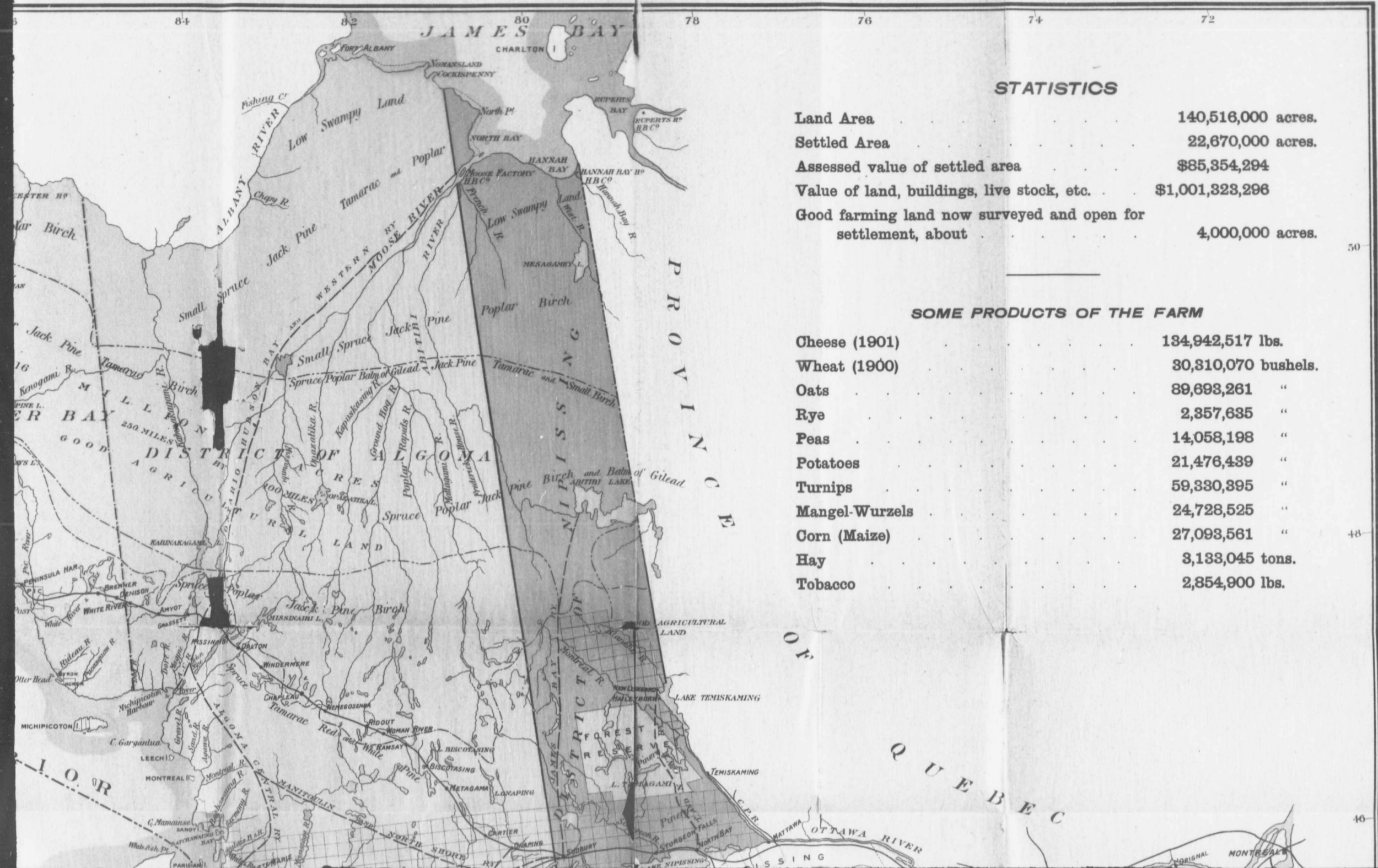
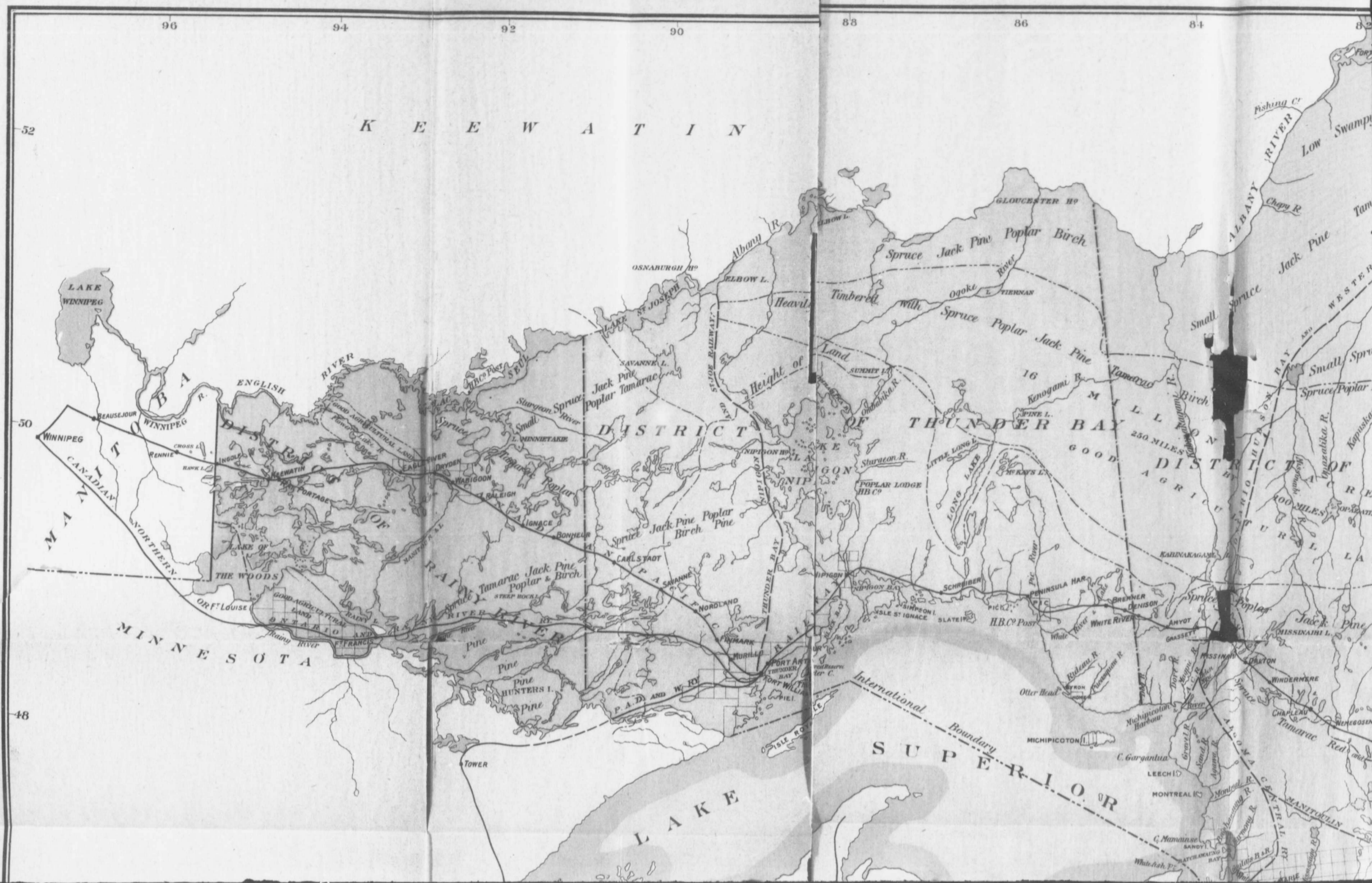
In order to assist the settler to get established and to off-set the advantages supposed to be possessed by prairie land over land covered with timber, the Government some time ago enacted regulations which permit the settler, after having been six months in residence upon the land and having two acres cleared and under cultivation, to cut and sell, free of dues, all timber other than pine on any part of the lot. Pine that is necessarily cut in the course of clearing may be sold on payment of \$1.25 per thousand feet as stumpage dues to the Government. Where the pine is used for the settler's own purpose in building or fencing, no dues are required. As the principal timbers in the Temiskaming District, spruce, tamarac, cedar, balsam, etc., meet with a very ready sale at good prices, owing to the competition between several large lumber firms buying in the district, the settler is able from the beginning to realize a cash income from the sale of the crop already standing upon his land, and which has to be

removed before anything can be grown or in fact before pasture for cattle can be obtained.

In the case of settlers with little or no means that is a very great advantage, and usually the timber buyers are prepared to make advances in the shape of provisions for themselves and horses and in other way, to be repaid when their timber is delivered the following season.



The Vegetables grown in the Clay Belt and Exhibited at the New Liskeard Fall Fair.



STATISTICS

Land Area	140,516,000 acres.
Settled Area	22,670,000 acres.
Assessed value of settled area	\$85,354,294
Value of land, buildings, live stock, etc.	\$1,001,323,296
Good farming land now surveyed and open for settlement, about	4,000,000 acres.

SOME PRODUCTS OF THE FARM

Cheese (1901)	134,942,517 lbs.
Wheat (1900)	30,310,070 bushels.
Oats	89,693,261 "
Rye	2,357,635 "
Peas	14,058,198 "
Potatoes	21,476,439 "
Turnips	59,330,395 "
Mangel-Wurzels	24,728,525 "
Corn (Maize)	27,093,561 "
Hay	3,133,045 tons.
Tobacco	2,854,900 lbs.

