

an Bay, 61 miles N. 50° W. in a straight line. At about 15 miles the Wassiemska a branch of the Mistassini nearly as large as that river itself, was crossed, and 13 miles further the Chief river, the main branch of the Ashuapmochoan, was reached 35 miles in a direction N. 25° W. from the Chief river is the height of land between the St. Lawrence and the Hudson's Bay. Over this whole region as far as it could be seen, the surface is broken by low, narrow ridges, running nearly N. and S. These are seldom 300 and often not more than 100 feet above the level. The small streams found in the valleys frequently expand into lakes, from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile wide and perhaps several miles long. These are so numerous that from the top of Frog Mountain, a hill 350 feet high about half-way between Chief river and the Height of Land, 40 of them were counted within a radius of 6 or 8 miles.

From the Height of Land to Lake Mistassini the distance in a straight line is only $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. 60° W. The ridge forming the watershed is about 10 chains wide with a small lake on each side, nearly on the same level and 60 feet below the highest part of the ridge. Lake Mistassini is of a very elongated form lying S. W. and N. E. It cannot be much, if any less than 100 miles

long, but at no place where it was surveyed more than 15 wide. All the rocks met with on the lake were flat limestone.

SURVEYS IN LEEDS, FRONTENAC AND LANARK, ONT.

Mr. H. G. Vennor continued his surveys in these counties during the summer of 1871, examining the iron mines; the Phosphate locations, and the gold ore-zones in Marmora. 7 iron mines were examined and 19 Phosphate locations. In Marmora, the feverish excitement of 1868, has subsided, but 3 or 4 localities are steadily worked. At the Cooke's or Williams' mine, the average yield is \$17 to 20 per ton. None of the others were working largely, but preparations were making for enlarging the business of several other mines. The Gillen mine is said to be very rich in both gold and silver, and the vein has been traced for a considerable distance. The Powell vein is said to average 10 feet in width and the surface ore yields \$5 a ton.

The geological investigations in New Brunswick, have not been sufficiently prosecuted to admit of the completion of the geological map of Southern New Brunswick for which they were undertaken, and another season has been devoted to them.

Ordnance Lands.

From the report of the Secretary of State of Canada for the year 1872, it appears that the Ordnance properties are producing a large and always increasing income. In 1872 the income from this branch was \$72,688, and there was a sum of \$175,000 due on open accounts, of which there are 1300. The sales of lands belonging to the late

Bank of Upper Canada, under the charge of this Branch had amounted up to March 1873 to \$114,240. The value of the Ordnance property at Ottawa upon which the Departmental Buildings are situated and Major's Hill, appropriated by the Board of Works, is estimated at \$550,000.

Fisheries of the Dominion.

The fisheries in 1872 yielded above an average return. Of some kinds the returns show a slight decrease, the late spring and frequent storms having been injurious to fishing during the earlier part of the season.

The estuary, river and inland fisheries continue to improve under the protective system. In both the salt and fresh water fishings a point of productiveness is being gained when the stock of fish will be sufficient to afford remunerative employment to double the men and craft now employed. Better and more economical modes of

catching are also used and profitable means of disposing of the fish have been secured. Instead of being salted and cured as formerly—salmon and white fish are frozen or canned and sent fresh to our own markets and those of the neighbouring States. 400,000 fresh salmon are now caught annually in these provinces equal to 8,000,000 lbs. of wholesome and delicious food, the bulk of which is now used as fresh food, instead of salted as formerly.

The following table shows the yield and value of the Canadian Fisheries for the last three years:—