

Eau Galle rivers, are properly included in this region, and there are also several smaller branches of the Red Cedar not named. These streams all have their source in small lakes or springs, which natural reservoirs furnish an unfailing supply of the purest water, while the fall is sufficient to make a rapid current, and to furnish abundant water power. On the head waters of nearly all of them, are extensive forests of pine, which are destined to be a most prolific source of wealth, for many years to come.

In the immediate vicinity of Hudson, the land is principally prairie, with occasional patches of timber, but at a distance of twenty miles directly east, a heavy forest, chiefly of oak and sugar maple, extends to the eastward beyond the Red Cedar, while through most of the region north of Apple river, there is nearly an equal division of timber and prairie, so that very few prairie farms would have timber at a greater distance than three miles.

The surface of the country is generally slightly rolling, and occasionally broken into what are usually called "bluffs." These mounds, though they really occupy but a very small portion of the surface, relieve the monotony of an extended prairie, and their tops being frequently covered with groves, they add greatly to the beauty of the scenery. They are also a perpetual source of fertilization to the lower lands, since they are composed in great part of a loose and porous limestone, which is constantly being worn away and deposited in minute particles through the valleys below.

The soil is mostly a rich sandy loam, which produces abundantly and in great perfection, everything usually grown in Eastern and Middle States. As a corn producing region, it is not equal to the best portions of some of the States further south, but it is far better adapted to this crop than any of the State of New York, since the largest varieties cultivated in Ohio and Indiana, mature equally well here, and may easily be made to produce from forty to sixty bushels per acre. In