

SILVER RIDGE

The half township now known as the Plantation of Silver Ridge was originally the east half of Township No. 3, Range 5, the west half of the same township being now the town of Benedicta.

In 1857 the county commissioners of Aroostook County were petitioned to locate a road from Benedicta through Silver Ridge to Haynesville. At that time the half township was entirely covered with forest in which no clearing had yet been made for settling purposes. The commissioners viewed the route and decided not to locate the road as asked for, but the partial survey called attention to the excellent land owned by the State and lying unimproved. During that year (1857) a number of settlers came in and made clearings on the half township, although it had not yet been lotted and of course these settlers were merely squatters upon the land. Francis Smith, Thomas Millmore, Thomas McAvoy and Fenton Seals all from the adjoining town of Benedicta, made clearings that year.

Silver Ridge lies immediately south of Sherman and the mail route from Island Falls to Kingman runs through that plantation. Nearly every lot on the road through Silver Ridge is settled and there some very fine farms and handsome residences, which would seem to show that the people are prosperous, have comfortable and convenient homes and are making a good living.

The settled portion of the town is confined to the two ranges of lots bordering on the main road. The remainder of the town is now owned by non-resident proprietors and is not generally good land for settling purposes. The plantation of Silver Ridge was organized in 1863 and since that time it has made a marked increase in the appearance and value of its farms and residences, although it has decreased somewhat in population during the last decade.

HERSEY

The town of Hersey lies along the border of Penobscot County and, though yet but partially settled, is naturally one of the best townships in western Aroostook for agricultural pur-