

—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Halifax.....	25.0	24.3	29.0	38.0	48.0	56.3	62.3	63.7	57.0	47.0	39.3	25.7	43.3
Wolfville.....	22.2	24.1	29.4	40.3	51.6	61.9	67.5	65.5	58.3	49.2	39.3	26.7	44.6

The agricultural productions of Nova Scotia are limited. Wheat will not grow near the coast and corn will not ripen, so that the people are obliged to import almost all their farinaceous food. There is, however, one part of the Province which is exceptionally favored, viz., the Bay of Fundy shore. The winds seem to sweep into this Bay, as into a funnel, from the mild waters of the Gulf stream, and make of a couple of counties of Nova Scotia a garden where the plum, the pear, the best of apples, and many other such products, come to perfection, all the more astonishing from the contrast which the Atlantic and the Gulf coasts of the same Province offer.

2. Newfoundland.—The mean of the various months at St. John's, Newfoundland, is:—

—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May.	June	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
St. John's.....	23.3	20.9	24.2	33.4	39.3	48.0	56.2	57.9	53.0	44.5	34.0	25.3	38.3

The temperature is thus like that of Halifax, singularly even, but considerably lower in the summer months, a difference which is probably less on the Gulf Shores than it is on the Atlantic. Bishop Mullock gives the highest reached temperature at 96°, on July 3rd, 1859; but the records sent to the Smithsonian Institution give 88°, in August, 1859, as the highest, and 86°, in July, 1834, as the two highest markings. The Smithsonian tables give -14°, in February, 1834, as the lowest point reached, a degree of cold which is of rare occurrence. The fogs which prevail on the Banks do not extend to the Island, except with certain winds, and the mean obscuration of the sky at St. John's is not more than in the other chief cities of North America. Some parts of the Island grow fair hard-wood, but the neighbourhood of the Fishing Stations is generally of poor soil, and supports, in addition to moss, only a small growth of spruce. The agricultural capabilities of Newfoundland are undoubtedly considerable: wheat will grow in places; barley and oats everywhere, and the even temperature permits of the regular growth of grasses, so that it ought to be as well adapted for sheep farming and grazing as any other part of North America. Potatoes and all garden vegetables, such as cabbages, carrots, turnips, are brought to the highest perfection. There appears to be no reason why Newfoundland should not, some day, be the home of an agricultural population numbered by millions.

This sketch would be incomplete without some allusion to the climate of British Columbia. Covering so vast a territory, it is of course to be expected that there should be great differences in its temperature, and such is really the case. Vancouver's Island has less monthly variation than the mainland; the coast of the mainland than the interior. The coast-regions are moist, but the westerly and southerly winds leave most of their rains behind them before they pass the first range of mountains, and the mild English climate of Vancouver's merges into that of the Saskatchewan valley and the valleys of the rivers flowing into the Arctic ocean, mile by mile as those regions are approached. The recorded mean temperatures of Victoria, V. I., and New Westminster are:—

—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May.	June	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Victoria.....	39	43	45	51	55	59	61	62	57	54	49	43	51.5
New Westminster...	36	39	47	51	57	65	68	69	60	51	36	33	51.0

From the above review it will be seen that the climate of all British America is what Blodget calls "formidable." It, moreover, presents its most unfavourable features to the stranger or the casual visitor.

All vessels coming from Europe cross the Banks of Newfoundland. "It is a dreary locality," says the Right Rev. Dr. Mullock, of St. Johns, "and the almost constant fog and drizzling rain, the doleful sound of the fog-horn, with ships' guns calling their crews, the troubled ocean, the ships rolling almost under the waves, as they ride at anchor by their hempen cables, steadied by their main or tugsails in addition to their moorings—all these make an impression on a stranger which he never after forgets. . . . And he is surprised when he is told that for ten months in the year all the fog and damp of the Banks goes to the other side of the Atlantic, while we (in Newfoundland) never have the benefit of it unless what we call the out-winds blow."

Again, all our railways pass through the least inviting sections of the country. The farmer naturally builds his house to face the gravel road, and not the railway; the railway company seeks out the least improved and therefore least expensive track, also in most cases the neighbourhood of valleys not yet reclaimed from swamp. He that travels by rail from Halifax to Windsor, N. S., from Quebec to Montreal, from Prescott to the Capital at Ottawa, or on almost any other route, and forms his opinion of the country by the rocky or swampy or sandy deserts he passes through, falls into serious error.

So with our rivers. The banks of many of them are not yet cultivated, owing to the rising of the waters in the spring. It is only in old settled localities that habitations, fields, and meadows can be seen from the steamers' decks.

But somehow it often happens that where nature is most formidable, nay, most repulsive to the careless observer, she is kindest to the loving wooer and most liberal to the patient worker. The leaden skies which cover the Banks of Newfoundland point out from afar the haunts of a fish more valuable far to man than all the painted denizens of Southern waters. The snows which in winter hide the soil of Canada, cover also farms which yield more merchantable products to the acre than the lands of the more balmy South. As taxation is said by the political economist not to be an unmixed evil in that it is an incentive to exertion, so the rigour of our winters, even when not directly beneficial as it is in some cases, appears but to stimulate our people to profitable exertion in the summer. When we read of roses blooming in the South at a time when Frost and Heat are still disputing for dominion here, we are apt to envy the dwellers in the Carolinas or the Southern States. But on reflection we may find that we have much compensating good. Not to speak of our mode of Government, which now shews so bright a contrast to theirs, there are elements of health and wealth among us so valuable that we need not desire to exchange the shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence for those of the Gulf of Mexico.