

the idea still prevailing among large numbers in Europe and elsewhere, that the land is one of perpetual winter and usually covered with snow. In reality the climate of Canada is dry, healthy and invigorating, and owing to the great area of the country, extending over 20 degrees of latitude, or from the latitude of Constantinople to the North Pole, has a wide range of temperature. The extreme dryness of the atmosphere, however, makes both cold and heat less acutely felt than the readings of the thermometer would lead people to expect. In the Maritime Provinces the climate somewhat resembles that of the British Isles; in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba the summers are warm and the winters cold, but the cold is pleasant and bracing, and the snow that generally covers the ground during the winter is of the greatest benefit alike to the farmer, the lumberman and the merchant. In the North-West Territories cattle graze at large all through the winter months; and on the Pacific slope, west of the Rocky Mountains, the climate is milder than in any other part of the Dominion, and is considered by the inhabitants as unsurpassed in the world.

Average
reasons.

16. Instead of the perpetual winter so much talked about, the facts are, that the average winter is about four and a-half months, and though the spring may begin two or three weeks later than in England the conditions for rapid growth—warm sunshine and rain—are so favourable that the crops of the two countries are about equally advanced by the middle of July; and as during the last few years the country has become better known, it is beginning to be understood that, though the winters are at times severe, they are healthy and enjoyable, while the summer weather is not surpassed in the most favoured parts of Europe. That the climate is superior to that of England is admitted by all who have experienced both; and it is a well recognized fact that a sharp, cold winter, with plenty of snow, is by far the healthiest as well as the most advantageous to business of every kind, while a mild winter is