

For four months in the St. Lawrence valley the ground is usually covered with between one and three feet of snow. Although winter rains not infrequently occur, especially along the south of the river, it is not till the end of March that they are heavy enough to commence to carry away the snow. In April the total rainfall will vary from one to two inches; in May it will amount to nearly three inches in practically all districts as far north as the Height of Land. Two and one-half to four inches fall in each month from May to September. In October the total precipitation is about the same but is partly snow in the northern and eastern districts. The winter snowfall varies from 7 to 10 feet, and is considered a great asset in that it makes possible travel and traffic through the forests, where lumbering is carried on on a great scale in the winter months.

North of the Height of Land, and east of Hudson bay to the Labrador coast, lies an immense territory of which little is known. What information we have suggests that the summers are too short for agriculture, although garden stuff will mature in some of the more southern localities, while sheep and cattle have been successfully kept at some of the posts of the Hudson's Bay Co., interested mainly in these regions in dealing with fur trappers.

The Atlantic Provinces.—These provinces have a climate which is in many respects comparable with that of southern Ontario. The winters are warmer in some parts of southwestern Nova Scotia than in Toronto. In New Brunswick the southern counties have a winter with much the same temperature on the average as that of the upper St. Lawrence valley in Ontario, while the northern counties resemble, in the same season, the Ottawa valley. At Yarmouth, in the extreme southwestern portion of Nova Scotia, the coolest month is February, with a mean temperature of 25° as compared with 22° at Toronto. At Kentville, in the Annapolis valley, the same month has a mean of 19°, while Stillwater in the east has a mean of 16°. At Sydney in Cape Breton island the mean is 20°, and at Charlottetown in Prince Edward Island 16°. At Fredericton the coldest month has a mean of 13°, while further north in New Brunswick, Grand Falls, Williamsburg and Dalhousie have a mean temperature of 9°. The comparative cold of the winters in this maritime position is somewhat surprising to a European, but it should be remembered that the waves of high pressure from the interior of the continent have a general motion from northwest to southeast, so that the frigid air from the northern interior of Quebec frequently flows over the Atlantic provinces in winter.

The summers are not quite so warm as in southern Ontario, although warmer than in the south of England. Temperatures exceeding 85°, and at times 95°, sometimes occur. Spring opens a little later, but temperatures in southern regions do not fall so rapidly in October as in southern Ontario. In the interior of New Brunswick the extremes of heat and cold are more pronounced than in Nova Scotia.

The average precipitation of these provinces is between 40 and 45 inches, except along the southern coastline of Nova Scotia, where it is nearly 10 inches greater. The snowfall is very heavy in northern New Brunswick, where it exceeds 100 inches. It diminishes southward to Nova Scotia, where the precipitation accompanying winter storms usually is partly in the form of rain.

The climate of these provinces is eminently suited to agriculture and the raising of cattle, while in such situations as the Annapolis valley orchards bear fruit of famous quality. A trip through the Annapolis valley in October will amply repay the tourist, as nothing can be conceived more beautiful than the gorgeous autumn tints which everywhere enhance the loveliness of the landscape.