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and, the ranges (ranheit). The exceeds twenty. low zero at all. or three days hole breadth of of December, sionally rains, 2° to 40° above . In general with the are- nor so much, e more humid,

and the temperature less steady. All business is carried on as actively in winter as in summer, and the people do not wear more clothing than is worn in England and the rest of Northern Europe, or of a different kind.

COURSE OF THE SEASONS.

The winter is fairly established at Christmas. In January, as in the other North American colonies, there is the usual thaw. In February there is the deepest snow, which seldom exceeds two feet; in March the sun acquires much power and the snows begin to melt. The snow disappears early in April, and Spring ploughing commences; seed-time continues, according to the season, from the last week in April until early in May. In June the apple trees are in full blossom. In July wild strawberries of fine flavour are ripe and abundant; haying then begins. In August early potatoes are brought to market, as also raspberries and other wild fruits. In September oats, wheat, and other cereal grains are ready for the sickle; these are generally secured before October. The Autumn is long, and the weather is then delicious. This is decidedly the most pleasant portion of the year. There are usually heavy rains in November, but when not wet the weather is fine and pleasant. The rivers generally close during the latter part of this month, and by the middle of December winter again fairly sets in.

The number of days during which rain impedes the operations of the British farmer is notoriously very great; but in New Brunswick the climate is more steady and equable. Rains do not so frequently fall. Indeed, the snow of New Brunswick is only one-half as heavy or wet as that of England, it requiring 17 inches of snow to average, when melted, one inch of water, while in England 9 inches of snow average, when melted, one inch of water.

The operations of the New Brunswick farmer are therefore less impeded by rain than those of the English farmer, and there are more days in which he can profitably work out-of-doors; while the action of winter upon the soil, by raising up and separating the particles, is such as materially to lessen the labour necessary to bring it into a proper state of tillage. An Ayrshire farmer settled in New Brunswick, whose long experience of Scottish agriculture entitles his opinion to much weight, says:

The frost of winter leaves the land in a very friable state, and in better order for green crops than any number of ploughings done in winter could make it. On this account, I believe a pair of horses could work as much land here, under a given rotation (notwithstanding the shorter season), as they do in Scotland.

The manner in which all root crops thrive is remarkable, and the frost, by opening and pulverising the soil, is one of the agents by which the large product is brought about. The climate is also well adapted to the rearing of cattle. With proper care they not only winter well but gain size and flesh. Even in Restigouche, the most northerly county in New Brunswick, the climate is, by reason of its dryness, less severe upon stock than in Great Britain. Large numbers of cattle are raised yearly for the United States markets.

All the fruits generally found in England are grown in New Brunswick, especially apples, pears, plums, cherries, currants, gooseberries, and strawberries. The potatoes, of which the land yields 226 bushels to the acre, are superior to any in America. Of wheat, the average produce to the acre is 20 bushels; of barley, 29 bushels; of oats, 34 bushels; of buckwheat, 33 bushels; of rye, 20 bushels; of Indian corn, 41 bushels; of potatoes, 226 bushels, or 6½ tons; of turnips, 456 bushels, or 13½ tons.

WHAT STRANGERS SAY.

Major Robinson, R.E., who in 1845 explored the Province under direction of the British Government, thus describes the Province in his Report to the Imperial Parliament:—

Of the climate, soil, and capabilities of New Brunswick it is impossible to speak too highly. There is not a country in the world so beautifully wooded and watered. An inspection of the map will show that there is scarcely a section of it without its streams, from the running brook up to the navigable river. Two-thirds of its boundary is washed by the sea; the remainder is embraced by the large rivers, the St. John and Restigouche. For beauty and richness of scenery this latter river and its branches are not surpassed by anything in Great Britain. The lakes of New Brunswick are numerous and most beautiful; its surface is undulating, hill and dale varying to the mountain and valley. The country can everywhere be penetrated by its streams. In some parts of the interior, by a portage of three or four miles, a canoe can be floated either to the Bay Chaleur or down to St. John, on the Bay of Fundy.