

his home where the conditions are likely to be most favorable to the particular line of farming which he wishes to follow. In dealing with the climate of Western Canada, we shall, for the purposes of convenience and clearness, divide our description into two parts:

(A) **The Prairie Provinces.** comprising Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and

(B) **The Province of British Columbia.**

There are four questions which, in one form or other, the prospective settler is sure to ask, and which he must have satisfactorily answered, before finally making his choice.

1. Is the climate a healthy one?
2. Is the winter severe?
3. Is the summer hot?
4. Are the climatic conditions prevailing during the summer favorable to agricultural operations?

(A) **The Prairie Provinces.**

1. **Healthfulness.** The open nature of the country, clear, dry atmosphere and abundance of bright sunshine, its elevation (varying from 1,402 to 3,389 feet above the sea level), and the fresh breezes which blow across its plains, all tend to make it one of the healthiest countries in the world. There is an entire absence of malaria, and there is no disease peculiar to the country. The Western portions of the country have attained a considerable reputation as health resorts, particularly for persons of consumptive tendencies, and many who have found life a burden through delicacy of constitution in other countries have acquired complete health by a few months' residence in this beneficent climate.

2. **The Winter.** At times and at places the winter is somewhat severe. That is to say, between about the 15th of December and the 15th of March the thermometer frequently registers a temperature considerably below zero. At this period also storms, known locally as "blizzards" occasionally occur. During such, however, very low temperatures rarely prevail. Having stated this, the worst has been said. With the aid of comfortable houses and proper clothing and furs the prairie settler defies the winter at its worst.

The average weather during the winter in Manitoba, Eastern Saskatchewan and Northern Alberta is clear, calm and cold, with intense bright sunshine. The snow, which rarely falls to more than a few inches in depth on the prairies, is dry and powdery. Under such circumstances life is enjoyable and healthful. The average settler is a cheery soul and fond of social gatherings and amusements for which the winter affords many opportunities. Low temperatures in winter in this dry climate cause no inconvenience unless accompanied by high winds, which is not often the case. The immigrant may prove this conclusively by watching the rosy-faced school children rolling each other in the dry powdery snow on a fine winter day when the thermometer perhaps stands several degrees below zero.