

It will thus be seen that the summer climate is warmer than that of Northern Illinois, Western Wisconsin, Northern New York, or Ontario. The fall plunges into winter almost as rapidly as the spring emerges from it. In relation to agriculture, the intensity of winter cold is of comparatively little moment, and its effects upon the physical comfort is mitigated by a clear dry atmosphere, such as makes the winters of our Eastern Provinces the season of animal and social enjoyment.

Prominent among the questions proposed by the emigrant, seeking a new home in a new country, are those concerning the climate, its temperature, adaptation to the culture of the grand staples of food, and its healthfulness.

The climate of our North-West has long been the subject of unjust disparagement. "It is too far north," "the winters are intolerable," &c. To the native settler the seasons follow each other in pleasing succession. As the sun approaches its northern altitude, winter relaxes its grasp, streams and lakes are unbound, prairie flowers spring up, as if by the touch of some magic wand, and gradually spring is merged into the bright beautiful June, with its long warm days, and short, but cool and refreshing nights. The harvest months follow in rapid succession, till the golden Indian summer of early November foretells the approach of cold and snow; and again winter, with its short days of clear bright sky and bracing air, and its long nights of cloudless beauty, complete the circle.

The average fall of snow is about six inches per month. The snow falls in small quantities, at different times, and is rarely blown into drifts so as to impede travelling. With the new year commences the extreme cold of our winter, when, for a few days, the mercury ranges from 15 to 35 degrees below zero, falling sometimes even below that. Yet the severity of these days is much softened by the brilliancy of the sun and the stillness of the air. Thus, while in lower latitudes, they are being drenched by the cold rain storms, or buried beneath huge drifts of wintry snow, Manitoba enjoys a dry atmosphere, with bright cloudless days, and serene starlight nights; and when the moon turns her full orb'd face towards the earth, the night scene of Manitoba is one of peerless grandeur.

FROSTS AND ADAPTATION OF CLIMATE TO AGRICULTURE.

The liability to disastrous frosts in the season of growth, and which so intimately concerns the interests of husbandry, is not any worse in Manitoba than in many parts of Ontario. At the former place, the Spring of 1869 was an exceptionally late one, and in May, several light frosts were experienced, which did no serious damage to the crops; in fact the injury was scarcely noticeable, which may be accounted for from the following reasons:—

- 1.—The dryness of the atmosphere (which is a peculiarity of this region), allows a much lower range of temperature, without injury to vegetation, than in moister climates; and in addition to the heat, gives greater vigour to the plants, they grow rapidly but with firm texture, and