

equal mean temperature; while *isothermal zones* are spaces on opposite sides of the equator, having the same mean temperature, and bounded by corresponding isothermal lines. Add to this the fact that it lies West—far West—of all our great Canadian lakes, Superior not excepted, and that the prevailing wind is from the North-West, which sweeps over the vast stretch of prairie country, lying between the Rocky Mountains and the Red River of the North, and you compass the reason why the prevailing winds are so soft and balmy, and so unlike the *raw winds* that blow upon us in Ontario, surrounded as we are by a chain of lakes.

The air, as I can testify from experience, is pure, clear and invigorating, unless when the smoke caused by the prairie fires makes it otherwise; and hence when a Canadian has been in the Territory for a few weeks only, he feels the bracing effects of the air upon his whole system, his appetite is keener and his sleep is sounder, and he is ready to exclaim—

“ Throw physie to the dogs,
I'll none of it!”

Persons lie out all night on the cold ground, with nothing between their bodies and the earth save a piece of oil-cloth, both in summer and winter, and even when snow and rain are falling freely, and with ordinary covering take no cold, though they are often drenched with rain, and allow their clothes to dry on their bodies. Were we to do in Ontario as they do in the British North-West Territories, we would soon go to our graves from inflammation of the lungs, or the real galloping consumption. The temperature is more *equable* in the region of the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan valleys than in old Canada anywhere. Winter sets in about the first of November. The rivers are generally frozen over by the 15th of that month, and sleighing begins from the 1st to the 15th of Dec., and continues all through the winter season without interruption. There are no rains or thaws such as we have here, and hence no mud and slush and sleet, such as we are accustomed to have. The people there are not sweltering to-day and shivering to-morrow; for they have not to encounter such *sudden and extreme* changes as we have. The snow in winter is like down, the air pure and exhilarating, and the snow is seldom over one foot deep. Though often, and for days together, the thermometer marks 40° below zero, yet Canadians, on whose testimony I can place full and implicit reliance, informed me that they do not feel the cold as they did in Upper Canada, be-