

*the vista of futurity*, this noble stream, connecting, as it does, the fertile shores of two spacious lakes, with crowded steam-boats in its bosom, and populous towns on its borders?" Speaking afterwards of the Lake of the Woods, he says: "though the shores of this sheet of water are more rocky than those of Lac la Pluie, yet they are very fertile, producing the rice already mentioned in abundance, and bringing maize to perfection. The lake is also literally studded with woody islands, from which it has doubtless derived its name; and these islands, being exempted from nocturnal frosts, which exist chiefly in the neighbourhood of swamps, are better adapted than the main land for cultivation."

At page 53, speaking of the Colony at Red River settlement, he says, "the soil proved rich and productive, and the plough met with no obstruction; the usual American step necessarily taken for clearing away the forest, previous to tilling the land, was not required. At page 55, it is stated, "the soil at Red River settlement is a black mould of considerable depth, which, when first tilled, produces extraordinary crops, as much on some occasions as forty returns of wheat; and, even after twenty successive years of cultivation, without the relief of manure, or of fallow, or of green crop, it still yields from fifteen to twenty-five bushels per acre. The wheat produced is plump and heavy; there are also large quantities of grain of all kinds, besides beef, mutton, pork, butter, cheese, and wool in abundance."

Although subject to heavy snow falls and occasional spring floodings, it does not seem more inclement than some of the counties in the North of England.

At page 84, he speaks of the Saskatchewan being a quarter of a mile wide, and navigable for boats upwards of 700 miles in a direct line; and at page 85, he describes animal food so abundant as to be wasted by the Indians from mere wantonness. At page 86, "their route lay over a hilly country, so picturesque in its character, that almost every commanding position presented the elements of an interesting panorama."