

Manitoba Climate.

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to good health. I do not desire, and I am sure you do not desire, to advertise our country as a health resort. We do not invite either the mental or physical invalid to come; but we desire to assure the vigorous and strong that in no other part of the world will they find climatic conditions more conducive to the continuation of that vigor and strength than in this Northwest.

Parkes who is an authority, says: "With regard to the effect upon the Anglo-Saxon and Celtic races going to live in a climate colder and with greater variations than their own, we have the experience of Northwestern Canada, where their health is not only sustained but improved, and their progeny is as vigorous, if not more so than the parent race."

With regard to disease, we have none peculiar to this country or climate. We are absolutely protected by our climatic conditions from several of the most dangerous and fatal, whilst several of those which are common to all people on the face of the earth, are comparatively rare, owing to our climate. For example, we have never had, and will never have, cholera, yellow fever, malaria, or dysentery, so common and so fatal to the inhabitants of warm climates.

Inflammatory rheumatism is extremely rare, as compared with its prevalence in cool, damp climates. Asthma rarely develops here, whilst many who suffer from it in the east are free from it in Manitoba. Consumption, which is the scourge of the British Islands and of the United States, is, as yet, comparatively rare with us. Our pure, dry air, our sunshiny days, and opportunities for out-door life are antagonistic to its existence. Fifty thousand people die annually of it in Great Britain, and 125,000 people die annually of it in the United States. In the comparatively mild but damp atmosphere of the six New England States, viz., Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, in 1892, 10,667 died of consumption, 10,337 died of pneumonia, 3,937 died of influenza, or 21½ out of every 10,000 people living died of consumption, the same number of pneumonia, and 0.3 died of influenza. Taking the population of Manitoba at 200,000 and calculating upon the same basis in 1892 we should have said: 430 of our people died of consumption; 430 of pneumonia, and 136 of influenza, a total of 996 from these three diseases. We had no such mortality. Our whole mortality from these diseases, together with all others of the respiratory organs, in 1894 was only 323. In Michigan in 1892, 2,496 died of consumption, 1,466 of pneumonia, 907 of influenza. These are states with damp but moderate climates as compared with ours. Take another one, California, which is looked upon as a paradise; with a population of 1,200,000 in 1892, 2,032 died of consumption, 1,619 of pneumonia; 223 of influenza. From amongst us on the same basis of population, 335 should have died of consumption, 270 of pneumonia, 32 of influenza. Let us again make another comparison. Take the province of Quebec where the climatic conditions are more nearly like our own, except that we have a dry cold atmosphere, whilst it has a climate not so cold but more moist. In 1891 in Quebec 2,457 died of consumption, 1,910 of pneumonia, 2,003 of bronchitis, pleurisy and influenza. Total deaths reported from these causes, 6,465. But as 109 townships either sent incomplete reports or did not report at all, we may easily add 600 to this number, making 7,000 in all from these five diseases.

Quebec has a population of 1,400,000, Manitoba has a population of 200,000. To be equal to Quebec, our population being one-seventh of Quebec's our deaths should also be one-seventh of its, or 1,000. What was it in the same year, 1891? Not only

from these five affections, but including all other affections of the respiratory organs, it was only 323 or about one-third as many as the corresponding number in Quebec. Our returns were complete, only three minor municipalities not reporting.

Again take the total death rate from all causes and at all ages, Quebec lost 32,250 or 20.28 in every 1,000 of population. In Manitoba 2,000 people died, or 10 in every 1,000 of population. Of course there are other factors which come in besides climate to aid in accounting for this wide divergence in mortality, but certainly we can justly claim a certain portion of the credit for our climate. Again, if our climate be such a severe one as reported, its baneful influence should be felt upon infantile life, and upon those of old age. I have not statistics to show its effects at old age but I have those upon early life. I find that in Quebec 32,250 persons died in 1894, and of these 15,276 died under five years of age. According to population we should have lost one-seventh of that number, or 2,181 under five, but only 1,039 died, or one-half the corresponding number. These statistics go to show the beneficial effects of the climate we enjoy, and that it is not productive of high mortality rates. Without a doubt we can emphatically assert that our climate is one in which individuals can and do enjoy the greatest measure of health and vigor, and which has in it all the climatic elements for the development and preservation of the finest specimens of the human race.

Montreal Grocery Market.

The feature of the sugar market has been the strong cable advices received on the raw article, and prices show an advance of 4½d to 6d since this day week, best now being quoted at 12s 6d March, 12s 7½d April. There has also been a stronger feeling in the New York market for the refined article, and prices have advanced ¼c per lb., granulated now being quoted at 4 15-16c. The situation of the market here is unchanged. The feeling is very firm, in sympathy with the above, and prices are fully maintained. A little more enquiry has been experienced by refiners, principally for yellows, and some fair sized sales have been made, but the market is far from being active yet. The prospects however, are encouraging, as stocks, both here and through the country are steadily being reduced. We quote:—Granulated at 4½c in 250 barrel lots and over, 1 11-16c in 100 barrel lots, and 4½c in smaller quantities. Yellows range from 3½c to 4½c, as to quality, at the factory.

The demand for syrups has continued slow, of which the offerings from first hands are small, and the market, in consequence, is quiet, but prices are firm at 1½c to 2½c per lb., as to quality, at the factory.

Cable advices this week from the Island on molasses have been of an easier tone, but, at the same time, they do not quote any actual change in prices. The market on spot has ruled quiet, and no business of any importance is reported. In a jibbing way Barbadoes is selling at 36c to 37c, and Porto Rico at 34c to 35c.

The demand for rice has been of a limited character, and the market is quiet and firm. The following quotations are what millers sell at:—Japan standard, \$1.25 to \$1.40; crystal Japan, \$1.75 to \$5, standard B., \$1.45; E-gu-tu style, \$1.30; Patna, \$1.25 to \$5, and Carolina at \$1.50 to \$7.50.

A fair business for the season continues to be done in spices, and the tone of the market is steady, with no changes in prices to note. Following quotations are what jobbers can buy at only,—Penang black pepper, 6c to 7½c; white pepper, 10c to 12½c, cloves, 7½c to 9c; cassia, 8½c to 9½c; nutmegs, 60c to 90c, and Jamaica ginger, 15½c to 18½c.

The coffee market shows no signs of improvement. The demand is, principally, for small lots, and prices rule about steady. We quote.—Maracaibo, 19c to 20c; Rio, 18c 18½c; Java, 2½c to 27c; Jamaica 17½c to 18½c, and Mocha, 27½c to 30c.—Gazette, March 21.

The manufacturers and wholesalers of Minneapolis have decided upon a sweeping reduction of this year's pine lumber output. It has been decided to reduce the output 25 per cent. Last year's cut was 480,000,000 feet. A reduction of 25 per cent means that this year's cut will be 360,000,000 feet, which will be by far the lowest output since 1890, when the figures were 315,000,000.

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