

nent north of Chicago. The fall of snow is much lighter than in most parts of Canada, seldom reaching 2 feet in depth. On the whole, the climate is an excellent one, both as regards the health of the inhabitants and the maturity of the crops.

The country is well watered by numerous rivers, streams, and creeks. Large numbers of lakes and ponds, abounding with wild fowl, exist all over the North-West, and every farm house now in existence has a good well which only requires to be sunk to a moderate depth. The supply of water is everywhere ample.

The City of Winnipeg, which nine years ago had about 500 inhabitants, has now a population of nearly 10,000 people. It has several large and well built churches, colleges and schools, where excellent education is to be secured, many stores equal in size and attractiveness to those in the eastern cities, large and good hotels, several banks, and many excellent private residences.

At Portage la Prairie, 70 miles to the westward, a rapidly growing town is rising up. At Emerson, West Lorne, Morris, Palestine, Westbourne, Selkirk, and a good many other places, towns are also rapidly growing.

Along the Red River, and for a considerable distance up the Assiniboine River, the land on both banks of the rivers is largely under cultivation, and in driving from Winnipeg westward, one is hardly, for a distance of 250 miles, ever quite out of sight of land under actual cultivation.

In Manitoba the country is generally level prairie, with fringes of trees on the banks of the rivers and creeks. West of Manitoba, the land is more rolling, and interspersed with numerous small lakes and ponds, where enormous numbers of wild geese, duck, plover and snipe abound. The Little Saskatchewan River, which falls into the Assiniboine about 150 miles from its mouth, passes through a splendid country already containing many settlers. It was on this river, near the Riding Mountain, that Lord Elphinstone lately purchased 12,000 acres of land upon which he is now establishing a great stock farm. The Little Saskatchewan is already becoming a