

renders coarse forage more nutritious and damp food less injurious to cattle and horses. It preserves animals from disease, makes their flesh more palatable and increases the yield of milk in cows and goats. Moreover, salt, if used as a fertilizer, can change the climate. The inhabitants of Canada may, if they wish, raise the temperature of their shores and shorten their winters. They will not, in all probability have an Andalusian sky, for the effects of chloride of sodium can hardly go so far. But seriously speaking, the cold may be made less intense in the following way. Some soils absorb salt and become heated by it. But there are others which do not absorb it completely; the salt washed by the rains is carried to the waters of lakes and rivers and after a certain number of years when it accumulates in sufficient quantities, it prevents and delays the freezing of the waters. Now, it must be admitted that all these watery surfaces made solid by frost and which are scattered all over fair Canada's bosom are famous ice-houses which contribute to no slight degree to bring down the thermometer to 40° below zero.

Finally, it is a well known fact that salt exists in large quantities throughout the world, either in beds of greater or lesser thickness in the bowels of the earth (known as rock salt) or in solution in the waters of the sea, of certain lakes and springs. In Spain, Aragon and Catalonia have considerable deposits of rock-salt. Sea-water contains about 3 per cent of salt which is obtained by evaporating the water in extensive basins hollowed out on the sea-shore and known as salterns.