

"On the shore of Lake Superior the thermometer will indicate, once or twice during the winter, from 39° to 42° below zero; in the interior it seldom, if ever, falls as low as this. In summer, during the day time, in the months of July and August, the heat is as great as in this part of Canada, but the nights are always cool.

"When once spring commences vegetation is very rapid; the ice and snow have hardly disappeared before the trees are in full leaf.

"While on the subject of climate, I may mention that Mr. Crawford, the Hudson Bay Company's officer at Red Rock, (at the mouth of Nipigon River,) cleared about 15 acres of land last spring, on which he raised some very fine barley, oats, potatoes, and turnips. In his garden were peas, beans, carrots, cabbage, and a few heads of Indian corn. He informed me that when he lived

at Nipigon Lake he had raised tomatoes in the open air."

The fact that the climate is more severe on the lake shore than that in the interior, is corroborated by the observations of Mr. Macoun, the botanist, who remarks:—"An opinion has gone abroad that the lands round Thunder Bay and up the Kaministiquia are unfit for settlement, owing to the extreme cold, and summer frosts of that region. That this opinion is erroneous can be easily seen by a careful perusal of the following paragraphs:

"Early in the year 1869, G. F. Matthews, Esq., of St. John, New Brunswick, read a paper on the occurrence of Arctic and Western plants in Continental Acadia. Amongst other valuable information, he showed that the mean annual summer temperature of St. John, N. B., Thunder Bay, Halifax, and Toronto, was as follows:

	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Mean Sum.
St. John.....	47.3	54.5	59.7	60.0	55.0	45.7	58.1
Thunder Bay.....	48.9	58.7	62.2	53.8	48.2	41.9	59.9
Halifax.....	48.0	56.3	62.3	63.7	57.0	47.0	60.8
Toronto.....	51.5	61.0	66.3	65.7	57.4	45.0	64.3

"In July of the same year I made large collections round Thunder Bay and up the Kaministiquia, detecting many sub-arctic and boreal forms close to the waters of the lake, but none two miles up the river. The cause of this was evident; almost constant rain and fogs prevail around the bay during the hot months, lowering the temperature, and giving a climate almost analagous to that of Halifax or St. John, along the shore of the lake, but with a far higher temperature as we go inland from any point on it.

"The vegetation around Lake Superior is noted for its luxuriance. All herbaceous plants have a tendency to increase beyond their normal size along the west side of the lake, and Americans report the same on the south side. The only cause that can be assigned for this is the humid atmosphere, combined with a sufficiency of heat to deve-

lop at least the leaves and stems of the plants.

"Leaving the low marshy flats at the mouth of the Kaministiquia, and ascending the river, a botanist is soon struck with the change in the aspect of the plants he passes.

"All the sub-arctic species with which the shores of the lake are fringed, disappear; many of the boreal forms become very scarce, and by the time the Mission ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Thunder Bay) is passed, almost a complete change has taken place in the vegetation."

Mr. McKenzie, who it may be remembered made a canoe journey from the Ottawa to Hudson's Bay and back to Lake Superior, is of opinion that were the country explored this season, under cultivation—a condition only precluded by its vast extent and absence of communication—its climate would,

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