

rarity of pneumonia and other lung affections. I know of two cases of phthisis commencing in the country—one of acute tuberculosis, strongly hereditary, and which proved fatal, and another of fibroid, the cause of which I believe to be the fine dust of the corral acting in the same manner as stone-mason's and knife-grinder's phthisis. This latter steadily improved on ceasing work, and is now nearly well. On the other hand, I have known of a great many cases of incipient consumption that have come to Alberta, and in some the disease has been arrested, and in others the sufferer restored to perfect health. These facts will not appear strange when the conditions are considered, for, according to the latest consensus of opinion among climatologists, the climate treatment of phthisis requires—

1. A dry aseptic atmosphere.
2. A dry soil.
3. The greatest possible number of clear, sunshiny days during which the invalid can exercise in the open air.
4. A certain amount or degree of elevation above sea level. Equability of temperature within certain limits is not considered necessary.

I believe I may assert, without danger of contradiction, that Southern Alberta possesses all these requisites in a most eminent degree. The dryness of the atmosphere is insured by the character of the country. A great, grassy, undulating, treeless plain, elevated from two to five thousand feet above sea level, and distant some hundreds of miles from any considerable body of water. Accurate meteorological data are wanting, but it is sufficient to say that Alberta is not different from the whole strip of country lying along the eastern base of the continental watershed, and which the absence of a sufficient rainfall has caused to be devoted principally to the raising of stock. This dryness of the air, combined with its elevation, almost necessarily renders it aseptic in a wonderful degree.

Elevation is not now considered by some an essential feature in the climatic treatment of phthisis. The altitude theory, which Miguel did so much to bring into favor, and which was so great an advance in the indiscriminate employment of places like