

equable. Rains do not so constantly fall; and when they do descend, the soils in most parts of the Province are so porous as readily to allow them to pass through. Thus the out door operations of the farmer are less impeded by rain, and the disposable time he possesses, compared with that of the British farmer, is really not to be measured by the number of days at the disposal of each."

The average earliest sowing given by Professor Johnston, as gathered from data collected in the Province, is the 21st of April, and the latest early sowing 15th May; and the average latest ploughing, 17th November, and the latest 1st December.

Should it be objected that the length of time during which cattle require to be housed and fed militates against the interests of the agriculturalist, I would reply—that the greater quantity of manure which he is thereby enabled to secure, furnishes him with the means of raising heavier crops of turnips and other roots, for the sustenance of his stock. But supposing this not to be a full equivalent, it is at least questionable, whether the farmer does not obtain a higher price for his cattle, alive or dead, than he would if it cost him less to keep them. At all events, the farmer *thrives* as well, if not better, than most, if not all other classes (the best answer I should say to the objection), in spite of the length of the winter; and such a thing as a pauper is almost unknown in the rural districts of New Brunswick.

Looked at closely, from any point of view, a North American winter is far from being that disagreeable thing it is *supposed to be*, when viewed from a distance. It is the season best adapted for social enjoyment. In the day time, skating, sleigh riding, and other exhilarating out-door amusements employ the leisure hours of those who can afford to indulge in such recreation; and in the long winter evenings—in the cities especially—balls, concerts, lectures, readings, etc., divide the time, with books and other home-pleasures; and it is questionable, upon the whole, whether the marked difference between the seasons, by preventing *monotony*, does not enhance rather than detract from the aggregate happiness.

There are but few days in a New Brunswick winter, when it is too cold to be about one's ordinary business in the