

would furnish irrefutable proof that the climate is promotive of physical health and development; the tall, strong and shapely forms of natives of both sexes would strike the observer at every turn. And I would here observe that notwithstanding the severity of a portion of the winter, it must not be supposed that this period is long. Although the winter itself is nearly five months in length, it is only for a comparatively brief time that the cold is extreme, and mild intervals and thaws are frequent. If we take the present winter, that of 1859-60, we shall find that the severe weather in it may be counted by days rather than weeks. I am informed by a gentleman who speaks from experience and certain knowledge, that the cold of our winter is not nearly so severe as that of the winters of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa, those famous regions of the West; and it is very well known that the cold of the Lower Canadian winter is much more intense than ours. There is a strange fact which I may mention here—that persons from the more temperate climate of Great Britain, do not for the first winter or two which they spend in New Brunswick feel the cold nearly so much as New Brunswickers born; they can work with bare hands when the Bluenose “to the manor born” has to resort to thick woollen mitts.

The matter of internal communication is one of vast importance to the emigrant and settler. Here, again, our Province stands very high among new countries. New Brunswick is permeated in every direction by large navigable rivers. The noble St. John runs through its whole extent, from its northern to its southern boundary. The St. John is navigable for vessels of considerable size to Fredericton, about ninety miles; for small steamers to the Little Falls at least, one hundred and seventy miles further. At present steamers run only to Grand Falls. During the summer season, while the river is at a sufficient height, boats run regularly from St. John to Tobique, over two hundred miles. Thus by this single river there is a regular steamboat communication through fully one half the length of the Province. Next is the St. Croix or Schoodie, which is navigable for large vessels to St. Stephen, seventeen miles. This river forms for a considerable distance the boundary between the Province and the State of Maine, and penetrates the country to the west of the Valley of the St.