

temperature is from 55° to 65° ; but in Central Illinois, where the latitude is about 38° , the summer heat is 78° , and often as high in the shade as from 90 to 100° in June, July, and August. This climate is too hot for the profitable culture of European grains or grasses; they grow there, it is true, but are generally of a very inferior description. The wheat this year (1859) is fortunately a very tolerable sample, and the yield a fair average; much of it was harvested the first week of July: one very large field, I was told by a farming friend who witnessed the operation, was cut with a "heading machine," *i. e.*, the heads of the wheat were cut off immediately below the ear, and dropped into a box which was emptied into waggons accompanying the machine. The straw being of little value was left standing.

As far as regards the wheat crop, this year is an improvement upon several of the past years; but as to other crops, barley, oats, rye, and peas, there does not appear to be much change for the better. With the exception of Indian corn, they are not by any means extensively or successfully cultivated.

By the last census of Canada, taken in 1851-52, her population was about 1-13 of that of the Union, her occupied acres about 1-17th; yet her growth of wheat was very nearly one-sixth of that of the whole Union, of barley it was more than one-fourth, and of oats one-seventh. Of all grain, exclusive of Indian corn, Canada produced *one-sixth of that of the whole Union, territories included.*

These are important facts for the consideration of British emigrants, who, instead of settling on the bleak prairies of the United States, may wish to enjoy a climate not very different from their own, and decidedly healthful; and who may wish to cultivate the same species and description of grain that they have been used to, or to continue their dairies, or to indulge in their beef and mutton producing tendencies, with a fair hope of remuneration.

The prospect of having but little fruit in Central Illinois, is another very important consideration. The land where trees do not naturally grow, can scarcely be expected to be very congenial to fruit trees. It is only too true that in many parts of Illinois fruit trees will not thrive.

Another extract from Mr. Caird (page 29) is worthy of comment, as it portrays a great want of knowledge of facts with regard to the relative increase of population in Canada and Illinois, and is calculated to mislead his readers. Mr. C. says, "Canada West is richer than Canada East, and is more populous; but there is a richer territory still farther west, where labour is yet more productive, and, though in the present state of the country the risk of health is greater, it is ten times more populous, for men push on to the land in which they can most quickly and easily earn an independence."

What will Mr. Caird himself say, when he is told that Canada West has increased in population in a much greater ratio than his favourite state of Illinois!