

men. The place that she should occupy, as the greater and northern half of the continent, can be no longer denied to her. A proper estimate will show Canada to be a country having few equals in extent, none in riches of resource, in accessibility, ease of interior communication, and, notwithstanding the smile that lightens up the face of the reader, none superior to her in the advantages of climate.

Perhaps the best test of climatic advantage is found in the ability to produce, in the largest quantities, and of the best quality, the most valuable and the most universally used article of commerce. Certainly, in this respect, there is nothing surpassing the article of wheat, which may be said to be the basis of civilized existence. The steady movement toward the north of the wheat-producing regions of this continent is remarkable. Wheat is a plant so delicate, and so easily affected by frost and adverse conditions, that it might be supposed to be cultured safely only in the most temperate zones. Yet the movement of the wheat-producing areas toward the North Pole has been as steady as the movement of the needle in the compass in that direction. Within the memory of many readers of this publication, the Genessee Valley, in the State of New York, was the great wheat-producing region. So much so was this the case that Rochester was named the "Flour City," from the number of its flouring mills, and the activity of its commerce in that direction. Since then it has changed the manner of spelling the word which designates it, and though it is still called the "Flower City," it is because of the development of the nursery and seed interests, which so adorn and benefit it,