

injurious life holds out to them in it, first fall upon the climate to ease up their consciences, and give full play to that prevalent weakness of human nature, the habit of exaggeration. Manitoba is in the latitude of Southern Russia, with modifying influences blowing up from the Gulf of Mexico, and having also the benefit of the Chinook winds from the Pacific Coast. When the north wind gets uppermost, which is not often for long, the thermometer goes down with a "bang," and it is during those periods the climate is judged. It is just like a man—he is judged by his worst points, not by his best. When once a house and stables that can resist the wind are built, we can snap our fingers at the cold. The cold is a dry cold, and does not penetrate as where moisture in the atmosphere intensifies it. Moisture with us comes with warm winds which modify the temperature. The most seasonable weather, however, is the clear, cold weather when the thermometer ranges from ten to twenty degrees below zero. Sleighing commences about the first of November and remains till the end of March, giving a continuance of easy and pleasant locomotion. Manitoba is north of the storm belt, and heavy snowfalls and blizzards are not so frequent or disastrous as they are farther south, though on the open plain, where there is nothing to resist the wind, they sometimes catch an inexperienced or venturesome traveller in a dangerous and fatal position.

Having now endeavoured to give the readers of *UPS AND DOWNS* a general idea of a country that has lain hidden from the eyes of the world in past generations, nursed for the British race, or rather the cosmopolitan race of which it is the prototype, and which is modelled to a uniformity by the influences of the British constitution under which it has for its political rule of life a political system which inculcates, generates manliness and promotes Christianity. It will each reader to

give them some practical knowledge of the primitive process of settlement, or, in other words, laying the foundation of a new home. It is the boast of some of our French-Canadian fellow-countrymen, that their families have occupied the same homestead for 200 years and upwards. It is that tenacity that has made the Habitants of Quebec so much respected where their character is properly understood. Social reformers make the nationalization of the land a prominent plank in their programme. If it were likely to disturb the principles of fixity of ownership it would be a national evil, for there is no calling that requires so much experience to produce the best result as the cultivation of the soil. A man bred to the soil can produce from it twice, or even four times, as much as an inexperienced farmer, and even ten years' experience in farming is insufficient to do more than raise a man to the first degree of a knowledge of its capabilities. As a nation wants its people to excel in the productive power of that which is its main store of capital, it does not do to pass any law that will make the production of food in an agricultural country a temporary calling. When a man takes up a home in Manitoba, it should be with the realization that it is not only to be his future home, but a permanent home for those that come after him also, each succeeding generation adding to its beauty, its comfort and productive power. Too many have a false idea that Manitoba is not a resting-place, but a place where a fleeting residence on a homestead may result in the accumulation of money to enable its owners to transport themselves elsewhere. It is not the case. Manitoba is a place where a man by patient industry can make a home for himself, in which "he is monarch of all he surveys, and his right there is none to dispute" so long as he does not outrun the constable, by living on future crop prospects, instead of keeping the annual balance in his books on the right side so far as personal expen-