

money, whether coin or notes ; no railways, mails, or telegraphs ; no Government, or soldiers, or police ; no prisons or taxes ; no lawyers or doctors. Newspapers three months old, and letters three or four times a year. The absence of all these sources of interest is apt to render the mind vacant and listless or to engender idle gossip or thoughtless amusement."

"There is, however, time and opportunity in the quiet North for study and self-improvement if the disposition and the books are not wanting. For after all, the best quality of this northern life is its perfect tranquillity. The country is quiet ; the people are quiet ; the occupations are quiet and there is little to disturb those who are fond of their own society. However, it is doubtful how far complete solitude is advantageous for improvement of character."

"In winter the days are very short. To take a moderate case. If the sun rise at ten and set at two there is none too much time for reading by day-light, and candles may be scarce for evening study. The long summer days, when there is no night, might be thought to make amends for this ; but the summer's heat seems somewhat to enervate the mind by a reaction from the bracing cold of winter."

"It is surely by the provision of a kind Providence that the needful wants of each scattered band of wandering Indians throughout the whole country are adequately supplied in exchange for the one commodity which the country affords, the furs which are coveted by European traders. We are told that extremes meet, and it might be hard to find a better illustration of this proverb than in the contrast between the West-End fashion dressed in extravagantly high-priced furs, and the squalid and pitiful Indian who procures those furs in his wanderings among the Arctic snows."

