

lands are nearly all capable of being drained at slight expense, and the Provincial Government are having surveys made for a comprehensive system of drainage, which will convert these so-called swamps into the most valuable lands in the Province.

That the climate is cold in winter—aye, very cold, is undeniable, but it has not the penetrating rawness of a foggy November day in England or a mist in the mountains of Scotland. With the thermometer at its lowest, the sun's rays are bright and warm, and without consulting it, it would be difficult to suppose that such a low temperature was registered. It is necessary to have warm clothing, especially for underwear; thus protected few Englishmen will complain much of the climate. There are four winter months not by any means without their attractions; deduct one out of the remaining eight for June rains, "the farmers' best friend," and there are left, seven months of entirely enjoyable weather. This climatic condition will compare favorably with most countries, and on this ground no person in the enjoyment of moderate health need be deterred from taking up his abode on the fertile prairies of the great Northwest. I speak from over eight years' experience. As a professional man I have had to take long journeys at all seasons and at all hours, but well protected. I never found any great inconvenience from atmospheric conditions, and can call to mind many times feeling far colder driving to cover and shooting ground on a raw morning at home than I have ever felt in Manitoba. Much stock has been attempted to be made by persons unfriendly to this country of cases of frost-bite and deaths from exposure which occur from time to time, but we not unfrequently read of similar casualties occurring in the mountains of Scotland and Wales. There are some days, few and far between, when it would be foolhardy to venture a distance from the house. A ship at safe anchorage does not put to sea in a storm, and if a man is foolish enough to brave the elements on the two or three days which may occur during the winter when neither man nor beast should be out of shelter, any untoward result must be placed to his want of common sense. There are numerous families in England struggling along on small incomes derived from invested money, at low rates of interest. Undeniable security at 6 and 8 per cent. on capital invested is readily obtainable here; and for this class of persons the unsettled lands around the city offer unusually favorable opportunities for largely increasing their incomes and yet remaining within the reach of all the comforts of life to which they have been accustomed, for in Winnipeg everything that is obtainable in the markets of London is to be had at a much less cost; and the three or four hundred pounds a year, which is with difficulty husbanded so as to make both ends meet, will keep a family in more than comfort in this land of promise.

Your obedient servant,  
JOHN P. PENNEFATHER, M.D.

SEVENTY miners arrived lately at Lethbridge, Alberta, from Ohio. On their arrival they refused to go to work at the wages promised them and unless the old miners were taken

back. After hanging out for several days an agreement between them and the company was arrived at, and they started in mining on the morning of the 11th.

THE cattle on the ranges are sleek and fat. The calf crop on the ranges between here and Little Bow is said to be about up to the average. It is believed that 15 per cent. will cover the loss on these ranges. In the Pincher Creek district the calf crop turned out pretty well on the south side of the South Fork, but not so good on the north side.—*Macleod Gazette.*

SOME of the hide dealers take exception to the circular recently issued by the board of trade, regarding the quantity of salt required to cure a hide. The circular placed the amount at 20 to 25 pounds. In an article giving instructions how to handle hides, which appeared in THE COMMERCIAL of July 18th, ten pounds was stated as the amount of salt required. Several dealers spoken to considered that this amount, or twelve pounds at most, would be ample, if properly distributed over the hide.

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