

rain, the slush, the mud of the States. Our winters are healthful and enjoyable to all. Some people think we are snow-bound in winter. True we have snow all winter. The first that falls remains all winter.

Our roads become somewhat delightful. Nothing but sleighs, sleigh-bells, robes and fast horses. At times I have seen more snow in Illinois and other States than in this portion of Ontario. We are out of the snow belt. Think about the Canadian Pacific Railway crossing the continent on time almost every day. We seldom hear of the train being snow-bound. At no time but what men are at work in the lumber camps. Out in the camps monstrous loads of logs are hauled to the railway track. Think of a load of seventy-five logs, containing about twenty thousand feet, the average load about fifteen thousand feet, on one sled drawn by two horses. The delightfulness of this climate, both winter and summer, cannot be guessed at even by reading an article like this.

Is Wood Plentiful for Fuel; Is There Any Coal?

WE have no prairie land. The settler with plenty of money may wish to go to the great prairies of Manitoba or Alberta, where he can farm on a large scale. Think of this great field nine hundred miles long, and three hundred miles wide. If you wish to make farming count there it requires money to begin with. In New Ontario our land is covered with timber. This is valuable to the poor settler. He may have a family, with just enough money to pay his transportation and get on his one hundred and sixty acres of free grant. With his axe he can construct his own home out of logs. I have one gentleman in Burriss township, Rainy River, who came from Texas with wife and four children. In Rat Portage he spent about all his money for provisions. He went on his lot and erected a 300' house for forty cents. I heard him say, "I live on a fifty cent farm, in a forty cent house." Two years have passed by, and I find a commodious two story hewed log house, and about twelve acres under splendid cultivation. The timber here on the free grant lands at once affords a visible means of support. Timber for buildings, fencing, fuel and market. There is cordwood and ties to be taken out. This can be done in the process of clearing. More than this, we have some land easily cleared, "the burnt off land" as it is called. One man in Gillies township, White Fish River Valley, came last spring, one year ago, and now has fifty acres in cultivation, without a stump, and will cut twenty tons of timothy hay this year, which will be worth at least \$10.00 per ton. If a man will spend some little time he can find land quite open with sufficient timber to last a life-time. The settler does not require coal.

Is Your Water Hard or Soft? How is it Obtained?

IF YOU should visit this well-watered country once, you would not ask any more questions regarding this. One gentleman, a former Canadian, who has lived in South Dakota for seventeen years, recently wrote to me that he had been without water so long that he would like to have a river on his place. It is hardly necessary to dig wells here. It is hard to find a quarter section of land without a spring or creek somewhere on it; water of the very best quality, almost if not quite soft. We know nothing of alkali water. Very few wells have been sunk by the settlers anywhere. I know of a few. They had to go from six to twenty feet and found good water.