

The mean average depth of the snow fall for twenty years prior to 1869, was 79.50 inches per annum. The greatest depth which fell during one month in the above period, fell in January, 1861, and was 31.80 inches.

The total depth which fell in 1861, also a year of great snow fall, was 99.58 inches.

The first heavy fall in 1869, commenced at 7 a.m., on the 3rd of February, and ceased at 4 p.m., on the 4th day, 25.44 inches having fallen. The wind was from the N.E., by E.

The second heavy fall commenced at 3.15 p.m., on the 14th day, and ceased at 2.15 p.m., of the 15th. There fell 14.90 inches of snow. The wind, again, was from the N.E., by E., and in both this and the preceding instance, its greatest mean velocity was in the neighborhood of 19 miles per hour.

A third fall, which was remarkable for heavy drifts and somewhat severe cold, commenced at 4 a.m., on the 10th of March, and ended at 11 p.m., during which time there fell 8.82 inches of snow. The wind again, was from the N.E. by E., and was followed by a heavy gale from the west.

February has not generally been characterized by very heavy snow falls, being for the most part dry and cold.

Notwithstanding this unusual amount of snow during this winter (1869), the spring was not late, and a steamer and some small craft arrived in the port of Montreal on the 17th of April.

This now brings me to the last division of my subject, and to one in which I pass from what has been to what is to be experienced, viz. :—

THE PROBABILITIES FOR THE WINTER AND SPRING OF 1877.

We have already seen and experienced the fine open autumn of this year, ushered in by its early frosts and unusually early snow falls. But not content with this we still find ourselves asking the question : What next ? What are our winter, our Christmas and New Year times, our Spring, to be like ? We want to know ; we must know. Who will suggest something ? To this eager query I for the second time attempt a reply. It is, however, truly a difficult and hazardous question to reply to—but not any more so (in fact much less so) this year than last. Then, the conclusions I had come to respecting the approaching winter seemed improbable. Who would believe in my Christmas and New Year rains and mud ? Was it likely ? Was it all probable ? Up to the last moment I wavered in my resolution of submitting these predictions to the public. But finally finding that these impressions respecting the approaching winter, rather gained than lost ground, in fact, almost approached to positiveness in my mind, I let them loose in the columns of the WITNESS ; the worthy editor of that paper, to my horror, at the same time giving them an extra fling before the notice of the public in a paragraph, calling particular attention to a “daring prediction by Mr. Vennor respecting the winter of 1875-76.” But the New Year rains did come, and so did the late snows and cold backward spring, all of which, being exceptionable conditions of our Canadian winters, only served the more to draw special attention to this