

MOSES OATES' WEATHER BOOK.

without some interest. The author, who has taken a deep interest in meteorology from boyhood, attempted his first forecast: in 1878. That forecast, which gave the probable degree of temperature, the rain and snowfall, and succession of changes for every month from the time it was made until the close of the following June, was verified in every particular. Encouraged by this more than looked for apparent confirmation of the theories upon which his forecasts were based, he, in October, 1879, made a second forecast, covering a similar period of time. The first three and a half months of the very peculiar winter of 1879-80 were exactly as had been predicted, and the remainder of the period, excepting a brief interval about the close of the winter, fulfilled his predictions. It would be too sanguine an expectation to hope that 90 per cent. of his predictions will continue to be fulfilled, but the failures no doubt in store, though unpleasant, will only lead to investigations into their causes and renewed diligence in seeking to understand the yet obscure laws which govern the variations of the seasons in successive years. Apart from the interest which may attach to the forecast for the coming winter and spring—which, owing to the obscurity of the indications of the present autumn was prepared with more than ordinary difficulty, and is presented to the public with less confidence than usual, the author hopes his weather book will be of some value in creating greater interest in the fascinating and useful science of meteorology, and in leading Canadians to a fuller appreciation of the fact that in climate, as well as fertility of soil, our Dominion compares favorably with the most favored climates in Europe, and excels the greater part of the world lying in the same latitude.

November 20th, 1880.

MOSES OATES.

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