

REVIEWS.

Trees and Shrubs Tested in Manitoba and the North-West Territories: Wm. Saunders, LL.D., Director Dominion Experimental Farms.

In this bulletin are given the results of sixteen years of experience in the testing of trees and shrubs at the Experimental Farms at Brandon, Man., and at Indian Head, in the North-west Territories. The love of trees and shrubs is almost universal, and nowhere is it more strongly felt than on the North-west plains where these are scarce. Until within the past few years, large sums of money have been spent annually by settlers in the purchase of trees and shrubs from the east, many of which, being too tender to endure the climate, have perished the first winter. The tests carried out by the Experimental Farms have made such useless expenditure unnecessary. The results are also of use to Eastern Canada, as trees and shrubs which have been found hardy at Brandon and Indian Head may be safely planted in almost all other parts of the Dominion.

Of the maples, the sugar, red and Norway maples have been unsuccessful. The silver maple will grow in Manitoba, but the maple *par excellence* for the west is the Box Elder or Manitoba Maple (*Acer Negundo*). It grows readily and quickly from seed, and has been planted extensively. The European White Birch is hardy, but the cut-leaved variety less so. The Sweet and Yellow Birches give fairly satisfactory results, and the Paper Birch is native and hardy. The hickory, chestnut, catalpa, hackberry, beech, butternut, black walnut, and locust have been failures.

The Green Ash is the only one of that genus which is perfectly hardy. Among the hardy poplars are the native species and the Russian poplar. The Mossy-Cup Oak and the American Elm are native and grow without difficulty. Most of the coniferous trees tested have proved satisfactory. Notable exceptions are Bull Pine, White Pine, Hemlock and Douglas Fir.

Of the shrubs and climbing vines successful species are Viburnum, Lilac, Snowberry, Spirea, Elder, Buckthorn, Matrimony Vine, Honeysuckle, Hawthorn, Clematis, Bittersweet and others. Nothing will add more to the beauty of the surroundings of a home than a few such flowering shrubs.

The Experimental Farms have done a very useful work in this line of experiment, and the results have been brought together in a convenient form for reference.