

artist would call "a general wash of warm colour over the subject." The warm colour was yellow ochre; then she had painted the parting of her hair vermilion, the red line ending neatly upon her forehead in a nicely drawn angle; a little touch of dark seemed to have been placed about her eyes, and her cheeks were reddened lustroously. She had slight tattoo marks on her lips and chin, such as one sees in pictures of Egyptian girls.

The papooses were funny little objects, bound up tightly in a kind of swaddling band, and apparently quite content with that treatment; their brilliant little black eyes rested on us with a preternatural air of wisdom. They too were carefully rubbed with ochre and touches of red by their fond mammas. One amiable Member of our company, touched with the memory of a small white papoose away over the big water, kissed one of these little brownies; all the newspaper men hastened to record the astounding event, and it was published *urbis et orbis*, so far are we yet from universal brotherhood.

Broadview is in Assininiboia, and we were well upon the second steppe of the great plains, a region which is only a little less rich, as a wheat-growing country, than Manitoba. At Indian Head, the next principal station, is the great Experimental Farm, called the Bell Farm, which we had an opportunity of driving over—a wonderful sight it was; the long procession of brickboards and other vehicles led by Major Bell, and winding about among the vast sea of wheat which seemed boundless. 7,000 acres of wheat, of which more than half was still standing, surrounded us, besides vast crops of oats and flax. The average yield was considered to be  $22\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre. For reaping this harvest 27 horse-reapers were at work then, and other machines were drawn up in a sort of military fashion at the house. The quality of the grain is what is there called Red Fife, No. 1 hard. "No. 1 Hard," is a phrase of the Manitoba grain standard, which reads—"No. 1 Hard spring wheat shall be Red Fife wheat, containing not more than 10 per cent. admixture of softer varieties, must be sound, well cleaned, and weigh not less than 60 lbs. to the measured Imperial Bushel." The grain is so dry that it is threshed on the ground and at once stored in the granary.

The farm is worked in five divisions, and Major Bell telephones instructions to the foreman each evening from his residence. All matters connected with this vast experiment were gone into very thoroughly by our fellow-travellers, Professors Sheldon and Fream, of Downton Agricultural College, each of whom gives his imprimatur to the encouraging statements made by the farm authorities.

I have given briefly the results upon this prairie land, when it is "tickled with a plough and laughs into harvest."

To the botanist the untouched areas are full of interest, and, although in September all the early flush of blossom is past, there is much to please the eye, more especially the huge spaces filled with various golden Composite—Yellow Marguerites of many species gilding the plain in groups of an acre at a time. These are *Gaillardia aristata* (Pursh) *Helianthem autumnale* (Linn), *Helianthus giganteus* (Linn), and *H. Nuttallii*, but perhaps the curious *Rudbeckia columnaris* (Pursh), with columnar