

who were refreshed with beer and milk, according to their respective tastes. After the dust of the drive had been laid, a visit to the fruit farm was proposed, and the manager led the way on, over the Coldstream Creek whose clear waters are always like ice past the modest dairy, which supplies nearly the whole of Vernon with milk and butter, down a broad lane to the vineyards. Much of the estate is planted with large and small fruits of all kinds. Hops, whose tall, grey poles

to the want of a market, which the recently opened Shuswap and O'Kanagan railway will now supply, no such variety of products has ever been attempted, nor on such a large scale as Lord Aberdeen has undertaken.

On the Coldstream Ranch, both fruit and vegetables are irrigated; water for this purpose is brought by flumes (covered or open boxes), from a distance of two miles up the valley. The old inhabitants maintain that irrigation is unnecessary, there being an abundant

rainfall in the spring and early summer months. All the best, most luxuriant and successful gardens, nevertheless, are those under irrigation, for the late summer and early autumn months are excessively dry. Settlers in the O'Kanagan valleys are now advised to avoid ranches, and undertake wheat, or fruit farms and market gardens combined. Veget-



A LAKE VIEW.

formed a thick forest on the opposite side of the road on the same property, are an assured, profitable and prolific crop. Lord Aberdeen has acres of strawberries, raspberries, cherries, plums, prunes, apples, pears, peaches and apricots under cultivation. He is trying several of the more delicate Californian fruits, but it is doubtful whether they will thrive in White Valley, as the winters, though short, are often severe. The temperature has fallen below zero in exceptional seasons. There is a light snowfall and often good sleighing in January and February.

The O'Kanagan Valley has long been known to old settlers as a fruit-growing district, and some of the old orchards yield enormous crops; but owing

ables can be raised between the rows of trees. Strawberries and raspberries should be most profitable, as they are only grown for sale in a very limited section of British Columbia, and not in sufficient quantities to supply the cities of Victoria and Vancouver, apart from the North-West. A hop farm of ten acres will, it is affirmed, yield a crop worth \$2,000; the verdant vine certainly grows most luxuriantly in the district, and makes nearly every house a perfect bower. Hops, too, are easily exported, and command a good market in England, as well as in the Dominion. From twenty to sixty dollars per acre is the price of land about Vernon, according to its nature and locality. Lord Aberdeen's estate is being cut up and