

fur-traders' rendezvous or an Eskimo settlement. Not so! Three flour mills are in operation at this point. There is quite a numerous white settlement, and farming is carried on extensively. At Fort Vermillion, two hundred miles further north, down the Peace, there are two more flour mills and another farming community. A clergyman who spent several years in this district, informed the writer that the climate is almost identical with that of Edmonton. Greater proximity to the Moun-

to-date machinery. The great difficulty with which these people have to contend is transportation. All machinery and supplies have to be freighted from Edmonton. At present their agricultural products go north to the trappers and traders of the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions. The market is consequently limited, and no great development can take place until the advent of the railway. Then, when that great, practically untrodden, lone land, stretching from Edmonton to Fort Ver-



Wheat in Alberta.

tains practically counterbalances the greater distance north. The days are a little longer in summer and shorter in winter. Summer frosts are quite rare, and the Chinook wind blows a considerable portion of the winter, making it comparatively mild. Splendid crops are being produced in this far north region, but not as good as might be if it were possible to bring in up-

million and from the Rocky Mountains eastward as far as the Chinook extends its moderating influence, is thrown open to agriculture, who can say what the result will be?

Agriculturally, Central Alberta, i. e., that portion including Edmonton and extending one hundred and fifty miles south, is the oldest part of the Province. It has been generally acknowledged