

Early Difficulties in Apple Growing in Minnesota.

BY WYMAN ELLIOTT, MINNEAPOLIS.

It is impossible for me to spare the time to prepare a paper that would do the subject assigned me justice. I can simply say a few words of encouragement to the grower of small fruits in your country.

The experiences of the pioneers of horticulture, in our State were much like those you are now experiencing, but you have this advantage, we did not know forty-five years ago that we could not grow the same varieties of the apple, plum, cherry and pear that our fathers had grown in the eastern States, and consequently our first plantings were nearly all killed by the hard winter, leaving only here and there a chance seedling to lend hope to the enthusiastic horticulturist who "never says die." We have had our successes and failures, and out of the ruins of the early failures we have builded much better than many of us dared to hope. We can only say go on in this good work persistently, seeking knowledge from every available source, and I firmly believe you will create and gather varieties, from far and near, that will give you rich reward for the time and money expended in developing the fruit industries of Manitoba. If I should attempt to tell you of our innumerable failures, in the middle and northern part of Minnesota, since the white man came among the savages of this western wild, it would be utterly impossible, but this one thing we do know that we have gained a vast amount of knowledge by past experiences, and that our experimenting has done some good to the world