

EXPERIENCE CORROBORATES THEORY.

Proctor Knott in his famous speech on Duluth in 1871, said: "Who will have the hardihood to rise in his seat on this floor and assert that, excepting the pine bushes, the entire region would not produce vegetation enough in ten years to fatten a grasshopper?"

In 1891, twenty years after these derisive words were uttered, Minnesota, the two Dakotas, Iowa and Nebraska produced, according to the estimates of the Agricultural Department, 182,818,000 bushels of wheat, 561,835,000 bushels of corn and 243,226,060 bushels of oats, a total of 987,859,000 bushels of the three

for each of the grains named, of the average yield per acre south of the boundary line. Nor must we depend upon theorizing alone as to the possibilities of the far Canadian Northwest. Lying upon the table in front of me as I write are samples of wheat grown in 1892 by the Rev. J. Gough Brick at the Shaftesbury Mission, six miles north of the junction of the Peace and Smoky rivers, in the neighborhood of 56° north latitude and 117° 30' west longitude. One specimen was sown on the May 10, reaped on August 28, and yielded 31 bushels to the acre of large, plump, flinty berries, weighing $65\frac{1}{2}$ pounds to the measured



FRUIT FARM NEAR HARRISON, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

principal cereals, of an estimated value of \$363,516, 364. These figures are interesting standing alone, but become still more interesting by comparison with the total production of the same crops in the United States, for the yields above mentioned constituted 30 per cent. of the wheat, 27 per cent. of the corn and 33 per cent. of the oats grown in the whole country. If to this could be added the value of all other farm and dairy products, the figures would be almost incomprehensible. Crossing the line into Manitoba, productiveness seems to be increased rather than diminished, for the prairie province produced in 1890 14,065,769 bushels of wheat, 9,573,433 bushels of oats and 2,069,715 bushels of barley. These totals seem small when compared with those given for the five States above named, but the point lies in the fact that the yield per acre in Manitoba was largely in excess,

bushel. Similar results are reported from other mission stations and posts of the Hudson's Bay Company throughout the great Canadian Northwest, extending for 2000 miles or more to the north and west of Lake Superior.

OTHER RESOURCES.

So much space has been given to the agricultural possibilities of the great Northwest that in the little which remains only the barest mention can be made of the almost boundless resources in other directions which are found therein.

West of the great belt of wheat country is an enormous area not so well adapted to the production of cereals, but admirably suited for the raising of cattle, horses and sheep. Doctor J. B. Hurlbert, M.D., LL.D., of Ottawa, says in regard to this:

"The entire area is fit for pasturage, as the native