



ASSINIBOINE PARK, WINNIPEG.

This park, with its fine groves, shows that with a little care many species of trees can be grown on the prairies.

## *An Appreciation of the Pine*

"The pine is evidently typical of a bleak and inhospitable climate. It is associated in our minds with the gray skies and the rude winds of the North. It forms an essential element of the grandest mountain scenery; and enters into the composition of some of the most magnificent scenic pictures, which the great artist has painted on the canvass of this world, for the admiration of his creatures.

"To the offices which, in bleak and elevated situations, the pine performs, may be traced much of the beauty and fertility of the earth, and much even of the happiness of man. Standing on the mountain tops, its fringed forests catch and condense the passing clouds, which

distill from their branches into the shaded soil, and, percolating moss and grass into the heart of the rocks, flow down by an appointed channel a rejoicing stream into the valleys. When the pine forests on the mountain heights are cut down, the springs and rivulets of the low grounds are exhausted, and the climate is rendered hotter and drier.

The destruction of the grand pine woods that once clothed the Appenines, has rendered the Papal States a region of poverty, disease and wretchedness. In Greece the traveller looks in vain for the old legendary fountains, rivers and lakes, with which the classic poets had made him familiar; the water nymphs have vanished along with their sorrowing sisters the Dryads.