

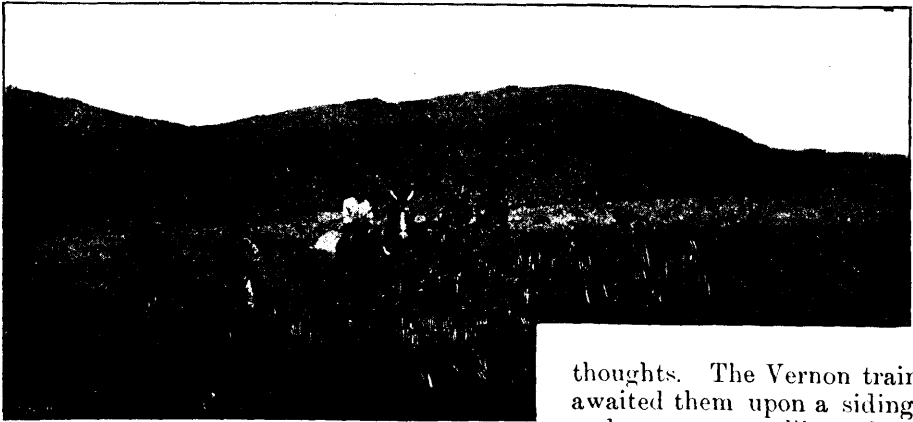
## THE GARDEN OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

BY E. MOLSON SPRAGGE.

SIXTEEN hours, or 235 miles east of Vancouver, on the lovely Shuswap Lake, lies Siccamous, at the junction of the Shuswap and O'Kanagan branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway with the main line. Here, in the middle of the month of August, the Pacific express deposited a party of Trippers from the mountains of British Columbia, bound for Vernon, the centre of one of the richest agricultural districts of British Columbia. They arrived at half-past seven in the evening, when

whose salmon-trout are justly celebrated for their quantity and quality. This should prove a popular resort for the angler, early in the season, viz., before the middle of June, and the advent of the active mosquito, or in September and October, after its departure.

Last summer the native hostelry had to be patronized, and from it the five trippers were only too glad to remove themselves the following morning, with unsatisfied appetites and evil



A WHEAT FIELD NEAR VERNON.

both sky and water were brilliant with the crimson glories of the dying day, and wended their way from the station to the hotel, which, though ambitious in size, was humble to the verge of deficiency in comfortable accommodation or sustaining food. The tourist is obliged to spend one night at Siccamous, for the daily train to Vernon leaves early in the morning. But the Canadian Pacific, to meet this nocturnal requirement, built last autumn one of their pretty *châlet* hotels immediately upon the Shuswap Lake,

thoughts. The Vernon train awaited them upon a siding, and was soon rolling along up an estuary of the lake, which gradually narrowed

into rich green hay marshes, enclosing the mouth of the Spallumacheen river, whose course the road follows as far as the prettily named town of Enderby. Its most conspicuous feature is the fine flour mills of the Columbia Milling Company. They have been in operation for some years, (they are the property of the Columbia Milling Co.) have a capacity of 100 barrels per day, and absorb all the grain of the principal wheat-growing district of British Columbia.

Beyond Enderby the wheat-fields