BOTANICAL BRANCH.

years after the big fire, he saw poplars growing, and seventeen years after the pine trees were one foot thick at the stump. He believed that trees flourished best when thickly planted. He had noted the fact that pine trees growing in light soil had lighter colored leaves than those grown in richer and darker loam. Mr. Stewart pointed out that broad-leaved trees and other forest weeds killed smaller pines. Mr. W. T. Macoun further remarked that during an outing last fall with)'r. Elwes, of England, an enthusiastic forester, when a traverse was made from Kingsmere to the Gatineau river, through the forest, they had noticed young pine trees growing almost invariably upon the decaying trunks of fallen trees. He believed that the Scotch pine would thrive in America, and in our Northwest especially would be a welcome grower. Seedlings of the Scotch pine (Pinus sylvestris) grown in Canada at the Central Experimental Farm had already been planted. There were three Old Country trees in Canada doing very well, namely, the Scotch pine, the Norway spruce, and the European larch.

Among the specimens exhibited were *P. inops* from the New Jersey barrens, and *P. Tæda* from Georgia.

THE THREE SPRUCES.

Mr. W. T. Macoun then spoke on the three spruces, *Picea* rubra, *P. nigra* and *P. alba*. The first grew in the east only, while the other two grew from Prince Edward Island to the Rockies. Black spruce grew in damp and wet places; white spruce grew best on the margins of swamps or edges of moist land; whilst red spruce grew on farms on high lands. He exhibited specimens of eleven spruces growing at the Central Experimental Farm, amongst which we note : *P. Omorica*, *P. orientalis*, *P. excelsa*, *P. Engelmani*, *P. obovata*, *P. Sitchensis*, *P. pungens*, *P. Alcockuana*, besides fine examples of the three Canadian spruces, black, white and red. Mr. Macoun pointed out the differences which existed between the various species shown, as well as their resemblances.

Prof. Macoun pointed out, and Mr. Stewart supported him in the view, that the black spruce (so-called) of commerce in New

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