

REVIEWS.

SYLVAN ONTARIO. A GUIDE TO OUR NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS.

By W. H. Muldrew. William Briggs. Toronto. 1901.

Illustrated with 131 Leaf-drawings.

When Prof. Muldrew established in the grounds of the Gravenhurst High School an Arboretum in which he has now growing practically all the trees and shrubs of the Muskoka district he not only hit upon the best method of interesting his pupils in botany and especially the care and culture of trees, but he did a service to the town itself which might be imitated by other headmasters of public and high schools all over Canada. But when he went a step further and originated and elaborated his system of identifying trees and shrubs by their leaves alone he made it easy for any intelligent person, whether a botanist or not, to know them after a few minutes' study.

His plan is simplicity itself. After first describing the different kinds of leaves, their arrangement on the stem, their margins, shape, venation, etc., and figuring 131 forms of leaves, he separates the Ontario trees and shrubs into groups by their leaves and all the knowledge required to use the "Index based on the leaves" may be acquired by a careful reading of the six pages which precede it. But should there be any uncertainty in determining a difficult species the index is followed by a catalogue of all the species referred to in the index and where it has been thought necessary a few words of further description are added, together with the habitat and distribution of the species. Students of botany and everyone who wishes to know our shrubs and trees should possess a copy of SYLVAN ONTARIO.

MANUAL OF THE FLORA OF THE NORTHERN STATES AND CANADA.

By Nathaniel Lord Britton. New York. Henry Holt & Co., 1901.

This long expected manual, based on Britton & Brown's Illustrated Flora of the Northern States and Canada has just been published, and will be reviewed in an early number of THE NATURALIST.