



FIG. 1762. GROUP OF CONIFERS IN THE ARBORETUM AT THE CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA, 1899.

CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM NOTES—No. 5.

ALTHOUGH it is now late in January there has been comparatively little severe weather so far this winter. A few days before Christmas it became very mild, and nearly all the snow disappeared, but on the 24th there was a fall of four and a half inches, which prevented us from having a green Christmas. The week beginning with December 30th and ending with January 5th was cold. On six successive days the temperature fell below zero, the lowest temperature recorded so far, being that of December 31st, when the thermometer registered 17.9 degrees fahr. below zero. There has been comparatively little snow so far, and up to the middle of the month there were not more than ten inches of snow on the ground.

PINES.

When the ornamental grounds are large, no trees are better adapted for giving character to a landscape and adding to the appearance of the buildings than pines. They

are stately and graceful; typical of strength, yet swaying and bending their branches with every breeze that blows. They are always green, and when the species are judiciously mixed or intermingled with other evergreens, the effect in winter is very fine. They afford considerable protection also, and partly on this account they are more suited for a northern exposure than anywhere else, giving a home an air of greater comfort. Pines are more difficult to transplant than many other trees, and the careless manner in which a maple or even an arbor vitae may be handled should not be taken as an indication that all trees will survive under this harsh treatment. Pines have few fibres on their roots, and what there are are easily destroyed, for this reason the roots should be kept well protected until planted.

Pines are very varied in their form and the color of their leaves, some being also much more graceful than others. Our na-