

*americana* was found by Prof. Macoun along the shore of the Ottawa near Tetreauville.

BOTANICAL ARBORETUM AT CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

A matter of much interest to the members of our club is the advantage we now have in free access to the Botanic Garden at the Central Experimental Farm. This garden is now assuming the position of a valuable educational adjunct to the City of Ottawa. Begun in 1887 by the botanist of the experimental farms, Dr. J. Fletcher, it has been added to year after year and is now well worthy of a visit by all interested in botany or gardening. It is now in charge of Mr. W. T. Macoun, the foreman of forestry, who has published several interesting notes in the OTTAWA NATURALIST. The collections have been increased from all available sources, the chief effort having been to gather together and have properly labelled a reference collection of all plants which would grow in this climate. Last year a great deal was done to get the perennial border in order and there are now no less than 907 species and varieties of perennials included in 222 genera. This number too will be very much increased next year, as seeds of nearly 400 additional species have been procured, which will be forced in the greenhouse early this spring and many of which will flower next autumn.

At the end of 1896 there were nearly 2,000 different kinds of trees and shrubs in the arboretum, most of which have been there, or in the nursery rows, for one or more winters and will probably be found hardy at Ottawa. This question will be pretty well tested by the severe winters we have experienced this year and last. Arrangements have been made for increasing several of the groups next spring. The collections of some of the groups of flowering and otherwise ornamental shrubs are now very complete, as for instance, the genus *Syringa* called in English Lilac, is represented by 88 different named forms,