

The Debusscope.—This name has been given to a recent French invention, which consists of two silvered plates, highly polished and of great reflective power, placed together in a frame-work of card board or wood, at an angle of seventy degrees. On being placed before a small picture, a design of any kind, no matter how rough, or whether good or bad, the debusscope will reflect the portion immediately under the eye, on all sides, forming the most beautiful designs; and, by being slowly moved over the picture, will form new designs to any extent. The instrument gives the design in such a manner that it can be made stationary at pleasure until copied. It is, therefore, an inexhaustible treasure to draughtsmen and others. Setting aside the utility of the debusscope altogether, it can be made the means of gratification in the drawing-room, and, doubtless, will soon assume its proper place along with the microscope and stereoscope as a source of amusement.—*Chemist and Druggist*.

New York Medical College.—Dr. E. Noeggerath has been appointed to the chair of clinical midwifery, and diseases of females in the above institution, and a new chair of ophthalmic and aural surgery has been created, to which Dr. W. F. Holcomb has been nominated.—*American Medical Times*.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

REGULATIONS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF SPECIMENS.

The laws of the Society provide for the formation of a public herbarium and the extension and improvement of private herbaria. In order to accomplish these important objects, arrangements have been made for receiving from members contributions of dried specimens of plants, and for supplying in return the desiderata of such members. The following regulations have been framed for regulating the exchange of specimens:

1. The distribution of specimens shall be conducted by the Curators, and shall commence on the 15th November annually, before which time all contributions of specimens must be sent in by members who desire to participate in the distribution.

2. To entitle a Fellow or Subscriber to a share of the Society's duplicate specimens at any of the annual distributions, he shall have transmitted to the Society before the 1st November, not less than 50 species of plants, with as many duplicate specimens of the rarer ones as possible.

3. All specimens contributed to the Society must be carefully prepared, by being pressed between sheets of paper in the usual way, but not fastened down to paper in any way. Each specimen is to be accompanied by a label containing the name of the plant, together with the locality where collected, the date of collection, and the collector's name.

4. Universities and societies forming herbaria and corresponding with the Society will be permitted to take precedence of the members in the annual distributions. The Society's public herbarium will be invariably supplied with such specimens as may be required before any distributions take place.

5. Members are required to send, along with annual contributions of specimens, a list of those species which they desire to receive in return, or otherwise to specify in sufficiently explicit terms the nature of the plants wished for.

The above rules will be strictly observed. Foreign botanists, in various parts of the world, have expressed a desire to contribute to the Society's collections. There are spontaneous and liberal offers from Tuscany, Sicily, France, Australia, and other distant parts. It remains for the botanists of Canada to say, by their contributions this autumn, whether the Society will be able to enter upon such advantageous exchanges.

All communications for the Botanical Society of Canada are to be addressed to Prof. Lawson, Kingston, C. W.