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HOW TO MOUNT PLANTS AND COMPLETE THE HERBARIUM—PRACTICAL
RESULTS FROM THE STUDY OF PLANTS.

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In the July number of *THE NATURALIST* (Nature Study—No. XV) an attempt was made to describe the best methods of collecting and preserving plants. In the following pages the way to mount plants is described, as, even if the specimens are well preserved, they will be difficult to handle unless they are properly mounted on convenient sheets. A few suggestions are also given for the completion of the herbarium, and reference is made to the practical results which may be obtained from the study of plants.

There is considerable art in the mounting of plants, and much individual taste may be shown. Plants should not, however, be mounted with the main purpose of making them look attractive on the paper. Where possible, flower, fruit and root should be shown on the one sheet of paper, but never more than one species; and, if the flower only is obtained the first year, space should, if possible, be left for the fruiting plant. Another important point to be taken into consideration, is the way the plants will lie when piled together. If the roots are always put at the bottom of the sheets, the pile will not be level, but by placing the specimens now on one side and then on the other, or by mounting the specimens in various places on the sheet and, when the plant is large, having the roots sometimes come at the top of the sheet, the pile may be kept level, which will make the collection much easier to handle. The standard size of mounting paper is $11\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{1}{2}$ inches; but a more economical use of paper may be made by having it 11×16 inches, as, at this size, one large sheet of paper will just make four sheets of mounting paper. There are many grades of white paper, and, if the collector can afford it, it is wise to get it good, the kind known as Bristol-board being very satisfactory. Good mounting paper may be obtained from Mr. F. W. Hodson, Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, Ottawa, at 50 cents per hundred sheets. With experience, plants can be mounted quickly and neatly; but, when beginning this work, the greatest care should be taken, as