

distribution of those trees which offer valuable sources of timber, or of those which, by their highly ornamental character, serve as a means of higher, broader and more ennobling education. There is no country in the world which cannot derive a large measure of benefit from an interchange with other countries, especially with those which have similar conditions of soil and climate, but dissimilar floras, and this can only be effected in a systematic and satisfactory manner through established centres of collection and distribution. Though there is much delay in organization, in many places where they should long since have been established, it is now a well recognized fact that no country can afford to be without at least one Botanic Garden, and in a country of such extent as Canada, with so many interests to care for, two or three gardens might not be superfluous. Much good has been and always will be accomplished by private parties interested in such subjects, but the work carried on in this manner is desultory, lacks the basis and strength of a broad and well defined system, and is always more or less unsatisfactory when the interests of the country at large are considered.

This is hardly the time or place to define the work of a botanic garden, but it does seem proper to urge the great desirability of establishing such a centre where authoritative information can be obtained upon subjects relative to botany in its broadest sense.

NAT. ORD. MAGNOLIACEÆ.

This interesting family, though chiefly of tropical and sub-tropical habit, has some very important representatives even in the northern latitudes of Yezo, where two genera, *Circidiphyllum* and *Magnolia*, are abundant.

The genus *Circidiphyllum* has no representatives in the Western Hemisphere, and is even wanting on the Asiatic Continent of the north. In common with the other representatives of this family, this tree appears to find its greatest northern distribution in Yezo; the family generally being of a more southern type, finding continental contact through more southern latitudes.

The genus *Magnolia* is abundantly represented on this continent, and though most of the forms are southern, one or two species enter the southern limits of Canada, and are sufficiently hardy to blossom regularly. The family is also represented in southern Canada by the tulip tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*).

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Syn.: *Buddleia*

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MAGNOLIA

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