

THE
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OBSERVATIONS ON CANADIAN GEOGRAPHICAL
BOTANY.

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The more observable features in the distribution of our native plants can now, I think, be indicated with some degree of accuracy by the aid of the catalogues, published and unpublished, of various collectors in different parts of the province. The range of many species is of course not yet satisfactorily ascertained, and doubtless in coming years there may be some plants at present thought to be restricted to particular localities, which will be found to have a somewhat wider distribution. I feel certain, too, that a careful search along our boundary-lines will be rewarded by the discovery of many species as yet unknown to Canadian collectors, which will thus increase the floras peculiar to different districts. Many details, therefore, require to be yet worked out, before results entirely satisfactory can be arrived at.

Geographically, Canada extends over an area of about twenty-eight degrees of longitude and ten and three quarters degrees of latitude; stretching from East Cape, Anticosti, to the River Kaminastiquia, which flows into Lake Superior, and from Point Pelée, which juts into Lake Erie, to latitude $52^{\circ} 45'$, the northern limit. This area, whilst extensive, has some peculiar physical features, which have a most important bearing upon the distribution of the plants composing its flora. The southern and western limits are bounded, for the greater part of the distance, by the river St. Lawrence and a chain of extensive sheets of water, which stretch through several degrees of latitude, locating our provinces