

lends itself more readily than English does to terseness and clearness of expression, as seen in European treatises on Botany, in which it is used. Diligent field-work, he holds to be the great desideratum for accuracy in systematic determinations; the accumulation and careful comparison of specimens alone can secure true scientific results.

R. C.

NOTES ON A COLLECTION OF CRATÆGUS MADE IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC NEAR MONTREAL.—By Charles S. Sargent. Reprinted from "Rhodora," Vol. 3, No. 28, April, 1901.

NEW OR LITTLE KNOWN NORTH AMERICAN TREES. III.—By Charles S. Sargent. Reprinted from the "Botanical Gazette," Vol. xxxi., April, 1901.

The former of these pamphlets is of special interest to those occupied with the Natural History of the District of Montreal. Anything bearing on trees or shrubs proceeding from the pen of Professor Sargent, is sure to be of value; and when he writes of the native thorns of the continent, a subject which he has made his own, his conclusions will be received with the deference accorded to an expert. The first thing we note, in connection with this paper, is the fact that the collection of Crataegus on which the notes are based, was made by Mr. J. G. Jack, a name honourably associated with the plant life of this province. We are glad that Mr. Jack does not forget his old home, although winning his bread under another flag; and that he patriotically desires to have the flora of his native Chateauguay and its neighbourhood made generally known. The next thing we have to remark is the advance made in the views of the author of this monograph. He now admits to the dignity of a species series of plants which as late as 1889, when the 6th edition of "Gray's Manual of the Botany of the Northern United States" was issued, he is represented as classing as mere varieties; for the list of the crataegus species contained in that work, pp. 165-67, is given as characterized by Prof. C. S. Sargent. This advance movement is in obedience to the prevailing tendency among men of science to multiply species; although there are some of conservative temper to oppose it. A series of plants, separated from other members of its genus by a quality or qualities easily discernible, constant, and perhaps functional, it is now usual to erect into a species. Prof. Sargent has found such