

TREES, SHRUBS AND PLANTS AT THE DOMINION EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

BY DR. WM. SAUNDERS, DIRECTOR.



FIG. 1471.—APPROACH TO DR. SAUNDERS' HOUSE.

ELEVEN years have now passed since the Experimental Farms of the Dominion of Canada were established. True to the purpose for which these useful institutions were specially designed, the officers who have been entrusted with the work have devoted their chief attention during this period to the task of demonstrating by practical experiments, how agriculture in Canada may best be advanced and the occupation of farming made more profitable. At the same time some attention has been given, not only at the Central Farm at Ottawa but also at each of the branch farms, to the testing of the hardiness and usefulness of different sorts of trees for the produc-

tion of timber and the providing of shelter. The ornamental aspect of this subject has also been promoted by bringing together many different sorts of trees, shrubs and plants specially useful for decorative purposes.

In arranging the ornamental planting on the farms, a careful study has been made of the characteristics of the many species used, with the view of forming harmonious combinations and pleasing contrasts. The habit of growth, character of the foliage, its colour at different periods of the year, the appearance of the flowers and the form and colour of the fruit, have all been considered in the aim to form natural and effective combinations.