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NOTES ON THE ARBORETUM AND BOTANIC GARDEN, CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA, CAN.

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Although several of the other important British colonies had been setting us a good example for many years, no successful attempt had been made to establish a National Arboretum and Botanic Garden in Canada previous to 1886. A good opportunity occurred, however, when the Dominion Experimental Farms were organized; and, when the Central Experimental Farm was purchased in 1886, sixty-five acres were selected for an Arboretum and Botanic Garden on the east side of the Farm. The site chosen was a good one, as most of the land is high and a fine view is obtained of the city of Ottawa on the north and east, while to the south there is a pleasing view across country with glimpses of the Rideau River in the distance. The Arboretum is bounded on the south side by the Rideau canal, which at this point has marshy banks, that take away much of the sameness which the canal would otherwise have and also afford a splendid opportunity for testing aquatics, though little has yet been done in this direction.

The Arboretum and Botanic Garden has developed so rapidly that, although the first planting was done as recently as the autumn of 1889, a collection of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants has been brought together since that time, which, as far as the number of species and varieties is concerned, will compare very favourably with some of the oldest established Arboreta and Botanic Gardens in the North Temperate Zone. The original plan was to arrange the trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants in their proper botanical order. This has in a measure been adopted; but the number of species and varieties which it was found could be obtained, has made it impossible to keep all plants of one genus in