

4. *Flora of Canada*.—*Flore Canadienne, ou Descriptions de toutes les Plantes des Forêts, Champs, Jardins et Eaux du Canada, &c.*—Par l'Abbé L. PROVANCHER, Curé de Portneuf. Quebec: Joseph Darveau, 1862. 2 vols, 8vo. pp. 842.—It is pleasant to find that Botany is attracting so much attention in Lower Canada as to call into existence a Canadian Flora in the French language; and it is much to the credit of the Abbé Provancher, for zeal and enterprize, that he should have produced such a work as this, in so good a form and so neatly printed. It is of course substantially a compilation; and the author is evidently a neophyte, of limited acquaintance with the plants around him; but he makes a fair beginning, in a work which may for the present very well serve the educational end in view. The critical Flora of Canada and the other Provinces is yet to be written, and will be of a different order.

The wood cuts, "over 400 in number," which illustrate the orders, and which here appear in such novel guise with their French environment, are every one taken from Gray's Botanical Text Book, except five of the Ferns from the Manual,—a preference which speaks more for the good taste of the Abbé than does the omission to mention the source.

A. G.

5. *The Tendrils of Virginia Creeper terminating in flat expansions or disks*, by means of which this climber readily ascends smooth trunks and walls, appear to have attracted Mr. Des Moulin's attention, at Bordeaux, as a great curiosity. They are described at length by him in the *Transactions of the Linnæan Society* of that city. Before publishing, however, he had become aware that this peculiarity was described in the *Manual of Botany of Northern States* in 1856. We can give him earlier dates; i. e., *Torrey & Gray, Flora of N. America*, i, 245 (1838); and the venerable Dr. Darlington's *Flora Cestricea*, 2d ed., p. 153 (1837). Probably there is still earlier mention of it; as the fact has been familiar to us from boyhood. These disks are figured in *First Lessons in Botany*, p. 38. We may add that on the same plant may often be seen these disk-bearing tendrils and others which act in the ordinary manner. Although we have never seen aerial rootlets also, to verify the character "caule radican-do-scandente" in Michaux, yet these are mentioned by Dr. Darlington, who is generally very correct, and are not unlikely to appear under favorable conditions, as they do in the Southern Muscadine Grape.

A. G.

6. *Vites Boreali-Americaneæ*, par. E. DURAND, de l'Académie des Sciences Naturelles de Philadelphie, etc. *Memoire précédé d'une Introduction* par M. CH. DES MOULINS, etc.—In response to demands from the French Society for Acclimatisation, and from Mr. Des Moulins on the part of the naturalists and vine-growers of Bordeaux, the excellent Mr. Durand of Philadelphia, along with other practical information, communicated a condensed but very careful monograph of the North American species of *Vitis*. This monograph,—a most laudable attempt to illustrate an extremely difficult group of species,—is published in the *Actes de la Société Linnéenne de Bordeaux*, vol. xxiv, issued at the close of the last year, greatly amplified in bulk by the garrulous introduction, intercalations and notes of its French editor. Seven pages of this introduction are devoted mainly to a criticism of the two words by which the present