



## Annual Report 1887-1888

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

SIR,

I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition and progress of the Arnold Arboretum during the year ending August 31, 1888:

Practically nothing has been done during the year towards extending the plantations of trees in the Arboretum. The Park Commissioners of Boston ceased work upon their roads in December and have not recommenced it. It was possible to plant a few trees in the spring--about a dozen in all--to complete the Walnut and Birch groups; and to cover with shrubs the slopes of the short piece of road finished last autumn. This was done; but I have been unable to make any preparation during the year for additional planting; and none can be done until another section of the road and its slopes are, at least, graded. This delay is to be regretted. A large number of trees have been procured, or have been grown in the nurseries, with the expectation that a certain part of the Arboretum could be planted each spring until the whole work was finished. It has now been found necessary, however, to dispose of a part of these trees, and a number of years must elapse before another supply can be ready for permanent planting. The loss of time is serious and must result in injury to the Arboretum. The stoppage of all construction has made it possible, however, for the officers of the Arboretum to devote more time to the study, arrangement, and extension of the shrub-collection and to the care of the natural woods. These last continue to improve under the system of management established in the Arboretum several years ago.

### INTERCHANGE OF PLANTS AND SEEDS

The interchange of plants and seeds with other Botanical and Horticultural establishments has been continued throughout the year. 6,666 plants and 314 packets of seeds were distributed as follows: To all parts of the United States 4,847 plants and 8 packets of seeds; to Canada 368 plants and 125 packets of seeds; to Great Britain 968 plants and 70 packets of seeds; to the Continent of Europe 482 plants and 121 packets of seeds. There have been received during the year 8,307 plants (including 5,792 native shrubs collected by [Mr. Dawson](#)) and 48 packets of seeds.

## HERBARIUM AND MUSEUM

The ordinary work of the Herbarium and Museum has been continued. During the year 640 sheets of dried plants have been added to the collection. The most valuable gift received during the year is a series of wood specimens, numbering several thousand, used in determining the specific gravity and the resistance under transverse strain and under compression, of the woods of the United States, in connection with the report prepared by me on the American Forests for the 10<sup>th</sup> Census of the United States. These specimens became, under the law authorizing the taking of this Census, the property of the National Museum. The whole series has, however, been divided into two sets nearly equal in value, and the second of these sets has now been presented to the Arboretum by the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and by the Director of the National Museum.

Numerous collections of foreign woods and other vegetable substances have been received in exchange from the Director of the Royal Gardens at Kew. Other important gifts during the year are, a set of Indian plants from Sir D. Brandis, formerly Director General of the Indian Forests; Japanese, Chinese, and Indian plants, and museum specimens from Dr. H. Myer, now of the University of Japan; Japanese plants from Professor Brooks of the Agricultural College at Sapporo; plants of central China from the Herbarium of the Royal Gardens, Kew, and a large collection of photographs, principally of European forest scenes, from Mr. Francis Skinner of Boston.

Much of my time and attention during the year has been devoted to the establishment of a weekly publication intended to extend and popularize the knowledge of trees and their cultivation, and of gardening and garden-botany. There existed no journal or periodical bulletin, published in this country, in which the results of the experiments carried on in the Arboretum, and the mass of facts about plants, and the cultivation of plants constantly accumulating here, could be printed promptly and regularly, so that they could reach the large number of students now interested in these subjects. The first issue of *Garden and Forest* appeared on the 29th of February, and there is already reason to believe that this journal will aid materially in increasing the educational value of the Arboretum and in extending its influence.

C. S. SARGENT, Director.