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THE PURPLE-LEAVED PLUM.

After all there is something very attractive in the foliage of our purple-leaved trees and shrubs when they are so planted as to bring it in contrast with the green leaves of other trees, forming a back ground upon which the rich coloring is projected and with which it is contrasted. We have a few very fine purple foliaged plants that are well worthy of attention. The Purple-leaved Beech has been in cultivation for many years, but it is so difficult to transplant a tree of any size and have it thrive well that few specimens of it are to be found. Were our planters willing to abide the day of small things, and be content to plant it when its size is so diminutive as to make it seem insignificant, it would more frequently survive and in a few years become a beautiful ornament. A very fine specimen of this tree we saw some years ago in the grounds of Senator Macpherson, at Yorkville; and, if no calamity has befallen it, by this time it must be a prominent and beautiful feature of the park.

The Purple-leaved Birch is of more recent introduction, and well worthy of the attention of ornamental planters. Less difficult to transplant than the

beech, it is much more likely to succeed with ordinary care. In habit it is as vigorous as any of its fellows, and its young shoots are brilliant in their coloring throughout the season of growth. Even the bark of the branches and twigs is of a dark purple hue. In our grounds the trees have been perfectly hardy, not the slightest injury resulting from summer's heat or winter's cold; indeed it would seem to be able to stand by the side of our native birches in our most northern latitudes.

In those parts of the land where the peach tree can be successfully grown, the Blood-leaved Peach can be planted as confidently as any other peach tree. It is said to have been found growing in Kentucky, on the battlefield of Fort Donelson. Were this the age of mythology we should, no doubt, be told that the blood of some hero who fell on that aceldama had nurtured the young sapling, and so dyed its natural juices that the very leaves are red. If this tree be well pruned back every spring it will form a handsome compact head, and the young growth will be of a deep blood color throughout the summer.

Besides these there is a purple-leaved Oak, whose dark purple leaves retain