

feet in diameter at the base, and sometimes even more. Fine plants from self-sown seed are often found in the underwood; they are easily transplanted, and take almost invariably. It



Fig. 2.

is a mere waste of time to attempt to set out large trees of this species: they hardly ever succeed. Engraving 5 represents the leaf of the sugar-maple, and No. 6, its seed.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 5.

Striped Maple.

When speaking of the Mountain-maple, I said that it should be preserved in the numerous hilly districts where it is found, and allowed to shoot again from the stump: and so with the striped maple. It serves the same purpose as the other, namely, to prevent the earth from being washed away, and

the rock from being denuded of its covering. It is never found more than twenty feet high. Engraving No. 7 shows the leaf of this maple.

Red-Maple.

After the sugar-maple, the *plane-tree* (*pseudo-platanus?*) or red maple is the most valuable. It differs from the former in that it prefers a damp habitat. Seldom more than fifty high, it ripens its seed in June, and the sooner after maturity this is sown the better. Rarely can good seed of this tree be bought, as if it once gets dry, it is worthless. With a sap less rich in sugar, the wood of the soft maple is also inferior to the wood of the sugar-maple, but, *en revanche*, it grows much more rapidly. The colour of its flowers gives its name to the tree. The seed is distinguished from that of other maples by measuring one inch from wing to wing, while the others measure two inches; and the colour, too,



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.

is reddish, whereas the colour of the other maples is white or whitish. The cut 8 represents the leaf of the red or soft maple; and 9 the seed.

Black-Ash.

Low, damp, marshy places suit this tree. The seed ripens in autumn, and, should be sown immediately, if possible, but in this country, particularly in Quebec and Manitoba, it had better be kept in moist sand, and the sowing deferred to the spring, though, in this case, the seed sometimes takes a year to sprout. It would be better to sow where the trees are intended eventually to stand, rather than in a nursery-bed; four or five grains should be deposited at intervals of four feet



Fig. 9.

each way, and it would be as well to sow Indian corn or some other plant with the ash-seed, to check growth of weeds and to afford shade to the young trees. A pound of ash-seed contains about twenty thousand *pickles*, 80 % of which ought to grow. One inch is deep enough to bury it. If it must be sown in a nursery-bed, it should be two years old before transplantation. Should the seed come up sparsely, there is no need to be discouraged, for it sometimes happens that eighteen months elapse before the whole germinates. The black ash attains a height of about seventy five feet,



Fig. 10.



Fig. 11.

and its special characteristic is that its leaves come out very late in spring, and fall very early in autumn. Though slow in growth, this tree is useful for barrel-hoops etc. at a very early stage of its existence.