

was born, in the vicinity of Versailles, an avenue of these trees which were planted in the reign of Louis XIV., and which, in 1792, when they were felled, were from ninety to one hundred feet in height and from four to six feet in diameter.

The wood is superior to that of the other species in whiteness, in fineness, and in strength; it gives a firmer hold to nails, and is not liable to warp and split. In England and Belgium, it is commonly used by turners for bowls, trays, &c. In the south of France it is employed for the floors and wainscots of houses, and in Paris for the cases in which goods are packed for exportation.

The Gray Poplar, therefore, should be preferred in our forests, though its growth is not the most rapid. It may be multiplied by slips or by suckers, which are transplanted the fourth or fifth year, or by branches six or seven feet long and three inches in diameter, which do not require to be removed. The larger end of the branch should be cut obliquely, so as to expose the bark for the length of five or six inches, and set in a moist, cool soil, in a hole eighteen inches deep. When the branch is severed from the tree, it should be placed in water till it is set in the ground. The most favorable season for forming the plantation is the autumn or the beginning of spring. When slips are sent to a distance, they should be enveloped in wet moss.

The superior size and majestic form of the Common White Poplar, its rapid growth, and the varied and useful applications of its wood, cause it to be highly esteemed in Europe, and enable me to recommend it with confidence to the inhabitants of North America. East of the river Connecticut, there is no tree with light and tender wood that unites these advantages. Among the Poplars of Europe and America, this species is the best substitute for the Tulip Tree, which is rare in the northern part of the United States, and whose reproduction will probably be attended with difficulties that do not accompany the propagation of the Common White Poplar.