

## Forestry.

### THE SCOTCH AND THE AUSTRIAN PINES.

**M**R. LOUDON speaks of the Scotch Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) as being one of the fastest growing species of the Pine genus, and speaks of one having attained the height of fifty feet in twenty years. Surely this rapidity of growth which characterizes it in the old country, cannot belong to it here in Canada. The Austrian Pine 100 (*Pinus Austriaca*), which in Lower Austria grows to a height of 120 feet, and is considered a rapid grower, seems to us to "make haste more slowly" in our country. We have here at Maplehurst (near Grimsby) several specimens of these two pines growing on our grounds, which are about thirty years of age, and neither variety has reached a height of over twenty-five or thirty feet. Norway Spruces of the same age are from fifty to sixty feet in height, and have left them far behind.

We write in explanation of a reference to these pines on p. 231, where they are compared with our native white pine (*Pinus Strobus*) as being of slower growth, and less handsome in foliage. Probably the statement should be somewhat modified with respect to ultimate size, and no doubt in a large lawn or park a rich effect could be produced by using the dark-green of the Austrian, and Scotch pines to vary the prospect. But if we could only have one, and wanted it near our home, we would choose our own White Pine, with its slender, and gracefully waving foliage.

### INFLUENCE OF FORESTS.

The annual address of Hon. Warren Higley, of New York, at the Denver meeting of the American Forestry Congress last year is full of practical

and helpful suggestions to all foresters. He gives the following as some of the most important conclusions regarding the influence of forests.

1. The forests exercise an influence upon the climate of the country; they modify the extremes of temperature.

2. They have a decided influence upon the water supply of a country. Clear the forests from the valleys and headwaters of streams and rivers, and these water courses, perennial before, become dry in summer and raging torrents in spring time.

3. Forests exert a beneficial influence upon agriculture by forming a wall of protection to the growing crops when most needed.

4. Growing forests on mountain sides and steep declivities hold the loose soil and accumulating humus in place.

5. Forests in adequate areas tend to preserve the healthfulness of a country or district by their influence on the surrounding atmosphere.

6. Forest products afford the most indispensable and necessary economic element in the industries and prosperity of a nation. The total value of the forest products of the United States for 1880 exceeded \$700,000,000. — *The Farmer*.

### THE ASH-LEAVED MAPLE.

The best tree to plant for quick shelter, shade and fuel, is the Ash-leaved Maple (*Negundo aceroides*). It is extremely hardy, as is proved by its being found in river and creek bottoms, and on hill-sides which have been protected from the prairie fires; it is sometimes frozen back slightly the first year after starting from seed, but will make a steady rapid growth thereafter.

The tree attains a height of from fifty to sixty feet, with a diameter of eighteen or twenty inches; and although