

annual fructification as a rule have wood of a finer texture, more compact, and therefore more durable than those that are biennial.

We shall not attempt even a short description of all the oaks that have been found in North America, but shall be content with naming those that are among our most useful trees, and deserving of special attention from all those who desire to make plantations of trees that will be valuable in coming years.

**WHITE OAK, *quercus alba*.** This is probably the most valuable of all, and bears a striking similarity to the European White Oak, *quercus sedunculata*. It will attain under favorable conditions to the height of eighty feet, with a diameter of from six to seven feet; but it varies very much in size according to soil and climate. The leaves of this species are regularly divided into oblong lobes, rounded at the extremity, not pointed. When young they are reddish above and white and downy beneath, and when full grown they are smooth, the color light green on the upper surface and glaucous underneath. In the autumn the leaves change to a bright violet. The acorns are oval, large and sweet, set in rough, shallow, grayish cups, and borne either singly or in pairs. This species belongs to the division of annual fructification, hence the acorns will always be found upon the shoots of the current season. The wood is reddish, and similar to that of the European, and is used for building-frames, mill-dams, posts, frames of coaches, baskets, barrels, and ship-building. Mr. Nuttall says that the roots of this species make beautiful furniture, and that a cabinet and table made from the forked branches, which was then in the possession of Mr. C. J. Wister, in Germantown, near Philadelphia, would vie with the finest known woods, being feathered in the most beautiful manner, and taking a polish equal to that of the finest mahogany.

**ROCK CHESTNUT OAK, *quercus pinus monticola*.** This species delights in strong soils in abrupt and untillable exposures, and on that account is well adapted for clothing broken hill-sides, and rocky or stony soils. It is found growing on the steep, rocky banks of the Hudson River, and on the shores of Lake Champlain, and yet more abundantly on the Alleghany Mountains in Pennsylvania.

The tree presents a beautiful appearance, being symmetrical in form and luxuriant in foliage. The leaves are five inches long and three broad, oval in form and regularly toothed. When they first open they are covered with a thick down, but when fully expanded are perfectly