

The most common use of this tree is for rural fences, for which it is highly esteemed. The posts last thirty-five or forty years, and the rails sixty, or three or four times as long as those of any other species. The posts subsist twice as long in argillaceous as in sandy lands. While the use of such fences continues, the utmost economy should be practised in cutting the Arbor-Vitæ, according to the rules prescribed for resinous trees. In Canada it is selected for the light frame of bark canoes. Its branches, garnished with leaves, are formed into brooms, which exhale an agreeable aromatic odor. Kalm affirms that the leaves, pounded and moulded with hog's lard, form an excellent ointment for the rheumatism.

The Arbor-Vitæ was introduced into France more than two hundred years since; the superior beauty of its form and foliage entitle it to preference over the Chinese Thuya as an ornament of pleasure-grounds, and the quality of its wood is a sufficient motive for propagating it in unimproved marshes in the North of Europe; but the White Cedar, which is taller and of a more uniform diameter, more rapid in its growth, and of equal durability, would be a still more valuable acquisition.

PLATE CLVI.

*A branch with leaves and cones of the natural size. Fig. 1. Seeds.*

[*Soil, Propagation, &c.* This tree grows best in a cool, moist soil, but succeeds in any ground not too dry. As a hedge or screen, it has few compeers. At the residence of my friend, A. J. Downing, Esq., near Newburg, a screen of Arbor-Vitæ, in his grounds, was remarkable for its beauty and perfection.

As it ripens abundance of seeds, it is readily propagated; or it may be procured at a very small price from the State of Maine.]

[See Nuttall's Supplement, vol. ii. p. 163.]