

hence we find it generally at a slightly greater elevation, less frequently in the valleys. This will prove a desirable acquisition.

In addition to these magnolias, there are several southern species, which, however, would not be likely to prove hardy in Canada.

CIRCIDIPHYLLUM JAPONICUM—SIEB. & ZUC.

Japanese: Katsura.

Hab: Mountains throughout Japan. Sub-Alpine woods of Yezo (Albrecht).

The *Circidiphyllum* is known to the Japanese as katsura, a name which we should adopt here as the common name, if we are to employ other than the generic, scientific term. In its distribution, it is found sparingly in the elevated lands of northern Honshiu, but abundantly in the forests of Yezo, where its true home appears to be. In this latter district, it is rarely found growing on bottom lands or where there is a large accumulation of moisture, but it delights in the well drained and gentle slopes of the foot hills, along the base of which it forms a narrow belt, its zone of distribution with reference to altitude, being slight, since it does not appear to thrive in the more exposed and more completely drained tracts of the higher slopes. In the sheltered valleys, however, it has been noted to reach an elevation of 2,000 feet above sea level, which would indicate that exposure is a stronger factor in its distribution than moisture.

The foliage is small, graceful and compact as a whole; the leaves are broadly cordate, from 2 to 2½ inches in diameter. When we come to consider the height of the tree, this will be seen to be quite small. The flowers are very small and inconspicuous, so that the tree has no value in this respect as have the magnolias, in fact, the flowers are dioecious, so that if propagation is to be effected by seed it would be a difficult matter to determine the sexes. The fruit is also small and inconspicuous, consisting of slender follicles which are only about ¾ to one inch long, and contain many very small seeds. The tree attains a height of 80 to 90 feet, while the fairly close branching, rounded head and delicate foliage, all combine to render it a most stately and beautiful object. When growing under favorable circumstances, the trunk is very straight and usually free from branches for thirty or more feet from the ground, a fact which greatly enhances its value as a timber tree, and which is taken advantage of by the Ainos in making use of the straight, clear trunk for dug-out canoes. These are often forty feet long, and show no large knots from stem to stern.

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