

introduction of trees or other plants into districts unsuitable for their proper development. Many plants are peculiarly affected by climate, the fact that such will grow even luxuriantly in a certain locality makes it by no means sure that they will produce in paying quantities any useful products derived from them in their natural habitat. Most plants show impatience of being grown in unsuitable soil or climate by their behaviour as to flowering or fruiting. Many of our wild plants when grown in England, flower very seldom or not at all, as the Virginian Creeper and Wax Works Vine (*Celastrus scandens*). The charming British Columbian shrub *Nuttallia cerasiformis* although it flowers frequently and profusely in England, will not produce the exquisitely beautiful waxy berries, with their shades of pure white, yellow, pink and black, all growing on the same bush and at the same time, which make it such an attractive object in the Vancouver Island hedgerows and woods. Similarly the production by plants of alkaloids, aromatic oils, and other products, which may be utilized in the various arts and sciences, is much affected by change of climate. But, on the other hand, many most useful members of the vegetable kingdom can, and have been introduced from one part of the world to others where they were not found naturally. Tea from China, and coffee from Arabia, the banana from Africa, the peach from Persia, and many other luscious fruits; our own indian corn, the sugar cane and numerous grasses are now grown over far wider areas on the globe's surface, than were originally adorned with them by nature. Forest trees and trees and shrubs for hedges and ornament, are frequently being imported from one country into another or from other parts of the same country. But all plants, even from the same locality, do not thrive similarly when placed under the changed conditions of soil and climate consequent upon their introduction into another country or locality. In this way thousands of plants have been destroyed and much capital squandered, which might have been obviated had there been a botanic garden, where careful experiment could have been made beforehand with all the particulars recorded for reference when required. Certain trees will thrive well in some localities for a few years and then suddenly their development will cease—instances of this are found in the attempted cultivation of certain