

The fruit is of a pale yellowish green. The seed, ripening in September, is too late to grow little seedling trees the same season. The wings of the seed are about one inch long and are slightly curved toward each other.

The wood, of a yellowish tint, is much used in cabinet work. It is hard, compact, tough, fine grained and, as it takes a high polish, a satin-like lustre, it is greatly valued for interior finish for buildings and for furniture. When the fibres are knotted we get the beautiful "bird's-eye maple." The wood is also valuable for fuel.

No tree is more attractive to children than this sugar maple, for its sap, drawn upward and com-

pelled to fill the long row of buckets in our groves, soon yields the longed-for maple sugar. How many children have stood before these tapped trees counting the seconds by the drops that fall! Four gallons of sap will yield about one pound of sugar. One tree often yields thirty gallons of sap. Many of these trees are tapped annually for forty years.

To be able to distinguish these three varieties, regardless of the Striped Maple with its downy leaves so finely pointed and its striped bark, and the Mountain Maple with its coarsely toothed leaves and small fruit widely separated, is to awaken new interest.—Intelligence.

INDIVIDUALITY IN READING.

Mr. A. H. Leypoldt, writing in his interesting monthly, the *Literary News*, says:

"Our day is remarkable for the wide diffusion of instruction and equally remarkable for the decline of true culture as it is defined by the dictionary—the training, disciplining, and refining of the moral and intellectual nature of man."

"To the ignorant and uneducated the reading of books seems the one great road to knowledge and refinement, and many who include themselves among the educated and well-informed base their claim upon the amount of printed matter over which their eyes travel during a large proportion of their waking hours. The great aim and purpose of our educators is to make everything easy for the learners. All the work is done for them from Kindergarten days to the boiling

down, editing, rewriting, etc., of the classics.

"And in America, at least, everything is furnished with such lavishness and extravagance that the untrained, undisciplined mind flies from one thought to another without any time to know their average relation or importance. And the mind gets accustomed to this rapid, superficial work, and immediately tires when it must apply itself to one thought for any length of time.

"Everybody is wide awake and everybody wants to know all everybody else knows, and very soon wants to have everybody else know all that has been acquired.

"One great trouble is that very soon the half-taught turn round and pronounce themselves teachers.

"There is a great unrest in the world. What is it leading to? One thing after another is taken