

axe handles are made of it, and indeed all the implements of agriculture in which wood is deemed necessary.

The Ash tree bears a beautiful foliage, and makes a very fine ornamental tree.

BLACK ASH. — The Black Ash grows to a size nearly similar to that of the White Ash, but the wood is not so dense, nor yet so much esteemed for general purposes. Among the Indians, however, it is very frequently used in the manufacture of baskets, &c. It is found in low, flat land, and on the banks of streams. Wherever this description of tree is found, the land is generally alluvial.

YELLOW ASH. — The Yellow or Splint Ash is unlimited in quantity; but seldom, if ever, exceeds twenty feet in height. It is found in swampy ground, of a character not much esteemed for agricultural purposes. The wood is chiefly used by coopers.

HEMLOCK.

Abies.

Of this there are two descriptions — the Black and White Hemlock. These trees reach a height of seventy and eighty feet, are found on the margin of rivers, lakes and swamps. In many cases it is found in groves also, in company with Maples and other hardwoods. The wood is not esteemed for mechanical purposes, except in bridge and wharf building, and for piles, abutments, and ships' ground ways. It is very generally cut up into boards and lath-wood, the latter being exported in large quantities to Great Britain. The wood is considered very durable under water — in wharves it has been known to remain in a good state of preservation for thirty years and upwards. Lloyd's Committee admit it in ships of the four years class for floors, foothooks, top-timbers, and inside and outside planking.

The bark of the Hemlock tree is greatly used by tanners, and takes the place of Oak bark. The bark is stripped off the tree in long slabs, and answers as a substitute for boards in covering the camps or hovels used by the lumbermen when engaged in the forests in lumbering pursuits.

Wherever the Hemlock and lofty Pine exist, the soil, being cold and wet, is not held in much esteem for agricultural purposes.