

Then there is the bass wood or linden, a very pretty tree. Its foliage is a light green and it has a fine large heart-shaped leaf, and the tree, growing as it does, into a pyramid shape, makes a fine contrast to the elm and the dark-leaved oak. This tree requires the same treatment in planting as the elm. It is important that the soil should have good drainage, and a soft or more mixed loam to the roots. Bass-wood seedlings are more difficult to raise than those of the elm. The seed should be mixed in wet sand and allowed to remain out of doors all winter, then sown in the spring. This is done to soften the seeds before they will germinate. All hard seeds or shell seeds may be served in the same manner. For example, the mountain ash, the thorn and the oak. Cuttings of bass-wood may succeed very well, but this greatly depends on the weather, for cuttings like moisture and also a sandy soil.

The oak I have found a very stubborn tree. I have transplanted it and it has lived, but I have had very little success with it. It will not stand pruning. If it is transplanted it must be put into the same kind of soil as it has been growing in before, and make the soil just as solid, for the oak likes to be firm. But since you must not prune, that means that you must get a large clump of earth at the roots.

Next come the native birches, which make a pretty contrast, owing to their various colors, for they are white, red and yellow. It is best to get the tree, though these can be had from the nursery, or grown from seeds, the same as the elm, but will not need so much pruning. The cut leaf weeping birch grows well and makes a fine ornamental tree for the lawn. This, of course, must be had from the nursery.

THE TIME TO PLANT.

As I have already stated, the spring is the best time for most trees. The reasons are, that if planted in the fall the hard wooded trees have not the same amount of sap in them that the maple, for instance, has, and consequently when the sun comes out in the spring it thaws out the tree but not the roots, and, as stated before, this exhausts the sap and dries