

any means so abundant. Many trees have been killed by being stripped of their bark, which is in great demand for medicinal purposes. This inner bark is an excellent application for poultices, in affections of the throat and chest, and for dysentery. Flour made by grinding it, and mixed with milk is a wholesome and nutritious food for infants and invalids. The wood is thought to be even superior to that of the White Elm for hubs, and in the Western States, it is employed in the construction of houses.

HACKBERRY ; *Celtis occidentalis*.—This is usually a small tree; but occasional specimens have been found nearly forty feet high and 2½ in diameter. Its rough bark, angular limbs and very numerous branches give it the appearance of an oak. The dark purple fruit is very sweet with a large stone. It is stated that the wood of this tree is close, fine grained, and highly prized for shuttles.

WHITE ASH ; *Fraxinus Americana*.—This graceful tree rises in the forest to the height of 70 or 80 feet, with a straight trunk and a diameter of 3 feet or more at the base. On an open plain it forms a broad, round head of great beauty, and it is every where a favorite object of the landscape painter. The wood is white and remarkably tough and elastic. It is used for hoe and rake handles, for wagon shafts, oars, frames of carriages and for furniture. The leaves are effectually applied to mosquito bites, bee stings and even snake bites.

BLACK ASH ; *F. sambucifolia*.—The slenderest of trees, often reaching the height of 70 or 80 feet with a diameter scarcely over a foot. It usually grows in swamps, and will not thrive in dry situations. The wood is remarkably tough, and next to white oak it is preferred for the manufacture of baskets. For this purpose it is beaten with mallets until the fibre is somewhat loosened, when it is readily separated into thin ribbons. It is also used for chair bottoms, hoops and coarse buckets.

LILAC ; *Syringa*.—An ornamental shrub with hard, close wood.

ELDER ; *Sambucus*.—A coarse shrub, 4 to 6 feet high, bearing a broad cyme of white flowers, followed by small black berries, of which a tonic wine is made, while a sudorific tea is made from the flowers. The abundant pith is used in electrical experiments, and boys make pop-guns from the hollow shoots.

COMMON SWAMP BLUEBERRY ; *Vaccinium Corymbosum*.—A shrub from 4 to 9 feet high; in swamps and moist woods, the latest and best

of all the huckleberries. The wood is of no use.

WITCH HAZEL ; *Hamamelis*.—This tall shrub or small tree rises to the height of 10 to 20 feet. It has the remarkable quality of putting forth its flowers, which are of a showy yellow colour, as late as November, even while dropping its leaves. The wood is white, flexible and close grained. The Indians used the bark for poultices to allay inflammation, and an extract has been obtained from it which has some repute in medicine. The forked branches of this shrub were once believed by the superstitious to have, in the hands of certain men, a magical power in indicating the position of hidden springs or wells; hence the name witch hazel.

CRATEGUS ; *Thorn*.—A shrub sometimes attaining the size of a small tree. Branches armed with thorns; wood very hard; would polish well.

PEAR ; *Pyrus Communis*.—This tree grows rapidly and forms a tall and finely shaped head. It therefore combines the valuable qualities of a fruit and a shade tree; its wood is of reddish-white colour, heavy, firm and of a very close grain, and ranks next to box-wood for the use of the engraver. When stained black it makes a good substitute for ebony.

PYRUS MALUS ; *Apple*.—The wood of this well known fruit tree resembles pear wood in most of its properties, except that it is lighter. It is much used by the turner, and is made into shuttles and walking sticks. Apple-trees have been seen in Massachusetts more than 70 feet high.

MOUNTAIN ASH ; *Pyrus Americana*.—A small tree, seldom more than 25 feet high, of slender delicate proportions. It is often planted as an ornament to lawns, but its wood is of little value.

GARDEN PLUM ; *Prunus domestica*.—Cultivated for its fruit.

WILD RED CHERRY ; *P. Pennsylvanica*.—A slender tree, about 20 feet in height, and very abundant in New England, but on the Ohio River it ranks among the largest trees of the forest. The fruit though bitter has an agreeable flavor which it imparts to cherry brandy. The wood is of a light red color, growing darker and richer with age. It is close grained, compact, and takes a good polish. It is much employed for tables and other cabinet work, and compares well with the inferior grades of mahogany. The bark has tonic properties, which are of some repute with the medical faculty.