name from the color of its wood, which is light, nearly white, soft, compact, and one of the most valuable of timbers. A cubic foot weighs twenty-four pounds. It has probably been put to more uses than any other tree in America. In the early years after these provinces were discovered, the pine trees were cut and taken across the Atlantic to make masts and spars for Old World navies. Its timber has been carried over to the Old Country for inside house finishings. For building purposes it is unexcelled, as it is easily worked and stands the weather. For furniture and cabinet work it takes a fine polish, and is esteemed for its durability and beauty.

The pines may be told from the other evergreens by having their leaves in a sheath at the base. In the white pine there are five very slender, pale green leaves, from three to five inches long. The pines, like the spruce and fir, produce their seeds in cones, but the pine cones require two years to mature. The pollen-bearing and seed-bearing clusters are found on the same tree, hence they are monoecious plants. The pollen is scattered in May, borne far and wide by the winds. Most of the seed-bearing cones are developed on the upper branches, and the nut-like seeds, two being borne at the base inside of each bract or scale, are ripe in the second autumn. The empty cones, with open bracts, cling to the tree for some time, or soon fall. The white pine cones are large—from four to six inches long, and one inch thick when the bracts are closed.

The leaves of all evergreens fall off after two or more years. Those of the white pine stay on the trees three or four years.

The red pine (Pinus resinosa) has rather smooth, reddish bark, flaky when old, with two leaves in each sheath. Its wood is compact, light red, and rather heavier than that of the white pine,—a cubic foot weighing thirty pounds. It is used for bridge and building timber. It is not resinous as its Latin name seems to imply. Its cones are much smaller than those of the white pine. This tree is much less common than the white pine in these provinces. The red pine is a beautiful shade tree, its tall, straight trunk and heavy clusters of foliage make it easily distinguished from other pines and evergreens.

The Jack, or Labrador pine (Pinus divaricata), is the smallest of our pines, with spreading branches; leaves two in a cluster like the red pine, but short, an inch, or an inch and a half, in length, with numerous small cones, curved upwards. The wood is weak, light red, and a cubic foot weighs twenty-seven pounds. Its chief use is for railway ties. It covers large areas in light sandy soil from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and extends far north.

It is a good exercise to learn to distinguish the pines, not only by their needle-like leaves, but also at a distance, by their form, and by their clusters of foliage.

The Distinctive Features of Acadia.

PROFESSOR L. W. BAILEY, LL.D.

Every separate region of the earth's surface has its peculiar features which are not exactly repeated in any other, and connected with these features are the equally distinctive characteristics of the peoples who inhabit them, their history, their language, their occupations and their development. A journey across the American continent by either of the great trans-continental lines of travel would, to a stranger, suggest these contrasts in a most forcible way. Near the sea coast the influence of the ocean tends to determine maritime pursuits, to fix the termini of the great arteries of commerce, to determine peculiarities of climate and productions, unlike in many features to those of the interior, to give to these again, as the parts first discovered and settled, a more lengthy history, and generally a more advanced degree of culture and refinement than are to be found elsewhere. The prairie region suggests an ocean, but it is an ocean of waving grain, where agriculture is the predominating factor in the life and development of its possessors. In the mountain region, on the other hand, agriculture is impossible, and among lofty hills, narrow defiles, swift torrents and possibly glaciers, profit is sought below rather than upon the surface, and mining is the controlling factor, the source of wealth and growth. There the scenery, the soil, the forest, the rivers and the lakes of any one tract are wholly unlike those of any other, and give it a character not to be mistaken.

Acadia (originally termed Arcadia) is one of the natural divisions of America, distinct in its situation, its physical features, its climate, its human and its geological history; and with these features and their relations every inhabitant of the country ought to be, in some degree at least, familiar. Let me enumerate those which are most obvious, leaving for later consideration the details of each and the causes to which they are to be ascribed.