

inches, with a clear length of 60 feet. The soil on which it is found is sandy and most of it probably unfit for agriculture. The output is about three-quarters of a billion feet a year, and at the present rate of lumbering it is estimated that the supply will last for twenty years. The development of this industry is of interest, for southern yellow pine has become one of the chief competitors of white pine in the north. Longleaf pine seeds abundantly, but there is very little seedling growth, owing to the regular and frequent fires.

Farther to the west and on higher ground are found the prairie country and mixed forest growth. A peculiarity noticed here is the meeting of the northern and the southern species of trees, the former being dwarfed and altered so as to be designated under different specific names. In the mountain region Douglas fir and western yellow pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) occur.

*The Basket Willow:* Wm. F. Hubbard, U. S. Bureau of Forestry.

Willow Culture in England was among the many forms of industry which were temporarily or permanently stimulated by Napoleon's embargo Act. Great Britain had imported her osiers and baskets from Holland until her exclusion from the Continent led to the formation of plantations at home. The Society of Arts directed their attention to the subject, and gave premiums for the establishment of willow plantations. The willow is still considerably grown in England, where the principal cultivator of late years was William Scaling, and such districts as Nottingham and the fens of Cambridgeshire produce osiers of the highest quality; but the general labor conditions and the ease with which willow is imported from other countries have prevented it from being widely cultivated or manufactured. France, Italy, the islands of Sicily and Madeira, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Austria, and Russia, are all large growers of willow, and have a good export trade of osier rods and basket ware. In all these thickly populated countries, which abound in cheap labor, willow growing and basket making have followed the development of other manufactures to a very marked degree.

Willows are adapted to a wide range of soils and climatic conditions, and are therefore among the most widely distributed of trees and shrubs. The genus *Salix*, to which these plants belong, contains a large number of species, ranging from large trees to a small low plant. From 160 to 170 species are known, inhabiting all regions, from the low grounds and river banks of temperate climates and warm countries to the arid Alpine slopes of mountains and to the boreal regions of both hemispheres. They occur in America from the Arctic Circle to the West Indies and the mountains of Chile. In the Old World they range