

which, I should think, could be as easily dug out of a Mountain Ash as out of an apple or peach tree.

P. Aucuparia-European Mountain Ash.—This is a larger tree than our native species, it has finer foliage, and is, I should say, decidedly more ornamental. It is to be found in very cold districts in Europe, even on the shores of the gulf of Finland, near St. Petersburg. It should be planted freely.

Var. Latifolia. Broad-leaved Mountain Ash.—This has broad leaves, downy underneath. I have not seen it in fruit, but its foliage is quite striking. There are several other varieties, of curious foliage, well worthy of a trial.

Var. pendula. Weeping European Mountain Ash.—It is always budded or grafted, 6 feet from the ground, and forms a curious drooping tree, very effective if properly shaped. It is just as hardy as other species.

P. Aurea Hybrida. Golden Hybrid Mountain Ash.—Seems a vigorous grower and has large cordate leaves, very downy and whitish beneath, well worthy of trial.

P. Domestica. True sort, or Service tree.—Is a native of parts of Middle and Southern Europe. I have not seen it, but it is said to have foliage like our native, and to bear larger berries, which are often eaten as are medlars, when partly decayed. Mr. Brown tells me that there are trees of it in good health on the Côte des Neiges Road.

P. Hybrida Quercifolia. Oak-leaved Mountain Ash.—Has foliage lobed like an oak, and bears flowers and fruit like the others. It has proved a good hardy tree in a very exposed situation at Como.

QUERCUS. Oak.

"It is a fact" says Scott "that not more than one American out of every thousand has ever seen the full expansion of a white oak grown to maturity in the open ground."

Are there any such trees in this Province? I might ask. If not, centuries must pass before they can be seen here. In England there are oaks believed to have been old in the time of William the Conqueror. The largest specimens mentioned by Loudon are from 48 to 78 feet in circumference of trunk. No wonder it is spoken of as

"Jove's own tree (1)

That holds the woods in awful Sovereignty."

The oak is often planted in England as a boundary tree, to mark boundaries between countries or properties. If such were the custom here, how much more beautiful our country would be a century hence, and how easy it is to drop a few acorns here and there.

The oak is a tree of very varied form and foliage. In the group of oaks in the grounds of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, *Q. Daimio* is as massive in leaf as a magnolia, another (*Q. Pedunculata pterohylla dissecta* of Britain) has long, thread-like leaves with thread-like laterals, more fringing, and not less aerial or feathery than an Imperial cutleaved alder. The Willow oak (*Q. Phellos*) has leaves much like a willow, the *Q. R. Pedunculata fastigiata* as erect as a Lombardy Poplar.

Of European oaks *Q. Pedunculata* and *Q. Sessilifolia* are found as far north as lat. 60. in Finland, and lat. 50. in Russia. The *Q. Robur* known as the Royal oak of Britain, is found from Sweden to Barbary, so that its habitat gives no clue to hardiness. Mr. Brown, many years ago, grew a number of young trees from Scotland, which proved quite hardy in nursery. Yet I can only hear of two or three trees about Montreal, and these are in a very sheltered situation.

Q. Cerris or Turkey oak has proved hardy in Montreal, though a very, very slow grower. In Washington it was killed to the ground. The fact is, *Q. Cerris* is a species of

great variety found throughout Central and Southern Europe, and parts of Asia, of very varied beauty, and varied hardiness, some are even ever-green. The *Q. R. Pendun. taraxiifolia* of Britain, has pretty purple foliage, but was hurt by winter in Washington, while the *Q. Sideroxylon* of Mexico, along side of it, was not injured.

Our first experiment should be made with our American species. Our own White Oak has scarcely a rival, though slow of growth. Our Red Oak grows much more quickly into a large spreading round-headed tree.

The Mossy Cup, or Over Cup, or Oak? (*Q. Macrocarpa*) is "a beautiful tree, more than 60 feet high," says Michaux, with "leaves often 15 in. long, and very much indented." I have not seen it, but it is well known, as it is a native of Manitoba and the Western States. It is a fast grower and very ornamental. Mr. George Dawson, however, tells me that that found in Manitoba seems to be a different species, a tree not much more than 30 feet in height, and shorter in leaf and acorn. One of the most admired of these varieties seems to be the scarlet oak, (*Q. Coccinea*) a tree I do not know, though it is a native of our own Province. The white Chestnut Oak (*Q. Prinus palustris*) does not seem to be of Northern habitat, but the Rock Chestnut Oak (*Prinus monticola*) grows in groups in dry rocky places on the shores of Lake Champlain. Downing considers it "the finest of our Northern Oaks" though it does not attain large size. The Pin Oak (*Q. Palustris*) is a tall pyramidal tree of rapid growth, which makes a fine street tree. There is a fine avenue of it at Flushing, Long Island. However, it is not a tree of Northern habitat. The willow leaved oak (*Q. Phellos*) is seldom seen North of New York. One foreign oak I must speak of,—the Japanese Oak (*Q. Daimio*). It has dense massive foliage, and is a good strong grower, and the specimens I saw in Washington and Long Island suffered no injury from last winter, a winter there of previously unknown severity.

ROBINIA.—Locust or Acacia.

The airy lightness of foliage, and long clusters of blossom of the Locusts would make them general favourites, if these advantages were not counter-balanced by weak points.

R. Hispida.—Moss or Rose Acacia.—This tree has very attractive foliage, and long clusters of rose-coloured flowers, in the early summer. It is of rapid, spreading growth, seems hardy for a few years, and then dies suddenly. It however replaces itself in a very short time. It is quite common in some parts of the Province.

Var. Grandiflora.—Is a pretty dwarf tree with larger leaves, and said to have larger flowers. It has not yet been tried here.

R. Pseud-acacia.—Yellow Locust.—This is quite a pretty tree when young, but lacks beauty as it becomes old. When old it has, as Scott says, a look of seedy gentility about it. It has too, a most pernicious habit of suckering, so that, as an ornamental tree I do not recommend it, as a rail and fence-post tree it is worthy of our thought. Mr. William Brown had some of these trees 40. ft., in height, and 30 years planted which seemed quite hardy, and I see some old trees of it about Montreal. Forty little trees which I planted in the spring of 1880, have made a growth during the last two years very nearly equal to the Poplars of different kinds along side of them. The durability of the wood is well known, and it is of easy and rapid growth, and on that account the fences on all the best farms in Pennsylvania and other States, are made of it. However, it becomes badly affected with borers, and, if this be the same borer that attacks our Apple trees, then let us be on our guard in planting this tree. (1).

(1). It was this Locust that Wm. Cobbett tried to get planted on a large scale in England, some 70 years ago.

A. R. J. F.

(1) "It may well be called Jove's tree, since it drops such fruit." As you like it.