

In the fall, seeds and fruit form a very attractive study, many of our berries being more handsome than the flowers they have succeeded : I may instance the brilliant red and snow white berries of the *Actea*, the deep blue of the *Clin-tonia*, the red of the *Twisted Stem*, and the netted veined berries of the *Smilacinas*.

All our wild fruits, strawberries, raspberries, wild plums, nuts, cranberries, grapes, &c., as much belong to the province of Botany as the flowers from which they are formed, and nothing can be more interesting than watching the transformation of the different parts of the flower into their respective parts of the fruit. It is our privilege also to watch how the roots of many plants store up nourishment for the coming year ; how the bud is formed and protected through the winter, ready to burst into leaf as soon as the spring is come ; it is also our part to study how the sap circulates, from whence the plant derives its nourishment ; the crude materials it feeds upon, earth, air, or water ; how it takes them and fashions them into the most beautiful forms, exquisite colors, fragrant perfumes, and delicious food for man.

Vegetables form the connecting link between minerals and animals ; they take their inorganic matter from the mineral, form it into organic matter, and fit it for the support of animal life.

When the Creator made man, he planted him in a Paradise of fruits and flowers, and the Heavenly Jerusalem is pictured under the figure of crystal streams and trees of life. The Psalmist describes the good man as a tree sending forth its roots, spreading forth its branches and bearing fruit.

The Bible is full of descriptions of natural scenery, and the Christian religion, based upon that book, breathes the love of nature in its psalms and hymns.