

PLATE C.

*A branch with leaves of the natural size. Fig. 1. A leaf from a sprout at the foot of an old tree.*

[See Nuttall's Supplement, vol. i. p. 71.]

[*Poplars.* This tribe is a rapid-growing one, and hence a favorite with persons who require immediate effect and even utility; but all the species, being short-lived when compared with Oaks, Elms, and other slow-growing, hard-wooded trees, confer a temporary, premature character on landscape, for nothing can be great or lasting but what advances by degrees.

In ancient times, the public places of Rome were decorated with rows of Poplar; whence it came to be called *arbor populi*, as being a tree peculiarly appropriated to the *people*.

In Italy, the wood of *P. dilatata* is considered peculiarly adapted for packing-boxes; nails do not split it; and, if cases of this wood fall or are thrown carelessly on the ground, it gives way a little, and returns to its former position without splitting, which oak and other heavy woods will not do. In Lombardy, all the vessels in which the grapes are carried home in carts from the vineyards are of poplar plank about two inches thick, and in them the grapes are squeezed. Such vessels last thirty or forty years, and by their lightness are manageable, however large and long.

The conical form of the Lombardy Poplar, as a deciduous tree, is peculiar; the Cypress partakes of the same character, and both, in many situations, have a good effect.]

END OF VOL. II.