

will render it practicable, as so many desire to plant the nuts just where the tree is to stand, even over a large plantation. Mr. Thomas Meehan, the well-known seed dealer and nurseryman at Philadelphia, in his price list says his method is to plant his seed very early in the moist earth, even while partly frozen, and trust to shading and natural dampness of the soil to sprout the seed, and he and many others say they never knew any good arise from soaking the seed. But by keeping the seed under treatment till the last one has shown sign of germination, and where we can see just what we are doing with them, and at the same time fully work the soil and keep down the weeds and by putting the seed in the clean soil just when ready to open its seed leaves, we would save great trouble and disappointment. The seed of white ash has a tough coat, and unless in very moist ground I find it very apt to lie two years, and a great many seeds are lost entirely. I find it useless to plant it in the Fall, as even if a few come all right, there is a great loss, and invariably some of the seeds, however planted, do not germinate till the second year. The weeds always start too soon for ash as well as maple seed, and if there is no other objection to Mr. Hulee's practice of soaking, I see so many advantages that I will try it in future.

THREE FAST GROWING TREES.

Ash, Locust, Catalpa.

The best growth I have yet seen in this climate is in the case of the *Catalpa speciosa*, and I regret that it is not quite hardy enough to be

desirable here, as it is at the same time such a handsome and useful tree; it ought to be a favorite in the warmer parts of Ontario. One American paper counts it as a great advantage that its leaf is rather late in appearing in the spring—hardly in its favor, in my opinion. I do not care to see the bare limbs so long after other trees are fully out, and a good many of my neighbors who have a few trees have thrown them out, thinking they were dead, when, if they waited till June they would have found plenty of showy foliage. It is so easily transplanted, as well as raised from seed, if planted after the soil is warm, and its cultivation offers no difficulty to its general distribution. Frequently it will grow eight or nine feet, and I have doubt that, as is claimed for it in Ohio, it will produce a railway tie in ten years.

The yellow locust, very common and just as easily raised from seed, is nearly as rapid in upright growth, increasing in diameter a little more slowly. It offers no trouble in the nursery except that it is not quite hardy the first year, and is a most useful timber tree both for fuel and for manufacturing. It will grow from the seed to be three, five or eight feet high the first year, and transplants readily. It also is very late showing a leaf, and loses all its foliage very early in the autumn, and like the *Catalpa*, I do not admire it for an ornamental tree. Farmers do not like it from its liability to spread by sprouting from the root if wounded, as well as from its seed, the light legume being carried by the wind too easily. In foliage and limb it is