

the *pinus pectinicornis*, whose eggs are deposited on the surface of the wood, and the young worms eat their way in. Floats for nets are made of the bark. It is excellent for wood fires, and is called in France *bois d'Andelle*. The beech bursts into leaf between April 19 and May 7.

"The Twelve Apostles." On an island of the lake Wetter, were twelve majestic beech trees, now reduced to eleven, for a zealous peasant cut down one of them, declaring "that the traitor Judas should have no part nor lot with the faithful." On these beeches are cut the names of Charles XI, Charles XII, Queen Eleonora, and other distinguished visitors. Other famous beeches are the Frankley Beeches, in Worcestershire.

Virgil's bowl, *divini opus Alcimedontis*, was made of beech wood, and Pliny tells us that vessels used in the temples were made sometimes of the same wood.

The beech, like the fir and chestnut, is very destructive of vegetation beneath.

BIRCH, used by the ancients for papyrus. The wood is used for the heels of shoes, cradles, packing-boxes, sabots, drinking cups, brooms or besoms, rods, torches, and charcoal.

"It supplies the northern peasant with his house, his bread, his wine, and the vessels to put it in, part of his clothing, and the furniture of his bed."

Birch loves the coldest places.

BLACKTHORN is formed into teeth for rakes and into walking sticks. Letters written on linen or woolen with sloe-juice will not wash out.

It is said that Joseph of Arimathea planted his staff on the south ridge of Weary-all Hill (now Werral), where it grew and put forth blossoms every Christmas day afterwards. The original tree was destroyed in the reign of Charles I, by a puritan soldier, who lost his life by a splinter, which wounded him while so employed. The variety, which blossoms twice a year, is now pretty common.

The Holy Thorn has been introduced into many parts, and is now grown in several gardens about Glastonbury and its vicinity. Pilgrimages continue to be made to this tree even in Mr. Eyston's time who died 1721.—Warner, Evening Post, January 1753.

BOX, used for turnery, combs, mathematical instruments, knife-handles, tops, screws, button-moulds, wood engravings. Box wood will sink in water.

A decoction of box wood promotes the growth of hair, and an oil distilled from its shavings is a cure for hemorrhoids, tooth-ache, epilepsy, and stomach-worms; so we are told.

CEDAR, used for cigar boxes. It is hateful to moths and fleas, and hence it is used for lining wardrobes and drawers.

CHERRY TREE, used by the turner, formed into chairs and hoops. It is stained to imitate mahogany, to which wood, both in grain and color, it approaches nearer than any other of this country. It is stained black for picture

frames. The cherry tree was first introduced from Flanders into Kent, in the reign of Henry VIII.

More than a hundred men, during a siege, were kept alive for nearly two months, without any other sustenance than a little of this gum taken into the mouth and suffered gradually to dissolve.—Hasselquist, *Iter Palæstinum* (1757.)

CHESTNUT TREE, the tree introduced into the pictures of Salvator Rosa. The wood is used by coopers and for water-pipes, because it neither shrinks nor changes the color of any liquor it contains. It is, however, bad for posts, and grass will not grow beneath its shade.

Staves that nor shrink nor swell,
The cooper's close-wrought cask to chestnut
owes. —Dodsley.

The roof of Westminster Abbey, and that of the "Parliament House," Edinburgh, are made of chestnut wood.

In Cobham Park, Kent, is a chestnut tree 40 feet in girth (5 feet from the ground.)

At Tortworth, Gloucestershire, is a chestnut tree 52 feet in girth. Even in 1150 it was called "the great chestnut tree of Tortworth." Mr. Marsham says it was 540 years old when King John came to the throne, which would carry us back to the heptarchy. If so, this tree has tallied the whole history of England from the Roman period to our own.

The horse chestnut bursts into leaf between March 17 and April 19. The Spanish chestnut fully a month later.

CYPRESS hurts the least of all trees by its droppings.

DOG ROSE. So called by the Greeks (*kunordon*), because the root was deemed a cure for the bite of a mad dog.

ELDER TREE, used for skewers, tops of angling rods, needles for netting, turnery. The pith is used for electrometers and in electrical experiments.

An infusion of elder leaves will destroy insects on delicate plants better than tobacco-juice; and if turnips, cabbages, fruit trees, etc., are brushed with a branch of elder leaves no insect will infest the plants.

ELM is used for axle-trees, mill-wheels, keels of boats, gunwales, chairs, coffins, rails, gates, under-ground pipes, pumps, millwork, patterns.

Grass will grow beneath its shade.

The elm is pre-eminent for the tenacity of its wood, which never splinters. It is the first of forest trees to burst into leaf.

Toads and frogs are often imbedded in elm trees. They creep into some hollow place or crack, and become imprisoned by the glutinous fluid of the new inner bark (*liber* and *alburnum*.) Some have been found alive when the tree is cut down, but they need not have been embedded long.

At Hampstead there was once a famous hollow elm, which had a staircase within and seats at the top.

At Blythfield, in Staffordshire, was an

elm which, Ray tells us, furnished 8660 feet of planks, weighing 97 tons.

The elm at Chequers, Buckinghamshire, was planted in the reign of Stephen; the shell is now 31 feet in girth. The Chepstead Elm, Kent, contains 268 feet of timber, and is 15 feet in girth; it is said to have had an annual fair beneath its shade in the reign of Henry V. The elm at Crawley, in Sussex, is 70 feet high and 35 feet in girth.

FIG TREE. The leaves of this tree have the property of maturing game and making it plump amongst them.

FIR TREE. In Ireland the bog firs, beaten into string, are manufactured into rope, capable of resisting the weather much longer than hempen ropes. The bark can be used for tan. Tar and pitch are obtained from the trunk and branches. The thinnings of fir forests will do for hop-poles, scantlings, and rafters, and its timber is used by builders.

Grass will not grow beneath fir trees.

STREET PLANTING AND SHADE TREES.

BY HENRY C. BLISS, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

We have driven out our trees and the peaceful rest of their shade. Let us bring them back, for it is easy with modern means to get to them. If people knew how easy it is to plant trees, and if they realized how valuable these shade trees come to be for perhaps a century, more persons might be induced to join in the work. Nearly one hundred years ago someone planted a double row of elms on a street that bears the name of the tree in my own town. I cannot imagine how a man with greater ease and certainty could have added so much to the sum of human happiness. The grand elms on Court square, in this city, could have been planted in a day, but the loss of these old trees would put the city in mourning for a year. In one day I have gone into the swamps, with but two men to help, and taken up seventy-five elms. In two more days these trees could be planted with the same assistance. Of course, you must first find the swamp, but this usually requires but a little prospecting.

At first care should be taken to determine the line for the trees, and to that end boundaries must be carefully looked up. Casual paths must be ignored. The trees will be likely to fix things for many years, and new paths are easily made. In the village of Mitineague, in order to have the trees at a uniform distance from the margin of the road, it was necessary to put some directly in the common footpath. The people, however, kindly cared for the trees, and scarcely any suffered on account of their location.

In taking trees from wet ground, you will usually need but an axe, for trees in swampy or wet ground have no tap root, and the fibrous roots are usually bunched near the trunk. Cut the turf,