AN EXTRACT FROM 'FOREST TREES OF BRITAIN' Rev. C. A. Johns, 1849

The Sycamore. Acer Pseudo-platanus.

Its wood was much used for making platters before earthenware plates were generally introduced, and in rural districts is still applied to the same purpose.

The Common or Field Maple. Acer Campestris
The wood is far superior to Beech for all purposes of the turner, who seeks it for dishes, cups, trays, trenchers, etc., as the joiner for tables, inlayings, and for the delicateness of the grain, when the knurs and nodosities are rarely diapered, which does but advance its price: our turners will work it so thin, that it is almost

The Birch. Betula Alba.

transparent.

The Highlanders of Scotland make everything of it; they build their houses, make their beds, chairs, tables, and spoons; construct their mills; make their carts, ploughs, harrows, gates, and fences, and even manufacture ropes of it.

The Ash. Fraxinus Excelsior.

Some Ash is curiously cambleted* and veined, so differently from other timber, that our skilful cabinet makers prize it equal with ebony, and give it the name of green Ebony, which their customers pay well for.

The Acacia. Robinia Pseudacacia.

The first tree that was introduced into Europe by Monsieur Robin, and planted in the Jardin des Plantes in Paris, in 1635, is still in existence, and is now seventy five feet high. The wood of the Acacia is supposed to unite the qualities of strength and durability to a degree unknown in any other kind of timber: in consequence of which it has for many years been employed throughout America and Europe in the construction of the wooden pins, called trenails (tree-nails), which are used to fasten the planks to the ribs or timbers of ships.

The Elder. Sambucus Nigra.

The wood is close-grained, sweet, and cleanly, and beyond any other chosen by butchers for skewers, as least affecting their flesh; it is very beautiful also for turners' ware, and fineering, and for toys, of as neat a polish as box.

The Poplar. Populus.

The wood is soft and light, but tough. It is used for various purposes, one of the principal being for the bottoms of carts and barrows. It possesses one property, which makes it valuable for some purposes, that, namely, of being very difficult to ignite; hence it may be employed with advantage in flooring rooms.

Camblet = camlet - watered silk, O.E.D.

The Box. Buxus Sempervirens.

The Box-wood used by the cabinet- makers and turners in France is chiefly that of the root. The town of St.Claude, near which is one of the largest natural Box woods in Europe, is almost entirely inhabited by turners, who make snuff-boxes, rosary beads, forks, spoons, buttons, and numerous other articles.

The Strawberry Tree. Arbutus Unedo.

The wood is of little value, but at Killarney is manufactured into boxes and toys, which are sold to visitors: it is of a dull brown tint, and marked with fine lines, which are of a yet darker hue.

The Cherry. Cerasus Vulgaris.

It has been remarked by M. le Conte, that in America, when Beech woods are cut down, they are speedily replaced by Cherry trees.

Gabriel Olive