has rarely a greater diameter than two feet. It is a much smaller tree therefore than the northern Hemlock. The branches are more pendulous and the leaves are darker green and more lustrous than those of this tree. The leaves, too, are usually notched at the apex and slightly toothed, while those of the northern tree are usually rounded at the apex and are not toothed. The two trees are, however, best distinguished by their cones; those of the southern tree are not stalked and their scales are much longer than broad with obtusely pointed bracts; and those of the northern trees are stalked and the scales are about as long as wide with bracts broad and truncate at the apex. Many persons see and admire the Carolina Hemlock in the Arboretum every year, but it is still rare in cultivation, and probably ten thousand Colorado Blue Spruces (*Picea pungens*) are planted in this country every year for one Carolina Hemlock. It is not found in many American nurseries, and the price at which it is offered is excessive.

Picea Engelmannii, which is the common and most widely distributed Spruce of the Rocky Mountains, was discovered in Colorado in 1862 by D. C. C. Parry. Seeds are said to have been sent by him in that year to the Harvard Botanic Garden, but there is no record that plants were raised there; and it is believed that this tree was first cultivated in 1879 when seeds were planted in this Arboretum. The Engelmann Spruce grows to its largest size on the mountains of Colorado where trees one hundred and fifty feet high with trunks up to five feet in diameter have been seen; further north and south the trees are smaller. As it grew in great forests which fifty years ago covered the slopes of the Colorado mountains up to altitudes of ten thousand feet it was with its light cinnamon red bark and narrow pyramidal crown of soft light gray-green leaves one of the handsomest, perhaps the handsomest of all Spruce-trees. The Engelmann Spruce has grown well in the Arboretum, and the tallest trees here are nearly forty feet high. For many years the stems were clothed with branches to the ground, but four or five years ago the lower branches began to die and the trunks of the largest trees are now naked for a distance of seven or eight feet from the ground. The narrow crowns are still perfectly healthy and the trees are growing rapidly. Engelmann's Spruce is a good ornamental tree to plant in New England, and its hardiness, the rapidity of its growth, and the value of the timber it produces may make it a valuable tree for forest planting in the northeastern states. In western Europe, where Engelmann's Spruce suffers from spring frosts, it is little known, which is perhaps the reason that it has been so little planted in the eastern states for Americans have been often too much governed in the selection of trees by what is known of them in England. From all points of view *Picea Engelmannii* is now the best Spruce which has been planted in the Arboretum.

Picea Omorika, the Servian Spruce which was not distinguished until 1875, was first raised at the Arboretum in 1880 from seeds presented to it by the late Dr. Bolle of Berlin. The Arboretum trees are now from thirty to forty feet high, with trunks clothed to the ground with short branches which form a narrow pyramid clothed with leaves dark green and lustrous on the ventral surface and pale on the other. This Spruce has proved perfectly hardy here and is one of the handsomest

conifers in the whole collection in which there are fortunately several individuals. The only objection to this tree is that it often loses its leader by the attacks of the borer which so often destroys that of the native White Pine. In southeastern Europe, where the Servian Spruce is widely distributed and forms great forests, it is an important timber tree, growing up to a height of one hundred and thirty feet, with a girth of trunk of not more than four feet.

Picea Glehnii is a native of northern Japan and Saghalin where it was discovered by a Russian botanist in 1861. Seeds of this tree are said to have reached Europe in 1871; those of the Japanese tree were planted in the Arboretum in 1892. It is of course too soon to speak with much authority about the value of this tree in eastern America. The Arboretum trees have grown rapidly, are perfectly hardy, and are certainly the most satisfactory here of the Japanese Spruces. Judging by the latitude of its native home, this Spruce should prove hardy far north in eastern America.

Abies concolor, the Rocky Mountain form of the White Fir of western America, was first raised in the Arboretum in 1874 from seeds collected by Dr. Engelmann on the Spanish Peaks of southern Colorado. It is said that a few seeds of this tree reached Europe from New Mexico two years earlier, but the statement needs confirmation. There are good specimens in the Arboretum raised from Dr. Engelmann's seeds nearly sixty feet high and with trunks still clothed with branches to the ground, and this Colorado tree must with our present knowledge be considered the best Fir-tree which can be grown in the northeastern states. Its only rival here is the Japanese *Abies homolepis* which was introduced into the United States in the early sixties through the Parsons Nursery, but has only recently been appreciated and is still rare in American collections. *Abies concolor* is now one of the most generally planted conifers in the eastern states.

Thuja plicata, the Red Cedar of the northwest, is one of the great trees of the world, often growing in western Oregon and Washington to a height of two hundred feet with a trunk fifteen feet in diameter. Plants raised from seeds gathered in the coast region have never proved hardy in the eastern states, but fortunately this tree — of less gigantic size — ranges eastward to the eastern slope of the continental divide in Montana, and in 1880 seeds collected near Fort Coeur d'Alene in Idaho by Dr. Sereno Watson were planted at the Arboretum. The plants raised from these seeds have grown rapidly and have proved perfectly hardy, and are now the handsomest trees of their class in the collection. Like other Arbor Vitae this tree is easily propagated by cuttings and a few American nurserymen are beginning to appreciate its beauty and value. One of the valuable timber trees of North America, this tree now promises to play its part in the decoration of eastern parks and gardens.

Juniperus chinensis var. *Sargentii* is generally considered the handsomest of the numerous Junipers with prostrate stems which are now known in gardens. It was first raised at the Arboretum in 1893 from

1922. "Picea Omorika." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 8(17), 66–67. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321289>.

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