

G. Barbadosense, the Barbadoes shrubby cotton, has a shrubby stalk, branching four or five feet high, three-lobed smooth leaves, glandulous underneath, and yellow flowers succeeded by oval pods containing seeds and cotton.

G. herbaceum, the common herbaceous cotton, has an herbaceous smooth stalk two feet high, branching upwards; five-lobed smooth leaves, and yellow flowers from the end of the branches succeeded by roundish capsules full of seeds and cotton.

G. hirsutum, the hairy American cotton, has hairy stalks branching laterally two or three feet high; palmated, three and five-lobed hairy leaves, and yellow flowers succeeded by large oval pods furnished with seeds and cotton.

The last three species are annual, but the first is perennial both in root and stalk. In warm countries these plants are reared in great quantities in fields for the sake of the cotton; but the herbaceous species is most generally cultivated. The pods are sometimes as large as middling sized apples, closely filled with the cotton surrounding the seed. When these plants are raised in this country, they must be continually kept in a warm stove, where they will produce seeds and cotton. The American islands produce cotton shrubs of various sizes, which rise and grow up without any culture; especially in low and marshy grounds. Their produce is of a pale red; some paler than others; but so short that it cannot be spun. None of this is brought to Europe, though it might be usefully employed in making hats. The litle that is picked up, serves to make mattresses and pillows. The cotton shrubs, that supply our manufactures, require a dry and stony soil, and thrive best in ground that has been tilled. The plant appears more flourishing in fresh lands than in those which are exhausted; but, while it produces more wood, it bears less fruit. A western exposure is fittest for it. The culture begins in March and April, and continues during the first spring rains. Holes are made at seven or eight feet distance, and a few seeds thrown in. When they are five or six inches high, all the stems are pulled up, except two or three of the strongest. These are cropped twice before the end of August. This proccution is necessary, as the wood bears no fruit till after the second pruning; and, if the shrub was suffered to grow more than four feet high, the crop would not be greater, nor the fruit so easily gathered. The same method is pursued for three years; for so long the shrub may continue, if it cannot conveniently be renewed oftener with the prospect of an advantage that will compensate the trouble. This useful plant will not thrive if great attention is not paid to pluck up the weeds that grow about it. Frequent rains promote its growth; but they must not be incessant. Dry weather is particularly necessary in March and April, which is the time of gathering the cotton, to prevent it from being discolored and spotted. When gathered in, the seeds must be picked out from the wool with which they are naturally mixed. This is done by a cotton mill; composed of two rods of hard wood, about eighteen feet long, eighteen lines

GOSSYPIMUM, cotton, a genus of the polyandria order, and monadelphia class of plants; natural order thirty-seven, columnifere: CAL. double, the exterior triffid: CAPS. quadrilocular: SEEDS enclosed in cotton wool. There are ten species, all natives of warm climates.

G. arboreum, the cotton tree, has an upright woody perennial stalk, branching six or eight feet high; palmated, four or five-lobed smooth leaves, and yellow flowers succeeded by large pods filled with seeds and cotton.

in circumference, and fluted two lines deep. They are confined at both ends, so as to leave no more distance between them than is necessary for the seed to slip through. At one end is a little millstone, which, being put in motion by the foot, turns the rods in contrary directions. They separate the cotton, and throw out the seed contained in it. See **COTTON**.