

over woodlands (as was done in Europe since centuries), or else the owner must be continually driven, at the expense of the people by financial inducements, towards that forestal practice, which makes the forest a source of direct and indirect revenue.

Whether it is not preferable for the government to practice forestry on its own account, rather than to enter the slippery road of inducements and bounties, is a question open since Adam Smith's time. Only thorough appreciation of the economic and political sphere of a country allows of solving the problem in a given case.

The Future.

The development of Canada's gigantic forest reserve must be necessarily slow. When it is accomplished, after the lapse of another century, Canada may supply the entire world with timber. If in the year 1750 a prophet had dared to foretell the actual happenings in German forestry, he would have been laughed at by all intelligent people. At that time square miles of forest could be bought at the price now fetched from the sale of a single oak tree standing in it.

Pictures "German Virgin Forests."

For more remote districts, it can be historically proven, that the spread of forestry abroad was closely connected with the expansion of roads and railroads. A tree (—just think of the enormous Mahogany trees in middle America!—) has no value, unless it is within reach of transportation. If a tree has little value, the seedling promising to develop into a tree after a hundred years only, has practically none, and, consequently, it does not pay to put any stress on its propagation and protection.

Forestry investments, like those of railroads and insurance companies, are as a rule long-time investments. The forester is compelled to look far ahead into the future. In many a case, the teachings of history throw light into the darkness of coming events.

In Canada, if the population continues to increase, if the facilities of transportation continue to be developed, the price of pine stumps, 80 years hence, might be \$20 per 1,000 feet b. m.—the price now prevailing in Germany and France. If such are the prospects, Canada will be the richest country on earth before the dawn of the next century, provided that she continues to conservatively manage her forest resources; again, if such are the possibilities, we should at once proceed to reforest every acre of ground unfit for the plough but fit for timber production.

Pictures "Forest Planting."

If such are the chances, every sapling in the forest should be as carefully protected from fire as if it were a paper dollar-bill.

Away with shoreless dreams! Let us

return to reality. I have no time to dilate on the indirect utility of the forest, of the forest as a healer, of the forest as a regulator of water and navigation, of the forest as an employer to the wage-earner. The indirect utility of the forest is apparently most highly appreciated, where no forest exists. In the United States millions of dollars are spent for raising forests in the treeless regions, and scarcely a cent for preventing forests from losing ground on soil fit for timber production only.

No stronger argument can be proffered for governmental forestry than the present condition of the forests east of the Mississippi left helplessly in the hands of private owners. Adam Smith (who condemned state-forestry 100 years ago) would quickly change his opinion, if he could see conditions now prevailing in private forests, even in Germany. Conservative use, far-sighted forest policy cannot be expected from short-lived men. The commonwealth, an association of families formed for purposes not limited by time, is the proper owner, the most successful manager of forests.

In addition, great freedom may be given to the acts of private owners, if the far larger percentage of the forests is controlled by the people or—which seems the same—by the crown.

C. A. SCHENCK, PH. D.

We note that Bulletin No. 5, published by H. W. Johns Manufacturing Company, has been issued in somewhat larger size than heretofore. It is in the nature of a revised price list of The "Noark" Fuse.

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TWO FAMOUS APPLE TREES.

The decayed stump is all that remains of the famous "mother tree," the oldest known specimen of the Rhode Island greening, says the Providence Journal. A few rods southwest of the old lime-kiln on the northern verge of Fruit hill, on Frederick W. Winsor's farm, stands a younger tree. Mrs. Winsor's great-great-grandfather, Nehemiah Smith, planted the mother tree, of which the other is a limb wrenched while loaded with fruit from the parent stock, during King George II's reign, in 1748, and was therefore 141 years old when it was cut down in 1889-90, and its life from the seed must be nearly 150 years.

The present tree, the "daughter tree," so-called, is a limb of the mother trunk and was broken off in the September gale of 1815, and which, from an elbow, thrust into the moist, rich soil, took root and became independent. F. M. Perry, of Canandaigua, N. Y., a famous nurseryman and pomologist, pronounced the fruit of these trees the finest of the greening family, and procured hundreds of scions from the stock to introduce into New York and the middle states.

The present year the younger tree bore about ten bushels of the finest quality of apples, and bids fair to breast the storms of many a winter yet to come.

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