

the discovery of the Acton Copper Mines; for, by this means, this part of the country will become quickly cleared and settled, instead of remaining as it has done in a state of wilderness. As to the destruction of the Hemlock timber after the bark is taken off, I think the term "destruction" is scarcely correctly applied to such a case. Destruction implies waste, but this can scarcely apply to the case when the farmer actually gets about the same price for his Hemlock bark, even apart from the lumber, as he does for his pine. For instance, it takes from three to four Hemlock standard logs to produce a cord of bark with \$3 cash, whereas \$1 a pine standard log would be a high price on an average, for the lumber delivered on the banks of the St. Francis, near Drummondville, and yet we do not hear a word about the destruction of our pine forests. Again, the burning of the Hemlock timber for clearing the land for want of a market, is not properly speaking a waste of it. Indeed, I believe that it would be a better policy for the settler to burn it than just to recover enough to pay for the drawing it, for by burning it the land is benefited to a large extent by the ashes, of which it would otherwise be robbed, if the lumber was sold, believing as I do, that these Extract factories are highly beneficial to the settler in particular, and to the country in general, I would have no objection whatever to see an export duty placed upon the crude bark, as in that case factories would spring up wherever the bark is abundant, and the farmer in the neighborhood would reap the double advantage of the increase of value of the bark, and the cash expended in manufacturing it into Extract, instead of selling it as at present, at a comparatively low price to the Americans. Of course the above remarks are intended now particularly to apply to that Province of the Dominion in which I reside, not having any personal knowledge of the other Provinces.

*Patton & Co.*—Some remedy must be devised at an early day, otherwise we shall have to import instead of exporting bark. As it is, we allow our raw material to be taken to a foreign country, and used in the manufacture of leather, which is sent back to us with heavy charges to the consumer for carriage, profit, &c., while Canada is quite capable of supplying her own wants and those of her neighbors. The cord of hemlock lathwood (128 cubic feet) is worth \$8 at Montreal or Quebec.

*Shaw.*—The manufacture of the Extract of Bark is as yet in its infancy. Mr. James Miller has devoted six years, and a large sum of money, in endeavoring to perfect the process, and there are many difficulties yet to overcome in the introduction of it into use in Europe, as there are other tanning materials in use to compete with it, such as catch, gambia, sumach, &c.

*MacDougall.*—The great want of the Province of Quebec is manufactures to give employment to a population which cannot obtain a living from the cultivation of the soil alone. It is a startling fact, that during the last seventeen years, while the price of Hemlock lumber has increased but 75 cents per 1,000 feet, and wages have diminished, taxation has increased, and the price of all the necessaries of life have been largely augmented; and this must drive out the population of the country, unless some remedy is applied. I am sure that but for the operations of the Extract Factory at Upton, half the residents would have gone to the United States. The benefits it has conferred on the surrounding district are as follows:—\$70,000 a year for bark and labour are distributed among a population who were almost unacquainted with the appearance of money, labour having formerly been paid for in goods; but there is no truck system in connection with the factory. One proof of the improved condition of the population is, that whereas during the last seventeen years I have expended £5,000 in building church, school, and mills, and in roads and taxes, I hardly reaped any return till the bark factory commenced its operations; since then, payments on lands sold have been regularly and easily made. At Upton, the yield of bark is about ten cords to the acre, and the farmer can make a clear profit, over expenses, of one dollar a cord; the clear profit on the timber which has yielded a cord of bark, if converted into sawlogs, would not probably exceed 25 cents. If the foreign demand for Extract continues steady, while the Hemlock is gradually consumed, the farmers are enriched and enabled to purchase the better sorts of lumber, which are indispensable for building purposes. If the demand cease, the Hemlock will remain, as heretofore, to cumber the ground. But it appears to me that any attempt to prohibit the consumption of Hemlock, either by the imposition of an export duty on the manufactured article, or by interfering with the rights of property, would be like starving the present generation in order that succeeding generations should be better fed. The poor farmer of the present