

FOREST PRESERVATION IN CANADA.

Each of the Provinces comprising the Dominion of Canada, excepting Manitoba, has control of its own crown lands, and hence it is difficult to secure one uniform series of measures for the protection of the timber upon these crown lands. Circumstances are different in each Province. In British Columbia, the forests are largely yet untouched, excepting along the Pacific Coast, and there is thus the opportunity still there of carefully conserving the forests, so that they may be a continued source of revenue, instead of allowing fires and the lumberman's axe to have unrestricted sway among them. Between the Rocky Mountains and the boundaries of Ontario it is rather a question of how far forests are to be created, as the country is chiefly open prairie. In Ontario and Quebec, along the streams which fall into the Georgian Bay, and at the sources of the Ottawa, St. Maurice and other great rivers and their tributaries, there is still a considerable area of White and Red Pine, but the trees are of diminished size compared with the splendid trunks common on the Ottawa twenty years ago. The lumbermen are fast approaching the northern limits of the growth of these trees. In Ontario, the provincial finances are in good condition, and the Government there, can, if it will, readily curtail its revenues from timber and timber limits, in order to prevent waste of its crown lands, and to preserve them in condition to yield revenues to the Government and profit to the lumbermen who may work them in years in the future. In the Province of Quebec there is more difficulty in dealing with the question, as the Province has a very heavy funded debt, the interest of which, in addition to ordinary expenditure, has had to be provided for, and as a consequence every