

adaptability to all soils, its rapid growth, dense spray and foliage, and its comparative cheapness. The Norway spruce is also a very pliable tree, and bears transplanting well, and in the shelter-hedges it patiently submits to the free use of the knife in close trimming. For the shelter grove, and especially for the single or grouped trees of the lawn, nothing can excel the beautiful grace of form, nor the depth and purity of green presented by the common American hemlock-spruce (*Abies Canadensis*). This species was common in much of your early forests and must be familiar to you all. The hemlock has a northerly limit, as shown by Mr. Drummond's map, extending from the northwest and northeast coasts of Lake Superior, by the head waters of the Ottawa River, crossing the St. Lawrence below Quebec and traversing New Brunswick to the ocean in latitude 47 degrees.

The hemlock makes such a dense growth of foliage and slender twigs, that it is perhaps the very best plant for the protective shelter hedges that should be found about the dwellings and outhouses of every farm in your broad domain of Ontario.

The native balsam (*Abies balsamea*), as you seem to be aware, is hardy enough and very beautiful when young, but unsatisfactory for planting because it is apt to grow shabby when older.

The red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) has a wide range both north and south, east and west. Though less extended than the other native evergreens, this juniper is found in your part of Ontario, and would be hardy enough, which is not the case with the Irish juniper and some other garden forms.

The red cedar has been called the poor man's evergreen in our Western States, because of its abundance, its consequent cheapness, and the ease with which it may be brought into cultivation. Its growth is sufficiently rapid; trees set out twenty feet apart have formed a close wall of sheltering green, while their tops have grown twenty feet high, with branches from the ground, and all within twenty-five years from the seed. This tree needs age to make its lumber valuable, while young there is too large a proportion of alburnum or sapwood; when the red heart wood is developed the timber is perdurable, and highly valued for posts, sills and other uses where durability is required.

One of your most beautiful and most abundant native evergreens is yet to be mentioned, the American arbor-vitæ, (*Thuja occidentalis*). This is erroneously called white cedar, which is quite a different tree (*Cupressus thyoides*), also found in parts of the Province, and reported in Mr. Dawson's catalogue, on the faith of Mr. Brown, on the great lakes.

The arbor-vitæ abounds everywhere on low lands, and Mr. Drummond reports it on his map as reaching to St. James' Bay, in latitude 52 degrees north. This plant is very abundant along the line of the Grand Trunk Railway, and in favorable situations immense numbers of young plants might be obtained from the mucky lowlands; but it may also be procured from the nurseryman of any desired size, and at low prices, in much better condition for planting out than those taken from the swamps.

The arbor-vitæ and the hemlock-spruce, though admirably adapted for the construction of wind-breaks, are also the two very best species for planting as shelter hedges upon the lawn, around the gardens and about the dwelling and outhouses, wherever it is possible to introduce these screens. You are strongly urged to set them abundantly in all such places for the comfort they will afford to your families.

Plant hemlocks and white spruces on the lawn near your houses. The shelter groves to which allusion has already been made should not be overlooked nor forgotten. These should be placed rather near to and on the windward sides of your buildings. Select the site and prepare the soil thoroughly before planting out the trees you may have selected. Set them closely to produce an immediate effect. Three rows in every four may be of inferior or cheap kinds to act as nurses to the more desirable plants that are to remain permanently. The former must be removed as soon as these last need the space for their healthy development. Of course the whole lot should be well cultivated for a few years, or until the ground is well

shaded. Exclude all cattle of every class from the ground. This is absolute.

Finally, my friends, lest you become weary with too long an article, let us draw this to a conclusion, though you may rest assured the half has not been told had the description been intended to embrace all the trees that are worthy of your care in general planting. A few only have been introduced that were supposed to be especially adapted for the object in view—that of providing shelter groves and wind breaks in the open country, to compensate in some degree for the excessive removal of the natural forests, which has already occurred in portions of your country, just as it has happened in our own State. In your northwestern provinces there are open prairies which must be planted, and doubters will be, by hardy settlers, who will imitate the examples set them by our fellow citizens on the broad trans Mississippi plains. But it is especially you, my good people of the Province of Ontario, and you, dwellers in this fertile, interlacustrine plateau, who are now most earnestly entreated to begin at once the work of providing the needed shelter for yourselves, your cattle and your crops, by planting homestead groves, shelter hedges, wind breaks and shelter belts. Do it, my friends, also for the sake of your friend and well-wisher from over the border.

Lively Work.

A few days ago two men in the employ of Wm. Hales, jobber for Messrs. Ulyott, Sadler & Co., Peterborough, named respectively Thos. Nesbit and Thos. McIlmoyle, cut 101 saw logs in 98 minutes, averaging 14½ inches. The logs were cut with a Lance Tooth saw, and the work was done fairly and honestly, for which the culler of the said logs can vouch.

Of hemlock bark, for tanning purposes, which is a large item in the Eastern Townships, one firm at Warden is receiving 200 cords per day, at Granby, one tanner has \$30,000 worth on hand and has 3,000 more coming in. The price paid is at Danville \$4.50 per cord, and at Warwick Station \$5.00.



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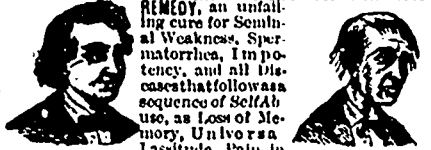
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