

## PROFIT OF TREE PLANTING.

Professor Sargent, of the Harvard arboretum, probably the best authority in this country on the subject, estimates that the profit on a plantation of 10 acres of larch trees, at the end of 50 years, will average 12 per cent. per annum for the whole time on the capital expended. The philosophy of this is apparent. There is little outlay upon a tree crop beyond the first cost of planting, while day by day the silent forces of nature go on adding to its value, whether the owner works or idles. Enough is positively known to furnish the strongest incentive to tree planting from the practical point of view as well as from physical and sanitary considerations. The west and northwest need more attention to this enterprise, often as its advantages have been urged upon them. Such a want ought not to continue, now that it is an assured fact that no other crop is so remunerative, secured with so little trouble, and subject to so few risks from destructive agencies, as the tree crop. The industry is scarcely yet out of its infancy. With due care given to its development by the state, the interest of individual farmers will become more active and more intelligent. A school of forestry will educate the people by that iteration of precept upon precept, which is necessary to the acceptance of the plainest truth. But when once it is thoroughly understood that tree planting is not a matter of sentimental care for the future only, but of hard cash for the present, it will be welcomed and recognized as one of the legitimate branches of husbandry.

## WASTE NOT, WANT NOT.

We have on many occasions advocated the establishment of a Bureau of Forestry, and as time goes on the necessity for such a Government department becomes more apparent. Canada is wasting her forest resources to such an extent that in a few years they will be exhausted. Living in the midst of the forest operations—surrounded as we are by logs, posts and lumber—we know more of the forest resources of Canada than those journals published in localities where lumbering is extinct, and we say deliberately that the waste now going on is criminal. To one matter we wish to draw particular attention. A demand has arisen in England for Canadian hemlock bark, and efforts are being made to supply the demand. Now it must be noted that the present supply of hemlock bark is very limited, and is not more than sufficient to supply our own purposes. It takes about 150 years to replace a tree of its bark. Up in the north country, about 4 years ago, an insect pest passed through the woods and killed every hemlock tree in a district extending over a hundred townships. The only hemlock there now has grown since that visitation, and is just large enough for railway ties. Therefore it is clear that any additional demand for hemlock trees would speedily make the hemlock an extinct tree in the northern district. "Protection" might very properly be applied in this direct, and a department of forestry would do important national service.—*Bobaygon Independent*.

## Nothing New Under the Sun.

Mr. James Bell, of Ullin, Ill., writes In the *Northwestern Lumberman* of March 27, I notice that logging roads and locomotives for hauling logs are put down as recent inventions. In the winter of 1856 there was built here a tram road on which mules and oxen were used. In 1862 a locomotive was put on which was worn out, and the discarded machine was replaced by another, which was nearly worn out in the service.

## A New Catechism in Drayton.

Q.—What is rheumatism?

A.—Rheumatism is a humorous sensation that causes men to rub their joints with St. Jacobs Oil, play practical jokes, throw things around, wear crutches and stay indoors, swathed in red flannel.—*Drayton (C.) New Era*.

Q.—What is St. Jacobs Oil?

A.—A peculiar substance of a very penetrating nature, which causes rheumatism to leave the system astonishingly quick,—insuring evenness of temper thereby, and ability to do one's work satisfactorily. It banishes crutches, restores flannels, produces happiness, and brings us down to a serene old age without the martyrdom of pain.—*Exchange*.

## BLACK BIRCH.

Black birch is one of the woods which is crowding into the shoes of walnut, which are sure to be vacated before many more years of consumption. It is coming rapidly into favor, and is an excellent substitute for walnut. It is clear grained and handsome, and can be readily given an exact walnut stain. It is easily worked and suitable to nearly all the purposes to which black walnut is at present applied. Birch is about the same color as cherry, but it is immensely cheaper and far more plentiful. Besides the fact of its staining so as to resemble walnut, it is susceptible of a beautiful polish equal to any wood now used in the manufacture of furniture. In the forests throughout Ontario birch grows in abundance, especially if the soil is not too boggy. There is a great difference in the wood of different sections. Where the land is high the wood is firm and clear, but if the land is low and wet the wood has a tendency to be soft and of a bluish color. In all the northern regions it can be found in great abundance, and as the trees grow to such great size, little trouble is experienced in procuring large quantities.—*Northwestern Lumberman*.

## ARBOR DAY.

Mr. Joly has given notice in the Legislative Assembly of Quebec that he will move that, whereas the rewooding of denuded lands is one of the questions of the day, not only in the old countries of Europe but also in the United States of America, and in a great portion of the British and French Colonies, and is worthy of the serious consideration of this House. Whereas without incurring any expense whatever, there is an easy means of awakening public interest, and gradually attracting the attention of the people to the importance of rewooding our country, a means which has already been productive of extraordinary results in the neighboring States—that is to set apart one day in the year fixed by proclamation of the Governor for planting forest trees, which day is called in the United States "Arbor day," be it resolved that it would be desirable to follow this example, thereby making the rewooding of our lands an undertaking of public utility, and, being invested with the sanction of authority, would cause it to gradually become one of our national institutions.

E. HALL, of Detroit, Mich., is going extensively into lumber operations in this vicinity. His intentions are to construct a railway and put in some 30,000,000 feet of logs on the Tobacco River, some four miles south of Farwell. A dam is being constructed for the purpose of floating out the log. Extensive arrangements are likewise being made through many parts of the lumber woods north for summer logging.

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