

there are great expanses of sand. I have found them, however, growing great forests by simply scatterings seed over sand or over grass fields. But there is another course suggested, and that we have followed to a certain extent of late years—that is, that forestry literature, such as pamphlets, and letters in newspapers, should be promulgated throughout the country. That we have done for the last two or three years, and I think with very fair effect; so that I think we may say in forest preservation Ontario is as far in advance as any State or Province in North America; and in some points to a considerable extent ahead of them. That is a gratifying consideration for us.

I believe every reasonable and thinking man among us must believe that the great need of Ontario is to have some better system—some more energetic steps taken—to preserve some portions of forest, and to plant more trees here and there. Now, there is no better way for this than for individuals here and there to add their voice to it, both in public and in the newspapers, and to agitate a system which was suggested by a great philanthropist in the United States—"If you wish to improve the course of tree planting," he said, "I should advise to do one great thing, and that is, to plant some trees." I think we should all add our voices, our influence in the press, our efforts in every direction, to advance this great object for this country. There is nothing will give it more benefit. There is nothing will add more to its agricultural power, to its stock of beautiful moisture; and when I say that I may add—which means the same thing—that there is nothing will add more to its general wealth; for countries have been impoverished by this simple method of destroying the forest; and countries have been re-invested with their original wealth by the simple process of re-establishing the forest. That is the point I wish to press upon you to-day; and I have no doubt you will agree with me; and that I may depend upon your efforts to assist me in this great object. (Applause)

The PRESIDENT—What kind of forest trees are most profitable to grow on waste places?

Mr. PHIPPS—The Conifera, that is, the pine in its varieties, the fir, etc. The pine, if tolerably cultivated, will grow mostly anywhere. Then our own maple grows very well anywhere—always putting the hard maple on dry land, and the soft on wet. Then the ash in many localities will grow very well, and is a very valuable wood too. Of all others I think I should prefer the pine, and I do not know anything better than our own white pine.

[Mr. Phipps had to leave at this point to catch his train.]

Mr. MORRIS—This matter is of greater importance to the country at present than fruit growing, and this society should take more interest in it. Hickory is so difficult to transplant that it could not be recommended for forestry. Norway spruce is a very nice tree for ornament, but not for forestry. The wild cherry is a much more profitable tree to grow than the black walnut. The timber is worth almost as much, while the tree grows much faster and is not so poisonous to the soil or other trees in the neighborhood as walnut. One of the most valuable trees is the Catalpa Speciosa; it is hardy; grows well in Minnesota, and for fencing or posts is almost equal to cedar for lasting. We have two acres of Catalpa; they have been out about six years and will measure six to eight inches in diameter now. For near lake Ontario or the Niagara district the Tulip tree is recommended. It is very valuable for carriage-makers—carriage boxes are made of it.

Mr. MORRIS—The Linden is also a very good tree. European larch is very rapid growing, and better for wind-breaks or posts than spruce. The maples are too slow growing to be valuable. Catalpa is something like the sweet chestnut—you can cut it down as often as you like and it will sprout up from the root again, which is a great advantage. Elm I don't consider valuable, not even white elm; I think these others are better.

Mr. CASTON—Pine is too slow-growing; it takes it half a century to make a smart saw log, and then it is very rough. They do not reproduce themselves. You don't find the young ones among the larger ones. In our section you can scarcely see a single pine.