

Comparing the year 1881 with the year 1871 there is an increase of \$2,000,000.

I have found that in 1871 the cut of timber as reported to Government was:—

White Pine .....	24,236,821	feet.
Red Pine .....	1,954,371	"
Oak .....	3,302,043	"
Tamarac .....	5,695,963	"
Birch .....	1,939,357	"
Elm .....	1,832,624	"
Walnut .....	117,589	"
Butternut .....	102,981	"
Hickory .....	197,827	"
Other kinds .....	26,290,264	"
Pine logs .....	12,416,408	"
Other logs .....	9,314,557	"
Masts .....	121,685	"
Staves .....	34,706	M.
Lath wood .....	25,706	Cords.
Tan bark .....	162,521	"
Firewood .....	8,713,083	"

Now reducing these several quantities to trees, we have an aggregate of 22,271,384 trees. If you say 50 trees to the acre, we have denuded in one year 545,428 acres, equal to three townships. There have expired since this return was made 10 years, which gives no less than 30 townships, equal to 3,240 square miles, or three whole counties, supposing each county to consist of ten townships. Having ascertained the total amount of exported timber, we must not forget the home consumption, which exceeds that exported.

Now what have we done in the way of preservation? Very little indeed.

The Quebec Legislature by an Act of 1882, chap. XIII., offers a bonus of \$12 per acre to any one who will plant an acre of ground with trees, and keep it well preserved. It has passed an Act, 1882, chap. XI., to the effect that no person shall burn or set fire to any timber for the purpose of clearing land, from 1st July to 1st September.

The Government, in making their yearly estimates, generally amongst the items of revenue, state that they will get so much from forests. Now, when they make or prepare their estimates, they should carefully ponder on this item. It is not an annual revenue, it is absolutely taken from capital, which capital is being so rapidly reduced that ere many years the balance must be considered as *nil*; they are killing the goose that is laying the golden egg, in fact they have nearly reached the backbone. I have now