

true that if the floor is to be perpetually hidden by that uncleanly article, the carpet, then third-class pine is as good as any other lumber; but if a better taste should ever lead us to discard this dust gathering nuisance, then the hard woods will come in play. For the best and most desirable floors, whether plain or ornamental, are made in this country of such woods as maple and oak.

### MORE TREES AND SHELTER BELTS.

Few people realize the enormous draft made upon the forests of our country. Where does all the timber come from? From remote timber lands which are growing further off each year. The price of lumber will get higher at a rapid rate, as this vast destruction goes on. What are farmers doing to counteract this depletion, and to provide for the future? Nothing, except in some of the treeless States, where here and there some efforts have been made to provide wind-breaks, and to plant out groves. It must be that farmers do not like long investments, and so they do not lay the foundation for future fuel and building material. When we know what the future will require, it is wise economy to provide for it. Ten years hence not less than 20,000,000 railroad ties alone will be needed annually. Fence posts by the million will be wanted, while the immense consumption of lumber of all kinds will be largely increased. The farmer should provide for this certain demand of the future. When once planted, started, unlike most other things, forest trees take care of themselves. Here is an investment with a sure profit. There are millions of acres of rough land, hillsides and untillable spots, which could be clothed with forest trees growing into money. This is not an ardent tree planter's theory, but a truth which has been often demonstrated.

Locust trees planted at Kirby Homestead fifteen years ago on a steep hillside have furnished ten posts each. In the Legislature of New York State a bill has been introduced to make it obligatory upon every county to spend \$500 yearly in encouraging tree planting. Farmers should do this work for future profit, and there ought to be a universal and systematic interest in it. Seedling forest trees can be had at so cheap a rate that the first cost is but a trifle. They are furnished at a cent apiece, and sent by mail. In twenty years the investment of a cent would be three or five hundred times greater. Unsightly places may be made attractive, and shelter-belts be provided, which will add largely to the value of other lands. Early Spring, before any new growth has begun, is the best time to transplant evergreens, but it may be done successfully in July and August, if plenty of water is used to wet the ground and the roots, and if the roots are not exposed to the hot sun. Water enough should be thrown into the hole where the tree is set to saturate the ground thoroughly, and dry earth be put on top. It would be better if some kind of mulch—leaves or straw—be placed on the surface. All kinds of trees delight in mellow ground, and are far more likely to live when the land is in this condition. Shelter belts may be an idea in advance of Eastern notions, but it is one which should be put in practice without delay.--*N. Y. Tribune.*