

work unceasingly to secure for our forests the protection that is so essential for their preservation. Everyone ought to join this Association. All that is necessary is to pay \$1.00 to merit the great honor of belonging to it and at the same time securing for oneself a mass of the most interesting pamphlets and books. It is my intention to encourage the clergy under my jurisdiction to do all in their power to aid in the work of your Association."

After drawing attention briefly to the work the clergy had already done for settlers not in regard to their spiritual wants alone, but also in relation to their temporal needs, His Grace said:

"If the clergy is already united in carrying on such a worthy work, it ought not to be difficult through them to increase the interest that is already being taken in such an important matter as the forestry question. What should we do if our forests are not to disappear altogether? It is not only necessary that we should give lectures and distribute pamphlets; we must agitate. And in order to advance this good work, I shall ask the clergy under my jurisdiction to do everything possible for the protection of our forests. For example, we will suggest to the settlers the prudence that they should exercise in the cutting of pulp-wood. If we lack practical knowledge" said His Grace, addressing the members of the Association, "Show us what to do and we shall repeat what you say to the settlers and others who ought to be instructed and directed." His Grace drew attention here to the good forestry work that had been done at Oka by Abbé Lefevre, "Where one saw formerly only an arid, sandy plain, there is now a real pine forest. Sixty-five thousand trees were planted and only five thousand at the most have perished. The name of this humble priest and the phenomenal work he has performed ought to be commemorated in such a way that it will never be forgotten."

The Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, then addressed the Association as follows:

I am very glad indeed, ladies and gentlemen, to be present at the opening meeting of this Forestry Conference in the great City of Montreal. I feel it is very appropriate that we should have a meeting of this kind in the commercial metropolis of the country. It is true that to a large extent, the commercial men of this city are not directly interested in forestry. But, I venture to think that there is nobody in the length and breadth of our country who is more directly interested in this work than are the great commercial men of this city. We have had for a long time the advantage of the study of this important question by political economists, by those who are responsible for the legislation of the country, and by the students in our universities and schools. But it is high time that the man on the street, the average man who is interested in the business