

denuded of its timber would in a few years be covered with a spontaneous growth of wood, and so prevent our country from becoming an arid waste, utilizing only that portion of it that can be profitably worked." Mr. Cleveland, of Chicago, remarks "A vast area of woodland is running to waste, yielding no revenue and promising nothing better in the future than fire-wood, of which a very large proportion is yet susceptible of redemption and conversion into timber of great value, at far less cost of time and labor than would be required for the planting and rearing of new forests." If then we give free grants of land where clearing and cultivation is desirable on condition that the land be cleared and cultivated, I should think it would be well to give free grants of forest where forest is desirable, on condition that the forest be kept in good order, that it be fenced against cattle and thinned as directed by regulations which should be laid down by a government official of knowledge in such matters. This would give people who wish to acquire land, without being compelled to reside thereon, the opportunity of doing so, as they could hire the necessary labor and care, of persons in the neighborhood, and they would naturally see that their employees performed their duty properly, since that would constitute their only right to the land, and their only protection against fire overrunning it.

THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY OF ONTARIO.

A word may well be said here on this subject. Full control of this territory is withheld from its proper possessors by the delay in ratifying the Boundary Award. It contains a large quantity of valuable timber, comprising one of the chief timber reserves in all the North-West, so far as present information is obtainable. This timber, in a position where it will always command ready sale, and comparatively untouched by the lumberman or settler, offers as yet a most excellent opportunity not only for procuring timber, but also for maintaining the supply. If this reserve were at once taken in hand and managed on the European or East Indian plan, those trees only cut which are of age and size, and cut so as not to injure others; and the whole forest then mapped into sections, each in charge of a competent forester, the forest could be maintained in perpetuity as good as, or better, than it now is, and a large supply of the best lumber yearly drawn therefrom.

Further hindrance of the right of control belonging to Ontario will be most prejudicial. For in the meantime the demand for lumber in the North-West will grow apace; private individuals will commence to cut; lumbering operations will be carried on by rival parties; and as soon as these operations are proceeded with on a larger scale, and with the reckless haste which probably will characterize them, fire is certain to occur, probably at many points, and, in that region of rocky timbered slopes and ridges, fully open, too, to the sweeping prairie winds, it may well be expected from what has happened in far less exposed localities, that before the boundary is found, this great forest, of priceless value if properly used now, will be utterly lost.

Pacific Coast Timber.

The lumber trade direct between Puget Sound and adjacent territory and Australia has become important. The point, however, occurs whether it is not desirable to adopt measures for the preservation of the forest timber. The Pacific coast is being rapidly denuded of timber, and nothing is done to compensate for the loss by planting new forests. Climatic changes of very serious character may be anticipated from the wholesale destruction of growing timber. A correspondent writes to us from California stating that he had driven recently for days through the Sierra Nevada range, and that the usually bright atmosphere of that elevated region was so charged with smoke from burning pine trees that it was impossible to see for any considerable distance. Millions of dollars worth of valuable timber are thus annually destroyed on the Pacific coast. Sheep-herders and hunters are the greatest offenders, but as they are never prosecuted they continue their devastations year in and year out. It should be somebody's business to prevent this waste of national property.—E.

Chips.

DENSE forests are increasing in Australia, the climate is growing more moist, and even the great central desert may become habitable.

A CHARLOTTE, N. C., man years ago grafted a twig of English walnut on an American walnut tree, this year has a big crop of two kinds of walnuts.

JOHN DICE, of Thomastown, Michigan, struck a perfectly sound cedar limb, while digging a well, at a depth of 12 feet, in a bed of solid gravel.

COMPLAINT is made of the severe destruction of oak trees in Hetch Hetchy valley, Nevada, by the Piute Indian, who recklessly fells them to get the acorns.

HICKORY bark is not yet "cleaned out" of the eastern townships, as the *Monetary Times* hears that 500 cords will be shipped from East Potom this season.

A solution of Lichromate of potash is often used for darkening mahogany. It converts the light-colored mahogany to the tint of the old mahogany furniture.

THE Forest Pulp Mills, of Yarmouth, Me., are making extensive improvements, which employ regularly about 150 hands. For fibre 1,000 cords of poplar are annually consumed.

THE tooth-pick factory at Harbor Springs, Mich., which is being established by Cleveland, Ohio, capitalists, will consume 20,000 cords of wood annually. The building will be 30x124 feet.

KANSAS had on March 1, 1883, 9,341 acres of artificial walnut forests; 5,890 of maple; 1,691 of honey locust; 55,207 of cottonwood; and 50,589 of other varieties, making a total of 122,718 acres. At this rate of planting forest trees Kansas will soon have valuable timber, and not only that, but plenty of wood for fuel.

PAINTED wood-work may be classed among the necessary evils of house decoration. No one in his sober senses will put paint on good wood-work if he can get an equal effect by the use of natural wood. But the costliness of hard wood, and especially the expense of working it, renders the use of pine practically inevitable.—*Carpenter and Builder*.

A FOLDING secretary for exhibition at the Louisville Exposition has been made by C. E. Hillard, of Faulkner county, Arkansas, the top of which is made of specimens of Arkansas woods, so arranged as to form a map of the United States, each state being of a different kind of wood. Forty-eight varieties of wood in the state are shown in the construction of the secretary.

THE foreign countries are apparently not behind the United States in the matter of making paper from wood-pulp. Germany is said to have 500 mills for the manufacture of woodpulp, in which such a degree of perfection has been reached that for the better qualities of paper, even, it is a complete substitute for rags. Wood-pulp, it is said constitutes seventy-five per cent of the paper making stock in that country.

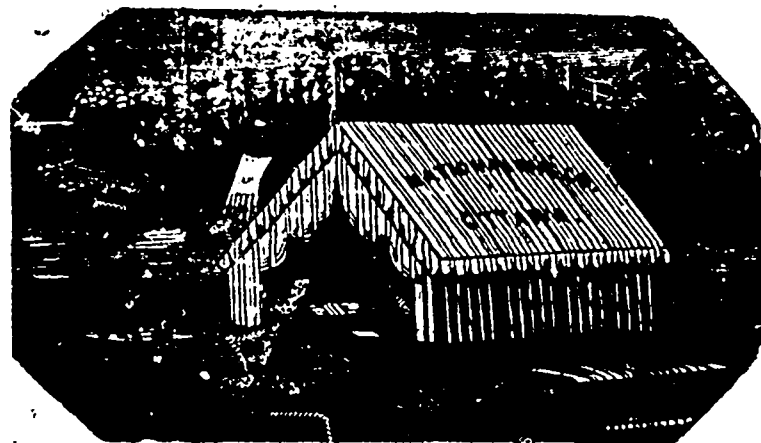
A COUPLE of Bostonians have lately completed a machine for manufacturing half-round barrel hoops. This machine will make from twenty to thirty thousand half-round hoops per day, cutting two, three or four from a pole, as occasion requires. This branch of barrel-making is thus placed on a level with all the others in which machinery is the principal agent of construction. One of the results of the introduction of this new machine will be the utilization of ironwood saplings for hoops.—*Journal of Progress*.

VIENNA bent wood so popular as furniture for offices and sitting rooms, is, as is well known, prepared by being steamed for taking the required shape. The opposite use is suggested for a steam process to take out dents or bruises in furniture. It is recommended to wet the part with warm water; double a piece of brown paper five or six times, soak it and lay on the place; apply on that a hot flat-iron until the moisture is evaporated. If the dent is not gone repeat the process. After two or three applications the dent will be raised level with the surface.—*Journal of Progress*.

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