

Colbert. Notwithstanding the admirable legislation of that day abuses on the part of Crown Lands Agents were numerous. One, Boisson dit Labrosse, was condemned to do penance in his shirt, head and feet bare, a rope round his neck, followed by the public executioner, and holding in his hands a torch two pounds in weight, and to be banished forever from the county of Poitou and Guyenne. If a remedy of this kind were adopted in our Province for Agents who neglect their duty the Crown would benefit. The method adopted to preserve the forests was "*La methode a tire et aire*," which was simply to divide the forests into sections of 100 acres each, to each of which in succession cutting was confined, and leaving on each lot trees to bear seed and re-afforest the lot. France imported in 1891 251,257,000 francs in value of products of the forest.

It is true that considering the present state of public opinion it is impracticable to adopt the forestry systems of France and Germany, but we can profit by the lesson these systems teach, and by arousing public opinion to the fact that there is a mine of wealth in our Province more valuable than the gold mines of the Yukon. We can obtain support for an advanced policy of protection and perpetuation of our forest wealth.

I would recommend the foundation of a professorship for a class of Forestry at Laval. A competent teacher could be obtained from the Forestry School of Nancy, in France, or the Government could select from amongst its Land Agents a capable person to follow a course at the School at Nancy which would take three years. The expense would be a trifle, when the importance of the interests at stake are considered. The lands department is the most important revenue producer of the Province.

The services of a trained forester would be of great service in directing reforms and suggesting improved methods