

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FORESTRY CONGRESS.

St. Paul, Aug. 8.—The annual meeting of the American Forestry Congress commenced to-day in the capitol building, President George B. Loring in the chair. The Congress was welcomed to the state by George L. Becker, president of the State Forestry Association, and Governor Hubbard.

President Loring, in his annual address, treated of the State Forestry in the United States. He stated that clearings in the old settled parts of the country were being filled up with trees, so that in Ohio, Maine, New York, and other states, the acreage of forest was constantly growing. In other states where the subject of forestry gained some attention it is also gaining. In states where an Arbor Day has been established the number of trees planted increases yearly. There is need of further encouragement of this enterprise.

Concerning the extent of forestry in the United States at present the president said the forest acreage was less than one-fourth of the total surface, a less proportion than in east, west and north Europe.

The address treated of the decrease of pine timber, showing that the supply would be exhausted in the northern states in a few years at the present rate of cutting, so that much would depend in the near future upon the pine forests of the Gulf States for lumber.

Much remains to be done for the care of forests. Much timber was being wasted for want of care in burning and cutting. Public minds should be aroused to the importance of the subject. The president endorsed the suggestion of the land commissioner in his report for 1882, in which he speaks of the difficulty of suppressing the unlawful cutting of timber, and asks for some general and comprehensive law regulating who may cut timber on Government lands, for what purpose it may be cut, and providing a penalty for unlawfully destroying forests. He pointed out the effect of the forests on the rainfall, and closed by saying the United States, which had been so busily engaged in lumbering for the last 40 years, should devote itself now to forestry.

The following officers were elected:

PRESIDENT—George B. Loring, of Massachusetts.

VICE PRESIDENTS—H. G. Joly, Quebec; George L. Becker, St. Paul.

RECORDING SECRETARY—N. H. Eggleston, Washington.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY—B. E. Fernon, Pennsylvania.

TREASURER—Charles Mahe, Alabama.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—B. G. Northrup, Connecticut; Marion Higby, Ohio; J. G. Knapp, Florida; J. S. Hicks, New York; J. L. Budd, Iowa.

At the evening session Mr. Burson, of Topeka, Kas., read a paper on the profit of planting forest trees. He gave an example of a man investing \$5,000 in 400 acres of land, the trees on which in 16 years bring a profit of 800 per cent on the sale of the trees alone.

The rest of the evening was consumed in considering the subject of education in forestry. Members spoke warmly endorsing the Ohio plan of establishing experimental stations, and having forestry as a science admitted into the common schools, and especially the agricultural colleges.

Aug. 9.—This morning the Committee on Forest Experimental Stations reported, commenting on the decrease of State forests for want of trained foresters. None were in existence. There were no forest academies, and comparatively little importance was attached to experiments in forestry. The committee recommended that members from the respective states urge the necessity of establishing forestry experimental stations; that this congress memorialize the legislatures of the different states, urging upon them the practicability of establishing these stations; that the Ohio plan is recommended as the most suited to our circumstances. The report also recommended experimental stations in agriculture, and that a committee on forestry experimental stations be appointed. The report was adopted.

The committee on memorializing State Legislatures upon the establishment of a State for-

estry commission reported a memorial calling attention to the importance of giving early attention to measures for the maintenance of forest supplies, and to the relations existing between the woodlands and the agricultural welfare of the country, water supply, etc. In view of the fact that most of the settled portions of the country are owned by individuals, the report says that the most effective way of promoting tree culture is the diffusion of correct ideas among owners of land. This end can best be achieved by the appointment of a State commission to introduce a new variety of trees, keep the people informed of the best methods of tree culture, establish nurseries and experimental stations, and holding meetings.

The Committee on Forestry Education reported that the business openings for trained foresters were not such as to encourage sufficient numbers of students to support schools in this study. They should be taught, however, in schools for the promotion of agriculture. It might be desirable for State institutions to employ lecturers and co-operate with local societies in their work. The report was adopted in connection with the following resolution, offered by Mr. Minier, of Illinois:—

Resolved,—That the Forestry Congress earnestly urge all our Industrial colleges and Normal schools to begin at once testing tree planting, and as soon as possible the introduction of both the science and art of forestry in the public schools.

The congress discussed forestry legislation. Congressman Dunnell, of Minnesota, stated that people generally did not appreciate the alarming rapidity with which the forests were being destroyed.

In the afternoon the congress discussed the importance of planting and maintaining groves of trees, and accepted an invitation from the Northern Pacific to take an excursion over the road. In the evening a committee was appointed to report at the next meeting the form of a memorial to Congress on the subject of establishing forestry experimental stations.

The discussion was continued on the need of forestry education in agricultural colleges. Also a paper was read by Professor Saunders, of London, Ontario, on insects injurious to white pine.

A resolution was adopted recommending the establishment of Arbor Day in all the States of the United States and Provinces of Canada.

Committees on Forestry Experimental Stations and on Forestry Schools were appointed, and the congress adjourned.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

A special correspondent of the Montreal Star writes as follows:—

The C. P. R. own two steamers which run between the "Depot" on the Spanish River and Algoma mills. One is an ordinary small tug and the other a handsome river steamer with good accommodation for short trips. Both are used to bring supplies from Algoma Mills to the head of navigation on the Spanish River, whence they are taken by teams to the various camps on the construction line. Lumber, provisions, clothes, fodder, cattle, horses, carts, picks, shovels, wheelbarrows, powder, and all that is necessary for building the line are landed at the spacious stores there to await transportation inland to various points of destination on the way. The rapids which cross the barriers of the stream a little higher up are about as large as one of the chutes at the Sturgeon, and they bar navigation to everything except bark or Peterborough canoes. The "Depot" is thus made the distributing point for the construction line all the way to Sudbury Junction or rather now to the Vermilion crossing, where the jurisdiction of Mr. Abbott ends and that of Mr. Worthington begins. Westward, however, there are more facilities for bringing up supplies. Here the line runs parallel to the Spanish River, and small depots have been established at intervals all along the water side. At these depots the two steamers land their cargoes, and it is but a short distance from the different landings to the construction line. This is considered a great advantage by railway men, many of whom think the question of feeding the men and carrying in the supplies sometimes more serious than spanning a river or bridging

a chasm. The navigation is easy, the river being free from shoals and snags, while green timber lines it, on both sides to the water's edge. Along the margin of the stream there are at places, ranges of irregular rocks, conical, table and undulating, and it is to avoid these that the railway line is laid at a little distance from the shore. There are I think between 1,500 and 2,000 men working on Mr. Abbott's portion of the C. P. R. Unlike the men at the other end of the line they all boarded by the company, and those in authority appear to think that this system secures better food and better accommodation for all. Contentment, that parent of delight, appears to be general, and it is only fair to add that the men speak in terms of generous praise of the gentleman who is entrusted with authority. But the land through which the railway runs is poor. It is nearly all marsh or rock. I only walked over a small part of it, but no attempt is made to conceal the barren nature of the soil, all along the way. It is a wilderness of boulders, turf and evergreens. Close to the margin of the river, however, I saw some fair land. Alluvial deposits have mixed with the sand, and at places give evidence of nutriment and warmth. There is, too, a flourishing settlement on the north side of the stream, and I saw potatoes well advanced and other crops healthy. On the south side we passed an Indian reserve where "Yellow Thunder" lords it over his swarthy tribe. I saw some of them at one of the landings.

LITTLE DETROIT AND WINDSOR.

We soon left the Indian reserve and the river widened into the north channel of the Georgian Bay where we were soon ploughing through a gentle swell which rocked us in the cradle of deeper and more picturesque waters. I then heard that we were to stop at Little Detroit, and we headed for some narrows where even so small a steamer as the Eclipse could hardly turn with safety. On one side of the narrows there was a store and I think a shanty—that was Little Detroit; on the other side there was a shanty and no store and that was Windsor. People say that there are 90 fathoms of water in that narrow gut, which we soon left and stopped at the Spanish Mills a little further on. Here barges flying English and American flags attracted our attention and I was told that the mills belonged to an American firm whose timber we saw scattered over the river higher up the stream. There was a dock made out of refuse boards from the mill and which appeared to be loosely piled on each other, but which had withstood the wind and weather of the bay for many a year. Returning through the narrow channel we once more passed Little Detroit and Windsor, and we were soon treading our way through the rocky groups of the North Channel. Except an odd gull there was not a bird to be seen, and all the way from the "Depot" to Algoma Mills we only passed one boat with an Indian doctress and a sick child on board. Rocks of all sizes and all shapes stand firm, cold and weird looking, out of the water, and the spray dashed up their slippery sides and frothed and foamed in caves which they had eaten with their fury. The wind rose a little and the Eclipse rocked while the waves leaping at her weather bow made her rise with each succeeding wash and dash off the sea like a boxer warding off a blow; and still wriggle through the islands which here are as thick as plums in a pudding.

IN THE NORTH CHANNEL.

The North Channel is the Thousand Islands on a larger scale, and while it loses some of the charms which comes from a close inspection yet it gains in magnitude and depth and greater volume. More than 27,000 islands, large and small, dot the waters of the bay between Collingwood and Sault Ste. Marie, and at places where they narrow, there is a variety and beauty of outline equal to the most attractive spots on the far famed islands of the St. Lawrence. At some places there are sharp pinnacles like the aiguilots of the Alps, and at others denudation has broken the granular rock into "tors" such as may be seen on the coast of Cornwall or Devon. The rounded hills are scantily clad with vegetation, and a close inspection of the stone shows where the quartz has filled up the space between the crystals of felspar and of mud and left impressions of these minerals on

the stone. Beautiful fossils are found embedded in a limestone quarry which has been discovered on an island in the bay. They are found in masses as at Saarbrück, and some interesting remains may be dug from the stone. To our left the great Manitoulin Island looms through a somewhat misty atmosphere, and at 5 o'clock that evening we saw Algoma Mills ahead.

ALGOMA MILLS.

This is town in these parts. There are eight or ten houses, including stores, a handsome cottage for the use of Mr. Abbott, a C.P.R. workshop, a dock and wharf, and a railroad track. We are now at the other end of the iron. This is to be the present terminus of the branch line of the C.P.R. There are two docks to be built, a large hotel and a train elevator put up, and these will give Algoma Mills an importance not possessed by any place in the region. Whether the C.P.R. will be continued to the Sault or not, no one appears to know. The company own 600 acres about the Mills, and the iron is laid about 20 or thirty miles along the road from here to Sudbury Junction. There is yet about 100 miles of iron to lay before the branch to Algoma is completed, and it is confidently expected that all that will be done and the boats running from Algoma Mills to Thunder Bay in May next. A walk along the track showed how well the ballasting had been done, when suddenly snakes ran across my path and made me experience the horrors of which De Quincy spoke when recording the visions of his opiated dreams. But the reptile is harmless. There are no rattlers here, and there is no evidence of anyone ever having been poisoned by a bite from a serpent. They are numerous but harmless. After a while one can even come to like to see them gracefully raise the body into arches and glide over the ground. The thing is as incapable of doing harm as an eel. I can understand a man skipping about when he sees a Naja in India, a crotalus in Carolina, or hears a rattler on the plains, but these little things out here are as harmless as worms. Returning to town, I see the men lounging on the wharf, and learn that some are coming to and some are going from the woods. A band of Italians headed by a bagpiper who was droning out something with no melody and but little of the harmony of art. They have come from the States and are going up the line. None of them can speak a word of English and they gesticulate wildly as they pass along. Meanwhile the shadows grow longer, while flies get troublesome, and rather than to apply more tar to keep them off I seek my room, smoke a pipe and think of—to-morrow.

MIDLAND.

MIDLAND, Ont., Aug. 11.—The estimated loss given this morning on the British Canadian Lumber Co's mill fire is \$130,000. The mill machinery and eight dwellings and about five and a half million of lumber were totally destroyed. Two hundred hands are thrown out of employment by the burning of the British Canadian Company's new mill. This was one of the most complete in the world, and had a capacity of 75,000 feet per day. The total amount of insurance is \$63,000, of which the Commercial Union hold \$30,000.

On Thirty Days Trial.

The Voltaic Belt Co., Marshall, Mich., will send Dr. Dye's Celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belts and Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days to men (young or old) who are afflicted with nervous debility, lost vitality and kindred troubles, guaranteeing speedy and complete restoration of health and manly vigor. Address as above.—N.B.—No risk is incurred, as thirty days' trial is allowed.

Do not delay, if suffering any form of Bowel Complaint, however mild apparently may be the attack, but use Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. It is the old reliable cure for all forms of Summer Complaint that require prompt treatment. Ask your druggist and all dealers in patent medicines.

THERE is no excuse for suffering from Headache, Constipation and all the wearying train of symptoms of a disordered liver, when Burdock Blood Bitters is an unfailing remedy, and only costs One Dollar a bottle. Why suffer on without a trial? 25,000 bottles sold during the last three months, with almost universal satisfaction.