

## FORESTRY

"Rod and Gun" is the official organ of the Canadian Forestry Association. The Editor will welcome contributions on topics relating to Forestry.

Editor—E. Stewart, Chief Inspector of Forestry for the Dominion and Secretary Canadian Forestry Association, Ottawa, Ont. Sub-Editor—R.H. Campbell, Treasurer and Asst. Secretary Canadian Forestry Association, Ottawa, Ont.

### Autumn.

There is a beautiful spirit breathing now  
Its mellow richness on the clustered trees,  
And, from a beaker full of richest dyes,  
Pecuring new glory on the autumn woods,  
And dipping in warm light the pillar'd clouds.

Morn on the mountain, like a summer bird,  
Lifts up her purple wing, and in the vales  
The gentle wind, a sweet and passionate wooer,

Kisses the blushing leaf, and stirs up life  
Within the solemn woods of ash deep-crimsoned,

And silver beech, and maple yellow-leaved.  
Where Autumn, like a faint old man, sits down

By the wayside, weary.

—Longfellow.

### FORESTRY IN NOVA SCOTIA.

THAT an interest in forestry is being aroused in Nova Scotia is evidenced by the remarks of His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Jones on the opening of the Halifax Exhibition on the 12th of September. The Lieutenant-Governor, after emphasizing the necessity of an intelligent study of the resources of the Province, its agriculture, its fisheries, etc., so as to preserve and increase their productiveness, spoke as follows:

"The same principle applies to our forest. At one time the farmer's first object was to clear his land, cut down and burn the trees to make pasturage, if nothing else.

"Of course in a new country much land had to be cleared in this way, and if one would cast his eye over the Province from one end to the other he would see vast acreages cleared which are now, beyond mere pasturage, of very little value. There is an old saying that "there is no use crying over spilt milk," but this at least we can do—set ourselves to work by seeing in what way the mistakes of the past may be remedied.

At the present day the demand for our lumber, and particularly our spruce forests, is daily assuming more importance, and if we are wise people we will set ourselves to work at once and see in what manner as owners of the soil we can realize further advantage and profit for our inheritance out of this changed condition of affairs."

After a kind reference to the formation of the Canadian Forestry Association and the report of its first annual meeting, His Honor continued:

"I hope the time is not far distant when our people may become interested in this subject also. Perhaps there are greater possibilities in this regard than in almost any other branch of public industry.

"We know in England that the value of the estates is in most cases largely dependent upon the value of the timber, and with us the time is not far distant when the value of much of our lands will be measured in this same way.

"I hope therefore than intelligent discussion may soon be brought about in Nova Scotia, and that our people may find it to their interest to undertake here what is being undertaken in other parts of the world, by reproducing the forests which have been so lavishly and almost unnecessarily destroyed.

"Anything out of the usual course that can be successfully undertaken is an object to be striven for, and while there are many things that we have had before us which can no doubt be much improved, it is well, I think, not to omit these subjects which up to the present have not been so prominently considered. I would therefore commend these points to your best attention, and I hope that before very long I may see sufficient interest taken, particularly in the replanting of our forests, which holds out prospects of such great benefit to the future generations of our people."

The Presbyterian Witness, of Halifax, and the Maritime Merchant, of Halifax and St. John, have also been giving the subject of forestry some attention.

The Witness lays down the proposition that the renewal of the forests is a duty we owe to those who will come after us, for a bare-faced country—a country with-

out trees—is doomed to blight, barrenness and total ruin. The Witness is, however, perhaps a little strong in stigmatising pulp as a veritable enemy to the forests, as the fault is rather in the ignorance or selfishness or carelessness, which neither knows nor cares to look beyond the moment. Pulp is no more an enemy than is any other method of making use of our forest resources, and what is required is an intelligent study of the growth of trees and the methods of forest management, and the practical application of the conclusions arrived at.

The Merchant asserts that when the returns are published the shipment of lumber this year from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will be shown to have been the largest in their history, and it makes the following statement in regard to the conditions in Nova Scotia:

"Those engaged in the lumber industry in Nova Scotia feel that they are taking more from our forest than should be taken if we are to preserve our lumber industry for the future. The portable mill, which is taken from point to point throughout the country sawing timber which a few years ago would have been allowed to stand for further growth, is one of the chief dangers which threaten this industry. As an indication of the growing demand for lumber, we have the fact that the material which a few years ago would have been permitted to go to waste now brings from \$9 to \$10 per thousand. As the forests become cleared and the supply of lumber becomes lessened it is difficult to say how far this increase in the price may continue. The probability is that a time will come when lumber will bring almost any price that may be asked for it. It will sell at figures we do not dream of to-day. With a reasonable amount of protection our forests could be made to last indefinitely. If some action is not taken now, a time will almost surely come when it will be absolutely necessary, but to make the move now will accomplish a great deal that it will be too late to accomplish after the greater part of our timber has been destroyed."

### Forest Fires.

Every Canadian knows the meaning of a forest fire, having had the lesson impressed in some cases by painful personal experience, and in others, fortunately for themselves, only by reading of the terrible destruction of property and life which has so frequently resulted from such fires. Every part of the Dominion, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, has suffered from this cause. The story of the great New Brunswick fire of 1825 is historic, and has thrilled the hearts of all who have heard it, while in the Ottawa Valley to-day the year of the fires (1870) is still one from which to date as a point