Notes. 129

Mr. E. Stewart, Dominion Superintendent of Forestry, has just returned from a trip to Europe, which he made with the purpose of studying forest conditions and management in the more advanced countries of the old world. He visited the scientifically managed forests and the forest schools of France and Germany, and had the opportunity of meeting and discussing forestry questions with some of the leading foresters of those countries, and also Dr. Schlich and Sir Dietrich Brandis in England. The results of such observations will be of much advantage to Mr. Stewart in his administration of the Dominion forests.

The same careful and methodical policy is being introduced in our colonial dominions. There the difficulties are sometimes very great, because the havoc has been more complete. We try, for example, to reinduce trees to give back to Southern Tunis its pristine fertility. Most of it is now a sand desert. What it was in Reman times we know by the ruins and the inscriptions. The capital of the South, Suffetula, as it was called, consists now in scattered ruins in the midst of absolute desert. One of the inscriptions discovered contains a description given by an old Roman veteran of what his villa was. He had retired there after his campaigns, and describes the trees, the plots of grass, and the fluent waters, which adorn his retreat—now buried under the shroud of the desert sand.

The Arab conquest destroyed all the trees there and killed the forest. The punishment was not long to follow. No forest there. No men. Not long after the conquest, the mischief was already considerable, the land was desolate, and an Arab chronicler, seeing the havoc done, recalled in his book the former times of prosperity, adding: "But in those days one could walk from Tripoli to Tunis in the shade."—M. Jusserand, Ambassador from France, in Report of American Forest Congress.

The following communication has been received from Mr. W. B. Hoyt, of N. B.:—

"In your annual report for 1904, in a discussion on the distribution of forest seeds, p. 51, Mr. Bertram makes a remark