

AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of prominent men from different parts of the country was held in the Common Council Chamber, Rochester, on June 20th, to reorganize the American Forestry Association. Dr. John A. Warder, of North Bond, Ohio, occupied the chair. The Association has for its object the planting and protection of forest trees. An interesting discussion of the subject was entered into by the members present. A committee consisting of C. A. Greene, E. Moody, William Little, A. W. Weber, and J. W. Manning, was appointed to prepare a form of constitution for the society.

The Association re-convened next morning in the Common Council Chamber. The committee appointed to draft a constitution reported the following, which was unanimously adopted:—

§ I. This body shall be called the American Forestry Association, and shall seek to promote the interests of forestry and to disseminate information connected therewith.

§ II. The officers shall be a President, First Vice-President, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer—who shall constitute an executive committee with power to act on behalf of the association. There may also be one Vice-President for each state, territory and province in North America. The term of office shall be one year or until their successors are appointed.

§ III. Meetings shall be held annually, or at such times and places as the Executive Committee may direct, for presentation of papers, discussions, and practical matters relating to forestry.

§ IV. Any person recommended by a member of the Executive Committee, may be elected to membership on payment of \$2. The annual dues shall be \$1.

§ V. The Executive Committee shall have full authority to act for the Society in any emergency.

§ VI. This constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the members present.

The committee appointed to nominate officers reported the following named persons who were unanimously elected:—

President—George B. Loring, Washington, D. C.

Secretary—J. Jenkins, Winona, Ohio.

Corresponding Secretary—Prof. R. S. Warder, Cincinnati.

Treasurer—D. W. Beadle, St. Catharines, Ontario.

Vice-Presidents.—Maine, George Sawyer, Wiscasset; New Hampshire, Ex-Gov. Fred. Smith; Massachusetts, N. H. Egleston, Williamstown; Rhode Island, H. G. Russell, East Greenwich; New York, H. Seymour, Utica; New Jersey, George H. Cook, Rutgers College; Pennsylvania, Thomas Mehan, Germantown; Maryland, Gov. Hamilton, District of Columbia, John Saul; West Virginia, Hon. H. G. Davis, Piedmont; Ohio, Geo. Weltz, Wilmington; Indiana, J. Ingersoll, Lafayette; Michigan, W. J. Beal, Lansing, Kentucky, Cassius M. Clay; Tennessee, John W. Lee; North Carolina, S. D. Kelsey, Highlands; South Carolina, D. Wyatt, Aiken; Alabama, Charles Mohr, Mobile; Florida, J. G. Knapp, Lanona; Wisconsin, Hon. W. E. Smith, Madison; Minnesota, George L. Becker, St. Paul; Dakota, H. M. Thompson, Preston Lake; Wyoming, Hon. John W. Hoyt, Cheyenne; Illinois, Arthur Bryant, Jr., Princeton; Missouri, S. M. Gray, Columbia; Iowa, Chas. E. Whiting, Whiting; Nebraska, Hon. R. W. Furnas, Brownville; Kansas, George C. Brackett, Lawrence; Louisiana, —; Arkansas, F. L. Harvey, Fayetteville; Texas, G. C. Georgeon, College Station; Colorado, D. S. Grimes, Denver; Utah, J. E. Johnston, St. George; California, Robert E. C. Stearns, Berkeley; Nevada, —; Oregon, J. B. Dufur, Idaho, —; Quebec, Jas. Little, Montreal; Ontario, Wm. Brown, Guelph, Ont.

The following preamble and resolution was adopted:—

Whereas, The American Forestry Congress has recently been organized with the same objects and field as the American Forestry Association.

Resolved, That a committee of three be authorized to negotiate a union of these two bodies.

Resolved, That if this union be effected at

once, the first meeting of the united association be held at Montreal, August 21 and 22, 1882.

A motion was then passed to the effect that when the Association adjourned it should adjourn to meet again in Montreal on August 21. The Chair was instructed to appoint three gentlemen as a committee to make the desired negotiations with the American Forestry Congress.

Norman J. Coleman, editor of the *Coleman Rural World*, of St. Louis, Mo., made some remarks in regard to the efforts of Dr. John A. Warder, the retiring President of the Association, for the good of the cause, and, on motion of the speaker, a vote of thanks was tendered to Dr. Warder.

Remarks were then made by Dr. Warder, Wm. Little and N. J. Coleman upon the question of preserving forests, and the best means of preventing the wholesale destruction of trees. E. C. Selover, of Geneva, followed with brief remarks. He advocated running the state experimental station in the interests of forestry. The convention then adjourned.

THE USES OF HARD WOODS.

The amount of hard woods, or "white woods" as they are called in the trade, in contradistinction to the resinous and gums, which are used in one form or another in the mechanical arts, in agriculture and domestic life, is simply astounding to one who has never considered the matter. You have only to think how many handles of one sort and another—axe, pick, spade, plow, hatchet, hammer, etc.—are used on every farm, and apply that scale to the agricultural proprietors of the world, to see the amount of these woods that are in constant demand. Consider the vast number of mechanical pursuits in which these are indispensable. Think of the number of sledge and hammer handles that must be worn out in making cars, boilers and engines, of the pick handles that must be had to build railroads, grade and pave streets, dig tunnels, sink shafts, mine iron and coal, gold and silver, and some idea of the vastness of the demand for even handles alone may be had. But this is only one of the various forms in which this product of nature is daily consumed by the insatiable demands of civilization. Cogs, pulleys and mallets, spokes and hubs, shuttles and bobbins, and a thousand specific devices for saving time and labor, must be made out of these woods.

Think now of the innumerable vehicles, all of which are to be supplied with spokes and hubs, rims and felloes, shafts, axles, spring bars, coupling poles and other essential parts. There is no present likelihood of there being any substitute found for such woods in these uses. There will never be a metallic handle for the axe or pick of practical utility. The elasticity and lightness of wood are essential in all these uses. In others still other qualities, as lack of friction or imperfect conduction, are necessary. Shuttles must be made of a closely knit wood which may be worked very thin, yet remain firm and light, and take a very high polish. Mallets, as for the use of stone-cutters, must be made of a heavy, close-grained, elastic wood, which will not splinter nor become indented from a long succession of hard blows upon the chisel head. There are but few kinds of wood which are adapted to any of these uses. Foremost among them all, as the great mechanical wood, is the hickory. Its whiteness, hardness, toughness, elasticity and durability, together with its capacity to assume a reasonable finish, and almost absolute freedom from splinters and checks, gave it easily the supremacy over all other hardwoods. It is true that in some of the uses to which these woods are devoted, the hickory is not as good as some others. It would not make as good a shuttle as the persimmon, as good a plane stock as the apple, as good a stamp or roller as the maple, as good an engraving material or as fine rings or croquet balls as the box or dogwood; but while these woods excel it in these peculiar uses, they are useless in a thousand others where hickory is unapproachable. As a material for all classes of handles, light spokes, rims and shafts—in short whenever both stiffness and lateral elasticity are required together, it is without a rival. It is among woods what steel is among metals. Two kinds of oak, the white and post, are sometimes used for the grosser purposes in which the

qualities of hickory are required, as large spokes, felloes, etc., as well as many other purposes to which it is peculiarly adapted. The ash is the only other elastic handle wood, and its tendency to split between the grains, as well as its unreliability and its variability in quality, make it undesirable except for a few purposes—as the spade, pitchfork, and the like—where lightness is requisite. Where solidity only is required, the beech, maple, holly, apple, and a few other woods may be used. Among the best of these inelastic woods, however, are the persimmon and dogwood.—*Wood Worker.*

AN ACROBATIC LOGGER.

There is an acrobatic and gymnastic talent outside the circus ring, and when some important emergency calls it into play, it will develop in the most unlooked-for places some times. The logging business is fraught with dangers and hardships, and many of the adventures of the sturdy logger might creditably grace the pages of romance, and would put to shame the extravagancies of Munchausen. One of the most thrilling feats was that of an acrobatic logger who had been peeling bark for some days in the Moosic mountains near Carbondale, Pa. He was likewise engaged in removing the logs to a mountain skidway near Herrick Centre, 250 feet below. While harkness was at the skidway handling a log his cat-thook lost its grip and he his balance, so that he was thrown down the embankment in advance of the rolling logs. The logger was between two fires—behind rushed the freed timber, in front was the river covered with a tangle of logs. It was a terrific race between man and log. But the endangered logger thought and acted quickly. He shot down the mountain side to a certain point, where he gathered himself and made a tremendous leap out into the water. He struck a narrow space between the logs, coming under the pole in good order, and the plunge carried him beneath the surface just as the pursuing log dashed to the water's edge, and broke badly, coming in decidedly blown. The man kept his wind well and was rescued by his companions only a few feet from where the losing log struck the water. It was little short of a neck and neck contest. The logger kept his grip on the cant hook, and had it when pulled out of the water.—*Northwestern Lumberman.*

ENCOURAGING TREE PLANTING.

A few years ago Congress passed a law to encourage the growth of timber. Under its provisions and with a view of availing themselves of its advantages, the farmers in the far west are planting thousands of acres with young shoots and saplings, which in a few years will undoubtedly make climatic changes fraught with untold beneficial results. The wisdom of the law, says the *Boston Advertiser*, becomes more and more apparent as time goes on. They promise to counterbalance the wholesale destruction of forests in the older section of the country by creating new tracts of woodland upon the vast bare plains of the trans-Mississippi region. They appeal directly to the individual self-interest of settlers and to the desire for landownership which appears to be a stronger passion in new communities, where the soil is almost the only visible property, than in places where an old society has created many other forms of wealth. The western farmer who has homesteaded a quarter section of 190 acres can secure an additional quarter section by planting and caring for the growth of ten acres of trees. If he selects his homestead tract upon an unoccupied section he can get 320 acres in a body, and if this is not feasible he can usually find a chance for a "timber entry" within a short distance of his home and thus obtain a second farm to give to his sons or to sell when the denser settlement of the region has made it worth a good price. Nor are the benefits of the tree culture laws limited to actual settlers. Many claims are taken up purely for speculative purposes by non-residents. Considerable areas of land are thus kept out of the hands of men who would homestead and cultivate them, but the object of securing the rearing of numerous patches of forest in regions naturally bare of trees is greatly advanced.

It is still to soon to tell whether or not any

noticeable climatic changes will result from the creation of timber tracts now going on in south western Minnesota, Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas, but is not probable that great benefits may accrue to those regions. When the trees attain a fair size the new forests may prevent excessive droughts and destructive freshets, and break the force of high winds and tornadoes, as well as promote a supply of fuel and lumber for future generations. The timber-culture laws afford a striking example of how much can be done to improve natural conditions by wise legislation, and are a lesson to the advocates of the let-alone theory of government. Their successful working suggests the inquiry, if the United States can, by two simple statutes, cause forests to spring up upon hundreds of thousands of bare acres in the now west, cannot the states do something by legislation to regulate and limit the destruction of timber in the older sections of the country?—*Lumberman's Gazette.*

THE WHITE SEA TRADE.

The wood trade of the northern regions of Russia, and particularly the basin of the White Sea and its affluents, is pronounced excessively slight in comparison with that of the native countries of Norway and Sweden. The radius of the forests of Vologda and Archangel has a superficial area of 197,100,000 acres, it is estimated. The wooded regions of Sweden cover an area of some 40,500,000 acres, and those of Norway 16,200,000 acres. Notwithstanding the fact that the figures show Russia to have considerably over twice the estimated radius of area, the wood exports of these countries differ to the extent that the two Russian Governments export 124,000,000 cubic feet, and Sweden and Norway export 1,200,000,000 cubic feet. Only a minor portion of this wood is exported abroad, the amount being:—From White Sea ports, 10,775,000 cubic feet; Swedish ports, 200,000,000 cubic feet; Norwegian, 82,891,000 cubic feet. The most striking fact in the Russian wood export trade is that the largest export comes from the less-wooded districts. The Governments of Vologda and Archangel possess but eleven saw-mills, whereas in Sweden there are 1,350. The great mass of the Imperial forests of Russia are concentrated in the north and northeast, at the north of the Volga and Kama, and on the right bank of the Volga, in the Government of Ljubirsk.—*Glasgow Herald.*

WOODEN PIPING 250 YEARS OLD.

Some recent excavations in Berkeley square, London, England, brought to light one of those curious relics of old London, which are every now and then being exposed in its streets. In the sixteenth century London was supplied with water from the Thames by means of wood on pipes invented by one Peter Morris, or Maurice, a Dutchman, who, in 1580, obtained a right from the corporation to erect machinery to supply what many householders had been compelled to purchase, a tankard at a time, from water-bearers. Maurice's works were erected at Old London bridge, and his water pipes were hollowed out of the stems of trees, tightly fitted into each other, much after the manner of the common sewer pipe of to-day. Some wooden piping of the kind devised by this ingenious Dutchman has recently been dug up in Berkeley square, but it was probably part of the works of the New River Company, which so far adopted Maurice's plan that it originally supplied water through pipes formed of the stems of small elm trees, denuded of bark, drilled through the center, and cut to lengths of about 6 feet. Some 10 years ago a considerable length of this wooden piping was exhumed in Pall Mall.

WALLING (formerly known as Teetors), in White county, Tennessee, near the line of the extension of the Manchester and McMinnville railroad, is doing a lively lumber business. The lumber business commenced in White county about three years ago, and in that time about twelve million feet of walnut and three million feet of poplar have been sawed and shipped from the county. About one hundred wagons are now engaged in hauling lumber from the mills in the county to the railroad depot at Rock Island.