

adapted to our climate. Of these his Flagg, Galusha, and North-west seem to give promise of being extremely hardy, excellent in quality, and enormously productive.

The colored plate which is given in this number is a representation of a new variety lately introduced under the name of "Cumberland." It originated in Pennsylvania, and is highly commended by prominent horticulturists in that State.

AMERICAN FORESTRY.

It is both interesting and gratifying to see that there are representative men, occupying positions of influence and power, who are alive to the importance of preserving, and in some places of restoring, the wood-lands of America. It is so natural and easy for men to become absorbed in the study of what seem to them, and are, great questions of state policy, questions affecting the great interests of commerce, manufactures and national prosperity which have engaged the attention of statesmen in all civilized countries, and will necessarily engage it to the end of time, that when an effort is made to interest them in a subject such as this of forestry, they are slow to be convinced that it is a matter that should engage their attention, and are disposed to look upon those who have studied the subject as enthusiasts. But men who can take broad views of national interests soon find that this is a subject which touches the national prosperity at many points. That it has most vital connections with commerce, with manufactures, with the supplies of food, with the health and the life of a people. Among such men stands prominently the Hon. Mark H. Dunnell, of Minnesota, whose speech in the House of

Representatives of the United States is replete with earnest words, most valuable information, and an evident appreciation of the importance of the subject. From his speech we learn that in February, 1874, a committee of the American Association for the advancement of science brought a memorial from that body to the President of the United States, urging the duty of Government concerning the cultivation and the preservation of forests, and recommending that a commission should be ordered to mature plans calculated to meet the requirements of the subject. The President laid this memorial before Congress, which resulted, in 1876, in the appointment of Dr. Franklin B. Hough, of Lowville, New York, to the duty of ascertaining the annual amount of consumption, importation and exportation of forest products, the probable supply for future wants, and the best means for the preservation and renewal of forests; the influence of forests upon climate, and the measures applicable in this country for the planting of forests.

In pursuance of this appointment, Dr. Hough made two reports to Congress, one in 1877, the other in 1878-9. Of the first of these an officer of the Wurtemberg forest service says: "It awakens our surprise that a man, not a specialist, should have so mastered the whole body of American and European forestry literature and legislation."

From this speech we also learn that the quantity of pine lumber produced in the State of Maine has steadily declined from an average of 100,000,000 of feet per annum in 1851 to 1855 to an average of 11,800,000 per annum in 1876 to 1881; that the timber supply of the upper peninsula of Michigan, at the rate of production in 1879, will last *eighteen* years; that of the lower peninsula will last *seven* years; that of the State of Wisconsin scarce *twenty*