

## CANADIAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.

The Canadian Forestry Association has been in existence for less than a year, but already it has made sufficient progress to demonstrate that its success is assured. It now has a good representative membership in every province in the Dominion, and new additions are steadily being made to the list.

Owing to the attention of the public being taken up by other important matters during the present year, the Association has been doing its work quietly, but the report of the first annual meeting has been widely distributed and the foundations of a strong movement have been laid. More active steps will, however, be taken during the coming year, and it is expected that meetings in the interests of the Association will be held at a number of important points. A conference has been arranged for at Toronto on the 5th inst. and following that will be the second annual meeting at Ottawa in the early part of March. The arrangements for the annual meeting were under discussion by the Executive Committee of the Association at a meeting held at Ottawa on December 7th. It is intended to have papers read representing the forestry interests of all the provinces of Canada as far as possible, and it is also hoped to obtain the services of Mr. Gifford Pinchot, Chief Forester of the United States, for an evening lecture.

## CUBA NOT WELL WOODED.

John Gifford, the founder of the Forester, who recently journeyed across Cuba from Cienfuegos to Havana, says it is not a well wooded island, notwithstanding many printed statements to the contrary. The marketable lumber is being cut so rapidly that in a few years it will be extirpated. Considerable quantities of mahogany, cedar and lignum vitæ have been shipped from Cuba in the past, and the large number of structures on the island containing mahogany shows that it must formerly have been much more plentiful than it is now. Both the mahogany and cedar trees are far apart and are becoming rarer every year, so that Mr. Gifford predicts their disappearance in a short time. In the mountains lignum vitæ is still abundant, and is exported largely, being used for pulleys, blocks, croquet mallets and balls and many other purposes. In the forests of Western Cuba the Cuban pine is abundant and is much used for timber. The finest tree of Cuba is the royal palm, which grows in fields and plantations and along water courses, without which the Cuban would be hard put to it for building material. It is not a very ornamental wood, but it is peculiarly fitted for building purposes, as it has the valuable quality of shutting out the heat, and houses built of it are cool. The nuts of the tree are good food for swine. The mango is rather common and its fruit is very popular with the natives, who eat it so inordinately that "mango bell" is a recognized ailment all over the island—not dangerous but unsightly, as it causes a remarkable and ridiculous distention of the abdomen, particularly in children. The mango is a splendid shade tree. Another magnificent shade tree is the ceiba or silk cotton but it is worthless in any other sense, as the wood is too soft for use. The great ceiba tree under which the surrender of the Spanish commander was received near San Juan Hill, Mr.

Gifford notes, has been so chipped and hacked by souvenir vandals that there was danger of its being destroyed, and now a barbed wire fence protects it. In the cities the common shade trees are the Spanish laurel; the beefwood, *Ficus Indica*, which is the sacred Bo tree of India, and is something like a poplar, though not so tall and majestically erect; the West India almond, which is not an almond at all, and the sandbox tree, which has the peculiar trait of exploding its fruit with a sharp report and scattering its seeds far and wide. Because of this the natives call it the monkey dinner bell, as they say that at the sound of the report the monkeys rush in from all sides to eat the delicate seeds.

## NEW MARKET FOR TIMBER IN GREECE.

The American consul at Athens writes to his department that "owing to the tariff troubles between Turkey and Greece, the Greek importers of timber are considering the question of importing from some other country the large quantities of timber, lumber, staves, etc., which they have heretofore annually brought from Turkey, and I think it well to inform American exports of this fact that they may have a chance to make a bid for the custom of the Greek market. As Greece does not produce any timber for manufacturing purposes, and very little for any use, she is obliged to import nearly all she consumes. In 1898, the latest year for which Greek import statistics have been published, Greece imported woods for building and manufacturing purposes valued at 7,709,746 francs (\$1,511,710.98) from Austria, Turkey, Germany, Roumania, Russia, Italy, France, United States, Belgium and England, these countries furnishing portions of the whole in the order named. Austria and Turkey produced the largest part of all the woods imported, while the United States furnished a few thousand staves for current barrels.

"The demand for woods of all kinds is rapidly increasing in Greece, and the local prices are very high. The great distance will make the freight on timber from the United States much higher than from any other of the countries named; but with a direct line or lines of steamships connecting Greek and American ports, there would be a good chance to open up the Greek market for our native timbers—a market in

which the demand for good qualities will very ly increase."

## PERSONAL.

Mr. Joseph Oliver, president of the Oliver Lumber Company, Toronto, is a candidate for aldermanic honor Ward No. 2, with good prospects of success.

Mr. Lewis A. Grant, of the British & North American Timber Company, of London, Eng., is at present in the United States and Canada for business purposes.

Mr. C. A. McCool, the well known lumberman of Geneva Lake, Ont., was on November 28th elected by acclamation as the member of the Dominion Parliament for the Nipissing district.

Hon. R. R. Dobell, lumber dealer, of Quebec, is on his annual visit to England. Mr. H. R. Goodday, Quebec, and his son, Mr. H. G. Goodday, are also on business trip across the Atlantic.

Mr. David Whitney, president of the Skillings, Whitney & Barnes Lumber Company, of Boston and Ogden, died last month at his home in Detroit. Mr. Whitney was the founder of the present business.

The death occurred in Ottawa on December 26th Mrs. John Chitty, mother of Mr. Charles Chitty, of Ogden & Johnston, an employment firm well known in business circles. The deceased lady was one of the oldest of Capital, being 97 years of age.

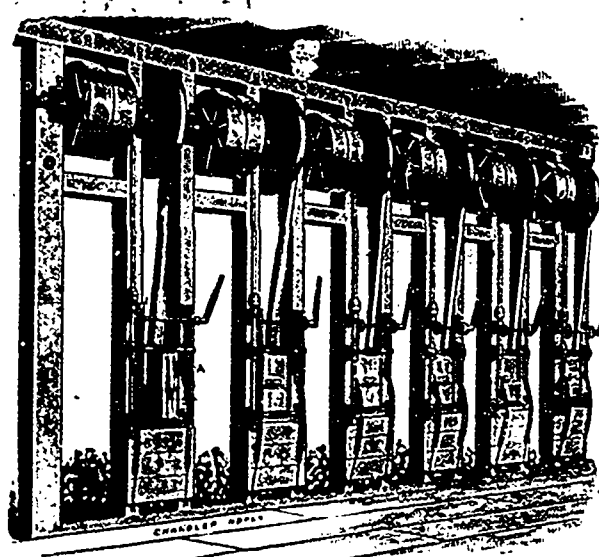
Mr. Charles Grant died on December 11th at his home in the township of Elizabethtown, near Ottawa. Many years of his early life were devoted to railroad engineering, while he also engaged extensively in lumbering the Ottawa district. For the past twenty years he followed the life of a farmer.

Lieut. W. T. Lawless, a popular employee of the Ottawa Improvement Co., who was second in command of the Ottawa company first contingent, returned to Ottawa on Christmas day. He was given an enthusiastic reception. During his year's absence in South Africa Lieut. Lawless was continued by the well known local concern on half pay. His position was also kept open for him.

Mr. E. Stewart, chief inspector of timber and lands for the Dominion, was in attendance at the recent annual meeting of the American Forestry Association at Washington. Mr. Stewart looked carefully into the workings of the plan adopted by the Division of Forestry of the United States for the encouragement of tree planting, it being the intention of the Department of Interior to apply a similar plan to portions of Manitoba and the North-west Territories. Mr. Stewart proposes to hold a number of meetings in the prairie sections of Manitoba and the Territories for the purpose of laying the plan before the people and asking their co-operation in carrying it out.

The machinery firm of Carrier, Lane & Co., of Levis, Que., was dissolved recently, and a new partnership registered under the same style, with Messrs. C. Carrier and J. E. Roy as proprietors.

## The Best Excelsior Machine in the World



When two or more knives are run with one belt, all must stop when the belt is stopped to set bits or from any other cause. Our Machine has a belt for each knife, hence but one knife stops at a time. This great advantage should not be overlooked by purchasers. Time is money. Our Machine cuts more excelsior in a given time than any other machine. Get our circulars and prices.

Indianapolis  
Excelsior Manufacturing  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.