

'When the Agricultural School at Aas was re-organised in 1871, forest cultivation, sowing as well as planting of woods became, in accordance with the rules of the school, an obligatory work, and therefore cultivations of wood entered a new stage. Up to this time the work done had been considered merely as experiments, and did not belong to the ordinary instruction; but in the sequel special importance had to be attached thereto, and the pupils had to be instructed as well in sowing as in planting. Thus the forest cultivation came into more intimate connection with the forest belonging to the school, forming a regular and constant contribution to the renewal of woods; the works will also serve as experiments, from which may be drawn knowledge relative to artificial cultivation of woods under ordinary favourable circumstances in the easterly low districts, and such knowledge may gradually become valued and utilised by others; finally, if the cultivations should succeed, the example would give an impulse, better care being taken of the woods after growth in general, and to the raising of thicker wood, when the soil would be turned to more use than has been the case up to this time in the neighbouring districts. Pursuant to these reflections it may be said that the present forest cultivation has to serve three different ends—in the first place as experiences for the pupils of the school; in the second place as forming a continuous contribution to the cultivation of the forest belonging to the school farm; and, finally, as an example relative to the raising of woods of normal denseness. These three ends have always been kept in view, when the forest cultivations were commenced and executed. Therefore as a rule the cheapest system of cultivation has been employed, and only, where it was absolutely necessary has a more expensive method been followed. Regarding the qualities of trees used special importance has been attached to the raising of as many different kinds of trees as possible, and to forming as heterogeneous—partly pure, partly mixed—stocks as practicable, in order to procure the greatest possible material from which to