

so far they have escaped from fire. This is not the case with rivers further down the coast, where large tracts of the interior have been burnt thus destroying the cover on the margin of streams where salmon deposit their *ova*. We remember some years ago, when the whole of the interior lands behind Natashquan were set on fire, lasting three months, in fact, until it burnt itself out, and we know that for years following, salmon decreased in the rivers inhabited by them on this portion of the coast.—C.

THE FORESTRY CONGRESS.

It is the duty of Canadian and American Sportsmen and Naturalists to take an interest in the protection of the forests of their respective countries. Sportsmen on both sides of the line must keep a sharp lookout in order to preserve the wild animals inhabiting our forests. Game animals are disappearing simply because their selected homes are invaded by human rangers who go out in quest of timber for the benefit of the present generation. Forest material must be obtained of necessity, but from what we have seen surrounding lumber shanties, there appears to be enormous waste not only of woods of commercial value, but by fire and gun, animals are destroyed in a merciless manner. Lumbermen have been known to cut down more than they are able to carry away.—Majestic trees which stood at some distance from an aquatic outlet, have been chopped and left where they fell,—all lost for want of proper judgment. This occurred to our knowledge on the high woodlands of the upper Assomption River; it is therefore no wonder that the Company failed to prosecute a profitable lumber trade in this region. The subject of forest protection and replenishment is of the highest importance, and the welfare of this Dominion depends in some degree on the future supply of good commercial woods. We have, in the lands already denuded and at present a waste, space

and earth-food for a duplicate crop of such trees. Who will undertake to cultivate this fresh growth? The Local Governments of the Dominion should certainly do something to have their burnt and waste Crown Lands replanted. Dr. A. D. K. King of Compton says:—"If it is prudent, not to say a duty, of Governments and other lessors of large tracts of wooded lands, to preserve the timber from waste, it were equally so the duty of individuals. A large and important part of this Province is divided into lots, some of which contained too much timber for general purposes for agriculture, the farmer possessing a new lot, looking upon every tree as an enemy, and seeking to destroy it in order to give him space for tilling the soil. Other lots, which had little woodland, the owner did his best to economize. He would suggest that before felling, a careful examination should be made so that the dead or dying trees might be selected. Propagation might be done by seed sowing or planting."

Many years ago, Mr. Todd, the Librarian of Parliament, suggested to the writer, the necessity of agitating this subject through the Canadian press. He saw at that early day, a time drawing near when a vigorous cry would arise regarding the enormous drain on our forests; that in consequence of the continual demand for timber of various kinds, our woodlands would ere long be exhausted, unless means were taken to replant the lands annually weeded of the best trees. His words are now verified; men are awakened to enquire into the matter. We are pleased to give this short record of the efforts of intelligent men who have lately met in Montreal to consult on Forestry and trust that in a short time their labours will be rewarded; that Parliament will notice a strong pressure of facts from without. The next good move should be a Congress of American and Canadian Sportsmen to provide correct means for the protection of Fish and Game of both countries. There are several interesting subjects which may be discussed at meetings of true Sportsmen—such as the effect of forest fires causing the decrease of animals; fish and