

## THE AMERICAN FOREST CONGRESS.

THE Forest Congress held at Washington, 2nd to 6th January, 1905, is one of the most important steps in the history of the forestry movement in the United States which has been taken in recent years, and its significance is well summed up in the following paragraph from the address of the President of the United States, at the session held in the National Theatre, on Thursday afternoon:—

“The great significance of this congress comes from the fact that henceforth the movement for the conservative use of the forest is to come mainly from within not from without; from the men who are actively interested in the use of the forest in one way or another, even more than from those whose interest is philanthropic and general. The difference means to a large extent the difference between mere agitation and actual execution, between the hope of accomplishment and the thing done. We believe that at last forces have been set in motion which will convert the once distant prospect of the conservation of the forest by wise use into the practical accomplishment of that great end; and of this most hopeful and significant fact the coming together of this congress is the sufficient proof.”

The delegates, to the number of about four hundred, came from all parts of the United States and Canada also had a good representation. There were present scientific and literary men, business and professional men, those interested practically and those whose interest was theoretical, and ladies also were noticeable in goodly numbers.

The attendance at the sessions of the Congress was well sustained throughout, the hall of the Armories, which will seat an audience of four hundred, being filled on all occasions. The special features of the programme, which illustrate the above quoted statement from the President, were the addresses and papers from leading lumbermen, railroad representatives, mining engineers and other prominent business men.

The opening Session was presided over by Hon. Jas. Wilson,