

When a man remembers that those trees grow for 200 years and become of a huge, immense size, what a profit you would have, you men of the land, if you would give the land a chance to help you to make riches, to keep you warm, to give material for every day use. Elm in 100 years will be very dear. It is used to make cheese boxes. We are going to make cheese forever, I think, and we should think of providing for the boxes for 50 years and more. It will be the same with the red oak, that native tree that grows along Lake Champlain, Lake Ontario, the St. Lawrence River, the Mississippi and Missouri, and even in Golden Park, California.

Now, look at the price of oak at present, and it is nearly all red oak which is used in finishing houses. It is cut thin and veneered on other wood, and it makes the best finishing for rich and strong houses. I have made horse stable floors with oak, and covered bridges on farms; and I also bought some in British Columbia to make wagon boxes for drawing minerals, that I paid \$150 per thousand feet for.

Both the elm and oak can grow in any clay, rich loamy soil, and also on sandy land if it is not too high to make it dry. I can show you right here in Ottawa both kinds that are not 50 years old, and very big, long, and healthy, and on very sandy soil. It would give me great pleasure to show you what the elm is on Sandy Hill, right in this city of Ottawa, the Capital of Canada. I am sure there is in every Province, ground that would grow those trees, the same as it grows apples, clover, wheat, etc.

There are some still richer kinds of woods, but they do not grow so fast, neither would they grow in all kinds of soil as those two aforesaid.

Other kinds are: red elm, that would grow in rich gravelly land; white ash, also in same land, and walnut that grows in low, rich alluvial land, and also on rich, stony land where hardwood grows. Silver poplar is another kind of soft tender wood that grows very fast and makes a very nice whitewood for inside finishing. It is quite rare in Canada. It does not grow in great quantities in any forest, but it could be got, and I think it would surpass any other kind in the quickness of its growth.

Quite a few of you, gentlemen, are aware that France has great forests that have been planted, and they used for that purpose land that was good for nothing else. It was a desert of sand along the Atlantic around Bordeaux and other places. The sand was blown by the west wind into the vineyards, doing a great deal of damage. They planted a wood called balsam, which was native to that country. And to-day, they not only furnish ties for their railroads, but export quite a lot to England.

Another example: In 1868 I was in Illinois for one winter. I travelled quite a bit through the State, and it was barren of