

appliances affixed to joinery or furniture work, we would advise the oiling of screws or the dipping their points in grease before driving them. This will render them more easy to drive and also to withdraw, and it will undoubtedly retard for a longer time the action of rusting.

THE NEW FOREST OF ENGLAND.

The London correspondent of the *Detroit Free Press* says:—The American reader will be somewhat surprised to learn that within a comparatively easy distance of London there is a forest extending over twenty-three miles of country in one direction and eighteen miles in another and that 92,000 acres of it are the property of the British Crown.

Arrived at Ringwood the traveller will see much inferior soil, but the wild character of the country does not seem to reach its climax until after he enters the forest boundary, two miles beyond the above-named place, and then the wilderness begins to spread and expand on every side.

Sometimes no houses are seen for miles, save here and there a mud-wall cottage, and in the distance the cottor's pony and the cottor's cows wandering among the herbage and wearing each a color with a bell. Here it may be incidentally stated that the ancient forest rights which permits cattle and horses to run upon the common have made no provision for sheep, perhaps because it was a run for deer.

As the train whirls the traveller on he sees a troop of shaggy ponies wandering about in the vain hope, as it seems, of finding something to eat. Hundreds of ponies may there be found who have reached old age and never did any work except the dreadful drudgery of being compelled to move constantly about in the often vain hope of finding something which they could eat. In some parts there is nothing to prevent them from strolling many miles—and they do so wander frequently—their owners seldom looking after them in the summer months. In situations where the horses are so very poor there are no neat cattle. They cannot live upon such scanty fare.

The commons generally cannot be said to be wanting in fertility, but in the swamps rushes does not even grow to more than half the average height, while gorse and the native heather are short in stature and grass in many parts positively a scarce commodity. Some of the most elevated parts are wilderness of sand and gravel, discolored by scrubby herbage for which the average dairy farmer would be unable to find a name. But within this wide, outlying range of desert there are some lovely spots, and heightened by contrast, the really beautiful appears more beautiful still.

It is upon these oases the forest villages are built, and are generally neat and pretty, with good soil, good water, and good roads, and almost hidden with foliage and flowers. The 'Squires' country seats are found there, it being a favorite sporting district and celebrated for fox-hunting. Not many years since 10,000 head of deer, the property of the Crown, ran wild over the desert, and every person ate venison; but the deer are all destroyed now, principally to put an end to poaching and its attendant evils.

The forest at one period was much neglected; squatters settled on its borders and acquired possessions which they held almost as freeholds; and when timber was required timber was had. No care was taken, and much fine timber was lost to the nation. Now all is changed; hundreds of acres at a time are fenced in and planted, and much of the best land is bearing thriving plantations of oak and fir. In many parts the fir trees are exceedingly fine; seldom are they found elsewhere so tall, so straight, and so clean in the bark. Very valuable to the British nation will the timber-bearing portion of the forest ultimately be. Not many, if any, decaying trees are now there, and in the parts not recently planted are many fine ones which will grow and thrive for many years to come. A visit to such historic ground as the New Forest would well repay the traveller in quest of health and picturesque scenery.

The *Trent Valley Advocate* says that Messrs. Gilmour & Co., intend establishing a large lumber yard at Napaeae.

FOREST PROTECTION IN QUEBEC.

Hon. Mr. Lynch in the Quebec Legislative Assembly on March 8, moved that it shall be lawful for the Commissioner of Crown Lands to employ, between the 1st of April and the 1st of November in any year, for the more effectual prevention of forest fires, such a number of men as he may deem necessary for that end, and he may, for any portion of the Province of Quebec, appoint an officer for that purpose, who shall be known and designated as the "fire superintendent." In support he made a very powerful speech, referring to the recommendation of the Forestry Congress, to the message of President Arthur of the United States, to the opinions of Mr. Russel and of Professor Sargeant, and to many other corroborative evidences of the necessity of protecting our forests against their great scourge, fire. He referred to the diminution in the supply of white pine, and felt sure that the limit-holders, who were equally interested with the Government in the protection of our forests, would willingly consent to a small imposition for the purpose of securing this desirable supervision. He alluded to the law now in force in Ontario concerning forest protection, and spoke of the desirable manner in which it had worked. He did not know whether, if the system had been in vogue in this province, it would have succeeded in preventing the large conflagrations which we have experienced, but he looked forward in the future to the establishment of a body of well trained men, who would, at all events, be instrumental in preventing fires heretofore caused by carelessness or negligence. He would be glad of any suggestion from members of the House which would make his measure more practical, and desired particularly that the Legislature should assert the principle of adopting an effectual means, by means of no large outlay, of forest protection against fire. [Applause.]

Mr. Joly warmly supported the resolution, adding the hope that the Government would appoint as superintendents honest and useful men, and not parties recommended to their favour for political reasons, and offering a large number of practical suggestions, especially with regard to railways running through forest lands.

Mr. CARBAY said the Government could not take too much interest in the protection of the forests. Within the last twenty-five years it was probable that more timber had been destroyed by fire in the province than had been cut for the market. He had heard, only to-day, a lumberman complaining of the laxity of the rules of the Crown Lands Department with reference to the cutting of trees measuring less than twelve inches at the stump. After the Dominion subsidy, our forests now supplied almost our only source of revenue, and he could not recommend too strongly to the hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands the great importance of taking means for their preservation, and to render effectual the present regulations of the Department affecting them. He was sure no member of the House would begrudge a reasonable amount to be set apart for this purpose from the revenue derived from our Crown lands. [Applause.]

Mr. Flynn followed, expressing the pleasure with which he had heard the remarks which had fallen on this subject, both from the hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands and also from the hon. ex-lord of the Opposition. He spoke at some length in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Beaubien also supported the resolution, suggesting, amongst other things, that the guardians who should be appointed might be employed in seeding down such portions of the bush as had been swept by fire, and were unfit for cultivation, and instancing trees now thirty feet in height, the seed of which he himself had planted. He also spoke of the waste occasioned by the manufacture of square timber, speaking at considerable length.

Mr. Marchand made some lengthy remarks in favour of the resolution.

THE U. S. FAR NORTHWEST.

Practically, the whole country between the Minnesota prairies and the Rocky mountains is bare of timber. There are little strips of forest trees along the water-courses in Dakota, but they consist mainly of cottonwood, soft maple and alder, and furnish only a scanty

supply of fuel to the settlers, and are of no value as a source of building material. West of the Missouri there is nothing worth sawing up into lumber until the advanced spurs of the Rockies are reached—the Big Horn, the Belt, the Judith, the Big Snowy and the Yellowstone mountains. In the gorges running up their sides there is sufficient "bull pine" and spruce for the settlers' purposes and for railway ties and bridge timbers, but there are no large, well timbered areas. On both sides of the main divide of the Rockies about the same condition is found. The pines are somewhat larger, and some cedar is met. For want of something better, the timber is of great value for local consumption, for fuel and building purposes in the neighboring valleys, but this is all that can be said of it. Not until I reached Clark's Fork of the Columbia, or the Pend d'Oreille, as it is known to the settlers, did I see any extensive body of good timber. On both sides of that stream, between the Cœur d'Alene and Cabinet mountains, lies a heavily-timbered belt of about one hundred miles in length by thirty in width, reaching down to and around Pond O'Reille Lake. The trees are "bull pine," cedar, hemlock and spruce, with a little white pine. The western slopes of the Cœur d'Alene mountains and the Bitter Root mountains, which are a continuation of the same range, are moderately well timbered and furnish material for fuel, fences and buildings for a wide stretch of rich, bare country farther west. From these mountains, westward to the narrow valleys running up into the Cascade range, the country is nearly destitute of forest growth. A few stunted pines grow on the sides of the deep, narrow valleys through which the streams run. Along the lower course of the Columbia and around Puget Sound there are immense forests of fir, furnishing a practically inexhaustible lumber supply. Eastern Washington, fast becoming a great wheat-field, feels most the lack of forests. Western Oregon, including the fertile, well-settled Willamette valley, is well supplied from both the coast and Cascade mountains, while western Washington is all a vast forest, where the clearings are mere specks upon the immense expanse of woodland. This magnificent forest is destined to be a source of great wealth for centuries to come. The lumbering operations up to this time, although very extensive, have only notched it here and there at long intervals close to the water-side. —E. V. Smalley, in the *Century* for February.

REPLACING WHITE PINE.

The *Chicago Times* says:—One noteworthy fact in the lumber business of Chicago is the annual increase in the supply of the Gulf states. By many it is claimed that this lumber will be the immediate successor of white pine in western markets, should the latter cease as soon as expected. At this time, however, the cost of transportation does not allow large shipments of southern lumber, and long timber and dressed flooring are the only grades of yellow pine sold in Chicago. The latter, being dressed before shipping, is greatly reduced in weight, and the current prices afford a satisfactory profit. Enough lumber has already been received from the south to remove any fear of a lumber famine in this city for many years, as, if it can pay present rate of freight, it will come naturally to a large market, when the south has more railway competition, which increasing wealth and enterprise are sure to supply.

Letter from Member of Congress.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., Feb. 19, '82.

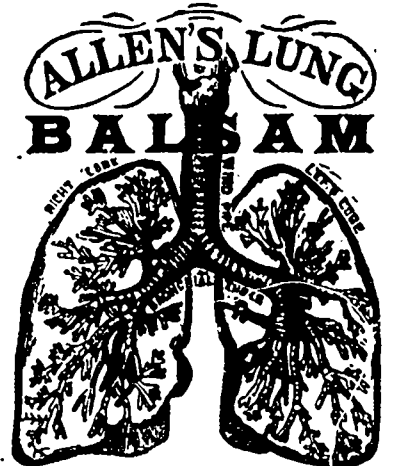
GENTLEMEN,—Inclosed find \$1, and will you send me some of N. H. Down's Vegetable Balsamic Elixir by express. I have a bad cold, as has almost every one else here, but cannot find the Elixir, which I used frequently at home and consider a most valuable medicine; in fact, the very best remedy for a cold that I ever used. Very truly yours, WILLIAM W. GROUT.

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