

A GLANCE AT FOREST CONDITIONS IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

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Two years ago, while camping out near Kedron Lake, in the south-west part of New Brunswick, I came upon the remains of a magnificent white pine, lying prostrate in the woods. From this a section had been cut off close to the butt, the diameter of which was nearly three and a half feet. The length of the piece cut off and carried away, perhaps for exhibition purposes, was a little less than five feet. The remainder of the tree, a fine bole, straight as an arrow, and nearly one hundred feet in length, was left to rot in the woods. It had evidently been felled not many years before, since the cut end was not greatly weathered, and there were traces of still unhealed wounds left on the smaller trees that had been caught in the death of this monarch of the forest as it crashed to earth.

The commercial value of this huge trunk, had it been manufactured into lumber while it was sound, could not, at the lowest estimate, be less than one hundred dollars, even though there were great difficulties in transporting it from the forest where it lay.

I recall the sight of another huge pine trunk in a secluded part of the forest in Northern New Brunswick. A single log had been taken from the fallen tree, which, covered with moss, had sunk half its thickness into the loose forest mould. It had lain there probably fifty or more years.

One is loath to believe that a lapse of fifty years has brought about no better sentiment in regard to forest preservation or the repression of individual acts of waste and vandalism.

If in the first instance quoted above the section of pine was used to exhibit the size of our trees and demonstrate our forest wealth, would not companion pictures of a huge moss-covered pine trunk rotting in the forest, or a picture of what may be seen everywhere in New Brunswick, decaying pine stumps of large size, about the only evidence now of its former existence as a timber tree, be just as appropriate to our needs—and far more useful—showing the wasteful lumbering that has been done in the past, and the necessity of an education of a practical and helpful character to teach people to respect trees and appreciate their value.

There is another picture, so common that it may be only briefly alluded to here, and that is of the destruction caused by