

chasers would devote themselves not only to the cutting of the timber, thereby enabling the settlers in the vicinity to profit by the lumber trade, but also to give them a much more efficient protection than could otherwise be hoped for. As regards the limits sold in the west of the province he was in the position to say that the prices realized were amongst the best ever obtained in this province and the hon. gentleman refused to sell them at a lower price than he believed them to be worth. (Applause.) The policy of the Government in this connection was in accordance with sound ideas not to dispose of any part of the crown demesne otherwise than for absolutely necessary purposes and at a price reasonably representing the value of the article sold. He had no objection to the resolution and truly hoped it would have the effect of strengthening his hands or whoever might be for the moment discharging the responsible duties of the crown lands department in guarding this valuable asset. (Applause.)

MR. OWENS, M. P. P., Argenteuil, supported the resolution. He took exception to Mr. Little's remarks with reference to the sale of timber limits by the Government, and called his attention to the fact that the amounts offered by the lumbermen were merely bonuses to obtain the license to cut timber, but it should be remembered that duty was paid to the Government upon every foot of timber cut in virtue of this license. (Hear, hear.)

Motion was then adopted.

MR. S. C. STEVENSON moved "that the superintendent of education be requested to address a circular to all the schools of the province, asking them to observe arbor day as a holiday." In moving the resolution Mr. Stevenson said that the surest way to create an interest in the important subject of forestry was by endeavoring to interest the children and train their minds to take some interest in it. In order to attain this end he urged that a circular be issued by the department of public instruction to every educational establishment throughout the province, inviting the pupils to celebrate Arbor Day with enthusiasm, by planting trees in the school grounds or in some convenient place. He also urged that a short paper, suitable to the calibre of the children, should be prepared by the department, showing the value of the climatic effects produced by trees as well as some interesting information regarding arboriculture. Instructions should also be furnished to the children regarding the planting and care of trees. This paper must be in French and English, and should be read by the teacher to the pupils a few days before Arbor day in order that their attention might be directed to the occasion and its objects. He showed how the appearance of the schoolhouses throughout the country could be greatly improved by the judicious planting of trees around them. The speaker also urged that the clergymen, Protestant and Catholic, should be invited to plant trees in the vicinity of their churches. (Applause.)

MR. GIBB said that similar action had been taken in the United States, as may be seen by the wonderfully complete series of maps and statistics of Mr. Sargent, of Massachusetts. If we look to the old world we find that long ago very minute statistics have been taken by the European Governments of their forest wealth. In Russia (where the climate is most like our own) the department of public domain will tell you that the Government has in Europe 351,000,000 of acres of woods, besides the scrub of the far north, and can show at a glance their expenditure and profits. The department has 762 forest stations, for working the forest in the forest regions, and for planting in the steppe or plain region. It would seem that a more accurate knowledge of the value of our provincial forests would be of great value.

After further debate, the resolution moved by Mr. Stephenson was unanimously adopted.

#### AFTERNOON SITTING.

There was a very good attendance at the afternoon sitting of the association, which opened at half-past two.

MR. J. O. CHAPMAN, editor of the *Journal of Agriculture*, read an interesting paper on the transplanting of forest trees, and it was resolved that the Government be asked to secure the

publication and distribution of the recommendations contained in it. It was also resolved that circulars and instructions regarding Arbor Day should be forwarded to Mayors of all municipalities in the province, school commissions, school teachers, agricultural societies, &c., &c. Considerable discussion ensued respecting the selection of the date to be recommended to the Government for Arbor Day. It was finally decided to recommend two dates, Tuesday, the 5th instant, for the Western or Montreal district, and Tuesday, the 19th, for the Eastern district of the province.

MR. S. C. STEVENSON dwelt upon the importance of enlisting the assistance of the agricultural societies and colleges of the province to secure the successful observance of Arbor Day. These societies might also raise seeds and seedlings to be distributed next year by the Government.

HON. MR. LYNCH suggested the division of the association and its friends into committees to promote the due celebration of Arbor Day in various parts of the province. He wished the season was so far advanced that members of the association could be taken to the Cove field to see the six hundred trees which had been planted there last year. He hoped that the same good work would be repeated here this year, but much remained with the citizens of Quebec, and he trusted the press would urge the importance of the subject upon the people. The locality in question was the side of a hill forming one of the most magnificent spots in the world, and commanding a view not only of the river, but of the country on the other side, being an aspect of magnificent and unapproachable beauty. It was also historic ground. The Dominion Government had been kind enough to grant permission for the planting of trees, and he hoped that this year 600 more trees would be planted there, next year another 600, and so on until a large extent of land would become beautifully wooded, forming a popular resort for the people of Quebec and for all who may visit the city. What was particularly desirable, however, in the connection was the creation of as much public enthusiasm as possible. (Loud applause.)

REV. E. L. REXFORD alluded to the difference of opinion that existed on the fundamental principle of tree planting, some people holding that spring was the proper time for transplanting trees, and others favoring the autumn. It was again thought by some respectable authority that the phases of the moon had something to do with the matter. People did not by any means agree as to the advisability of cutting the tops of trees transplanted. These differences of opinion were all calculated to confuse people, particularly in the country districts. He thought the best expression of opinion on these subjects should be obtained. He also suggested that means should be adopted for interesting school children in some practical manner in tree planting. Out of the 10,000 children attending public schools in the city of Montreal, it was impossible for one out of a hundred of them to get near a tree on Arbor Day. He further recommended that the matter of agriculture be brought prominently before the Normal schools and teachers' conventions, as a manner of reaching the children.

MR. STEVENSON suggested that the Governor-General, who was a botanist of no mean order, and who had great experience in arboriculture on his estates in England and Ireland, should, if possible, be invited to assist in the celebration of Arbor Day.

A long debate ensued on the motion of Mr. Barnard for the establishment of experimental stations for the planting of different kinds of forest and fruit trees.

MR. CARBRAY was much in favor of the resolution. Though Mr. Gibb had ascertained what kind of trees grew in similar latitudes to ours, in Russia and elsewhere, he believed that nothing definite could be known as to what trees would really thrive here, unless experiments were made in the Province.

MR. S. LESAGE suggested that nurseries should be conducted by the agricultural colleges for the purpose of making the experiments required. So far we have simply been displacing trees, taking them from the forest and planting them elsewhere, but what he desired was that the trees should be raised from seed.

MR. BARNARD was extremely anxious that experiments should be made in the growing of hardy fruit trees under the auspices of the Association, in order that as director of agriculture he might be in a position to reply to the numerous questions he received on the subject.

HON. MESSRS. LYNCH and JOLY and MESSRS. GIBB, LITTLE and others expressed their fear that the association had more than it could do in the matter of forestry without branching off into fruit growing.

The motion was then withdrawn.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

PRESIDENT.—HON. H. G. JOLY.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.—J. K. WARD and L. H. MASSIE.

RECORDING SECRETARY.—J. N. L'ÉCLAIR.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY AND TREASURER.—J. C. CAPAIS.

HON. W. W. LYNCH moved a vote of thanks to the president, Hon. H. G. Joly, for his valuable services in connection with the cause of forestry, claiming that the success which had been achieved was largely due to that gentleman's efforts. He referred to Mr. Joly's visits to Minneapolis, Winnipeg and Saratoga, in the interests of forestry.

The resolution was unanimously adopted amid applause, as well as a vote of thanks to the retiring president, Mr. Barnard, who declined re-election.

The president drew the attention of the association to the necessity for new legislation to prevent the destruction of woods by fire.

MR. STEVENSON dwelt upon the importance of inducing lumbermen to take a greater interest in the work of the association.

After further discussion the meeting adjourned at 6 p. m.—*Montreal Gazette*

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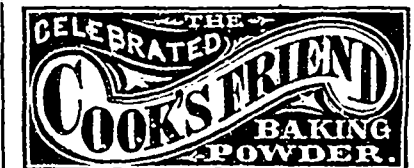
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