

the bountiful gifts of Providence are still stored up for us, and the forests have been scarcely attacked by the lumberman.

"The great forest of Canada, *par excellence*, is spread over that vast territory watered by the Ottawa, the St. Maurice, the Saguenay and their tributaries, over 100,000 square miles in extent. Other timber limits are found in the Georgian Bay country, the Muskoka and Nipissing regions; the Eastern Townships and the south shore of the St. Lawrence to the Gulf; the region on the north shore of the St. Lawrence from the Saguenay to the Betsiamis, and perhaps still lower down as far as Mingan, and the country watered by the St. John, the Miramichi, the Restigouche and their tributaries. . . . These timber limits contain an immense supply of spruce."

The Federal Government, and the several provincial governments, employ agents, principally surveyors, well qualified to report on the condition of the land and the forest growth. A great body of these reports has accumulated, and, from these, pages by the score could be supplied to show how wide-spread is the spruce in Canada. It must be added that heretofore in Canada pine has been the king, and the search has been rather for pine than for spruce. The acknowledged superiority of the Canadian spruce for pulp has raised spruce to an equality with pine in the estimation of commerce and trade. But, even when all eyes were centered upon the discovery of pine, it was impossible to avoid reference to the abundance of spruce.

In the Province of Ontario, north of Lake Nipissing, the surveyors, though specially charged to look for pine, were compelled by the great abundance of spruce to make constant mention of it. Whatever other woods were but partial in the area upon which they grew, and were, therefore, frequently omitted in the enumeration of the trees, spruce is general. Thus, in Blezard township, Nipissing District, the surveyor reports,—"Well timbered with spruce, tamarack, birch, balsam, poplar, cedar,