

The Picture Abroad.

To put under forest all land not under annual crop is the dream of the conservationist. Even in that land of intensive cultivation, China, there are large areas which, having been denuded of their trees, have been subsequently washed by heavy rains until all the surface that had been enriched by plant life has been eroded and the rolling clay hills are dead land on which the water falling immediately runs off to the rivers, to cause floods in wet seasons far away. Any one who has travelled through such deforested areas as South Africa and seen its dry kloofs transformed by an hour of rain into dangerous torrents, gets some conception of the extent to which forests act as reservoirs. Is the wilderness of Sinai dry? One traveller tells how he saw a torrent in those bare mountains rise thirty feet in half an hour. The world is full of glaring examples of the devastation caused by de-

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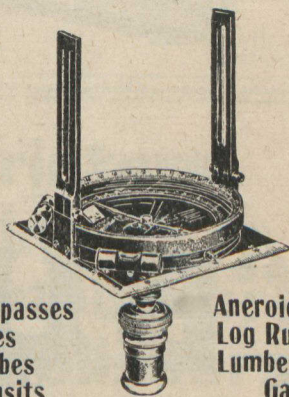
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