

districts in which these trees attained their largest size and greatest numbers have already been well cut over; and lumbermen now derive their supplies chiefly from around the Georgian Bay, at the head-waters of Ottawa River and its tributaries, and at the sources of the St. Maurice and other rivers flowing from the north into the St. Lawrence. The timber obtained is also on the average fully one-third less in size than it was fifteen to twenty years ago. The area held still in the hands of the Government and available as Pine lands, is apparently extensive, but only apparently so,—the limits of the greatest development of these trees having been already passed, for as the northern boundaries of growth are approached, not only are the trees fewer in number but they are gradually smaller in size. Besides, immense tracts of these Government lands in northern Ontario and northern Quebec have already been completely denuded of their timber by forest fires.

In the same zone, the White Spruce (*Abies alba*) and Black Spruce (*Abies nigra*) also find their best development, although they range much farther northward and north-westward.

(4.) MAPLE AND BEECH.—This zone covers the country lying between Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron to the southern shores of the Georgian Bay, and from this point eastward between Ottawa River and the St. Lawrence to the boundaries of New Hampshire. Within this limited area are found sixty-two out of the sixty-five species of forest trees occurring in Canada east of Manitoba. And so generally distributed throughout the limits indicated are nearly all these species that, especially in southwestern Ontario, the greater part of them may be frequently seen on a single farm.

The section of country bordering on Lake Erie lies in the latitude of western New York and southern Michigan, and is semi-insular in character. It is remarkable as including a vegetation much more southern in type than any other part of Canada. Certain forest trees of southern and western range, but peculiar in Canada to this section, have already been referred to. A large number of shrubs and herbaceous plants, more familiar in Ohio, Indiana and the Western States, have also found their way northward into the Lake Erie district. The tree in this section of most economic importance, apart from the Pines and the Spruces,