

Private owners of spruce obtain readily \$2 per thousand stumpage, and there is no reason why the Government should not charge the same price.

The sale of timber limits should be held in the fall season, as the lumberman's capital is absorbed by the winter's operations and is not free for investment until the winter's product is sold and paid for. At least six months' notice of such sales should be given. The department should know the contents and characteristics of each lot to be offered, its previous value having been ascertained by an exploration of a practical forester accustomed to the work. This information should be open to the public as soon as the land is put up for sale.

"More than one-quarter of the entire wooded area of Sweden, or 14,300,000 acres, belongs to the Crown. This is valued at \$13,588,000, nearly \$1 an acre, and in 1888 yielded a net income of \$335,000. These royal timber preserves are managed with scrupulous care. All Sweden is divided into forest districts, and these, in turn, into *revir*. Each district is under the supervision of a chief forest inspector, and each *revir* is guarded by a forest ranger and a number of under-keepers. Only trees marked by them are permitted to be felled. The Crown forests are managed, in fact, on the principle that the increase alone may be cut, and that the forest itself—the capital stock, so to speak—shall stand forever on all Crown lands unsuitable for cultivation. Furthermore, the Government has entered upon an extensive and practical system of planting forests upon desolate and uncultivated areas. These excellent official measures have also had a marked effect upon the owners of the private forests, especially upon the larger proprietors, many of whom are now managing their timber lands as permanent sources of income. It is my judgment, therefore, that the vast forests of Sweden will be preserved and maintained, substantially, as they stand to-day, and that Sweden's lumber export—her greatest source