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## THE ART OF FORESTRY.

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### III. FOREST EXPLOITATION.

Giving the above its more appropriate name of forest utilization, one is led to the main object in Forestry i.e. of using *all* the woody growth in a forest.

In olden times in Europe just those trees which had any value were cut down and removed, leaving broken, decayed, diseased or at that time useless species of trees.

One of the best examples of this was the cutting, until recently (twenty years ago) of the largest spruce trees in the Bavarian Forest. Now this has consisted from time immemorial of silver fir (similar to balsam), spruce and beech; on the whole the beech and spruce predominating. Another well known fact is that fir wood is quite inferior to spruce for flooring or any purpose.

The result of this early method has been to reduce the number of spruce and, although the climatic conditions of growth are most favourable to its growth, it is suppressed by not being able to stand so much shade as either beech or fir.

With great labour and expense the old and rotten firs and beeches are gradually being got rid of and the spruce re-introduced.