

sincerity of the interest that he hears mentioned so frequently, when he remembers that to the east of Georgian Bay millions of acres of rock-strewn Laurentine hills, which have contributed untold wealth to the coffers of the country, are now neglected, no provision being made for the protection of the second-growth timber from the ravages of the frequently recurring fires, or from the depredations of men preying on the new timber as soon as it is of value for any purpose whatever. In many places, chiefly in the valleys, the second growth hardwood with occasional white pines show that this new timber if protected and judiciously thinned would in fifty years be an asset of great value, as in twenty or twenty-five years since the last fire passed over there are white pines up to 12 or 15 inches in diameter, and where growing in groves of poplar and white birch are tall and straight and promise well for the future. Private individuals are unable to cope with this matter, but the government should feel in duty bound to take possession of the lands that have been stripped of the original timber. Many lots through this country, which once settled on have been deserted when the timber was gone, should revert to the Crown and not pass into the hands of others who keep stripping the land until at last the fire having passed more than once over the rocky ridges, makes the growth of another crop of timber slow and almost at times impossible.

Yours respectfully,

T. M. R.

Gravenhurst, 5th March, 1908.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ADDRESS

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