

in the west and it is unfortunate that the supply of seed should be so uncertain. In 1905, as no seed could be obtained in the west, a quantity was procured in the Eastern States. The stand produced during the first season was very good, but every seedling was killed during the winter, proving conclusively that the seed must be collected in this country. Some years ago we had a similar experience with the Manitoba maple. Owing to a scarcity of seed here, a quantity was purchased in Minnesota. The seedlings however did not mature and although not actually killed outright, were in such poor condition that we would not distribute them.

The fact that wood for fuel can be grown most profitably in this country is demonstrated more clearly every season. In some districts wood can be obtained from natural timber belts with little difficulty, but away from these restricted areas, the settlers are limited to the supply brought in on the railways, poplar wood of only average quality being worth \$6.50 per cord. There is not the least doubt in the mind of the writer as to the possibility of growing fairly good fuel within 6 to 8 years, when cottonwood or willow are used, and when the trees are properly set out and cared for. In the spring of 1903 we were using some land on the Experimental Farm at Indian Head for our nursery work and in order to obtain a quick shelter a few rows of cottonwoods were planted. The total length of the rows would be about 700 yards, the trees being set 30 inches apart and were about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet high. We are now giving up this land and consequently had to cut out these hedges, which in 4 years have made great growth. The trees average 15 feet high and many are over 6 inches in diameter at the ground. We have now cut up and piled over $3\frac{1}{2}$ cords of wood cut from these hedges. This wood is not of course best quality, though it is just as good as hundreds of settlers get after travelling to the bluffs in the winter and probably taking three days for the round trip. At the present time growing trees for profit on the prairies has not received any general consideration, but before many years it is hoped that every farmer may devote a few acres to this purpose.

At the nursery station it is intended to establish several large plantations, which will be sample plots to test the value of the different hardy varieties planted in mixture and pure stand and at different distances apart. As a considerable area of land will be necessary for this purpose, an additional $\frac{1}{4}$ section adjoining the one already under cultivation has been reserved for the work. At present the land is unbroken. Fifty to sixty acres will be ploughed and backset next season; part of this may be planted the following spring, but most will be put into oats, after which the land will be summer fallowed and got into a better condition for planting.