

timber for industrial purposes. In 1912, timber was scarce in France; lumber for the amount of 192 millions of francs has been imported in that year.

"The scarcity of timber for constructional purposes is not limited to France; it constitutes a real universal crisis. The forest reserves on the face of the earth are being rapidly exhausted, especially the timber from the caducous species. The manufacture of wood pulp has consumed entire forests in America, as well as in Europe."

Mr. Marin then considers the best methods to resort to in estimating the damages done to the forests and in their reforestation. "The proprietor will have to remove the fallen trunks, the injured trees, etc.; the soil will then be levelled, and local rangers' houses determined. This being done, he will proceed with the primordial work, i.e., the re-sowing of young trees in order to reconstitute the forest, without neglecting the natural disposition of trees, according to the number of years required by each species for their full growth, and the purpose for which they are intended. Timber from twenty to twenty-five years old can be used for fuel; from fifty to sixty years, for use in the interior of mines; from eighty to one hundred years, for the production of lumber, and about 150 years old for industrial purposes. In the latter-named, there are the oak, the ash, the beech and like species. This work accomplished by the proprietor will be but the preliminaries of the task entrusted to Time, and which years alone can perform. It is the work of several centuries."

Estimating Damages.

Referring once more to the damages to which this war has subjected the forests of France, the writer does not lose sight of the fact that the devastation is still going on as violently as ever, and that it is impossible to foresee all the efforts which will

be required of the nation. But France must be interested now in this great problem in order to be ready to proceed, when the time comes, with as least delay as possible to the reconstruction of her forestal resources. "All delay in the rebuilding of this heritage," he says, "would spell losses impossible to estimate to thousands of people living on the forests."

"In conclusion, I could not do better than to quote the following paragraph from one of Bernard Palissy's most interesting works:

"When I consider the value of the least branch and shrub, I am astonished at the great ignorance of men of to-day who seem to train themselves to pillaging, hewing and mutilating the magnificent forests which their predecessors have so carefully preserved. I would not mind their devastating them if they would afterwards rebuild them, but they do not worry in any way of the time to come and of the great loss they will have caused to the coming generations."

"These words were written in 1580," adds Mr. Marin; "they are worth consideration, because they have never ceased to be of the deepest actuality."

PUBLIC LECTURES.

Public illustrated lectures have been given by the Secretary during the past few weeks at McGill University, Montreal; Grand Mere, P. Q.; Cardinal; Sault Ste. Marie; Hamilton; with further dates arranged for Marmora, Ont.; Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto. The plan has been followed of giving a lecture at High Schools or Technical Schools in the afternoon preceding the evening lecture.