cedure. Of course he may have secured larger bonuses by this foreign competition, but at the cost of the loss of wages by our industrial population, and the more rapid extirpation of our waning forests.

Canadian neglect of this important matter of forest preservation is not so surprising when we reflect that it is honestly inherited—our mother country has lagged behind the rest of the civilized nations in the science of forestry. It is true that large forests have survived, but this is chiefly because they are crown property or part of the wide estates of wealthy landed proprietors, so from sheer conservatism they have been preserved. Till recently any renewals, any improvements have been spasmodic and unsystematic. In later times there has been more regard to preservation, more planting—some of the new plantations being indeed of enormous extent—but even in this there has been too much of "the rule of thumb." It is arboriculture rather than forest culture,—that scientific forestry which in France, Germany and other countries of Europe, secures perennial crops of timber from perpetual, ever-reproduced forests, as the skilled agriculturist yearly crops his farm. Ten years ago there was not a school of forestry in the British Islands, and when, about the birthtime of our own Dominion, a forest department was established in India, it had to be stipulated that its officers should go for their education to the great schools of forestry flourishing and doing most admirable work in France and Germany. Many of the earlier officers were foreigners, and for some years the great body of the Indian foresters acquired their professional knowledge at Nancy in France. Since then an efficient school of forestry has been established at Cooper's Hill, near Windsor, but it has chiefly been devoted to the education of foresters for the Indian service, though others are admitted. One significant fact, as indicating the stage attained by forestry in Britain, is that in their second year the students are taken for some months to France or Germany that they may have a practical opportunity of seeing forests submitted to really scientific treatment. The mother country is now awake to the value, the necessity of science in forestry.

India, of all lands under the British crown, has been the foremost in forestry. Its magnificent teak forests, like our pineries, were thought and said to be inexhaustible. The discovery that many of them had been exhausted and that the others were threatened with extinction—that conservation and, in many cases, reproduction were urgently necessary—largely conduced to the establishment of the forestry department, which is a most important branch of the public service in India. In Australasia and South Africa, also, the necessity for the preservation and reproduction of the forests has for some time been recognized, and several of these colonies have forestry departments with skilled officers. Canada, being in this respect on a par with the United States, lags behind nearly all the rest of the civilized world.

Why should this progressive young Dominion in this one matter of forest conservation be content to take a backward place. In the practical application of science, we are not inclined to think that we are behind the age as compared even with France and Germany, yet we let little Switzerland, Denmark, and Roumania, which we regard as a new accession to civilized states, and Spain, which we look upon as retrograde rather than progressive, outstrip us in this, for they all have schools of scientific forestry and trained officers to cultivate their forests, while we have none. Is it because we think our forests inexhaustible? Let us consider the teak forests of India and ponder the lesson. Let us note the facts of our dwindling forests, visible to all who will open their eyes. It is said that