

NATURAL SEEDING OF FORESTS.

It is unquestionably true that large areas in the Northern, Eastern and Middle Atlantic States, now almost destitute of trees, are better adapted to the growth of forests, and would yield a larger income to the owners if devoted to that purpose than to any other. The natural seeding of forests has an important bearing on this subject. To this nature in this work is an easy way for its accomplishment. Nature is prolific in the abundance of seeds that she provides for the renewal of all the trees and plants, but she cannot unaided quickly sow the seed of the better kinds of timber trees over large tracts of land that have been stripped of seed-bearing trees, though some of the less valuable trees, like grey birches, are easily distributed over such tracts. John E. Hobbs, of North Berwick, speaking of the common belief in the rotation of hard and soft-wooded trees, and that one always follows the other naturally, says there is but little foundation in fact for this belief. This rotation often occurs and is effected in two ways: In one way by moving either of the varieties from a tract of land, which is afterwards seeded by the other variety that happens to be more favorably situated for doing it. In this way it is quite easy for a farmer to change the character of his forests, if when removing them he leaves such trees standing to reseed the land as he prefers for a subsequent growth. In the other way the rotation is caused by live stock. Cattle, sheep, horses and goats eat almost all varieties of young deciduous trees, and would prevent their growing when suffered to roam at large over the forest land. If live stock be left out of the question, the following may be given as the rule for the natural seeding of forests: Land from which a forest has been removed is reseeded by trees which are most favorably situated for furnishing the seed, unless it has been done with seed matured in the forest immediately before its removal, the wind being the chief agent in sowing the seed. When some forests of white pine trees are cut down a dense growth of the seed of the same kind of trees springs up at once, and when others are cut many years elapse before enough trees grow up to cover the ground. The tenacity of life of the seeds of the white pine, says Mr. Emerson, is remarkable. They will remain for many years unchanged in the ground, protected by the coolness and deep shade of the forest above them. But when the forest is removed and the warmth of the sun admitted, they immediately vegetate. A few pines scattered through a forest of deciduous trees fill the ground with seed, in a series of years, so completely that when the forest is cut down it not infrequently happens that a pine forest springs up its place. As some white pine forests are and others are not immediately renewed, it is possible that the seeds may not possess that tenacity of life which is claimed for them. Again, this difference in the time of renewal may be accounted for by the fact that the white pine does not mature seeds every year. In some years the mature cones in a white pine forest are very abundant. In other years there are scarcely any to be found. Therefore a forest which is cut down in the year when the cones are abundant is renewed at once, but if cut in the year when there are none or few to be found, the natural reseedling is either precluded or at least doubtful. This desirable result could have been effected if a sufficient number of seed-bearing trees had been left standing to reseed the land, and after it has been done these trees can be removed with benefit to the young growth, for young trees require the same advantages of air and sunshine as Indian corn, and grow much faster under full exposure than in the shade. Another authority states that the method of reseedling forests by leaving nurses standing over the area to be reseeded, though practical with modifications to several species of deciduous trees, has been almost entirely abandoned in Europe with the pine, on account of danger to the nurses through windfall, and of the injury done to the young growth by their removal. Instead of this, narrow strips are cleared and other strips are left standing by the side of the first, from which the reseedling is expected. This subject of natural seeding of forests under proper conditions

furnishes a solution for a cheap method of covering certain sections of land with forest growth.—*Manufacturers' Gazette.*

THE QUEEN AND THE CANADIAN SECTION.

From the London, Eng., *Canadian Gazette* of May 27th we take the following notes regarding the Colonial Exhibition:—

THE *s.s. Ulunda*, with 800 tons of exhibits from Canada, reached the London Docks on Tuesday last, and so excellent were the transport arrangements under the charge of Messrs. T and E. Kenny, that active work in the unpacking and arrangement in the various courts was possible as early as 4 a.m. on Thursday morning. The new exhibits comprise the Dominion Government's interesting ornithological collection to form part of the Natural History court; a variety of excellent photographs and pictures, which already add brilliancy to many portions of the Canadian section; silk and other textile fabrics of much merit; Canadian machinery of the famous Corliss type; and also considerable additions to the furniture, metal, educational, and agricultural exhibits, such as will, it is hoped, enable the Canadian section to assume a complete form in the course of the present week.

The commercial interests of Canada are already beginning to benefit by the display. During the past week very large orders are reported by various Canadian firms, including organs, spring mattresses, and various manufactured goods. Representatives of the London School Board are among recent enquirers, with a view of large purchases of school desks, seats, appliances, while deputations with a similar object have come from as far north as Halifax in Yorkshire.

The Exhibition Conference Committee has drawn up a preliminary programme of papers to be read at the Exhibition during the season. Among the contributions we notice that those touching upon Canada will include one by Professor Freamon on Canadian agriculture, and another by Professor Macoun on the botany and vegetable products of the Dominion, while Dr. Selwyn and Mr. Alexander Begg are also to read papers. Mr. Begg will treat of "The Great North-West."

The record of the Exhibition opened well in the way of numbers, and last week full sustained the high figures previously reached. In the course of the week as many as 140,533 passed the turnstiles. For the corresponding period, dated from the opening, in former exhibitions the official returns were: 1885, Inventions, 87,870; 1884, Health, 91,436; 1883, Fisheries, 74,871. A comparison of the totals at each exhibition in the period to date shows:—1886, Colonial, 386,111; 1885, Inventions, 255,110; 1884, Health, 209,596; 1883, Fisheries, 275,841.

On the morning of Friday last the Queen, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Princess Beatrice, and the Duchess of Albany, visited the Canadian section in the course of an informal inspection of the Colonial portions of the Exhibition. Entering at the agricultural court from the West Indian section, the royal party was received by the Canadian Executive Commissioner and Lady Tupper. After presentation by the Prince of Wales, Lady Tupper handed to Her Majesty a bouquet of *Marechal Niel* roses, lillies, ferns and other flowers. Lady Tupper also took this opportunity to express great regret that circumstances had prevented the presentation to Her Majesty of the bouquet sent by the Montreal Horticultural Society. The Marquis of Lorne, who had previously been in the building, here joined the party, and presented Dr. Selwyn to Her Majesty. Both Queen and the Prince of Wales expressed admiration at the arrangement of the agricultural trophy, and evinced much interest in the display of fruits, grains and general agricultural products. Proceeding for a short distance down the south aisle of the central gallery, Her Majesty accompanied by the Prince of Wales, whose arm she took, made a detour through some of the Australian courts. On again entering the central Canadian gallery, from the South Australian portion of the central annex, attention was specially drawn by Sir Charles Tupper to the large map of the

Dominion, and to the completed line of the Canadian Pacific—in the progress of which the Queen and her eldest son have been known to take a keen interest. Some time was then spent in an examination of the game trophy, special interest being excited by the Hubbard natural history collection, and by the fur exhibits of Messrs. Renfrow of Quebec, and of the Hudson Bay Company. Here Her Majesty was pleased to purchase an elegant lady's sable set from the exhibit of Messrs. Renfrow, and a silver fox skin from the Hudson Bay collection. Passing through the interior of the trophy, a handsomely framed photograph of Sir John Macdonald attracted attention, and Her Majesty expressed great satisfaction at the Canadian Premier's recovery from his recent illness. In the mineral court, which was next reached, the royal party much admired the agates from the head of Lake Superior comprised in Mr. Keefe's collection, the magnificent amethyst exhibited by the Executive Commissioner from Amethyst Island, and the specimen of gold from the Blue Nose lode belonging to the Nova Scotia Government. In the western gallery the machinery in motion claimed considerable notice, as well as the photographic views of the Windsor hotel and ice palace of Montreal prepared by Messrs. Notman of the same city. The educational court was next entered. In the Ontario portion Dr. May was in waiting, and reaching that allotted to the Province of Quebec, Lord Lorne presented the Hon. Mr. Ouimet, Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Province of Quebec, and Mr. Joseph Marnette, who is connected with the library collected by the Dominion Government. Her Majesty here noted with interest the evidences given by the exhibit of the great advance made during recent years in the education of the Dominion, and from this court entered the New Zealand section, expressing her great gratification at the parts of the Canadian display that had come within her notice.

It is estimated that there are three million feet of pine timber tributary to Thunder Bay, intersected by the Pigeon, Pine, Jarvis, Cloud, Carp, Slate, Sturgeon and Kaministiquia rivers. About three-fourths of this amount is white pine. W. H. Carpenter's limits embrace 25,000 acres of timber lands, of which there are 200 million feet of pine, and about the same amount of tamarac and spruce, cedar and poplar.

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