

We will soon have to import all the timber for buildings. They have struck into hemlock now, so that soon all the soft timber will be gone. Lumbermen strip the land, and don't pay taxes on it, and it has to be sold over again, and it brings very small returns. If the Government would take that land back again and make it Crown lands, and plant it with timber it would pay in the long run. Butternut grows rapidly, and gives a valuable timber for furniture. The Catalpa is hardy, and seems to flourish north.

Mr. MORDEN—I have a good deal of faith in tree planting for shelter, and I believe before many years we will be able to use good land to produce timber. I believe it has its effects on the streams. But here is a nut for Mr. Phipps to crack: In the summer of 1887, right through the centre of this continent, from the Gulf of Mexico to Algoma, we had a drouth extending for months in the temperate region that affected the crops very much. In the same summer, on the Atlantic seacoast and up the valley of the Mississippi, clear up to the North-West, where it is prairie for thousands of miles, we had abundance of rain. Now, if the forests are going to produce the rain, and if the prairies are going to banish the rain, how can we account for that? It sounds very well as a matter of theory, but I think it is a pretty large undertaking to make climate by planting trees. I think the chief benefit of the forests in this respect is their effect as wind-breaks. Would it not pay to plant cedar? They grow rapidly. It is not necessary to go to wet ground. They will grow nicely on dry ground. Cedar is a valuable timber, and I fancy before many years we will see it planted by the acre, as well as other varieties.

Prof. SAUNDERS—Mr. Beall, what has been your experience in growing walnuts from seeds as to the size they attain in ten years?

Mr. BEALL—I should say in ten years they would be from five to six inches in diameter, and 12 to 15 feet high; that is from measurement of mine. I have about fifty trees, about 21 years since they came up, and they are from ten to sixteen inches in diameter and from 30 to 40 feet high. The diameter is reckoned from about two and a half feet above the ground.

Mr. JAMES GOLDIE (Guelph)—Many parts of our country have been so denuded of the forests that it is suffering very much. The Government should be memorialized. When public land is sold there should be a reservation, either on each farm as it is sold off, or else reserve a portion of the public domain in small tracts through the country. That apparently, has never been taken into consideration by the Government.

Dr. BURGESS—I have seen walnut timber cut, said to be about thirty years' growth, which cabinetmakers pronounced very fair for use.

The SECRETARY—There is here a specimen of black walnut, sent by Hon. Mr. Joly, of Quebec. It is eight years from the nut. There are also some seedlings here, sent to us to show what size seedlings would grow in one year.

The PRESIDENT—Have we anyone here who has planted an experimental plot of forest trees?

Mr. MORRIS—We have planted about five acres in forestry, besides long lengths of strips around the borders, perhaps twenty feet wide. These strips are mixtures of trees, but the five acres contain Catalpa, American ash, and wild black cherry. I would recommend, in planting, that these trees be mixed, because the roots of some will go downward, while some will spread near the surface, and in that way they will occupy all the ground. Black cherry goes very well with black walnut. Trees are much more profitable than a farm crop would be if a person can wait ten or fifteen years.

Prof. SAUNDERS—Mr. Phipps has given us an admirable address, and in a very practical manner pointed out methods by which tree-planting may be encouraged. He went too far, however, in saying that it would take 60 to 70 years to get a crop of black walnut trees that would be merchantable. I saw a grove in Champagne, Ill., some years ago, which had been planted out twenty years ago, and they would go from 12 to 16 inches. I measured several, and I think they would have averaged 14 inches, taking them all around. I think if you add twenty years more to them they would be

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