

only the pulp but the finished paper itself will come to be made in Canada; which will mean, of course, a still greater encouragement to the manufacturing industry of the Dominion.

The interest which farmers have in such an increase of manufacturing at their doors is clear enough. The men engaged in manufactures have to be fed, and they have to buy what farmers can produce. But there is another way in which the farming population is most deeply interested in this question. The existence of forests in the back country is necessary for the safety of the agricultural areas; the snow and rain are caught by the woodland, as if a great sponge, from which the water drains out only by degrees, keeping the streams running all the time, no matter how dry the weather may be. If the forest is cleared away, then the melting of snow in spring and the rain falling afterward, rush off quickly, causing floods in the valleys; and when the floods have gone the flow of water in the streams is reduced to an unnatural and perhaps dangerous extent.

Many countries are suffering severely from this alternation of too much water at one time and too little at another, caused simply by the absence of forests on the high grounds from which the rivers come. The farmers, and therefore the whole country, have a direct and deep interest in seeing that effective measures are taken to preserve the forests. The need of such measures becomes very plain when we realize that even some of the farmers in forest regions are short-sighted enough to take part in the work of destruction, entirely disregarding the future of their country for the sake of a little extra money in the present. Not long ago a high ecclesiastical dignitary was begging the clergy to bring influence to bear on the men who were neglecting their farms, spending their time in the woods and selling off the trees, in order to get the prices offered by pulp and paper manufacturers.

The New Brunswick forests are extremely rich in the variety of their trees. Pine and spruce grow with astonishing rapidity, especially the latter species, which yields timber of the highest quality. The land reforests itself naturally with a luxuriant growth wherever proper fire protection is afforded. Among the hard woods there is a great wealth of maple, of elm and oak, of birch, beech and ash. About \$3,750,000 (that is to say £750,000) worth of forest exports comes from New Brunswick to the Mother Country every year, and about \$1,250,000 worth (£250,000) is sent from the Province to other countries. The Government, of course, sees to it that the forest pays a fair share of the Provincial taxation. Indeed about \$500,000 (£100,000) a year finds its way into the Provincial Exchequer from this source.

The manufactures of the Province have already reached a very respectable growth. Naturally, the first place among them is held by manufacturers depending on the forests for their raw material.

How many hundreds of sawmills there may be in New Brunswick I dare not attempt to guess. Of course, to a very large extent the product of these mills is only half manufactured; that is to say, it leaves the country in the shape of deals to be worked up elsewhere. Shingles, the sort of wooden tiles used so