

**FOREST PROTECTION AND
THE TARIFF ON LUMBER:
SPIRIT OF THE PRESS**

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Forest Protection and the Tariff on Lumber: Spirit of the Press by Various

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TARIFF ON LUMBER.

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SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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NEW YORK.

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1888.

13th July 1913
28521

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

ACCOMPANYING PAMPHLET ON FOREST PROTECTION.

The compiler of this Pamphlet has been advised of excellent articles having appeared in other papers, but those inserted therein, were all that came under his own observation, or of which he could immediately obtain copies. He had also in his possession, most valuable articles written by gentlemen who have devoted time and labor, in calling the attention of the public, to this, the most important economic question of the day—one, before which all others sink into insignificance in comparison; for nothing can be more true, than the remarks of "The Glasgow (Scotland) Herald" when reviewing an article on the subject in 1878, which says: "The knowledge we have gained of a dearth of cotton may help us to appreciate 'the terribleness of the calamity that would be experienced from a dearth of timber' in Canada and the States. In point of fact, both Canada and the States are busy sawing from under them the high-reaching, fortune-making branch, on which, like conquerors, they are now sitting and overlooking the world."

When we consider the importance that an abundance of the most valuable timber has had on the past welfare of the country, and come to realize what "a dearth of timber" means, all will readily see that the foregoing is by no means an overdrawn statement. If we also consider the fact, that every human being in this country, must have timber in some form or another for his protection or comfort—that our shelter is of timber, the floors we walk on, the chairs we sit on, the tables we eat from, the conveyances we use; even our cradles and coffins are of wood; we can readily see that in one form or another we must have timber.

The great ingenuity of "the everlasting Yankee" has not even yet touched the subject. Notwithstanding the fences of wire, the use of iron in building, the terra cotta and straw-lumber, still the

consumption of our old friend wooden lumber increased nearly fifty per cent. in the ten years from 1870 to 1880, the former being 12,755,543,000, and the latter 18,091,353,000 feet, and though it has always been claimed that iron and lumber keep together, cheap lumber accompanying cheap iron, we now find iron so low that producers claim they are at the lowest rung of the ladder, while lumber has advanced in three years fully 50 per cent., with every prospect of still further increase; and yet we, in the north, are informed that we are within eight years of the time when our supplies of white pine and spruce, which are our great stock of this indispensable material, must cease; and this is not the statement of interested parties, which might be open to suspicion, but of those specially employed by the government of the country to ascertain the true condition of the forests.

It will no doubt be said, "what of this, there are still vast forests in the south to be drawn upon?" This may be a matter of great value to the south, but to the people of the north, who now make and use five-sixths of the sawed lumber produced, it is a matter of the most serious importance. The value of the lumber now produced in the north exceeds \$200,000,000 a year as it falls from the saw—that it is all wanted there can be no better evidence than the fact that demand and price are both increasing—and to replace it would cost from two to three times this sum, even if the same lumber could be obtained elsewhere, which cannot be; and \$500,000,000 a year would not replace it; so that in a very short time this northern country, instead of having a great and profitable industry, advancing and helping every interest, will be called upon to pay out hundreds of millions of dollars annually for such material.

But even our southern friends are interested with us in the preservation of this timber, as the uses to which it is applied are so different from theirs, that large quantities are annually sent south, and the government of Canada, recognizing this fact, while imposing a retaliatory duty on the white pine admits southern pine, duty free. It is further to be hoped that southern governments may learn a lesson from the prodigality of the north, and preserve their most valuable timber for the benefit and welfare of the community, instead of giving it away to timber land speculators, or to such an ignorant race of destructionists, as have gobbled up the timber of the north, or they too will soon be dispossessed of one of the greatest blessings that Providence has vouchsafed their country.

When people talk, as they sometimes do, of the inexhaustable forests of the south, they little know the sawing capacity of the northern mills, which could in twelve months time convert the whole merchantable pine of the state of Georgia into lumber, and be but six months in using up the pine of Florida: and the men that run these mills, not only have the will but the greed to do it.

When one considers the many industries engaged in the various processes involved in the use of this material and the hundreds of thousands of laborers directly depending thereupon for their livelihood—and that it is an article required by every individual of the whole community, one can readily see that every means should be adopted for its preservation and protection.

While England that has cheap coal, cheap iron and cheap labor, and that can get her supplies at the cheapest rates from the north of Europe, annually expends nearly \$100,000,000 for timber, one can readily recognize how much it would cost this country (that is yet to be built up) to import its lumber from any foreign source. It has been estimated that it would take the entire sailing tonnage of the world to convey the amount of timber annually consumed in this country from any foreign lumber port. But where to get it at any price in the enormous quantities used in this country is a question that would puzzle those best informed on the subject to determine.

From the foregoing we recognize the truth of the statement made by a writer in the accompanying pages, wherein he says: "NO MORE VITAL QUESTION CAN COME BEFORE CONGRESS. PERHAPS NO CONGRESS HAS EVER BEEN CALLED ON TO DECIDE AN ECONOMIC QUESTION OF GREATER MOMENT."

The attention of the public is invited to the consideration of these pages, in the hope that a fuller discussion and better understanding of the importance of our forests will lead to wise measures for Forest Preservation.

New York City, January, 1888.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in financial matters. This section also touches upon the legal implications of failing to maintain such records, which can lead to severe consequences for individuals and organizations alike.

2. The second part of the document provides a detailed overview of the various methods and tools used for data collection and analysis. It highlights the significance of choosing the right methodology based on the specific requirements of the study or project. The text also discusses the challenges associated with data collection, such as ensuring data quality and integrity, and offers practical solutions to overcome these challenges.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the analysis and interpretation of the collected data. It explains the different statistical techniques and analytical tools used to extract meaningful insights from the data. This section also discusses the importance of contextualizing the results and drawing conclusions that are supported by the evidence. The text provides examples of how to present the findings in a clear and concise manner, making it easier for the audience to understand the key points.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the ethical considerations and best practices for conducting research. It emphasizes the need to obtain informed consent from participants, ensure confidentiality, and avoid any potential conflicts of interest. The text also provides guidance on how to handle sensitive information and ensure that the research is conducted in a fair and unbiased manner.

5. The fifth part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and conclusions. It reiterates the importance of maintaining accurate records and the significance of using appropriate methods for data collection and analysis. The text also offers recommendations for future research and practical applications of the findings. Finally, the document concludes with a statement of appreciation for the support and assistance provided throughout the process.

PUBLIC OPINION
ON
FOREST PROTECTION
AND THE
LUMBER TARIFF.

(From the Message of President Arthur.)

The condition of the forests of the country, and the wasteful manner in which their destruction is taking place, give cause for serious apprehension. Their action in protecting the earth's surface, in modifying the extremes of climate, and in regulating and sustaining the flow of springs and streams, is now well understood, and their importance in relation to the growth and prosperity of the country cannot be safely disregarded. They are fast disappearing before destructive fires and the legitimate requirements of our increasing population, and their total extinction cannot be long delayed unless better methods than now prevail shall be adopted for their protection and cultivation. The attention of Congress is invited to the necessity of additional legislation to secure the preservation of the valuable forests still remaining on the public domain, especially in the extreme Western States and Territories, where the necessity for their preservation is greater than in less mountainous regions, and where the prevailing dryness of the climate renders their restoration, if they are once destroyed, well-nigh impossible.