

THE LOG OF A TIMBER CRUISER

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The Log of a Timber Cruiser by William Pinkney Lawson

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WILLIAM PINKNEY LAWSON

**THE LOG OF A
TIMBER CRUISER**



THE CLIFFS ON MORGAN CREEK

THE LOG OF A TIMBER CRUISER

BY
WILLIAM PINKNEY LAWSON

ILLUSTRATED



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1915

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To
PAUL P. PITCHLYNN
A GOOD BOSS AND A REGULAR FELLOW.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

FOREWORD

Public knowledge of the reasons for the existence of the United States Forest Service is fairly widespread and accurate. Conservation—the intelligent use and development of the resources of our National Forests, has worked its way into the list of the Nation's permanent policies. But while most people are agreed as to the desirability of the work the Forest Service is doing and know in a general way what that work is, there exists a surprising lack of information as to the actual life and day-to-day duties of Service field men: Supervisors and Forest Assistants, Rangers and Guards.

"The Log of a Timber Cruiser" is in part an attempt to furnish such information—at least in one phase of Forest Service activity—by detailing the incidents of a six months' field assignment in the mountains of southern New Mexico. If, in addition, the reading of this account provides half the entertainment which the recording of the events as they occurred brought, I shall feel very much more than pleased.

Grateful acknowledgment is due Mr. Gifford Pinchot, the former Forester; Mr. Herbert A. Smith, Editor of the Forest Service; Mr. Bristow Adams,

FOREWORD

of the Washington Office; Mr. Arthur C. Ringland, District Forester of the Southwest; and Mr. Don P. Johnson, Supervisor of the Gila National Forest, for their careful examination of the manuscript and for their many suggestions to which in no small measure whatever of merit the story possesses must be attributed.

Readers of the manuscript have suggested that a number of terms used, while common enough in the locality where the story is set or in Forest Service circles, may not be familiar to the general reader. To obviate this difficulty without stopping in every case during the action of the log to explain such expressions a brief glossary is appended which defines those words and phrases that seem most to want defining. I think that's all—except the story.

W. P. L.

New York City,
1914.