

**PUBLICATIONS OF THE
AMERICAN ECONOMIC
ASSOCIATION, VOL.
VI, NO. 3, MAY, 1891**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649197774

Publications of the American Economic Association, Vol. VI, No. 3, May, 1891 by Various .

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

VARIOUS .

**PUBLICATIONS OF THE
AMERICAN ECONOMIC
ASSOCIATION, VOL.
VI, NO. 3, MAY, 1891**

COPYRIGHT, 1891, BY AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION.

BALTIMORE:
FROM THE PRESS OF GUGGENHEIMER, WEIL & CO.
1891.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I. GOVERNMENT FORESTRY ABROAD. By GIFFORD PINCHOT...	5
Germany.....	9
France.....	24
Switzerland.....	32
Australia.....	42
India.....	45
South Africa.....	50
Other Countries.....	52
II. THE PRESENT CONDITION OF THE FOREST ON THE PUBLIC LANDS. By EDWARD A. BOWERS.....	55
III. PRACTICABILITY OF AN AMERICAN FOREST ADMINISTRATION. By B. E. FERNOW.....	75
IV. APPENDIX: PROPOSED BILL.....	93

The three papers on Forest Administration here printed together were read at the joint session of the American Economic Association and the American Forestry Association, at Washington, D. C., December 30, 1890.

#

Government Forestry Abroad.

BY

GIFFORD PINCHOT.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

Government Forestry Abroad.

BY GIFFORD PINCHOT.

The following article has been rather hastily prepared from such materials and experience as the writer was able to command, and while from the nature of the case it cannot claim to be a comprehensive treatment of the subject, it is believed that the statements and statistics which it contains are accurate.

Germany, France and Switzerland have been dwelt upon more at length, both because forestry has reached a wider development there, and because the writer can speak concerning them from personal observation.

The history of the forest has developed itself along similar lines in all the countries of Europe. Its course in the central part of the Continent, which may be taken as fairly representative of what it was elsewhere, is thus briefly summarized.

At first the forest held the same relation to man as to the game upon which he lived. His demand upon it was insignificant, but, as he advanced in the scale of civilization, he began to call upon the forest for greater supplies of timber, and especially for the pasturage of his herds. Until comparatively recent times this was the chief service which gave the wood

lands value. The increasing density of population and the more complicated needs of life then gave gradual rise to more vigorous attacks upon the forest. For a time the demand was small and the areas cut over easily covered themselves with young growth. The forest renewed itself and maintained its productive power. But, as the demand increased, the areas cut over increased with it, and the actual re-growth no longer kept pace with the quantity of timber which it was called upon to yield. At the same time the land needed for agriculture was being taken from the timbered area, and the wood lands, attacked along two lines, were beginning to suffer seriously.

"It is true," says Dr. Gayer,¹ "that the forest belonged at that time chiefly to the herdsmen and the game, but the steadily increasing tendency to destruction of a growing population made the general cultivation of the chase an undoubted advantage to the forest. Indeed the hunter has been at all times one of its best friends. For numerous acts of violence may be referred to, extending over the whole of mediæval times, as a result of which much free land belonging to the early communities, or the rights to its enjoyment, passed in course of time into the hands of the rulers. From a legal standpoint these are indeed events to be deplored, and from them the oppressive burden of actual prescriptive rights takes its rise, but the present extensive State forest holdings in Germany have chiefly to thank this universal love of *venerie* for their existence.

"It is unquestionably true that the forests have been at no time in a more deplorable condition than in the second half of the Middle Ages, and thence on to the middle of the last century. The results which must follow this condition of affairs were evident, and led to the most serious fears of a widespread timber famine. And although this foreboding, as it filled the minds of men toward the end of the Mediæval period, and as it was brought to the attention of the people through numerous publications, may have been exaggerated, nevertheless, in view of the commercial relations of the

¹Der Wald im Wechsel der Zeiten. Inaugural address as Rector of the University of Munich, November, 1889.