

Thus, of the three great powers, France, Germany and Austria-Hungary, which are also foremost in scientific forestry, France, with 18 per cent in forest, while supplying itself with firewood, has to import timber largely, to the extent, it is estimated, of more than a third of its requirements for building and such purposes; Germany, with 26 per cent in forests, imports in excess of its exports a considerable quantity of wood, but only a small proportion of its total consumption; Austria-Hungary, with 30 per cent in forest, and a less dense population, is a large exporter of timber. In all these cases the forests are maintained undiminished or even slightly increased. Other great timber exporting countries, Norway, Sweden and Northern Russia, have undoubtedly been drawing upon their resources by diminishing their forests.

237. As throwing light upon the practicability of afforesting our prairies, the fact is of interest that on the Russian steppes, the prairies of that country, the Government has in recent years made plantations amounting to 130 square miles, and is making additions of about three square miles each year.

238. That coniferous forests can be subjected to and perpetuated by scientific forestry is shown by the following divisions of the forests in some of the chief countries of Europe:—

COUNTRY.	Coniferous per cent.	Deciduous per cent.
Austria.....	72	28
Hungary.....	22	78
Belgium.....	33	67
France.....	33	67
Germany.....	67	33
Holland.....	40	60
Italy.....	31	69

239. For the forests outside of Europe statistics are difficult to obtain, but the following table gives the latest available figures for some of the countries of America, Asia, Africa and Australasia.—

Date.	COUNTRIES.	Per cent. Forest.	Total Forest.	State or Crown.	Municipal and Private.
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1894..	United States.....	23·29	450,000,000	.....	.....
1893..	British Guiana.....	18·00	5,760,000	.....	.....
1893..	India.....	25·00	140,000,000	70,000,000	70,000,000
1892..	Turkey in Asia.....	.....	17,500,000	.....	.....
1887..	Algiers.....	5·50	5,833,100	5,058,060	775,040
1887..	Cape Colony.....	.....	224,000	.....	.....
1887..	New South Wales.....	10·00	19,230,090	5,400,000	.....
1889..	Victoria.....	.....	Not stated.	1,353,442	.....
1889..	South Australia.....	.....	“	165,324	.....