

Canada, however, that we must look for much of our timber-supply when our indigenous forests are nearly cut out, and our afforestation operations are not sufficiently advanced to meet the whole of the local demand.

Australia will also furnish a fair proportion of hardwood timber for some time to come ; but there again it is found on careful examination that the forest resources are not nearly so large as had been thought. The particulars that have been ascertained by the Western Australian and New South Wales Royal Commissions are sufficient to show us that the question of supply and demand even in these vast States requires to be systematically studied, and it is quite possible an export duty may eventually be placed on much of the valuable Australian timbers for which New Zealand and other countries may indicate a growing preference. At present, however, there is a large open market that is available for our timber-merchants, and supplies of suitable timber appear likely to remain reasonable in price and sufficient in quantity for another decade.

It has been suggested that a profitable market may be opened up in *Manchuria* and *Siberia*, and timber-merchants both in New Zealand and Australia are now making careful inquiries with a view to ascertaining the various kinds of timber grown in those countries, and their suitability for local needs. It would seem that the trade is already established in the Commonwealth, as the Tasmanian timber industry is reported to have felt the competition of Manchurian pine timber very much recently.

The following summary serves to show the quantities of timber imported into New Zealand of late years, and the countries from which it is derived :—

Year.	Logs.	Laths and Shingles.	Posts, Palings, and Rails.	Sawn, dressed.	Sawn, undressed.	Logs, hewn.
AUSTRALIA:						
	No.	No.	No.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.	Sup. ft.
1904	2,302	1,232,150	647,120	62,292	11,175,250	4,477,255
1905	2,627	1,727,917	575,719	87,988	10,755,822	2,914,307
1906	4,665	1,675,533	684,116	118,971	12,233,205	5,815,297
1907	4,140	1,169,282	737,580	73,403	13,783,644	10,404,396
1908	3,787	1,599,107	803,232	64,433	21,336,462	14,452,000
CANADA.						
1904	11	62,000	Nil.	Nil.	9,575	7,300
1905	Nil.	100,000	Nil.	Nil.	65,625	..
1906	Nil.	650,000	Nil.	Nil.	803,600	..
1907	Nil.	1,565,080	4,500	Nil.	37,550	869
1908	38	6,264,929	Nil.	Nil.	11,572,878	15,330
UNITED STATES.						
1904	6	25,000	Nil.	62,305	759,264	2,460
1905	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	40,795	139,305	6,503
1906	18	Nil.	Nil.	45,066	907,788	18,207
1907	Nil.	650	Nil.	34,381	152,083	17,356
1908	Nil.	1,644,500	Nil.	100,422	4,166,629	15,001
OTHER PLACES.						
1904	Nil.	320,000	Nil.	24,162	157,513	886
1905	10	100,000	3,400	7,900	94,201	4,857
1906	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	3,910	79,692	5,952
1907	61	Nil.	Nil.	6,600	189,351	7,524
1908	Nil.	1,000	Nil.	10,931	74,829	19,078

(A.) TIMBER-SUPPLIES IN EUROPE.
SUMMARY OF WOODED AREAS IN GREAT BRITAIN.*

	Total Area.	Area under Woods.	Cultivated Area.	Mountain and Grazing Land.	Commons and Field Lands.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
England	32,381,908	1,715,473	24,560,399	2,401,263	1,950,917
Wales	4,748,398	184,361	2,787,514	1,319,982	681,855
Scotland	19,069,674	868,409	4,863,473	9,080,729	Nil.
Total	56,199,980	2,768,243	32,211,386	12,801,974	2,632,772

* Particulars extracted from minutes of evidence taken by the Royal Commission on Coast-erosion and Afforestation, 1908.