

ble. For this, as we have illustrated in another article on this page, they will find that it is their true interest to employ the most skillful men attainable, and the highest wages will be a judicious investment. It should be their aim to thoroughly train workmen, from boys up, in the most careful and thorough habits so as to supply the want which must exist, if the policy of first-class workmanship is to be everywhere adopted.

We have only one more suggestion to make on this general subject of the standard of lumber. It seems to us that one single check on the administration of inspection laws, in the hands of surveyors, may properly be demanded. It is this, that at the same time that the number of feet in a plank or other piece of lumber is marked upon it, a figure, letter or other device, indicating the grade or quality, should also be marked upon it. The result would be that the dealer would not be able, under an inspection, paid for and possibly influenced by himself, to purchase lumber as refuse and to sell it as merchantable. This would, in a measure, remove the temptation to undue influence in the inspection to the detriment of the manufacturer. An illustration of the present possibility of wrong done to somebody occurred in this district. Of 100,000 feet of 2 inch spruce plank, 16,000 feet were classed as refuse, having been purchased by a dealer on one of our lumber wharves. A party, who knew that the plank so classed as refuse was still in possession of the purchaser, and wished to obtain 2000 feet at a low price, went expecting to supply himself from this lot, but was told that they had no refuse two inch spruce plank. Either the inspection was wrong, or they intended to sell refuse lumber as merchantable. Such a transaction would not be possible, if the above suggestion, which only corresponds to the practice in the inspection of other kinds of merchantable should be adopted.

## THE TREE THAT DESTROYS MALARIA.

*From the San Francisco Bulletin.*

The eucalyptus globulus, or Australian gum tree, is favorably known to all residents of California, where probably not less than 1,000,000 trees are planted. In this city, in front of handsome residences, you will find it with its magnificent drooping branches making an effective and graceful shade tree. In Oakland the broad avenues are lined with them, eucalyptus forests are planted in the country surrounding Oakland, and in fact, in every county of this state where the cold weather will permit it to live, the eucalyptus will be found growing.

The wonderful properties of this tree have only within the past few years been discovered and appreciated. It is justly claimed that when the tree flourishes in low, marshy, and feverish districts, all miasma will cease. It destroys the malarial element in any atmosphere where it grows, and is a great absorbent of moisture, draining the subsoil almost as thoroughly as a regular system of piping.

The eucalyptus is an evergreen, and is found in its native country (Tasmania) in boundless forests, both on the hillside and in the lowlands, under extremes of climates, both as to heat and cold, ranging from 130 deg. to 20 deg. Fahrenheit. Whether it will endure a greater degree of cold we think has as yet been undetermined. It is, however, worthy a trial.

Its remarkably rapid growth is a matter of much surprise, attaining, as it does, a maximum height of about three hundred feet, with a circumference of from thirty to fifty feet. For timber and fuel it is exceedingly useful, being hard and easily worked, and very serviceable for such purposes as the keels of vessels, bridges, etc., where strength and durability are essential. It is estimated that from \$4,000,000 to

\$5,000,000 in value of this timber is exported annually from Australia.

The leaves of this tree are of a dark bluish color, about ten inches long, an inch wide, thin and oddly twisted. They exhale a strong camphor-like odor, quite agreeable and pleasant, which, with the large absorption of water by the roots, cause the beneficial influence of the tree. It bears a small white flower, having no odor.

In consequence of its anti-febrile qualities, the English government has planted it extensively in the East Indies and Africa, in fever districts, with the most satisfactory results. In France, Cuba, Spain, Mexico, and many other places where malaria, fever, ague, and other pestilential diseases prevailed, the eucalypti have also been planted. The wonderful properties of this tree have been discussed by many scientific institutions in Europe. In the Academy of Sciences in this city its medical and anti-miasmatic qualities have received considerable attention. Dr. Pigne Dupuytren testified before that academy of the virtues of the eucalyptus, and stated that he and Dr. D'Olivera had tested it in the French hospital. In the garden surrounding this hospital a large number of the trees are planted for sanitary purposes. It had been found efficacious in the treatment of affections of the larynx and of mucous membrane in general. Experiments, carefully made, have proved that in a medical preparation it cures cases of intermittent fever, against which quinine alone proves powerless. It is also valuable as a disinfectant.

In Algeria its cultivation was undertaken on a large scale. Some 13,000 eucalypti were planted in an extremely pestilential and unhealthy section, where fever prevailed to a great extent every year. During the fourth year of their growth, at the time when the fever season used to set in, not a single case of fever occurred, yet the trees were only nine feet high. Since then this place is

reported free from its unwelcome visitations. In the vicinity of Constantinople, another fever spot, marshy and sickly, the whole ground was dried up by 14,000 of these trees. In Cuba, marsh diseases are rapidly disappearing upon the introduction of this tree. A railway station in the department of the Var, France, was so pestilential that the officials could not remain there longer than a year. Forty of these trees were planted, and the unhealthy condition of the place was changed.

Two miles from Haywards, in this state, the surveyor general planted two groves of the eucalyptus, one of about ninety acres and the other seventy acres, the whole comprising 150,000 trees. They are now only about five years old, yet many of the trees are forty to fifty feet high, the whole making a most extensive and beautiful forest, for fuel and timber purposes being worth thousands of dollars.

#### EXPORT DUTY ON SAW LOGS.

The special committee of the house of commons, of the Dominion of Canada, charged with enquiring into the working of the export duty upon logs, shingle-bolts, and stave-bolts, has made the following report:

That the export duty upon logs, shingle-bolts, and stave-bolts, imposed under schedule F of the tariff act of 1868, cap. 44 of 31 Vic. is a tax upon settlers and owners of timber, who are prevented by its operation from securing the full advantage of the best market.

That the export duty, while reducing the market value of logs and bolts for the benefit of mill owners, does not promote the manufacture of lumber, shingles, and staves at the principal Lake Erie ports and at many other points in Canada.

That a large proportion of the export of pine and oak logs as long timber enters into the same class of