

STATEMENT showing the actual extent of purely STATE FOREST in some of the GERMAN STATES and the AUSTRIAN EMPIRE, with the yield per Acre, and Explanatory Remarks.

1	2	3	4	5
Name of State.	Area of Purely State Forests, in English Acres.		Yield per English Acre, calculated on Column 2.	REMARKS.
	Productive.	Unproductive.		
Prussia	5,836,100	666,175	cubic feet. 34·5	The figures for Prussia, Wurtemberg, and Baden are taken entirely from <i>Bernhardt's Forstatistik</i> (1872); for Saxony, from the <i>Tharander Forstliches Jahrbuch</i> (1870); and for Bavaria, from the <i>Forststatistische Mittheilung</i> (1869). The unproductive area in Wurtemberg is not given by Bernhardt. For Austria I have taken the figures given in the latest annual report. From this table the average yield of the Prussian State forest would appear low in comparison with other States, and there is no doubt that, owing to circumstances of soil and climate, the yield is below that of Saxony and Bavaria and the Black Forest. The great extent of the Prussian Kingdom must be taken into account, but still more the accurate nature of the statistics, which are for the year
Saxony	378,555	15,614	72·5	
Bavaria	2,079,835	238,788	63	
Wurtemberg	469,087	—	84·7	
Baden	212,770	18,817	80·6	
Austrian Empire	1,576,699	653,347	41	

1871, whilst those for Wurtemberg are for 1860, and Baden, 1856, no later data being given by Bernhardt. The yield in Prussia is greater in the western than in the eastern provinces, and varies very widely; thus we have the provinces of Danzig and Marienwerder with a yield of only 20 cubic feet per English acre; Bromberg, Minden, and Cöslin with 23; whilst Hanover, Aachen, and Wiesbaden are all over 50, and Erfurt 56·5 cubic feet. Again, the areas in columns 2 and 3 are classed for Prussia as "devoted to the rearing of timber," and "not devoted to the rearing of timber," and I imagine that under column 2 a considerable extent of moor and really uncultivated area is included, whereas in the smaller States (Wurtemberg and Baden) only the area actually under crop is taken into account. For these reasons I am inclined to reject the figures for these two States altogether. The Austrian yield is also very doubtful, and the large proportion of unproductive to productive area is a noteworthy feature. As regards Bavaria, the system of calculation in "*klafters*" and "*wellenhunderts*" makes it difficult to arrive at accurate results, and I may mention that Bernhardt makes the Bavarian yield only 45 cubic feet per acre. For Saxony I believe the figures to be accurate, and there is no doubt that the Saxon yield is high, and steadily increasing, having been 60·4 cubic feet in 1854, 67·6 cubic feet in 1863, and now (1870) 72·5 cubic feet per English acre. Even with regard to this State, however, there is an element of uncertainty in the figures given, as Judeich, in Table 1 of the *Jahrbuch*, gives the yield first as 1·23 klafters of 100 cubic feet per Saxon acre, = 89 cubic feet per English acre; and, second, 5·04 forst-metre per hectare, = 72·5 cubic feet per English acre, which latter figures I have retained as above.

II.

REPORT by Captain CAMPBELL WALKER, Staff Corps, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Madras, on ENGLISH and SCOTCH FORESTS, dated 15th March, 1872.

CROWN FORESTS.

Introductory.

THE Royal forests and woodlands which I have visited, on the authority of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, are the Windsor Great Park and Sandhurst Woods, the New Forest and Parkhurst Woods, and the Dean Forest and High Meadow Woods. The two former are not included in the summary of woods and plantations published in 1863, in which the total area or extent actually under timber in the woods and plantations is given at 51,606 acres, of which 11,923 are natural woods or planted before 1800, and the balance of 39,687 acres have been planted since 1800. Since 1863, a considerable extent must have been added to this area, and the Sandhurst Woods, if not those of Windsor Great Park, ought to be included.

Besides the forests visited by me, the above acreage includes the woods or plantations known respectively as Alice Holt, Woolmer, Bere, Delamere, Salcey, Hazleborough, and Chopwell, none of which, however, extend over 3,000 acres, the majority being only small pieces of 1,000 acres under crop.

The receipts from the New and Dean Forests, High Meadow, Bere, Alice Holt, Woolmer, and Delamere Woods, for the year 1870–71, aggregated £37,390, whilst the expenditure amounted to £22,230. I did not obtain the figures for Salcey, Hazleborough, or Chopwell Woods, and Windsor Great Park cannot, as hereafter explained, be regarded from an ordinary financial point of view.

The bulk of the Crown forests consists of oak, which, however, particularly in the New Forest, is now gradually being replaced, when mature and felled, by the larch, Scotch fir, and other conifers.

The extensive oak plantations were made under the direction of successive Acts of Parliament, which in most cases expressly declare the object to be the providing of a supply of oak timber for the navy. This necessity has now, to a great extent, ceased, as our "wooden walls" are things of the past, and teak is much preferred to oak for the backing of ironclads, the juice of the oak having, I am informed, an injurious effect on the iron, which is not found to be the case with the teak. The value of the oak bark has also much decreased of late years, owing to the adoption of other substances for tanning, and large imports of foreign bark.

Still the value of the timber in the Royal forests and woodlands must be very great. It was estimated in 1849 as £1,087,777 for the enclosed plantations made since 1808 alone, and the value of the same plantations when at maturity was then estimated at £10,000,000. If to this be added the woods and plantations which existed prior to 1808, and those which have been formed since 1849, it will give some idea of the valuable property administered by Her Majesty's Commissioners and the forest officers of the Crown.

It is, however, scarcely necessary to point out how much more valuable and deserving of care and attention is the forest property of the State in India, where the extent may be considered as miles for acres, on the most moderate computation, and the climatic considerations and the agricultural wants of the people give to the subject of forest conservancy a special interest beyond what it demands in this