

Dear Sir and Friend: —

Rejoice with us. On the 26th day of November next we shall celebrate the twentieth anniversary of forestry at Biltmore, together with the tenth anniversary of the Biltmore Forest School.

Rejoice with us, and make our hearts glad by your welcome presence at the forestry festival, beginning on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1908, and ending on Sunday, November 29, 1908.

You may have heard something of the farms and of the forests found on the Biltmore Estate.

Now we beg of you: *Come and see them for yourself!*

Whatever we possess, in forests and in farms, we shall throw open to you for three days; — and it shall be yours!

The members of the Forest School and the employees of the forest department will be placed at your service, acting as your personal guides during your sojourn.

#### THIS IS THE PROGRAM

*Thursday, November 26th:* Excursion, in carriages, over the Biltmore Estate, leaving Biltmore Village at 9:30 A.M. Inspection of various forest plantations (some 500 acres) replanted in White Pine, Yellow Pine, Ash, Maple, Oak, Chestnut, Hemlock, Poplar and Walnut, made between the years 1889 and 1905. Study of planting operations in actual progress.

Thanksgiving invocation in one of the finest plantations.

Lunch in the woods.

Drive through natural second growth of Yellow Pine (ten to twenty years old) obtained by successive cuttings on several hundred acres of woodlands; through thinnings and through improvement cuttings in course of progress; through compartments treated as hardwood coppice under pine standards; etc.

At each site, the director will explain the situation and the purpose in view; silviculturally as well as financially, and the means adopted to reach the desired ends.

Evening: 8:30: Gala dinner at Battery Park Hotel.

*Friday, November 27th:* Excursion, in carriages, over the Biltmore Estate, leaving Biltmore village at 9:30 A.M. Visit Biltmore Herbarium, Biltmore Nurseries, Afforestations on Coxehill, Biltmore Dairy, Biltmore Pig Farm, Biltmore Poultry Farm.

Study of seed regeneration of Yellow Poplar in Compartments 102 and 104.

Lunch in the woods.

Trip to plantations of 1899 (Pine, White Pine, Locust, Cherry, Walnut, Sugar Maple, Basswood, Oak) and also to those of 1907 and 1908.

In the evening at 8:30: Possum hunt on the Biltmore Estate, barbecue and rejoicing.

*Saturday, November 28th:* Excursion, by train to Pisgah Forest and in carriages to the mountain forests; study of the logging operations and of the second growth obtained in primeval forests logged conservatively in 1895, 1896 and 1897.

Lunch in the lumber camps.

Fishing and shooting contest in the afternoon.

Do not miss this excursion to the mountain forests!

By contrasts we learn.

The contrasts existing between the management of our forests situated *close* to the market, and the management of our forests situated *far* from the market is most striking: *It will strike you.*

Pedestrians may ascend Mt. Pisgah (5,700 feet) at sunset, spending the night at the Hunting Lodge amongst the stars.

*Sunday, November 29th:* Farewell!

#### THESE ARE THE INDUCEMENTS

There is not, and there cannot be offered in the United States an opportunity better than that existing at Biltmore for the study of *Practical Forestry* and of its actual results, obtained with an eye single to success by twenty years of uninterrupted activity! Just think of it! You shall see the forests in all stages of their development, from the embryo forests planted in 1908 up to the primeval woods containing trees antedating by their birth the discovery of America; you will be shown the difficulties, the expense accounts and the rev-

enue sheets of the first forestry on American soil, within an area of 120,000 acres, the property of Mr. George W. Vanderbilt.

Ye Statesmen! Come and assimilate that experience in forestry which the people are anxious for you to possess!

Ye Lumbermen! Come and obtain after seeing the workings of practical forestry at Biltmore, some inspiration for forestal attempts on your own holdings!

Ye Engineers! Come and study the results of afforestation, accomplished on 2,500 acres of fields once abandoned by the farmer!

Ye Foresters! Come and learn from the woods rather than from the books the methods by which trees must be raised and tended!

Statesman! Lumberman! Engineer! Forester! Come! and be welcome!

Then followed complete information as to the expenses connected with attendance, including railroad fares from the larger eastern cities, hotel rates at Asheville, carriage bills at Biltmore and Pisgah Forest, etc., and a final paragraph reading as follows:

The days selected for the festival—selected for your convenience—are apt to be the days of the finest fall weather.

Do not don your best! Select a rough, comfortable suit of clothes and a pair of shoes in which you may walk a quarter of a mile without the sensation of "walking on a toothache."

Come as you are, and take us as we are!

Come! Rejoice with us! And join us in giving thanks on Thanksgiving Day, 1908.