

Kalamazoo, Mich., Feb., 21, 1935.

Forest Service,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen :-

Some time ago an association was organized composed of citizens throughout southwestern Michigan and northern Indiana, for the purpose of endeavoring to save from destruction a beautiful forest of 390 acres, located in Volinia Township, Cass County, Mich. This forest contains practically every variety of hard-wood that ever grew in Southern Michigan, and we believe the largest elms and tulip trees to be found anywhere are in this tract.

We do not wish to make any unwarranted statements, but in presenting our appeal we do wish to make our claims as strong as absolute truth will permit. We believe it is the very last tract of its acreage containing such a wide variety of hard wood that is left in the United States, and if it is the last of its kind in the United States, it is undoubtedly the very last in the world. We know that in the Upper Peninsula there are hard-wood forests of much greater area, but we understand that the tulip and some other trees we have in southern Michigan do not grow there, and that the trees in the Upper Peninsula do not attain to the size of those in the lower Peninsula.

We wish to have reliable information concerning forests in other states. We wish to know if we are justified correct in stating that for variety, size of trees, and acreage, it is the largest remaining hard-wood forest, and it

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is to secure an answer to this question ,that we are writing
you.

Among the trees to be found in this forest, are the
following :-

Ash
Beech.
Bass Wood.
Dog Wood.
White Elm.
Red Elm.
Rock Elm.
Wild Cherry.

Hickory.

Hackberry.

Black Walnut.

White Walnut (or Butternut)

Iron Wood.

Hard Maple.

Soft Maple.

Red Oak.

White Oak.

Black Oak.

Paw Paw.

Shumac.

Sassafras.

Tulip (or Whitewood.)

There is one elm 150 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height with circumference
three feet from ground of 24.2 ft. and a tulip 145.3 ft. in
height with circumference two feet above ground of 20.6. This tree,
straight as a rifle barrel, towers above ground 90.8 ft. to the
first branch. Other tulip trees in vicinity, nearly the same
size. Most of the black walnuts were cut , but it remains
more like the forests of pioneer days than anything we know.
Can we truthfully claim it is the last of its kind ?

We await with interest your reply, and we assure you
we will very much appreciate your courtesy.

Yours very truly,

A. W. Reynolds.

203 Kal. Nat. Bank Bld'g.