

WELCOME TO THE **TIMBERS OF THE WORLD** COLLECTION

**"Wood is an indispensable part
of the material structure upon
which civilization rests."**

Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt -1858 1919. 26th President of the United States Of America

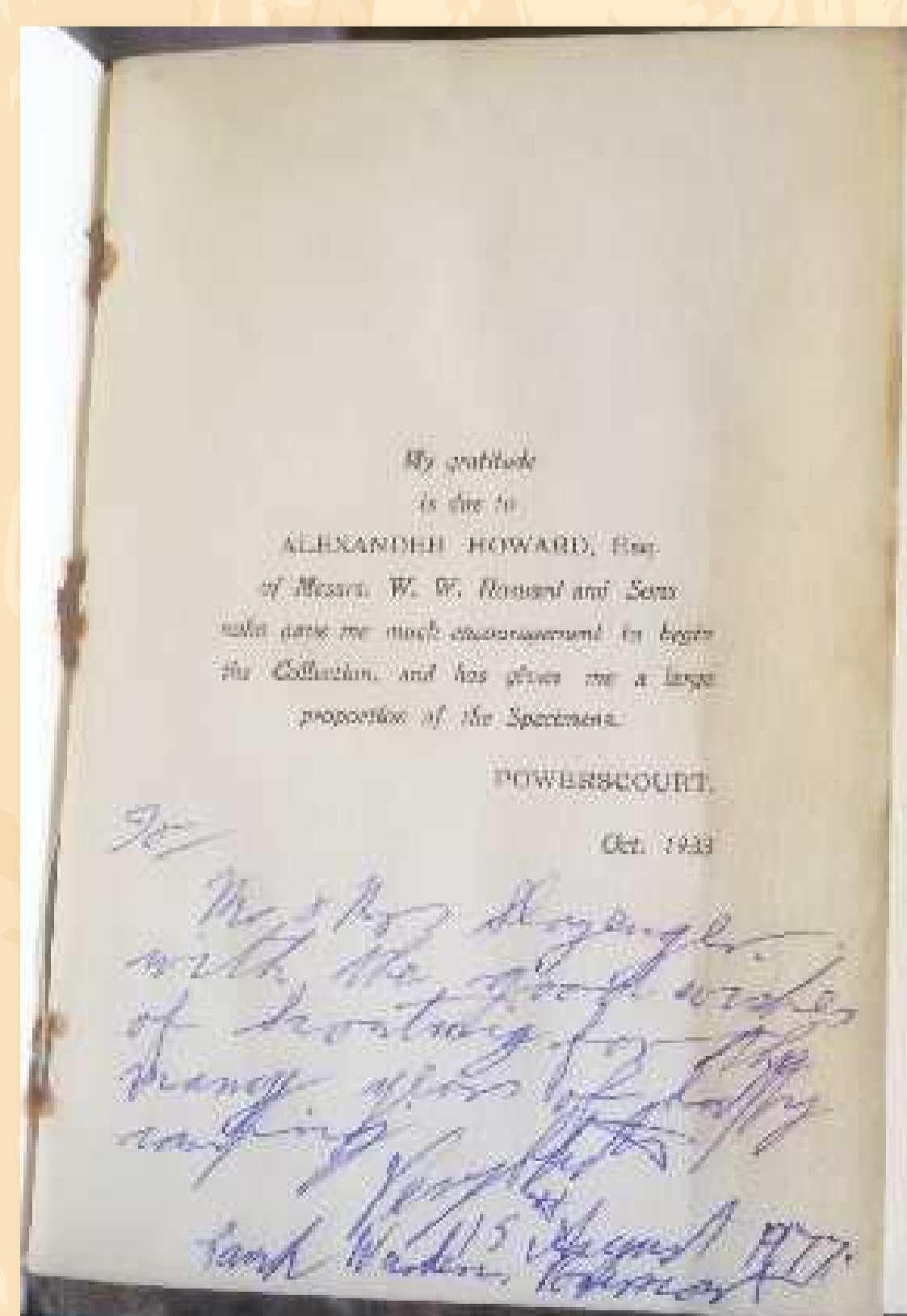
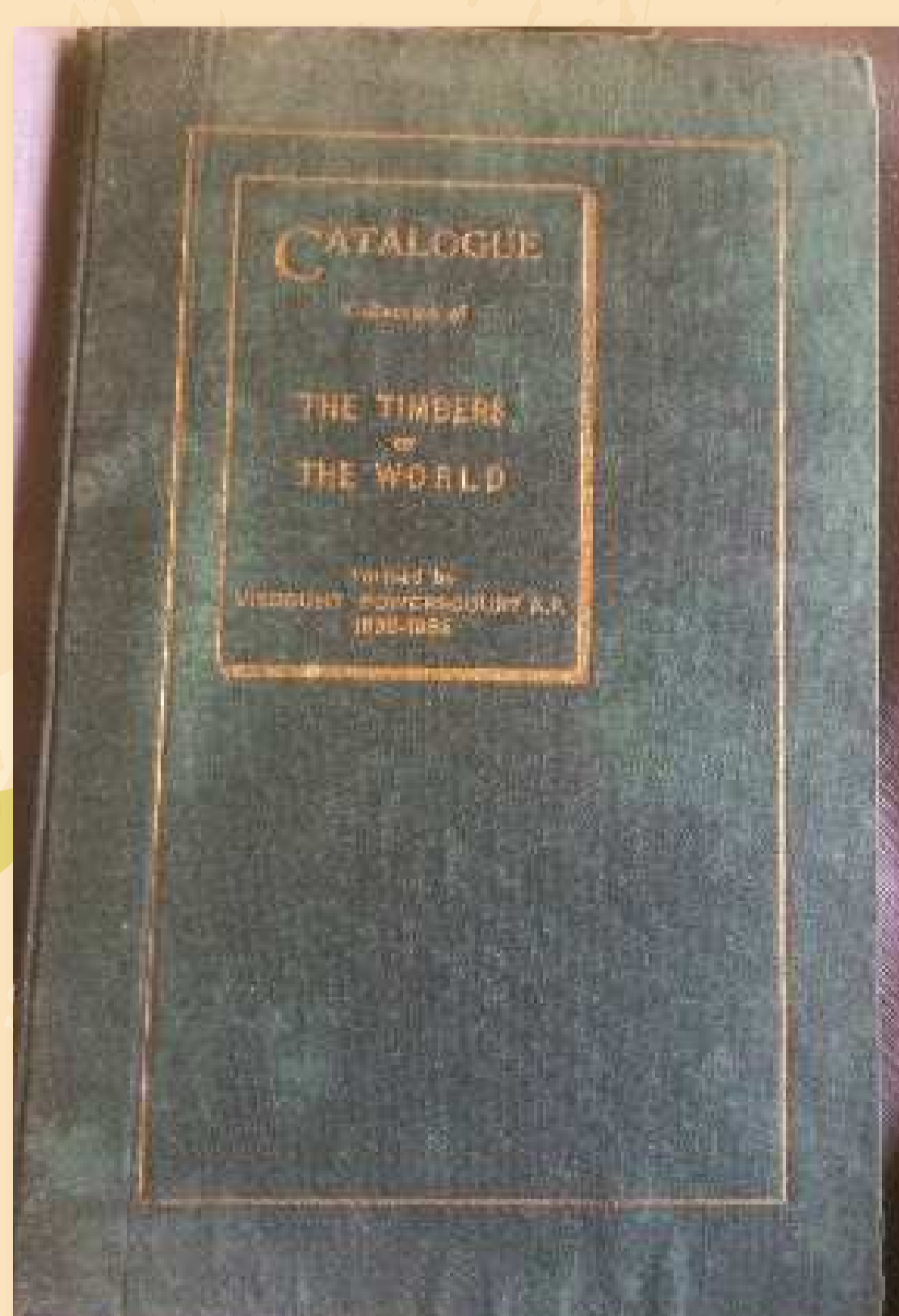
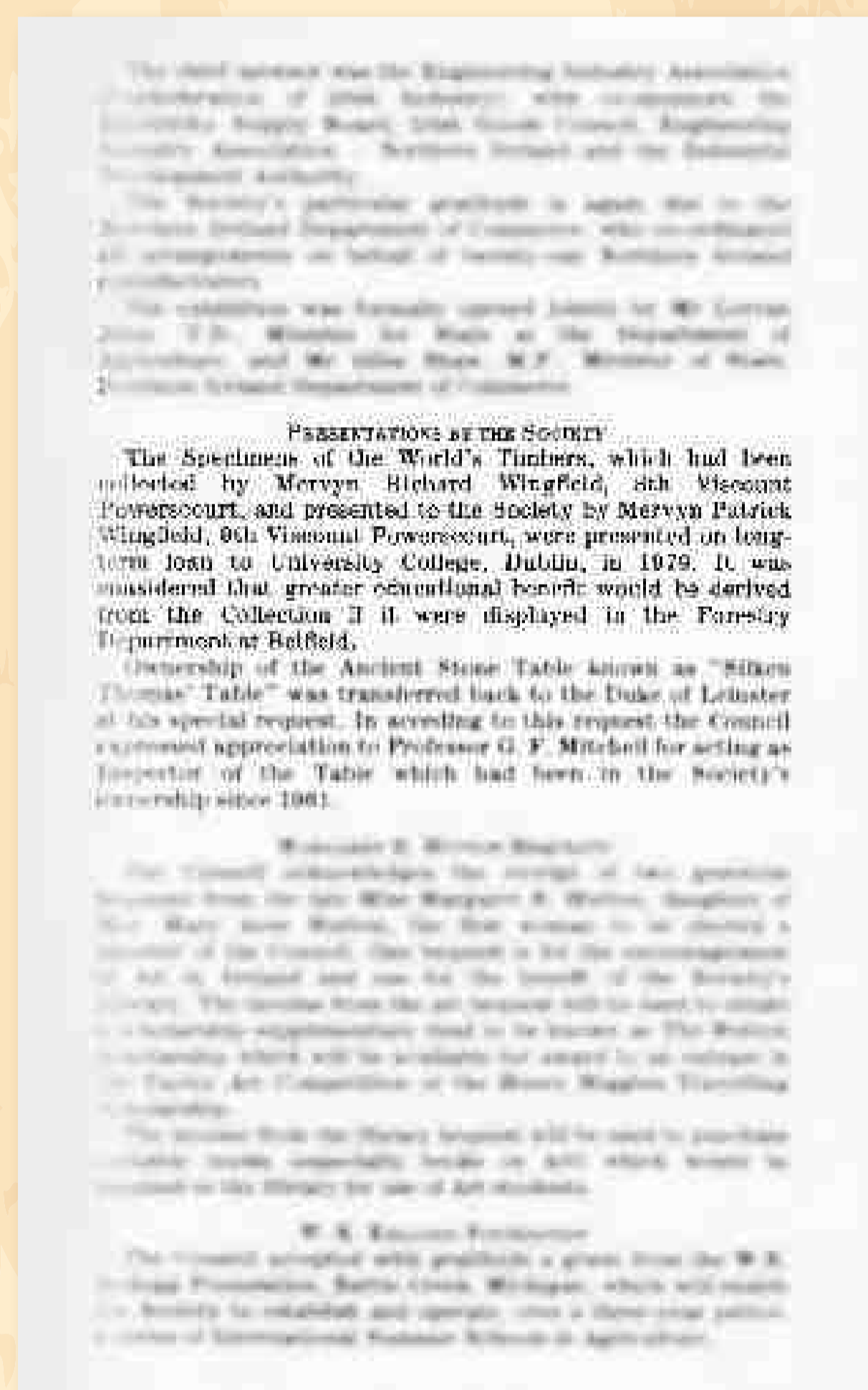
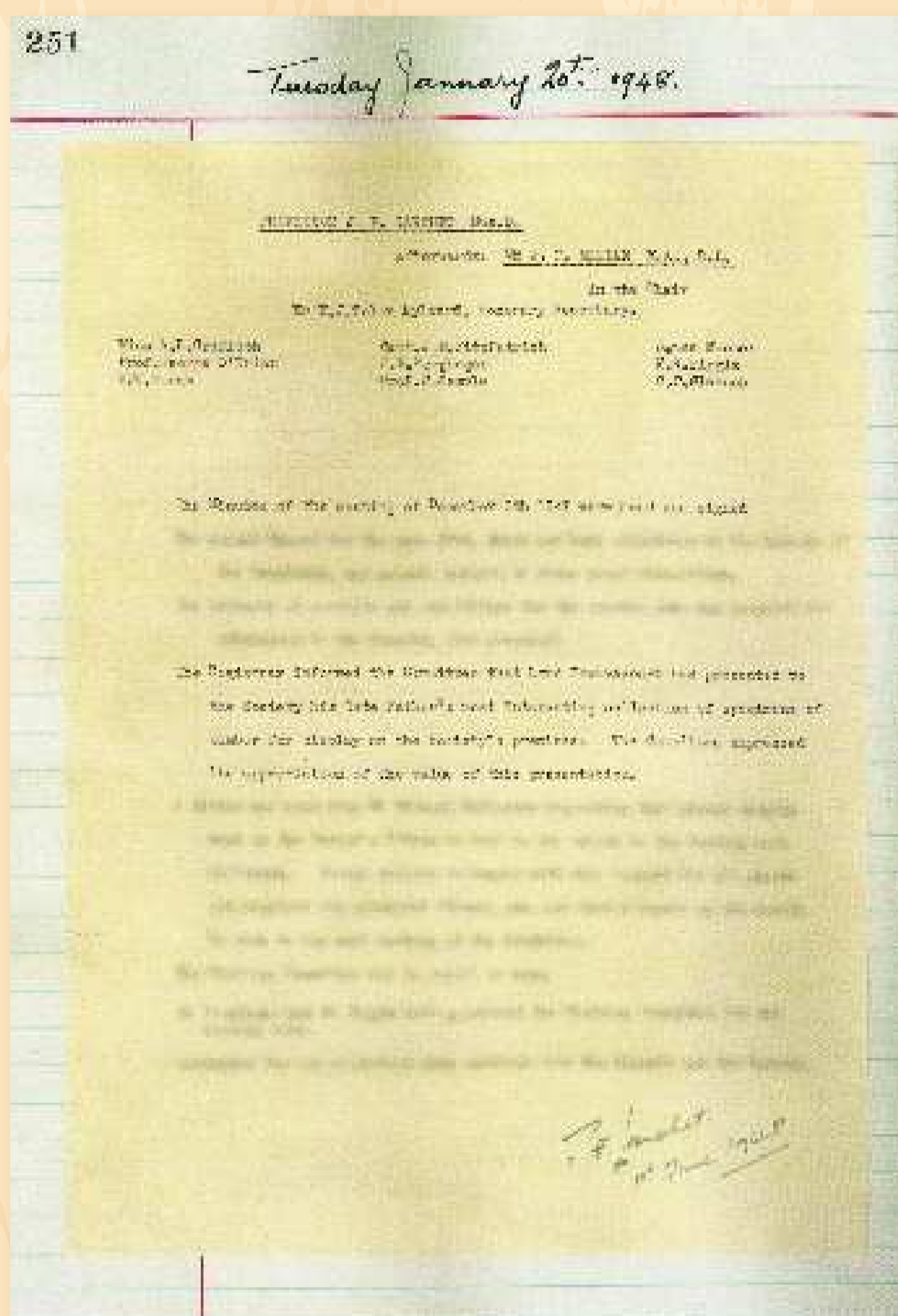


TIMBERS OF THE WORLD COLLECTION

This collection of the timbers of the world was formed by Viscount Powerscourt K.P. over the three years 1930-1933.

The collection consists of over 800 samples of some of the world's most commercial timbers – many of which are today commercially extinct from over-exploitation and illegal logging.

For the past 80 years the collection has resided at the Main Entrance of the Royal Dublin Society (RDS) and at the Forestry Department of University College Dublin (UCD).



Just Forests would like to thank Prof. Maarten Nieuwenhuis of the Forestry Department of University College Dublin (UCD), and Mr. Gerard Whelan, librarian, Royal Dublin Society (RDS) for their cooperation in bringing this collection of timbers to public view.



TIMBERS OF THE WORLD COLLECTION

WHERE ON EARTH DO WE GET OUR WOOD?

**Ireland has the largest per-capita consumption
of tropical timber in the EU.**

“Forest biodiversity is not as prominent a part of Ireland’s natural heritage as it is of most other countries. Although the majority of Ireland would once have been forested, Ireland’s forest cover was reduced over centuries by human activities. Forests comprise only about 10 per cent of Ireland’s total land surface area, the second lowest level of any country in Europe.” Professor John O’Halloran at the International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO).

**Is it because of Ireland’s low forest cover that we have become very
reliant on imported timber from many parts of the world?**

We have been importing timber from all over the world for centuries.

The earliest reference to just how reliant we are on imported timber includes:

“The Irish Woods since Tudor Times” – McCracken, E. 1971. Chapter 10 of “Anatomy of a Siege” – Wiggins, K: Pub. Wordwell, 2000, ISBN 1 869857 37 2, refers to the use of imported timber in mining during the siege of Limerick.

“Irish Country Furniture”, Kinmouth, C, Pub. Yale University Press, ISBN 0 3000 05574 9 and “Irish Furniture and Woodcraft”, Tehan, J, Pub. National Museum of Ireland, ISBN 0 946172 39 0 refer to imports of various woods, particularly mahogany from America.

The earliest reference (for England) for tropical wood is 1661 referring to the use of “Jamaica wood” (Mahogany) for 2 tables and 5 “paire” of stands for Hampton Court. There is also a reference to “Dantzig” oak for paneling in the Mansion House, Dublin, dating back to the 1400’s. (Source: Knaggs, G. 2002. Personal communication).

A report published by COFORD, identified a current shortfall of one million cubic meters of wood between forecasted supply and demand, which will double by 2020.



TIMBERS OF AFRICA



Killarney
Co. Kerry
Ireland

Sunday 22nd May, 2016

UN International Day for Biological Diversity

Dear Society,

I AM WOOD! I am the oldest construction material known to humankind.

I am the great provider. I give up my home (the forests) so you can have your home and your shopping centers.

I am one of the worlds most commonly used natural resources. Every day you come in contact with me because I greatly enhance the quality of your life. While I am growing into a beautiful tree I purify the air you breath by removing 2.3 billion tonnes of carbon annually from the atmosphere and replacing it with the oxygen you need to survive.

After gas and oil, I am the world's second largest internationally traded natural resource. For billions of people I am their only source of energy for heating and cooking.

I provide livelihoods for 1.2billion people worldwide. I am very versatile and renewable. Some of the items I am used to make includes, paper, beautiful musical instruments, pencils, furniture and hurleys. I also provide materials for things of great strength and durability - from bridges to walkways and of course your houses.

Yet I am being wiped off the face of the earth by illegal logging and over-exploitation.

Every single day you log an area of my home, the forest, equivalent to the size of 75,000 Croke Parks. Already over 8000 of my relatives of my global family of trees are on the brink of extinction.

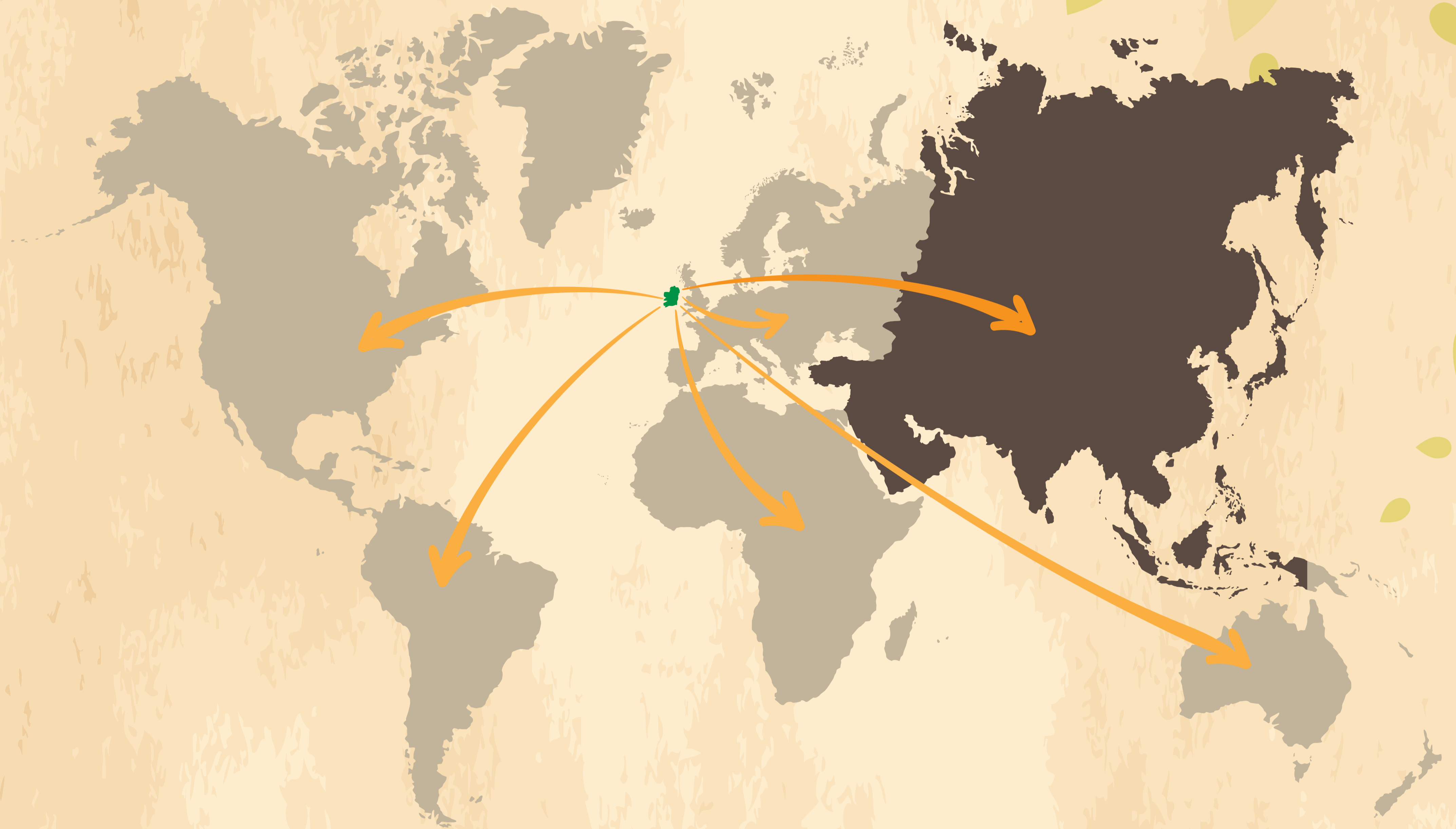
But I don't need you - you need me. I am renewable and I can save you. But you will need to STOP taking more than I can provide. You will have to re-plant billions of my kind starting today and manage my forests better than you are doing at this present time.

Yours sincerely,

The Tree



TIMBERS OF ASIA



What Is Illegal logging?

Illegal logging - the harvesting of wood in a way that breaches the laws or regulations of the country of harvest - has severe economic, environmental and social impacts for some of the world's most valuable remaining forests and the billions of people that rely on them.

European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR) - What is EUTR?

An EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) came into effect on 3 March 2013 prohibiting the placing of illegally harvested timber (and products) on the EU market. The Regulation applies to wood and wood products being placed for the first time on the EU market. This may have wide ranging implications for forest owners and timber contractors alike to prove that their timber was harvested and/or bought legally.



TIMBERS OF THE AMERICAS



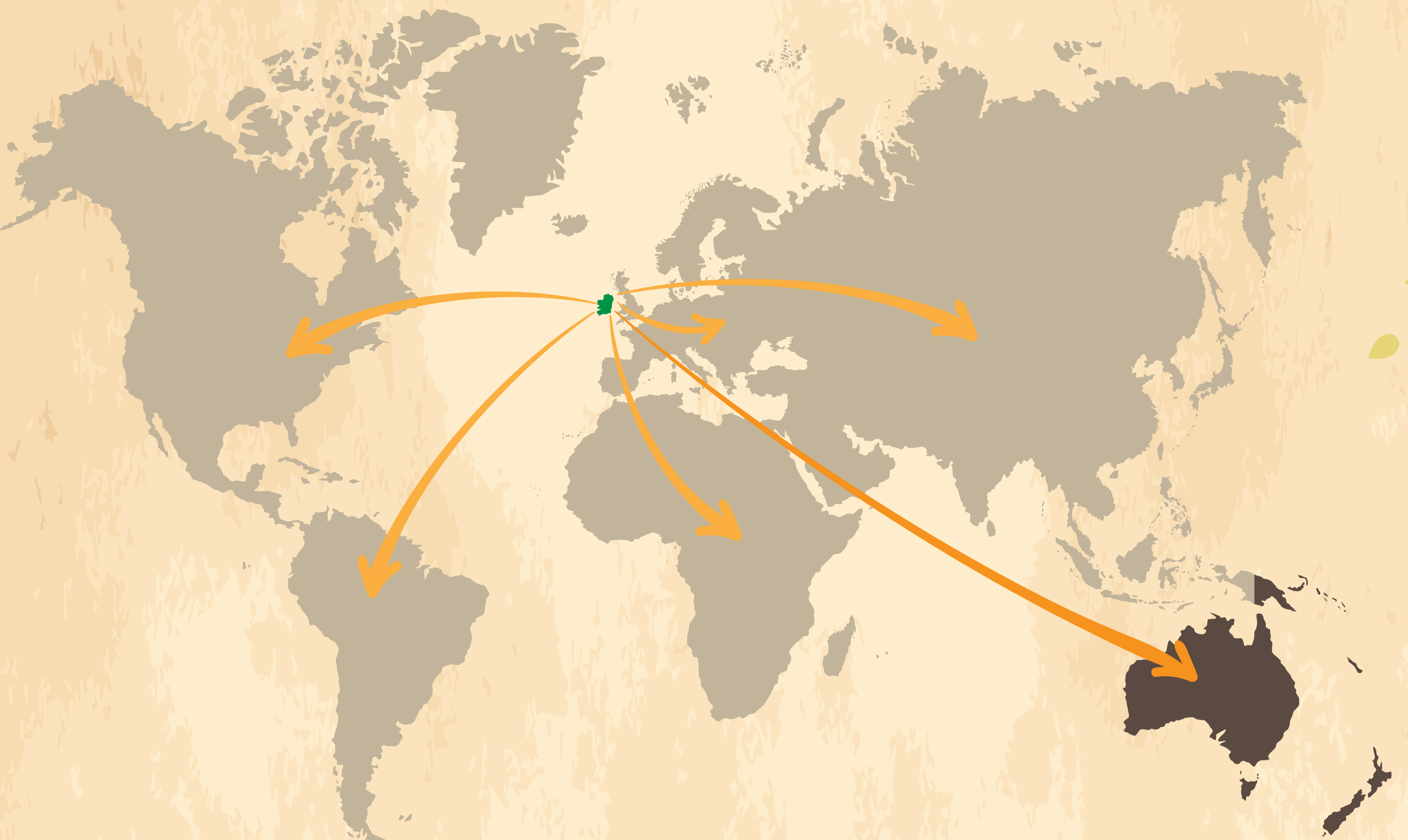
Why does illegal logging need to be tackled?

Illegal logging results in lost revenues and undermines the efforts of legitimate operators. It is associated with deforestation, climate change and loss of biodiversity. It is linked to conflicts over land and resources, and the disempowerment of local communities.

These are important issues for Ireland as we import large amounts of illegally-logged tropical hardwoods. If we adopt a 'no questions asked' attitude, then we knowingly or unknowingly fund forestry related crimes and hinder efforts to enforce the law in some of the world's poorest wood-producing countries.



TIMBERS OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND



Is the EUTR Working?

A report from Global Witness in February 2016 states that EU law is failing to prevent \$100bn a year trade in illegal timber - or that rules are even being implemented.

Alexandra Pardal, a spokeswoman for the campaign group Global Witness, said that the EU's law had been a landmark in the fight against deforestation "but almost three years after its introduction, we haven't seen a single prosecution in Europe."

"If EU member states are serious about cracking down on the drivers of illegal logging, they need to start abiding by their own laws – by seizing illicit timber and prosecuting the companies that import it."

Source: <http://www.justforests.org/news/a-no-evidence-a-that-eus-illegal-timber-policy-is-working>



TIMBERS OF EUROPE & IRELAND



What You Can Do To STOP Forest Destruction.

In 2011, 35% (€37.8 billion) of the global trade of primary timber products was by and within the EU. It is difficult to estimate what percentage of this trade was in illegally harvested timber but we know that the EU is an important export market for those countries where levels of illegality and poor governance in the forest sector are most serious.

By allowing wood and wood products that are potentially derived from illegal sources onto the EU market, we risk jeopardizing the efforts of timber-producing countries to fight against illegal logging and could be perceived as adding to the problem by essentially sustaining the practice.

Source: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/eutr/EUTROverview09102014NOCPDF141014.pdf>

**Insist on FSC certified timber and wood-based products
such as paper and panelboard (plywood).**

For more on how you can help stop illegal logging and on the workings
of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) please visit: www.fsc.org

