

that time a thick growth of spruce, including a few fir and juniper sprang up and flourished in this soil, so well suited to their growth. I have learned from those who have studied nature and profited thereby, this fact, that our native fir has a very rapid growth and in fourteen years it has been known to attain a sufficient size to supply, when split, two longers each thirteen feet in length. There were thirty acres in this grove. Other similar groves of second growth lay all along the shores at intervals of from two hundred yards to a half mile apart for a distance of four miles in either direction, then came the primeval forest.

In youth I loved to wander through these woods with my gun and faithful dog; no other companions I sought for palpable reasons. There were but few families residing near us at this time whose members, if they had the same inclinations as mine—but I fancy they had not—were perhaps employed in pursuits of greater profit. At the same time, however, my lessons were not neglected. Our teacher, Wm. Coates, Esq., a gentleman who emigrated to this Island from Suffolk, England, in the year 1827, and resided with us for many years. He was also deputy prothonotary, and assistant to the late Daniel Hodgson, Esq., at the time the Supreme Court was held at St. Eleanor's; and continued in office until the year 1853, when he resigned, owing to ill health,—Thomas Hunt, Esq., of the above named village, succeeding.

I remember, with pleasure my wanderings through the dark shades of the forest. An abundance of game was then hidden beneath the branches of some of the many giants of the wood, towering so far above us. Numbers of sweet songsters were also there. They have left us and have sought more genial climes, owing to the loss of their friendly cover.

First to join me in my wanderings was an Indian lad. His father at that time was chief of his tribe, and each year this