

are very like pines; their bark is used by tanners, and this seems the only use they answer. The cedars are of the white kind, and rank among the most incorruptible trees in building log-houses. The bass is usually selected for roofing shanties, as it splits easily, and commonly very fair, besides the wood is soft, and takes less labour to hollow out the troughs. There is a variety of the elm, called white or rock elm, which seems superior to all other trees for general furniture and frame-work; it is close-grained, hard, heavy, and extremely tough; it makes capital axe-handles. Ash is also found here; one variety, called the black ash, is approved of for log-houses; but for other purposes the wood is, I believe, worth little. Besides these we have the iron-wood, hickory, balsam, and perhaps a few others. Plumb and cherry-trees are scattered through our forests, as are also gooseberry and currant bushes, and even the vine and hop plant are not wanting.

The number of full-grown trees on an acre varies much in different townships. The best description of lands appear to have the fewest, and these, as might be expected, are of a larger size than when found more numerous. In the Newcastle district, the average number on an acre may be stated at seventy; and spaces of twenty or thirty yards square, free from large trees, are to be met with frequently. The surface of the ground is constantly covered with a thick coat of leaves, through which, very thinly scattered, a grass of a coarse kind will make its way; and in the months of May and June is seen a tolerable variety of wild and very pretty flowers.

Besides those rivers, which are considered of consequence enough to be marked on the maps, we have numerous streams, generally called creeks: some of them do not become entirely frozen during the winter, but there are many that only run in the spring and fall of the year.

I shall conclude this chapter with a few observations on the subject of choosing land. It appears evident to me that the season of the year, when this is being done, is of much importance. In summer you are prevented by the foliage of the trees, from seeing many yards in any direction, and you then find the mosquitoes and