

from 200 to over 300 feet, forming prodigious and dark forests. The wood varies considerably in appearance and strength according to its locality of growth and other circumstances. It is admirably adapted for all ordinary purposes of construction, and of late has obtained favourable notice in ship-building, remaining sound in water for a long time. For spars and masts it is unsurpassed both as to strength, straightness and length. Masts for export are usually hewn to octagonal shape from 20 to 32 inches in diameter and 60 to 120 feet in length. On special orders they have been shipped as large as 42 inches in diameter by 120 feet long. Yards are generally hewn out from 12 to 24 inches in diameter and 50 to 102 feet long.

Masts and spars are generally sent to Great Britain; other forms of lumber to South America, Australia, India, China and the Sandwich Islands.

*Tsuga Mertensiana*, Lindl. Western hemlock. The hemlock occurs everywhere in the vicinity of the coast, and extends up the Fraser and other rivers to the boundary of the region of abundant rainfall. It reappears in the Selkirk and Gold Ranges, where sufficient moisture for its growth is again found. The tree attains a large size on the coast, reaching a height of 200 feet, and yields a good wood, but has not yet been much used. The bark is employed successfully in tanning. *Tsuga Mertensiana* closely resembles the eastern hemlock (*T. Canadensis*) but attains a larger size than that tree ever does.

In the Queen Charlotte Islands it is particularly abundant and large. On the Salmon River, running into Dean Inlet, it is not found in abundance beyond eighteen miles from the sea at an elevation of 600 feet. It occurs again, however, sparingly on the lower part of the Iltasyouco River, a tributary to the last, and within the Coast Range. On the Homatheco River, flowing into Bute Inlet, it ceases at fifty-three miles from the sea at an elevation of 2320 feet. On the Uz-tli-hoos it extends to a point six or ten miles east of the Fraser, on the Coquihalla to the summit between that river and the Coldwater.

*Thuja gigantea*, Nutt. Western arbor vitæ, giant cedar, red cedar. This tree in its distribution nearly follows that of the hemlock, abounding along the coast and lower parts of the rivers of the Coast Range, being unknown in the dry central plateau, but reappearing abundantly on the slopes of the Selkirk and Gold