

E X T R A C T S
FROM
SERIES OF LETTERS ON ANTICOSTI,
CONTRIBUTED BY
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TO
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"In order to account for the very favourable opinions I hold concerning the value of the Island of Anticosti, it is necessary that I should make reference to its botanical productions, as these indicate, in a general way at least, the characteristics of both climate and soil. The timber of a country is also a guide to the quality and depth of its soil, and I shall endeavor to give some idea of the forests of this Island."

"Along the northern coast a ridge of hills extends, broken here and there by the passage of the streams which rise in the interior and flow in a generally northward direction to the north channel of the Gulf.

These hills slope gently to the south, in some places continuously to the southern margin of the Island, and in other places their slope terminates in the interior, leaving room for a sister range of elevations between it and the south coast line. This latter range I had an opportunity of examining; the former I know chiefly from the verbal reports given to me by fishermen and trappers. The south coast range reaches an average elevation of about 200 feet—perhaps a little more,—and is clothed with a dense growth of timber, some of it reaching a very large size. The forests here consist chiefly of soft wood trees, the most conspicuous being the white and black spruce, (*Pinus negra* and *Pinus*