

maple, in order named." Of 150 reports examined in connection with the forest wealth of the northern part of the province of Ontario, the greater number refer to the surprising extent and value of the spruce growth, though the primary object of the reports was to discover the extent and value of the pine preserves of the province. Thus Borron, in the narrative of his explorations of Hudson Bay basin (1881), says:—"The timber consists of spruce, aspen, poplar, tamarack and white birch chiefly. Of these the spruce is the most valuable. . . . The largest trees are about seven feet in circumference." Lyon, in his report of lands in the Rainy River district, says:—"The whole of the country is covered with timber with the exception of spots where it has been burnt. The timber is chiefly poplar, spruce, oak, elm, basswood, cedar, white pine, red pine, jack pine, tamarack and birch."

The Dominion surveyors' reports give evidence of the same desire to discover pine, but these, as those of the provincial land surveyors, describe the abundance of spruce.

The reports of the Geological Survey contain much information on this subject. Thus, in the exploration of Rainy River region, 1887-88, the following is the report: "It cannot be called a pine country though there is some in spots; the prevailing timber is spruce, cedar, tamarack, balsam and hard woods."

In the Province of Quebec over ninety reports of land surveyors—made before the great discovery that spruce was *par excellence* the wood for paper pulp—have been examined. These corroborate the conclusions of the surveyors of Ontario. Thus of Bras du Nord of River Ste. Anne and tributaries, the surveyor says:—"The spruce is of greater quantity than other kinds of timber;" of Bay Lake, Ottawa County, the surveyor says:—"Abundance of white and red pine and spruce." Other surveyors report "mechanical spruce," "white and black spruce," "chiefly spruce," "good spruce," over a wide extent of country.