

The Indian hunters and voyageurs take advantage of this channel, and go as far as the summit, which is about opposite the middle of this island, with the rising tide ; and then wait for the falling tide to continue on their route, having the advantage of going with the current either way.

By dredging this channel, which would be an easy matter, it being all alluvial clayey bottom, the sides could be raised above the level of high tide and thus form wharves on either side.

Vessels of sufficient draught for the navigation of James and Hudson bays can come here at any ordinary high tide, and safely anchor in the mouth of the Little Nottaway, in the shelter of Middleboro Island, where I found from 15 to 20 feet of water at low tide.

Rupert Bay is in general very shallow, but according to Captain Taylor, who has navigated these waters for the Hudson Bay Company, for upwards of twenty years, there is a deep channel extending from Stag Rock southward to Middleboro Island.

Vessels from Moose Factory and other posts on Hudson and James Bay, bound for Rupert House, generally lie in shelter of Stag Rock to wait for high tide to cross the bar at the mouth of the Rupert river.

GAME AND FISH

The environs of Middleboro Island are *par excellence* the choice hunting grounds of the Hudson Bay officers and men of the Rupert Bay district.

Here, wild geese, waxies, duck, snipe, plover and different other kinds of water fowl are found in countless numbers ; I have seen waxies (a kind of small geese) rise in such dense flocks that the opposite shore was eclipsed by them.

Trout and whitefish are taken in quantities by Indians at the mouth of the Little Nottaway and are smoked for food for themselves and their dogs during winter.

Notwithstanding the different reports to the contrary, the resources of that vast region are not unworthy of the attention of the Government and they cannot forever remain shut out from the commercial world.

The forest wealth of the great areas drained by the mighty rivers flowing into Hudson and James Bay can alone be developed by utilizing the natural water courses.