

which grows on it, would not be favorable, as there is almost a complete absence, as far as my observation went, of the hard-wood trees supposed to be the sure indication of a good settling country.

The most abundant tree is spruce, in size varying from eight to eighteen inches in diameter, and from forty to eighty feet in length. On the north coast, and in some parts of the south, it is found of good size in the open woods close by the beach, without any intervening space of stunted growth. The stunted growth was occasionally met with on the north side; but it is only on the tops of cliffs, and other places exposed to the heavy coast winds, where spruce, or any other tree on the island, is stunted. In these situations there is oftentimes a low, dense, and almost impenetrable barrier of stunted spruce, of from ten to twenty feet across, and rarely exceeding a hundred feet; beyond which open woods and good comparatively large timber prevails.

Pine was observed in the valley of the Salmon River, about four miles inland, where ten or twelve trees that were measured gave from twelve to twenty inches in diameter at the base, with heights varying from sixty to eighty feet. White and yellow birch are common in sizes from a few inches to two feet in diameter at the base, and from twenty to fifty feet high. Balsam-fir was seen, but it was small and not abundant. Tamarack was observed, but it was likewise small and scarce. One of our men, however, who is a hunter on the island, informed me he had seen groves of this timber north from Ellis, or Gamache Bay, of which some of the trees were three feet in diameter, and over a hundred feet in height. Poplar was met with in groves, close to the beach, on the north side of the island.

Of fruit-bearing trees and shrubs, the mountain-ash, or rowan, was the largest; it was most abundant in the interior, but appeared to be of the largest size close on the beach, especially on the north side, where it attains the height of forty feet, with long extending and somewhat slender branches, covered with clusters of fruit. The high cranberry (*Viburnum opulus*) produces a large and juicy fruit, and is abundant. A species of gooseberry bush from two to three feet high is met with in the woods, but appears to thrive best close to the shingle, on the beach, where strips of two or three yards across and half-a-mile long were occasionally covered with it. The fruit is very good, and resembles in taste the garden berry; it is smooth and black colored, and about the size of a common marble. The shrub appeared to be very prolific. Red and black currants are likewise abundant. There appear to be two kinds of each, in one of which the berry is smooth, resembling both in taste and appearance that of the garden; the other rough and prickly, with a bitter taste.

Strawberries are found near the beach. In size and flavor they are but little inferior to the garden fruit. They are most abundant among the grass in the openings, and their season is from the middle of July to the end of August. Five or six other kinds of fruit-bearing plants were observed, some of which might be found of value. The low cranberry was