

of 250 feet and is frequently found with a circumference of 50 feet at the base. A fair average is perhaps 200 feet in height and from 8 to 10 in diameter at the base. It is much used in construction work and in strength, durability and workable qualities it stands midway between the balsam and the spruce. Experiments have shown it to be an excellent pulp timber which latter will be in great demand as soon as paper manufacture is commenced in the country. In point of abundance on the Island, the Coast and much more so in the Interior, is the cedar, the red being quite plentiful on the Island and the white more abundant on the mainland. On account of its rapid growth it is frequently found a larger tree than even the Douglas fir. It is especially valuable to the pioneer, removed from mills, because of its straight grained growth, being readily split in planks, boards, shingles and fencing timber with the primitive tools at the command of the early settler—a saw, axe and wedge. With the addition of a plane and one or two other tools, the settler of a little mechanical skill can easily, with this timber, construct a comfortable residence without the aid of a sawmill or other machinery of more modern invention. This timber is found in other colors—yellow, perhaps, being the most important—that are highly prized in finishing, working very smooth and taking a magnificent polish. The cypress is found in large quantities on the Island; the yew, the oak, juniper, arbutus varieties of the maple, etc., are also plentiful there, as well as on portions of the mainland, while spruce, in quantity and utility, is perhaps the next wood grown in all parts of the country. It is also an excellent pulp producer and is extensively used in buildings of every description, whether in frame work or in ordinary supplies. It makes the best of body building material. Hemlock grows to a very large size, its bark being used extensively in the tanning of hides; cotton wood, poplar, one of the best of pulp producers, birch, willow, etc., are also found in great abundance. The birch grown is a good cabinet timber and is very extensively used when hardwood is required for a finish. As has been stated above, though sufficient timber is found in all parts of the country for home uses, the valleys of the West Coast of both the mainland and the Island produce the most valuable quantities and as a result furnish the most for export, leading to the operation of the most extensive mills. At the present time, taking in the small as well as the large institutions, about 100 sawmills are in operation in the country; and, of course, as population increases there will be a field in all parts of the country for many more. Considerable of the timber land is held by speculators, but much is held by the government. As the prairie country to the east, as well as China, Japan, Australia, South America, and even Great Britain, furnish open markets for our production, to say nothing of