

*carolinensis*,) as the agent, for these birds visit the islands nearly every winter in small flocks, often being blown off the American coast. A flock of these birds with crops well charged with cedar berries, leaving the American coast before a westerly gale, could land on the islands in twenty hours, if not less, and the seeds would have lost none of their vitality. With the West Indian form it is different. Few migratory birds visit the Bermudas from the West Indies, on their return north in spring, keeping to the continent in their progress; so we can only look to the Gulf Stream current as a means of transportation in the case of this species. Many of the trees, shrubs, and plants of North America must certainly have been introduced by birds, a large number of species, natives of that continent, annually visiting the islands. The waders and water birds could easily retain small seeds in the mud adhering to the soles of their feet, which would not be released until at the end of their lengthy but soon accomplished flight, they alighted on the shores or in the marshes of the Bermudas. Probably all the fruit-bearing trees have been introduced by the inhabitants, as have also the palms, with the exception of the palmetto.

Many additions have been made to the flora during the last two years through the assiduity of His Excellency the Governor, who from his first arrival in the colony has paid particular attention to the growth of new trees, shrubs, and plants. During the past year His Excellency has sown and distributed throughout the islands packets of seeds from Kew, representing no less than 600 species, principally of trees and shrubs suited to sandy coast soils, which we sincerely trust may grow and thrive, so that in future years the inhabitants may enjoy the benefit of a more suitable arborescent vegetation, and remember with gratitude the name of their benefactor.

In the foregoing brief sketch of the physical aspect of the Bermudas, we have endeavoured to exhibit the more interesting particulars, in order that the readers of this paper may possess a fair idea of this oceanic land which is rarely visited by naturalists; while in conclusion we cannot fail to mention the kind assistance we have received from His Excellency the Governor, who in the most liberal manner placed a long list of the plants of the islands

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