

beautiful Ornaments. As a statuary Marble, the state of the fine Arts in this Country cannot allow us to indulge the idea that it will soon be in request. The rent is washed by the Tide, and a Vessel of Sixty Tons might strike it with her keel. It is to be hoped that in a few years we shall see it introduced among the Ornaments of our dwelling Houses.

The other mineral Productions of any value which I met with, were the precious Garnet at Cap à l'Aigle, near Malbaie, in as great abundance and of as pure a colour as it is found in any part of the World. It occurs in Gneiss. I saw some fine Schorls, and detached pieces of the Labrador Feldspar were frequently met with on the Beaches about the Saguenay.

The Timber in such a mountainous Tract cannot generally be valuable. It is short and stunted in its growth by a shallow Soil, and even in the little patches of low Ground it is small. It is generally of the Pine and Birch kinds. What the Canadians call the Cyprés, a kind of Fir, covers considerable parts of the Mountains. The appellation of Pointe aux Bouleaux sufficiently indicates the kind of Timber growing there. No where on the Coast did I see any Timber fitted for Exportation.

The Quadrupeds are exceedingly rare, much more so than in the settled parts of the Country. The Indian, as he has long hunted for the Fur instead of the Carcase, has destroyed almost every living Animal. The Porcupine and the White Fox are the only Quadrupeds not commonly met with about Quebec. Several years had elapsed, I was told, since the Carcase of a Beaver had been brought to Tadoussac.

The Land Birds are rare ; a variety or two of them, not common to Quebec were seen. The *Perdrix blanche*, (the *Ptarmigan*,) which changes colours like our Hare, is occasionally met with in the Hills. The Water Fowl are extremely numerous : particularly those of the diver kinds ; among them is the *Petit Bonhomme*, a beautifully shaped Duck not much larger than our Snipe. The *Batture aux Allouettes* is the resort of large Flocks of the different species of Oxbirds.

The Fishes are the Salmon, Salmon-trout, several kinds of Herring, Smelt, &c. The Cod, once common, is now seldom caught. The number of Salmon taken is much less than formerly ; only Three thousand five hundred were caught last year in the whole extent of what is called the King's Posts, including the Saguenay and its tributaries, as far as Chicoutimy. The Bottle-nose Whale swims within a few Rods of the Post of Tadoussac, and some of the larger species are sometimes harpooned opposite, but the occupation of taking them is nearly abandoned, and only two or three Schooners have visited the River for the purpose in as many years.

The Seal is still frequently seen, but it has much diminished in numbers and grown wild. About Two hundred were killed by the Indians of the Post of Tadoussac last Winter. There are Six or Seven varieties of these Amphibia on the Coast ; one is said to grow to the enormous