

---

XXXVI. *Description of a new Species of the Genus Pinus.* By  
Mr. David Douglas, F.L.S. Communicated by the Horticultural Society.

*Read April 3, 1832.*

IN the autumn of 1826, in the country southward of the river Columbia, in northern California, I had the good fortune to make some valuable additions to the highly ornamental and useful genus *Pinus*. The object of this paper is to put on record one of the most curious and interesting species of that genus, the specimens of which, together with the description made on the spot, I had the misfortune to lose in the course of my travels four years ago. I cannot recall to my recollection, without feelings of deep regret, the loss I then sustained of the greatest and most important part of my collections. So remarkable a tree I could then, perhaps, have described from recollection accurately, but I was fearful lest errors might unavoidably have crept into it; and having found it a second time in the greatest perfection, I now venture to send the present short notice of it for the purpose of insertion in the Transactions of the Linnean Society, should it be considered as deserving a place in their valuable records.

This tree, so far as I have yet observed, attains to but a small size as compared with those species of the genus which inhabit the northern and western parts of this continent. The trees are of a tapering form, straight, and of regular growth, 40 to 120 feet in height, 2 to 12 feet in circumference, clothed with  
branches

branches to the ground, when standing far apart or solitary. Some few I have measured 140 feet in length, but never any larger in circumference than that just cited.

The largest and most handsome trees inhabit the alluvial deposits on the western flanks of the Cordilleras of New Albion, at a very great elevation above the level of the sea, being 1600 feet below the range of perpetual snow in the parallel of 40° N. On the less elevated mountains near the coast, where the temperature is higher but more uniform, in the parallel of 37° N. in decomposed granite, schist, or gravelly soils, the trees are smaller and fewer, inhabiting the summit of the mountains only.

The wood is white, soft, coarse-grained, and, I think, not very durable. A copious transparent resin issues from the wounds. *Leaves* in threes, very rarely in fours, 11 to 14 inches long, convex and smooth on the underside, channelled above, with an elevated ridge, pointed, and furnished at the margin with minute teeth, which become more distant and conspicuous towards the extremity; erect in summer; flaccid and drooping during winter. *Sheath* 1·5 inch long, light brown, chaffy, and torn at the top. *Stipule* lanceolate, rigid. *Male* and *female catkins* erect. *Cone* (which abounds in pellucid resin) ovate, recurved, pressing on the branch for support, 3 to 9 in number, surrounding the same stem, persistent, and remaining on the tree for a series of years, like *P. Banksiana*; 9 to 11 inches long, 16 to 18 inches round. *Scales* spatulate, 2·25 inches long, having a very strong, sharp, incurved point, which near the base exceeds the length of the scale. *Seed* somewhat oblong, tapering to the base, flattish on the inside, ·875 inch long, nearly ·500 inch broad. *Shell* thick, hard, brown. *Wing* short, stiff, one fourth the length of the seed, which it nearly encompasses. *Kernel* pleasant. *Cotyledons* 7—12 in number.

The

The first year the cone measures from 6 to 8 inches round, and is of a more rounded form than when perfect in November of the following year. The colour of the young cone is bright green. The specific character may be thus framed :

P. SABINIANA. Foliis ternis (rarò quaternis quinisve) prælongis, strobilis recurvis ovatis : squamis spathulatis : acumine incurvo.

The active and enlightened zeal which Joseph Sabine, Esq. has ever taken, as Secretary of the Horticultural Society, for the introduction of new, choice and useful plants, more especially of those natives of countries of similar temperatures as England, induces me to affix his name to one of the most beautiful objects in nature, and which I hope will shortly become one of the greatest ornaments in the British Sylva.

Mission of St. John's, Upper California,  
February 4, 1831.