

ditto: a good evidence of the salubrity of the climate, and excellence of the pasture. At Moose Factory, where some sixty head are constantly kept, a certain number are slaughtered every fall, and are quite fat, although then taken straight from the grass.

The only fruits that appear to be cultivated in the garden are the red and black currant and raspberry. The red currant is remarkably prolific. The strawberry and gooseberry might be raised with little trouble, for they are found growing wild in many places, and nowhere more plentifully or of finer quality than on the coast. The huckleberry, or blueberry is found in great profusion from the long portages to the height of land. Indeed it may be said to abound from the coast of Hudson's Bay to the shores of Lakes Huron and Superior. It is nowhere in greater profusion or of finer quality than on the height of land itself.

There is another wild fruit which may be noticed. This is a bush or tree not unlike the wild cherry in appearance.* North of the height of land, it attains a height in some places of ten or twelve feet, but is generally about six feet. The fruit grows singly, not in bunches or clusters on the tree. It is an oblong or pear shape, larger than the blueberry, but smaller than the grape. When ripe it is of a purple or blue color. It is sweeter and has more flavor than the huckleberry, and is preferred by the natives to it. It is to be found all the way from James' Bay to Lake Huron, but nowhere in greater perfection than on the Mattagami River. The fruit is not only pleasant and wholesome, but the juice would make an excellent wine, and the tree is worthy of cultivation and a place in our orchards and gardens.

*This is probably *Amelanchier Sanguinea*, a variety of the Canadian *Medlar*.