

smoke. Even the dogs have learned to creep close to the smudges for protection. If the Indians, who have inhabited these regions for ages, find it impossible to go abroad during fly season, imagine what we poor unacclimatized pale faces must have suffered.

At the end of six weeks we had examined the country in the neighborhood of Porcupine Lake, Porcupine River, Night Hawk Lake, Frederick House Lake, Moose Lake, Driftwood River, Abitibi Lake and Abitibi River, and Black River, which brought us back to the height of land.

The Western portion of the area traversed is extremely level, but here and there are small glacial mounds of sand and gravel, which will be of great value in railway building and road making. Rolling land is characteristic of the Eastern part. The whole region is intersected by numerous small rivers and lakes. The rivers are short, broad, and sluggish, and have low, marshy banks. The lakes are for the most part very shallow, Lake Abitibi itself being about 90 miles long and not more than 15 feet deep at the most. It is probable that the problem of drainage will solve itself when the country is cleared.

Judging from what I have seen of the "Clay Belt" I should say that it is well named, for about three quarters of all the loose material or soil overlying the rock consists of clay. The clay is of various kinds, differing in color, composition, and origin. Around Night Hawk Lake there are at least four distinct kinds of soil: first, glacial deposits of sand and

gravel on the shores; second, on some of the islands heavy clay, very pure and suitable for brick-making; third, terrace deposits on the shores; fourth, clay loam inland from the lake, both the latter soils being unexcelled for agriculture.

In the Indian gardens around this lake there were on the fourth of July potatoes about 7 inches high. These must have been planted fully a month previously and had not been injured by frost. Onions, turnips, carrots, and cabbages all thrive even with the little care that was bestowed upon them. Among the weeds noticed in the gardens were Shepherd's Purse, Curled Dock, Lamb's Quarters, Broad-leaved Plantain, Lady's Thumb, Strawberry Blite, and Horseweed. These grew in great abundance, thus indicating a rich soil.

The trees in this region are as follows: White and Black Spruce, Balsam, White Cedar, Aspen, Balm of Gilead, Paper Birch, Jack Pine, Tamarack, Black Ash, White and Red Pine, White Elm, Mountain Ash, Pin Cherry, Mountain Maple, several species of Willow, Shad bush and Alder. Of these the most important from the lumberman's standpoint are White and Black Spruce, from 14 to 24 inches in diameter, Balm of Gilead about 18 inches, White Cedar 2 feet, Aspen 14 to 20 inches. Unfortunately, the White Pine is not common, and nearly all the Tamarack in the country has been killed by the Larch Saw Fly. Jack Pine is found almost exclusively on the sandy areas. Large Birches are extremely common.

The following is a list of furs traded by the Indians at Fort Metagamii