

are two sizes of this article, the larger being used for barring sleds and for the foot-lacing of snow-shoes, the smaller as a species of thread for sewing leather, for the fine netting of snow-shoes, and for lacing fishing and beaver nets.

The Buffalo.—(*Bos Americanus*.)

The Strong-wood variety, which comes so far north and east as about 20 miles from the mouth of Little Buffalo River, near Fort Resolution, Great Slave Lake, is found most numerous, in the vicinity of the salt plains of Salt River. It is unknown throughout the country inhabited by any of the Slave tribes, and the point mentioned above may be considered as its furthest limits. It is of larger size than the plain variety, of darker color, and more thickly furred. The Chipewyans eat its flesh and make robes and parchment from the hides. The horns are made into powder-flasks and are used for mounting knives and awls; the tail mounted on a wooden shank, ornamented with goose or porcupine quills, is used as a fly-flapper. From its scarcity this animal does not contribute materially to the tribes under consideration.

The Musk Ox.—(*Ovibos moschatus*.)

This small but powerful animal is an inhabitant of the Barren-grounds and Arctic coast, from 61° N. It frequents wild, rocky situations, and possesses the agility of the antelope, between which and the buffalo it appears to form a connecting link. During the winter it feeds on lichens and in the summer on grass. From its remote habit it is of little service to the Chipewyan tribes, and though the Yellow-knives, Dog-ribs and Hare Indians sometimes hunt it, yet as it is very fierce and the flesh is strongly impregnated with the flavor of musk, it is not much looked after. The calf-skins make excellent robes and caps, but the adult hides are almost too hairy for any purpose of that sort. The tails are made into fly-flappers similar to those obtained from the same part of the buffalo.

The Mountain Goat.—(*Aplocerus montanus*.)

Is found throughout all the mountain ranges of this District to within a short distance of the Polar Sea, if indeed it does not reach it. It is a larger animal than the domestic goat, which it resembles only in name and in having a beard. It is covered with long and rather brittle white hairs, beneath which a coat of very fine white curly wool lies close to the skin. The flesh, though rank, is fat and tender, and is much relished by the Mountain