

ward of it. He says the Factory is built near the Mouth of the River, in Lat. 51°. 28'. upon a navigable River, which at 12 Miles Distance Southward of the Fort, is divided into two Branches, one comes from the Southward, the other from the South-west; upon the Southern Branch all Sorts of Grain thrives, as Barley, Beans and Pease do at the Factory, tho' exposed to all the chilling Winds which comes from the Ice in the Bay. Upon the Southern Branch above the Falls, there grows naturally along the River the same Kind of wild Oats or Rice, mentioned already upon the Lake of *Siens*, the Husk being black, but the Grain within perfectly white and clear like Rice, the *Indians* beating it off into their Canoes when ripe, as they pass along the River, it growing in the Water like Rice. In their Woods, at the Bottom of the Bay at *Moose* and *Albany*, as well as at *Rupert's* River, are very large Timber Trees of all Kinds, Oak, Ash, &c. as well as Pine, Cedar and Spruce; they have exceeding good Grass to make Hay, which improves every Day as they cut and feed it, and may have every where within Land all Sorts of Pulse and Grain, and all Sorts of Fruit Trees as in the same Climates in *Europe*, for what Sorts they have tried thrive very well; the Ice breaks up at *Moose* Factory in the Beginning of *April*, but higher up in the Country in *March*; it is navigable for Canoes a great Way up among the Falls; at a considerable Distance there is one Fall of 50 Feet, but above that it is deep and navigable for a great Way. The Climate above the Fall is very good, and the River abounds with that wild Rice. The *French* have got a House or Settlement for Trade near the Southern Branch, about 100 Miles above the Factory, where they sell their Goods cheaper than the Company do, altho' it be so difficult to carry them so far from *Canada*, and very expensive, and give as much for a Martin's Skin as they do for a Beaver, when we insist upon three for one; so that the *French* get all the choice Skins, and leave only the Refuse for the Company. The *French* have also got another House pretty high up upon *Rupert* River, by which they have gained all the Trade upon the East Main, except a little the Company get at *Slude* River. He says, upon the South Side of the great Inland Sea upon the East Main, which has lately been discovered, there is an exceeding rich Lead Mine, from which the Natives have brought very good Ore, which might turn out to great Advantage, as well as the