

owing to its great size there is some gain in weight and much saving of material and cost.

Raspberries, strawberries, gooseberries, elder, myrtle, hawthorn and roses are indigenous—also several varieties of agreeable berries and flowering shrubs not generally known in the United Kingdom.

FISH—whales, porpoise, dogfish, salmon, salmon-trout, mountain-trout, sturgeon, halibut, cod, smelt, haddock, lamprey, herring, rock-cod, carp, mullet, oolachan, clams, cockles, muscles, periwinkles, whelks, limpets, cray-fish, crab, prawns, shrimps, oysters.

OILS—The Indians extract hundreds of gallons of oil annually from the whale, porpoise and dogfish. They master the whale with a harpoon attached to a distended sealskin. The quantity of salmon is most enormous; the cod and halibut are abundant; the herring during its season can be scooped into boats with rakes. The oolachan is a fish very similar to smelt, it comes in myriads, is excellent food either fresh or preserved, a gentle heat extracts an oil abundantly, which is far more palatable and possesses all the medicinal properties of cod-liver oil; the Indians use it as butter, and could not live without it, its collection and use are entirely confined to the natives, arising from its virtues being unknown to the civilized world. Since the discovery of gold, curing of fish for export has been neglected. Italian fishermen supply the daily wants of the Victoria market.

GAME—elk, deer, grouse, snipe, duck, cranes, partridges, pigeons, swans, geese, and a great variety of wild fowl.

There is a great variety of the feathered tribe, from eagles to humming-birds, beautiful plumage but little song. Bees have been introduced and they thrive well.

PRINCIPAL TOWN—Victoria (not incorporated), it is the largest town north of San Francisco; population, 4000 to 5000, or about four-fifths of the entire population of the colony. Four years ago it was a trading post of the Hudson Bay Company, and contained about 250 people.

It would be difficult to over-estimate the service which the presence of Her Majesty's vessels has rendered in fostering this now prosperous town; the admiral's advice has been most valuable to the local government, and the officers have been distinguished for their courtesy and abilities. Judicious employment of the vessels has surveyed the neighbouring waters, prevented serious outbreaks of the natives, and established a perfect moral supremacy of the whites over them; at the close of 1858 and during 1859, when the greatest gloom prevailed in Vic-