

thirty-four persons, killed in one day 780 black squirrels, near Rochester, in Genesee county, from which they were then migrating. Another party, on the first of that month, killed a still greater number, 4260, near the eastern part of the town of Scipio, in the county of Cayuga.

Snakes.—In the uncultivated parts the black-snake, copper-head, and rattle snake, are found. On the 3d of June 1817 a snake was seen by the crew of the General Scott schooner, thirty miles below Erie, and three from land, in the lake of this name, which was from thirty-five to forty feet in length; the neck ten or twelve inches in diameter; of a dark mahogany color, nearly black. It raised its head out of the water a few yards from the vessel.

Fishes.—The Hudson is annually visited by immense shoals of shad, herring, and sturgeon. It has been lately ascertained, that the New York waters contain 147 species of fish, besides nineteen varieties, in all 166. Oneida, and the other smaller lakes and rivers with which they communicate, also abound with excellent fish; bass, pike, white fish, salmon, trout, eels, and a fish known by the name of buffalo, which sometimes weighs thirty pounds. The largest salmon of Fish Creek and Seneca River often exceed this weight, and are sold from a dollar to a dollar and a half each. In the description of the lakes mention is made of the fishes with which they are peopled. In Lake Ontario there are sturgeon of 100 pounds weight. The muscalinga, described as a species of pike, weighs from ten to forty-five pounds; the salmon-trout fifty pounds. The oysters of New York are of a prodigious size and excellent quality. In Lake Champlain was formerly seen the fish known by the name of chaousaron, five feet long, as thick as a man's thigh; armed with scales impenetrable to a dagger; with a bony substance, flat, indented, hollow, projecting from under the throat, by means of which it catches birds among the reeds. This lake contains sturgeon, black bass, pike, and cat-fish.

Population.—The population of this state, ascertained at different epochs, is as follows:

In 1731, Inhabitants	50,291, including Blacks.
1749,	100,000,
1756,	110,317, 13,542
1786,	238,897, 18,889
1790	310,120, 21,324 Slaves, 4,663 Free Blacks.