

Simpson, or even for Seattle, -one thousand miles distant on the ocean, - to sell his skins. An Indian whom I know, went in his canoe last year to Seattle and there sold his bear skins, some forty odd, and returned with \$1,400 in cash. Of the Indian character I will speak further on.

Next in value to the fur trade of Alaska stands the salmon industry which has been developed to an astonishing degree during the last decade.

The annual pack now is about 700,000 cases -nearly \$3,000,000 in value. Nearly the half of the output comes from the Karluk River on Kadiak island. This stream is not over fifty feet wide and not long, yet a dozen canneries draw their supply therefrom. Some years the run of salmon is much greater than usual. During the past season salmon were very plentiful. About the beginning of June they commence coming in from the ocean to ascend the streams for spawning. As the summer advances their number increases, up every river and stream, rivulet and rill, instinct drives them to fulfil their mission. Many succeed, but hundreds of thousands, nay millions, perish miserably at the mouths of torrential streams or cascades, attracted thither by the fresh water. They are pursued and attacked by the dog-fish, a species of shark, and one often sees salmon swimming about with pieces bitten out of their sides; and again towards fall thousands are found blind, hopelessly swimming about the mouth of their goal. It is a pitiful sight. Their race is run. High tide piles them on the beach to rot. For miles the air becomes offensive beyond endurance, and more than once was I obliged to change our proposed anchorage on account of the shoals of dead salmon. In south-eastern Alaska all salmon are packed by Chinese who are imported for the season from Portland or San Francisco.

Next to the salmon the codfish stands foremost in quantity as well as in commercial importance. However, as the demand is limited, the development of the cod-fisheries is very limited, the annual catch being only about \$40,000. The fish next in importance is the halibut, which is found in great numbers in favoured localities in south-eastern Alaska. It and the salmon form the great staple for consumption by the natives.