

nett, of the marine service, who hails from Wisconsin, and is a graduate of the Annapolis Naval School. The only physician in Sitka, is the surgeon of the man-of-war, and when that nomadic institution is not "present or accounted for" the capital of Alaska has no one to cure the ills that Alaskan flesh is heir to, and it occurs to the author that a fine opportunity is offered for a worthy disciple of Aesculapius to establish himself in a good business at Sitka, as the native Alaskans need the services of a physician to an alarming extent. The law is looked after by several able and talented followers of Blackstone.

On the Aleutian Islands and at Sitka, and throughout southeastern Alaska generally, root crops are raised without much difficulty. Extreme dampness and want of summer heat, prevent the ripening of grain. Many kinds of edible berries are plentiful and at the foot of Mt. St. Elias, strawberries in their season are found in the greatest abundance. Timber abounds both on the mainland and islands, and there are five species of valuable woods. Commercially considered they range as follows: Yellow cedar, spruce, hemlock, elder and a species of fir or black pine.

The yellow cedar, susceptible of taking a very fine polish, is considered valuable for boat building and finishing purposes. It sells for \$80 per thousand in San Francisco. It possesses a delightful odor which like camphor wood, it retains for a long time, and manufactured into boxes and chests is very valuable for packing furs and other goods as it is said to be a moth preventive.

A good quality of white marble is found on Lynn Canal. Valuable coal discoveries have been made near Killisnoo, at which place also the Northwest Trading Co. have a very extensive establishment, where they manufacture oil and guano from the herring, and pack and export codfish in large numbers. Gold, silver, copper, cinnabar and iron are found in apparently inexhaustible quantities throughout the territory, and in the vicinity of Sitka, the most valuable gold claims yet discovered, are about being developed by a company incorporated under