

live in such a cold climate. Nevertheless they are great numbers of deer, moose and bears, the meat of which is very good to eat. In hunting these animals a person has to be very cautious if he values his life. Hunters there use a kind of bullet which explodes in the body of the animal and kills it instantly. Let this suffice with regard to the country and climate.

We will now proceed to give some particulars of a more important nature—about the Indians or natives. We do not intend to say any thing about the whites that are spread here and there over the interior of the country, as they are very few. On the south coast, however, which is very healthy on account of its mild climate, and on which several mines have been discovered, the Indians have been overwhelmed by the whites and infected with corruption, so that it is very probable that they are lost to religion. It seems, too, that there is very little hope of converting those Indians who live on the west coast of Alaska, south of the mouth of the Yncon, but the same can not be said of those Indians who dwell on the west coast of Alaska north of the mouth of the Yncon, as also of those who live in the interior of the country, along the shores of the same river and its tributaries. These latter Indians are very numerous and are all heathens. F. Tosi says that he met about 10,000 of them who, in their eager desire to be instructed in the truths of religion, have asked for Missionaries. He also saw about 5,000 who belong either to the Protestant or Russian Churches. Unfortunately F. Tosi lacked the opportunity of visiting the more northern regions of Alaska where, according to the most authoritative accounts the Indians are the most numerous, and have as yet never seen a Missionary of any denomination. The zeal of the English Protestant Ministers is very great. Last year five of these Missionaries went up the Yncon to open a school for the Indians. We may state here that for many years there lives on the shores of one of the tributaries of the Yncon an old minister. F. Tosi has met this gentleman, and says that he is for the Protestant Missions of Alaska what F. Joset is for the Catholic Missions of the Rocky Mountains. His zeal for the conversion of these Indians is so great that without ever relenting he undergoes the greatest hardships and difficulties. F. Robaut has taken up his abode amongst the Indians who were to be visited last fall by the Archbishop, and he is all alone. Let us pray to the Almighty that he may take this good Father under his protection, who very probably will have to remain in his present solitary position until next spring; however, all possible measures have been taken that F. Tosi and his companions—F. Ragarn and B. Giordano, S. J., may reach him before winter sets in. They left Victoria on August 9th, 1887. In consequence of the dangers that would follow from delay, F. Tosi