

by the way, when they once enter the rivers of the mainland to spawn are never known to return to the sea, for after wearing out their tails, fins and scales in the ascent, look so dejected and forlorn that they quietly lay down and die in myriads in the pools and eddies of the rivers. Another valuable and prolific fish that abounds in these waters is the oolahan; it appears in immense shoals and is caught both with the scoop net and the rake, like the bunker of the New England coast; it is very fat and oily, and esteemed good eating, but when dried it has other uses, for the natives put its head in a beer bottle and, lighting the tail end, they burn it for a candle. The halibut, cod, smelt, flounder and sardine are also found. The climate is unsurpassed for salubrity, being, like New Mexico, mild and genial. Tender plants are nurtured in the open air, whilst from the mountains rushes a water-power sufficient to drive the looms of the worlds. The following extract shows the available lands for cultivation: near Victoria, say 100,000 acres; Saanich peninsula, 37 square miles, 64,000 acres; Sooke, 3500 acres; Cowichan, 100,000 acres; Salt Spring Island contains an area of 90 square miles, of which some 5,750 acres are fit for settlement; Nanaimo District has 45,000 acres cultivable land; whilst Comas boasts of 50,000 acres, as good and as fertile as any in the Dominion. The Chinese in Victoria are many of them well established in business, as butchers, grocers, merchants, hotel and restaurant keepers, etc., and old residents, instead of, like Bill Nye, bewailing the fact, and asserting that "we're ruined by Chinese cheap labor," make the best of the disadvantages they labor under, and stand the heathen off for a month's fodder, and then withdraw their custom to patronize his rival, and by that means keep within the