

It is of a dark brown colour, with a white head and tail, and the feet, bill, and eyes are yellow. It preys largely upon fishes. Although scarcely so handsome a bird as its ally the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetus*, Linn.), yet this is the species which has been honoured as the emblem of the United States. An egg of the Bald-headed Eagle, from Long Island, Lake Erie, is in my possession.* The nest was built near the top of an elm tree, about 70 feet high, and contained two white eggs.

At the end of July the schooner which had been anchored for some time near Dutch Harbour, made her way into the open waters of Behring Sea. Having left the Entrance to Captain's Bay behind, on one side of which is a promontory rock called the "Priest"; and on the opposite side a water-fall, pouring itself over the cliff—the first notable thing we observed in the sea was a number of Fin-back Whales (*Balænoptera velifera*, Cope). These huge Cetaceans were often close to the vessel's side, and shewed their great mouths and blow-holes (nostrils). The blowing, which is respiratory, is very audible. At one spot and time the water was fairly agitated as these monsters rolled over, but unfortunately only a small part of the creature's body can be seen at the same moment, for if the head is above water the tail is under, and *vice versa*.

One day when far from land, I scooped up a specimen of Medusa from the surface of the sea; and finding it tenacious of life placed it in a glass-vessel containing sea-water, in order to watch its graceful motions, and examine its structure. It was of a soft brown colour: very complicated and delicate in its organization, but probably belonged to the genus *Chrysaora*. The Medusæ differ considerably among themselves, but are generally mushroom shaped, and from the body, or disc, are suspended numbers of tentacles. Besides this small form many other Medusæ were seen during the voyage, and whilst approaching the Straits of Juan de Fuca, when "homeward bound" we passed through a regular field of them. On that occasion various

*Collected by Mr. W. H. Noble.