

I am informed that they realize as much as \$600 to \$700 per annum from this source alone. They also find employment as laborers on the steamers and elsewhere but are not so valued when steady work is required.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

P. O'REILLY,
Indian Reserve Commissioner.

INDIAN RESERVE COMMISSION,
VICTORIA, B.C., 28th October, 1882.

The Right Honorable
The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you, that I completed the allotment of land for the Hydah Indians on Queen Charlotte Islands, on the 28th July, and having previously engaged for a special trip of the steamer "Otter" to convey myself and party to the coast of the mainland, I proceeded to Queen Charlotte Sound, and on the 31st of that month visited the Nah-keoock-to tribe of Indians, who reside in Seymour Inlet.

The Chief Mar-qua, and most of his people were absent, and were not expected to return for a month. I saw five of his men, and explained to them the object of my visit and the desire of the Government that their villages, fishing stations, &c., should be defined; they said they would like to have their village site marked, but declined to show their fisheries; they said that they had herring, and halibut fisheries in the sea, which nobody but themselves know of, and also a salmon stream, which they were afraid would be taken up, as was the case at Rivers Inlet if they told the white men where it was.

I explained to them that the object of my visit was to secure the land to them, and prevent the possibility of either it, or their fisheries, being taken up by any one, and how desirable it was, in their interest, that the land they wished for should be defined immediately.

I offered to take one of them in my canoe and pay him for his time, if he would accompany me to the different places they wished for, as I could not return again; but this was also declined.

Subsequently, they stated that, when they heard I was coming, they held a meeting and decided among themselves not to make known where the fisheries were.

I then proceeded (accompanied by the Indians) to mark off their village reserve Ke-ques-ta.

No. 1.

Ke-ques-ta contains 150 acres, and is situated on the northern shore of the Seymour Inlet, about ten miles from its mouth. With the exception of about twelve acres immediately at the back of the village, and that it possesses a supply of good timber, this reserve is worthless, being high mountain land, nor is it possible to enlarge it with benefit to the Indians, as the country for miles on every side is a continuation of steep rocky mountains.

No. 2.

A small island in Nugent Sound, about one-quarter mile south of the village, on which are a number of graves.

This tribe live far removed from any white settlement, and retain their primitive habits. They subsist entirely on fish and game, and the sale of furs.