

who take him from Siwash boats in the waters beneath the river end of a cannery and turn him out at its railroad switch end, neatly canned, labelled and boxed for the barbarians of the east."

We regret our inability to afford space for the narration of the personal fishing adventures of Robinson and Jones—for so the writer describes himself and his companion Dr. Walter Bown. But there is much in his description of the salmon-canning industry of the Fraser river that is interesting (and statistical) reading. We append some extracts describing the four kinds of salmon caught:

"Early in July the canneries are equipped with full force of Siwasches to catch, and Chinese to can the first run, known as the spring salmon. Soon the word comes that seals have been seen on the bar at the Fraser's mouth; this means that the only one of their sea enemies which can follow them to fresh water is fishing on his own account on the salmon which crowd into and up the river in mad haste to finish their appointed task, and return again a limp, useless mass of pulpy fish life to their ocean home. Nothing stays their advance, baited hooks and skilfully thrown flies do not attract them for a moment, and the Siwash fishermen has nothing to do but to drop his net across the river, drift with its current, and a mile of such drift fills his boat.

"Each boat has two crews, and night and day the catch goes on, and day and night the Chinese labor, so that, when in full blast, the cannery turns out the cans in cases six hours after the fish have been caught. This "spring" salmon is as large as any of the other varieties and distinguished by its pinkish (not red) flesh, and is, with the exception of the "suck eyes," (by which name the second run of salmon is called) the best of British Columbia salmon. The "suck eyes" are a smaller fish, deep red as to flesh, and richer and juicier than any other. Two or three weeks later commence the run of "cohoes," a fairly good salmon, but inferior to either of the others, and later still come the "humpbacks," whose flesh is too coarse for use, but which is canned when the other runs have been poor, and the "white flesh" salmon, a fairly good fish, but now never canned on account of repeated failures to persuade foreign fish eaters that in the absence of a red tinge he is a salmon at all.

"I have said that the Celestials take the salmon from the Siwasches, and in six hours he is canned and may be eaten, and the process is worth coming to British Columbia to see, for the only part which is done by hand is the gutting and beheading of the fish, and the testing of the completed cans. The first process is in an artificial stream of pure water, and so quickly that the knife has gleamed only twice or thrice till the headless, disembowled salmon passes under revolving knives which cut him into segments just fitting the can which receives him. The cap put on, the filled can runs slowly down an inclined plane, the edge of which is a trough of molten solder, which has made the can air tight, and it has cooled off before it falls off the end of the long incline into water heated to 180 degrees; there it remains for a short time, and when lifted out by machinery the cans bulge at both ends, and the air and excess of oil has collected at the upper end. This is quickly pricked, and the moment the bubbling ceases a drop of solder completes the process, and the cans are lowered by a crane into a vat where the temperature of 202 degrees boils them for an hour; then lifted, and if no further bulging has occurred, they are craned into a dry furnace to remain one hour and ten minutes in a temperature of 260 degrees, and they emerge with all the bony tissue dissolved, and fit for the table. Lacquered and labelled, four dozen in a case, which this year costs the manufacturers \$3.50 and is sold by them in quantities at \$4.60 or about 9 cents per can. There are 17 canneries on the Fraser river, and they will, with the canneries on some of the smaller B. C. rivers, as the Stickeen, yield over three hundred thousand cases, representing about one and a half millions of the total of four millions of B. C. exports, one million of gold, the same of coal, and one-half million of lumber making up the rest.

"Now one word more, and that one of warning on the subject of fish, and I have done. The deeply indented bays and inlets and the numerous banks of the western coast yield almost every fish that swims, and many of them, such as the black cod, sole, &c., are

scarcely to be found elsewhere. So, when the future Winnipegger wishes to talk fish over here, let him take warning by the experience of Jones and myself, which was this: When we first came over here Jones was bragging about our whitefish, and I thought I would take the wind out of some of their sails in describing the flavor and size of our sturgeon, the weight of which I averred to be sometimes as much as 90 pounds. Whew! says an old B. C. settler, that haint nothing. Why, a Siwash would think a sturgeon less than 600 lbs. weight not worth catching."

FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO.—Ottawa, Sep. 28th.—Five buildings destroyed by fire, occupied by barber, Mrs. Lateau, residence, Trembley, shoemaker, C. Lamarche, hotel, S. Lapine and P. Labonte, hotel. Total loss about \$15,000, insurance \$6,400 in Phoenix, Hartford, Citizens' Aetna.

—Blenheim, Sept. 28th.—Barn and sheds of J. Rowe destroyed by fire this morning. Loss \$2,000, insured in Western \$500.—Glencoe, Sept. 23rd.—Warehouse occupied by P. D. McDonald destroyed by fire, loss \$1,000.—Ottawa, 30th.—Bush fires are very near the city, the forest on the Sparks' estate property near Rochesterville threaten Booth & Perley's lumber piles.—Pembroke, 30th.—Damage to fences, forests and the hay crop hereabout will be severe; the smoke is everywhere on the river Ottawa, hindering navigation. Much valuable pine is reported on fire in the Northern and Western districts, and to-night Messrs. Booth & Gordon's limits are reported to be burning.—Burlington, 2nd.—Incendiarists broke the window of J. Hall's paint shop and started a fire. It was extinguished before serious damage was done.—Ottawa, 2nd.—Sheds in rear of the Albion hotel burned down. The flames spread to one of the wings of the hotel, scorching it considerably. The loss will be about \$2,000, partly insured.

The lessee loses about \$300 on furniture, uninsured.—London, Oct. 1st.—Fire on J. Carroll's farm burned barn and contents. The loss on the building is between \$400 and \$500; contents, about \$200. There is an insurance of \$600 on the property, in the Westminster Mutual. The origin of the fire is unknown.

—Belleville, 1st.—Lightning during a storm struck barns of H. Ashley and Chas. McDavid in Thurlow township. Ashley's barn and shed were valued at \$1,800, insured in Northern for \$1,250. There was \$400 on the contents and \$200 on live stock. Mr. McDavid's smaller barn only was struck. It was filled to the top with barley, no insurance.

OTHER PROVINCES.—Montreal, Sept. 28th.—G. Barrington & Son's trunk factory burned, loss \$40,000 is fully covered by insurance.—Washedemoor, N. B., 24th.—J. W. Morrell's dwelling and two barns burned with contents. Loss \$1,800; insurance \$500.—Quebec, 30th.—Fire broke out to-day in the Archbishop's Palace, starting in roof and cupola. The fire was subdued but the damage will be from \$10,000 to \$12,000, covered by insurance in the North British & Mercantile, Liverpool & London & Globe and other companies.—Three Rivers, Que., Sept. 24th.—Residence of J. P. Houliston gutted by fire, loss \$4,000, covered by insurance.—Moncton, N. B. Sept. 22.—Wright's mill destroyed by fire, insured in St. John for \$6,000.—Buckingham, Que., Sept. 30.—The woods of both sides of the River Lievre, from Buckingham to High Falls, are on fire. One house and two barns are reported burnt. Fences, cordwood and timber are burning in all directions. The men of Ross Bros. and James McLaren & Co.'s lumber yards are fighting the fires. The wells and creeks are dried in the country, and in many places there is no water.—Montreal, Oct. 3rd.—Some sheds belonging to M. Bastien on Hypolite st. took fire, whence the roof of DeLauriers and Charpaud's dwellings caught; their roofs are burned. Damage done probably \$1,200; incendiarism suspected.

TANNING DEERSKINS.

The *Scientific American* gives the following receipt for curing deerskins so as to make them durable and pliant like soft leather:—"Wash the skin in warm water and remove all fleshy matter from the inner surface; then clean the wool with soft soap and wash clean.

When the skin is perfectly free from all fatty and oily matter, apply the following mixture to the flesh side:—Common salt and ground alum $\frac{1}{2}$ pound each and $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce borax. Dissolve the whole in one quart of hot water and sufficiently cool to bear the hands; add rye meal to make it into a thick paste, which spread on the flesh side of the skin. Fold it lengthwise, the skin being quite moist, and let it remain for two weeks in an airy and shady place; then remove the paste from the surface, wash and dry. When nearly dry, scrape the flesh side of the skin with a crescent-shaped knife."

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, Oct. 5th, 1887.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average. 1886
Montreal	233 $\frac{1}{2}$	231 $\frac{1}{2}$	162	233 $\frac{1}{2}$	231 $\frac{1}{2}$	232 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ontario	125	120 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	125	120 $\frac{1}{2}$	122 $\frac{1}{2}$
Peoples,	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	109	16	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	109	109 $\frac{1}{2}$
Molson's	140	132 $\frac{1}{2}$	22	140	132 $\frac{1}{2}$	141
Toronto	912	905	145	907	905	909 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jac. Cartier	100	75	.....	90	75	70
Merchants	132	131	154	131 $\frac{1}{2}$	131 $\frac{1}{2}$	129 $\frac{1}{2}$
Commerce	121	120	472	120 $\frac{1}{2}$	120	126
Union	95	90	14	95	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....
Montreal Tel.	95	93	175	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	118
Rich. & Ont.	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	55	549	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	55	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
City Passenger	245	235	.....	245	235	260
Gas	218	216	100	.....	.....	216 $\frac{1}{2}$
Gas & d.	212 $\frac{1}{2}$	209 $\frac{1}{2}$	700	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	209 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....
C. Pacific R. R.	52 $\frac{1}{2}$	51 $\frac{1}{2}$	300	52 $\frac{1}{2}$	52	71
N. W. Land.	47 $\frac{1}{2}$	40	150	45 $\frac{1}{2}$	40	74

—Merchandise of Canadian production to the value of \$41,349 was shipped to the United States from Hamilton during the month of September. The principal items in the list are eggs, skins and wool. Thus:—

Eggs	Value	\$12,964
Wool	"	5,648
Skins	"	5,074
Sheep	"	4,870
Lumber	"	4,168
Cattle	"	1,839
Horses	"	390
Sewing Machines	"	670
Cotton Waste	"	325

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, October 5th, 1887.

ASHES.—Although the receipts for some weeks past have been very light, still the statistics of the trade for the past nine months show a slight increase in receipts over the same period of last year. The figures for 1887 are 2,988 brls. of pots, 203 pearls; for 1886, 2,809 brls. of pots, 233 pearls, showing an increase of 149 brls. for the current year. Stocks in store are of very narrow compass, and prices rule very firm. On the 30th Sept. there were in store only 290 pots and 16 pearls. We quote No. 1 pots at \$4.30 to \$4.40.

BOOTS, SHOES AND LEATHER.—There is no special improvement in the shoe trade; sorting orders are coming in only slowly, and are principally for the coarser lines. Some houses have ready samples of finer grades of spring goods. Leather is not moving in any large quantity, the chief demand being apparently for sole. Stocks are full in most lines, and the situation continues to favor the buyer of fair lots. We quote:—Spanish sole, B. A. No. 1, 24 to 25c.; do., No. 2, B. A., 20 to 22c.; No. 1 Ordinary Spanish 21 to 23c.; No. 2 do., 19 to 21c.; No. 1 China, 20 to 21c.; No. 2, 18 to 19c.; Hemlock Slaughter, No. 1, 25 to 27c.; oak sole, 42 to 47c.; Waxed Upper, light and medium, 33 to 37c.; ditto, heavy 32 to 35c.; Grained 34 to 37c.; Scotch grained 36 to 42c.; Splits large 20 to 27c.; do. small 16 to 20c.; Calf-splits, 32 to 33c.; Calfskins, (35 to 46 lbs.), 70 to 80c.; Imitation French Calf skins 80 to 85c.; Russet Sheepskins Linings, 30 to 40c.; Harness 24 to 33c.; Buffed Cow, 12 to 15c.; Pebbled Cow, 11 to 15c.; Rough 23 to 26c.; Russet and Bridle, 54 to 55c.