

in the near future lead to the opening up of industries and a great trade. The centres for export will be upon the coast (where large mills already exist) and on the Columbia River, in the Kootenay district.

TIMBER LICENSES.

Unlicensed persons, except for farm and mining purposes, &c., are not permitted to cut trees on Crown lands. A timber license may be granted for 1,000 acres for four years in payment of \$10 annually, and 15 cents for each tree (except hemlock) felled, payable half yearly. No person can hold more than one license at the same time, and it is not transferable. Millowners cannot saw logs taken from Crown lands (in which are included lands leased at less than ten cents an acre) until the timber dues of twenty cents per thousand feet board measure are paid.

FISHERIES.

The whole of the seas, gulfs, bays, rivers and lakes of the province swarm with prodigious numbers of fine food-fishes. Besides salmon and herrings, there are immense quantities of cod, including the common and the black cod, bass, flounder, skate, sole, halibut, sardines, smelt, and the delicious candle-fish or coluchan. Sturgeon, sometimes exceeding 1,000 lbs. in weight, are found at the entrance of rivers, also in their upper courses and in the larger lakes. The coast abounds with oysters, a very large and excellent cry-fish, crabs, mussels, and other shell-fish, excepting, however, lobsters, while the thousand lakes with which the interior is studded, possess trout, pike, perch, eels, and a very fine white-fish. Whales, also fishes of the shark species yielding oil, are numerous. The capture of the valuable fur-seal is an important industry.

Abstract from Official return of statistics relating to the Fisheries of British Columbia for the year 1883.

Total value of yield, as per return list.....	\$1,603,145 42
Estimated consumption by Indian population, as per computation previously supplied.....	4,885,000 00
Total.....	\$6,488,145 42
Valuation of vessels engaged in the fisheries, last years, nets, &c.	\$253,245 00
Valuation of canneries, oil stations, and other plant.....	515,245 00
Total.....	\$768,245 00

Engaged in the fisheries last year:—	
Sailors.....	70
Fishermen.....	2,638
Native hunters with sealing fleet.....	296
Shoremen.....	2,136
Total.....	5,140

The fish which are at present most important in British Columbia are the salmon. Those of the Fraser River are justly famous. They make their way up the river for over 600 miles. The silver salmon begin to arrive in March, or early in April, and do not till the end of June. The average weight is from four to twenty-five pounds, but they have been caught weighing over seventy. The second kind are caught from June to August, and are considered the finest. The average size is only five to six pounds. The third, coming in August, average seven pounds, and are an excellent fish. The humpback salmon comes every second year, lasting from August till winter, weighing from six to fourteen pounds. The hookbill arrives in September and remains till winter, its weight ranges from twelve to forty-five pounds.