

been salted fur-seals, sold on the 27th inst., and the various catalogues have contained 20,994 Alaska, 42,721 Copper Island, 20,417 North West Coast, 9,649 Lobos, and 1,873 Cape of Good Hope., etc., making a total of only 93,334 (as against 126,217 last year), and this total was only brought together now by including the larger part of the catch from Copper Island, which were heretofore always sold in the following spring. The attendance for the seal sale was large, but for the other furs there was a smaller number of buyers from Germany present than last year, and buyers generally were not eager."

"As soon as the small catch of Alaska by the new Company became known, early in September, the fur-seal market became excited and values speedily advanced; it was mentioned that the herds on the Seal Islands had been greatly diminished by the indiscriminate slaughter of females on the open seas, and therefore the catch for next year on the Pribylov Islands could not now be forecast, it might again have to be very small."

"The quality of the 20,994 Alaska was excellent and chiefly large sizes, the great number of small skins which we have had the past few years being conspicuously absent. Of course, for the Alaska the demand was far greater than the supply, and consequently prices advanced rapidly and greatly, averaging about 90 per cent. all round. Separated, the ratio of advance was: On 659 middlings and smalls, 75 per cent.; on 2,939 smalls 65 per cent.; 5,144 large pups, 85 per cent.; 7,684 middling pups, 100 per cent.; 3,752 small pups, 130 per cent., and 71 extra small pups, 100 per cent. There were exceptionally few (743) low and cut skins, which were also in good demand. Nearly all were secured for America."

"The 42,721 Copper Island skins were also of somewhat superior quality, but having already somewhat improved last March, they now sold at an average advance of fully 50 per cent., being nearly level in advance in all the sizes; these were also largely secured for America, but part were taken by European dealers and furriers."

"The North West Coast skins were of average fair quality, and ranging lower in prices, were more appreciated by the English trade; the advance, however, proved about 60 per cent. on rates current last spring."

"The Lobos, although the quality was on the whole nothing choice of the sort, ranged nearly 50 per cent. dearer than last year. The small low skins hardly advanced in the same ratio; many were taken for France."

"The Cape of Good Hope, also participated in the general advance."