

April 1878

26<sup>th</sup>

Cloudy disagreeable day  
snowing lightly all the  
P.M. - Temperature up to 38  
in the forenoon. About  
11 A.M. we were agreeably surprised  
to see a solitary goose  
flying by from the North East  
It was Branta hutchinsii and  
the first of the migratory  
to appear this year.

In the afternoon a single goose  
was seen returning on  
the course taken by the one  
in the morning and was  
probably the same bird.

The arrival of this goose was  
very unexpected as not  
a pond is open and the  
tundra is covered with

nearly its entire winter  
coating, only spots showing  
remains there -

The natives report that  
a few geese have been  
seen about Uualaklet  
within a few days.

All the residents here  
say that it is a very unusual  
occurrence to see geese here,  
until some days after gulls  
have been seen flying over  
but the chances are about  
equal this year since the  
ice extends in an unbroken  
sheet out 15 or 20 miles,  
at least, from shore and probably  
farther. A ♂ grouse (*Lag. albus*)  
was heard on the hill side back  
of the Redoubt during the

afternoon hunting defiances  
at all rivals -

Have nearly completed packing  
the specimens collected during  
the last year -

27<sup>th</sup>

Some natives from Stebenson  
the other side of the island  
say that several geese have  
been seen there -

28<sup>th</sup>

Egoroka brought in the  
first goose killed this season  
He shot it as it flew over the  
village -

An old woman from the  
station across the bay on  
the Mainland reports  
that 8 or 10 ducks and several  
swans were seen yesterday

flying about here.

By the 30<sup>th</sup> to 79, 10<sup>th</sup>

Weather remained cold.  
Nothing of note -

May 1<sup>st</sup>

Made a trip to the  
mainland saw 4  
swans and *Stanas  
acuta*

May 8<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> a fearful  
wind storm accompanied  
by snow ended by the  
temperature falling to  
90 the a.m. of the  
5<sup>th</sup>

In the evening a native  
brought me a specimen  
of *Emmophila cornuta*  
the first specimen of  
this bird obtained here

6<sup>th</sup>

Cold - nothing of note -  
7<sup>th</sup>

Cold and clear.

Began boiling the bones of my  
beluga - Some women came  
from the house today and  
said they saw some geese and  
cranes -

8<sup>th</sup>

Still cold. The country is  
covered with about 18 inches  
to 3 feet of snow and looks  
anything but spring like  
though one can read without  
a lamp from 7.30 a.m. to  
9.30 P.M. and there are  
not over four hours of  
darkness - The redpoll  
linnets are numerous

And their cheerful canny  
like chirp is heard from  
all about among the wet  
patches—

Just after noon a gyrfalcon  
passed over and later a  
Pigeon Hawk—

9<sup>th</sup>

The beautiful sunny days  
continue, the snow is  
slowly disappearing and  
spring appears to be here at  
last.

10<sup>th</sup>

Fine day, went to Shama  
Mt. shooting & obtained  
Saw a number of interesting  
birds in the alder thick-  
ets. A fine coverage was  
observed to the north—

A cape about 60 to 80 miles  
distant was drawn out  
into a church-steeple like  
elevation with a second  
lower point which  
increased the resemblance.  
Open water was seen,  
with the glasses, off Egg Is.

The garden was dug over  
and repaired today. The  
setts which we raise in  
the house are just coming  
above ground.

11<sup>th</sup>

Beautiful day signalled by  
the arrival of quite a  
number of birds.

The ice is covered with  
water formed under the  
snow and dark spots

commence showing when  
the water approaches the  
surface of the snow  
Large spots on the  
tundra are bare and geese  
+ ducks commencing to arrive  
in small flocks.  
12th

Warm pleasant. Two Russians  
returned from shooting up  
the canal, this a.m. they  
report no lakes open and  
but few geese which do  
not light.

Ducks geese & gulls  
are seen sparingly flying  
over the ice and a few on ice.  
The ground is frozen so  
deep that as soon as the  
sun gets near the horizon



ice forms on the pools  
of water and small streams  
though 10 feet from the ground  
the thermometer indicates  
 $6^{\circ}$  or  $8^{\circ}$  above freezing

The sun does not  
counterbalance the effect  
of the cold in the ground so  
to set the streams running  
until nearly midday and  
they sensibly diminish by  
 $6^{\circ}$  or  $7^{\circ}$  in the evening.  
It is dark now from about  
 $10^{\text{h}} 40^{\text{m}}$  to  $1^{\text{h}} 20^{\text{m}}$  a.m.

Waukhuie are becoming  
more plentiful

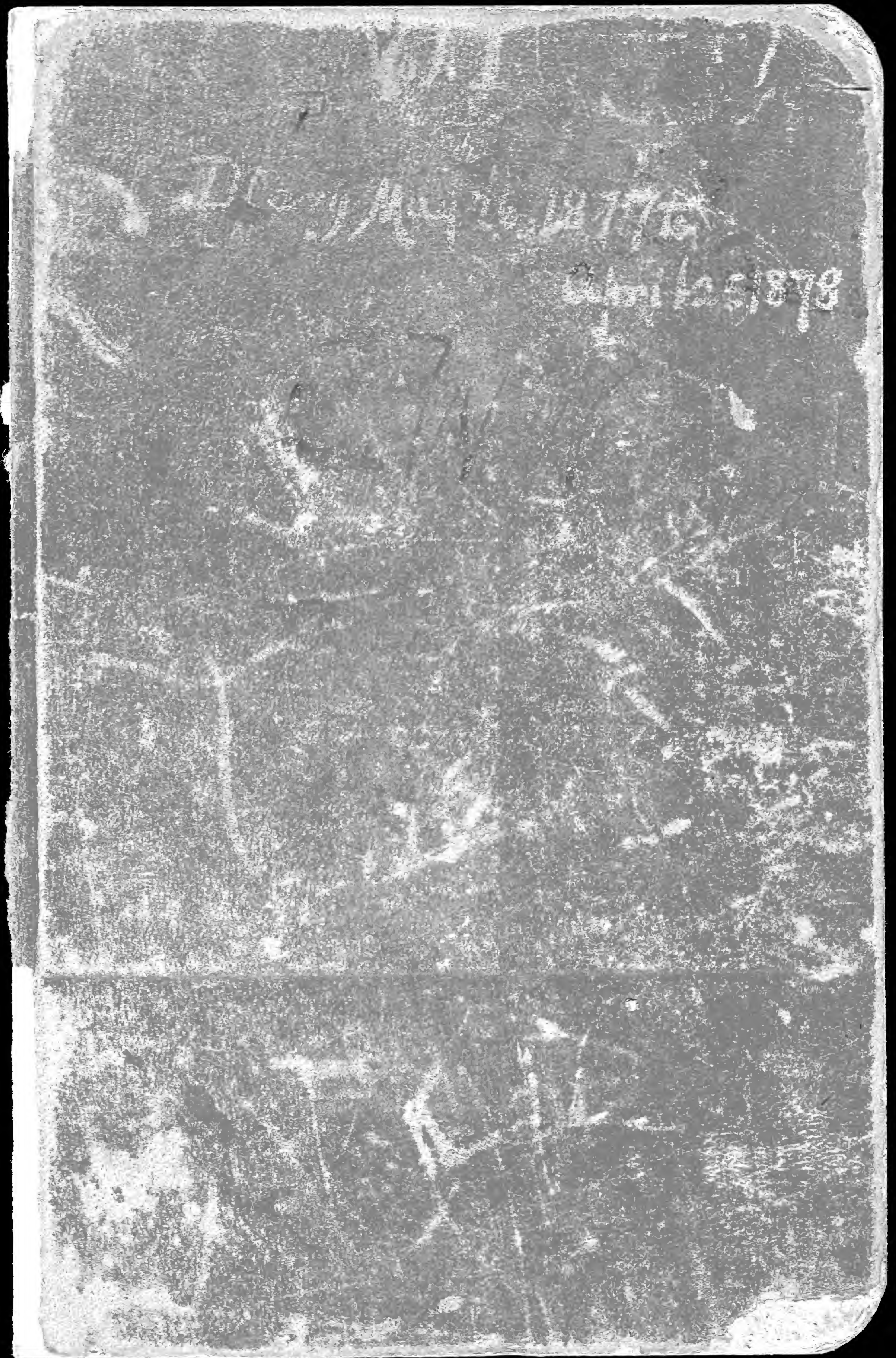
13<sup>th</sup>

Warm & pleasant -

The tundra is bare to a  
great extent -

Went to Shaman Mt. in  
the afternoon. Found the lakes  
open around the base of the  
hill and small sandpipers  
(*S. pusillus*) very numerous -  
only a pair of geese  
were seen -

14<sup>th</sup>



Alexis - Nosuaukk  
" wife Chama. ukku

Alaska Lyn  
Unalaska May -

1877

Diary

E. W. Melton

OK

Oumakka May 26<sup>th</sup> 1880  
Went out in the afternoon  
in a 3 Holed Bidarkie for  
the first time. I can testify  
to the pleasure one has  
in ~~sailing~~ <sup>rapidly</sup> gliding along  
through the water or rather  
~~over~~ the water in one of  
these boats which although  
so frail that in passing  
over keep beds the frame  
work and skin can be  
felt yielding to the long  
leaves as they glide we pass  
over and the long swells  
bend the boat from stem to  
stern yet so elastic and  
strong are they that it  
requires a ~~strong~~ heavy  
sea to deter the hardy  
natives from going  
about in them or in the  
still smaller <sup>rather</sup> ~~one~~ two  
holed bidarkies. With a man  
in front and behind to paddle

I went out through  
the pass into Captain  
Harbor on the way several  
marbled Guillemots were  
shot and quite a number  
were seen during the trip.  
Uria columba was common  
as usual. Also the Cormorants,  
As we went through the  
inner harbor several  
Horned Puffins were seen and  
one was shot as it arose  
heavily from the water but  
as it was not killed it dove  
and an exciting chase took  
place which ended after  
the use of considerable shot  
in the capture of the bird.  
One or two others were wounded  
but managed to escape.  
As did several 'Arms' only  
one being secured and that  
after being shot several times.  
This and the Puffins  
generally keep in the pass

out away from the  
harbor but the storm  
which has been raging  
outside several days  
has driven them in.  
A large flock of Somateria  
V-nigra (?) was seen after  
my ammunition was  
exhausted. Quite a number  
of Gulls with black wing  
tips were seen but not  
identified. As I pulled the  
trigger on an arm a few  
feet in advance of the boat  
the native in the front had  
raised his paddle just in  
time to have a hole put  
through the blade by the  
charge of shot.  
On my return I was told  
that a half dozen large  
snipe had been brought  
in and sent to the kitchen  
during my absence. I  
at once went to the

specimens but found only  
one that had not been  
picked. This I at once  
appropriated and found it  
a fine specimen of  
*Larus uropygialis*. The  
few feathers still remaining  
on the others showed that  
some were in summer  
plumage while others were  
still in the light colored winter  
plumage.

Sunday May 27 - 1877  
A stormy day.

When we awoke we found  
the Sch. Bella back from  
a weeks trip to the westward,  
and about 10 a.m. the  
Str. St. Paul came in  
from her trip to the seal  
Is. after a trip of just  
two weeks. The reports  
no ice about the Is.  
Capt. Chas. Boycut was  
board en route to San F.

having been relieved as Revenue  
officer at the seal Is. by Mr.  
Morton.

Monday May 28 - 77  
The cargo for St. Michaels  
was unloaded and I attended  
to securing my collecting  
apparatus. Found everything  
in good condition.

Tuesday May 29/77  
Took care of the birds I  
had on hand, and arranged  
my working material.

Wednesday May 30/77  
The steamer left for  
Nanaimo for coal at 4 P.M.  
and shortly after the Bella  
started for the Kuskokwim  
with Mr. Sipey the light-  
for that district and Mr.  
Neumann who goes  
overland to St. Michaels.  
A fine lot of fishes were



obtained from the natives  
and a curious Ray was caught  
from the steamer while she  
lay at anchor and sent to  
me. There were among the other  
fishes some brilliantly red  
faded fishes perhaps a *Sebastes*,  
two ♀ of which are much  
duller colored. A single ♀ of a  
second species of the same genus  
was among them. Also some pretty  
purple spotted sculpins which  
are said to frequent the same  
localities as the former species,  
on rocky points.

Thursday May 31/77  
Took descriptions of the  
fishes secured yesterday  
made a sketch of the Ray and  
saved as many of the fishes as  
possible with my limited  
amount of alcohol. I also  
went across to Anaknak  
Is. and visited the caves  
where Mr. Dall found

His pre-historic relics a year  
or two ago. The top of the  
cave in the isolated rock  
had partly fallen in covering  
the bottom in one place several  
feet deep with debris.  
Friday June 1/77  
Spent nearly the entire day  
moulding bullets and  
trying my Maynard rifle.  
I find its penetration is very  
great and that it shoots  
satisfactorily at long ranges  
and with practice I think I  
can do good work with it.  
Mr. Newman the A.C. Co. agt  
at Chernooskie tells me  
of several caves near  
his village where there  
are a lot of mummies and  
various utensils and implements.  
I have partly made arrangements  
to go over and if everything is  
favorable shall probably go the  
first of the coming week.

A mormon cutter then  
came in and  
anchored just at dark.

Saturday June 2/1877

Crossed the harbor to Unalakleet Is.  
with 'Vesivie' the priest's son  
in the morning, to dig into  
some house sites I found  
a few days since. On the  
way over a swallow (~~at Unalakleet~~  
homerun) was seen skimming  
about. At the ancient  
village site the houses were  
scattered about irregularly  
and were nearly all small  
squares ~~with~~ ~~or~~ ~~just~~ as shown  
by the outline of the depressions  
that marked the places of  
the houses. In the center of  
the village ~~was~~ is a large  
shallow depression much larger  
than the surrounding

pits, with a partition <sup>across</sup>  
center and a communicating  
door ~~across~~ ~~to~~ be seen by the  
low bank of earth. The  
village site ~~was~~ is as follows



Digging into several of the small  
houses we found nothing but  
the bones of fishes (sculpin, cod)  
sea lion, whale, ducks & other  
water birds. In one house  
there was <sup>layers</sup> nearly two feet deep  
of fish bones in one corner.  
The jaw bones of a whale had  
been used for a side support  
for the house and was sunk  
about 4 ft into the ground.  
Many mussel, Periwinkle, and other

common rough shelled clam,  
 shells were found in profusion  
 in all the houses examined.  
 No articles of value were  
 found in any of the houses  
 until we reached the large  
 square house when digging a few  
 inches I sought to light a large  
 pile of fish bones, several sea lion  
 bones and a number of whale  
 vertebrae. In this pile of  
 refuse I found a <sup>broken</sup> stone lamp  
 and the fragment of a seal which  
 had probably been thrown there  
 to get them out of the way.  
 In other parts of this point but few  
 remains of fish were found  
 but in the corner of the inner  
 room next the cor. where the  
 lamps were found I took out  
 a flint spear head and two ivory spear  
 heads also a wedge made of whale  
 bone. The chief here knew the latter  
 at once and said before the  
 natives had iron tools they made these

wedges of different sizes to split  
 wood into planks for making  
 bidarkies and spear handles or  
 He had a native make me a couple  
 out of a whales jaw bone and they  
 are precisely the shape of the iron  
 wedges used by our wood cutters.





The preceding figures give a rough idea of the appearance of the specimens

taken. This village is in close proximity to the caves in which Mr. Dall found so many skeletons and I suspect that these caves were the burying places for this town. A well worn path skirts the bluff leading from this village toward Orundaska and another less marked leads toward the caves.

The earth has nearly obliterated several of the house sites but only about 6 in. of mold covered the remains in the large house. On my return to town 3 specimens of *Linnæa ussuriensis* were seen on the track and in the afternoon the Chief (Ruge) took my gun and went over to secure all the rest.

me.

Sunday June 3 1877

Nothing stirring, Made the acquaintance of the officers outboard the morning cutter and took a stroll along the beach. Saw some half dozen swallows in the afternoon and quite a number of Ptarmigan trout were seen in a small stream flowing into the small lake back of town.

Monday June 4 1877

Did nothing in collecting during the morning. In the afternoon went along the beach under some cliffs near town in search of a *Tyrpalcus* nest which the Chief told me had seen them for several seasons. did not find it but secured a pair of *Melospiza cinerea* saw the usual number

of Savanna Sparrow.  
A Gyrfalcon was hovering  
over the bluff in the rear  
of the town at noon but  
disappeared in a short time.  
Saw the burrows of some small  
mice on a flat near the town.

Tuesday - June 5, 1877 -  
Went out just before noon  
in a 3-holed bidarkie - alone.  
Although my first trip in a  
bidarkie alone I found no  
difficulty in keeping my perpendicular  
and went several miles to the  
head of Captain's Harbor.  
Saw a lot of Steller's Eiders but  
they proved to shy for me to get  
any. Also saw a lot of ~~the~~  
Hutchinson's ducks in a flock  
at the head of the harbor. They  
exhibited their usual wildness -  
A pair of fish ducks (Mergansers)  
which appeared to be Mesquitor  
flew from a small bay so.

I intend -  
Some small porpoises  
come into the harbor every  
evening to feed ~~into~~ on the  
fish in shallow water.  
They roll up on the surface  
every few feet while fishing  
but only show their dorsal  
fin or a small portion of  
the back.  
Eagles are very common  
but only all the White-headed  
species.  
The Sch. Gen. Miller arrived  
in the p.m. from the Western  
Is. Mr. Gumbann brought  
me a specimen of the Chocchikie  
which he said were in the  
greatest abundance about  
Kyska and other of the western  
Aleutian Is. I have seen  
none about Ormalaska yet.  
Mr. Rowan of St. Petersburg  
tells me he has a skin  
of a ~~particular~~ Harp Seal which

from his description must be  
*A. Phoca*

Wednesday, June 6, 1877

In the morning I learned that  
the Sch. Gen. Miller was to take  
in the St. Michaels Cargo and  
proceed to that place at once  
so I went at work getting  
my specimens packed and  
things in readiness to start  
the coming Saturday.

Skinned the birds on hand  
and packed the most of my  
material.

Thursday, June 7, 1877

Continued yesterday's work.  
Found that the large birds  
I had collected soon after my  
arrival had not cured out a  
little so had to pack them  
to take with me. Find that  
I have secured quite a  
valuable lot of ethnological  
specimens by levying contribution

Rev. Collector

on the collections of Col. Woodson  
and Messrs. Grant and  
Armstrong of the U.C.C.

Friday, June 8, 1877

Finished my preparations  
for departure and skinned  
a specimen of Halibut that  
the Chief had brought in.  
Some young salmon about  
3 inches long were brought  
me from the creek near town  
they were light silvery bluish  
with dark <sup>vertical</sup> bars along the  
sides.

Sat. June 9, 1877.

A dead calve until about  
9 a.m. The tide was very  
low and from the deck of  
the schooner alongside the  
wharf many sponges, sponges,  
Starfishes, a few Bryozoans  
and some <sup>silky white</sup> sea anemones  
with long stalks were fastened  
along the upright sides of the  
wharf.

Several small porpoises were playing about in the harbor about the time we cast off (10 a.m.).

As we swung off a "school" of herring passed under the stern of the boat their silvery sides flashing here and there from the dark water as they reflected the rays of the sun in turning and darting through the water. The wind was very light and we passed through the pass in front of town very slowly - Mr. Woods coming out & giving a salute from his revolver.

Mr. Munro and his passengers on the boat going up on a pleasure trip.

Sunday June 10. '77.

The wind continued very light with a high barometer - we were within sight of Sealacks Is

at sunset. Lomviana is common, all flying north toward the seal islands.

Monday, June 11, 1877.

The same semi-calm continues. A Hump-back whale came close alongside in the morning and I gave it a fall from my "Maynard" without appearing to produce the slightest impression. Quite a number of Fur Seal were seen during the day, playing about the vessel, now rising to take a good look at us and again leaping playfully from the waves as they spotted with each other.

Several whales were seen during the day.

Tuesday, June 12, 1877.

The wind freshened slightly toward night fall. A single Albatross was seen in the morning and a great many "Arrie" were flying by toward the Seal Is.



...by millions.  
The mate tells me that  
~~He~~ about 12 o'clock last  
evening a large white owl  
came aboard and remained  
perching upon the mast  
until about 4 A.M. when it took  
its leave.

Wednesday June 13, 1877.  
The wind fell again today. We  
passed near the seal Is. early  
this morning. The "aries" were  
very abundant all about  
in much larger numbers  
than before. During the day  
quite a number of gulls  
were seen all that came  
near enough had black wing tips  
and were the same species  
as noted but not taken at  
Oumalaska. A pair of very  
small dark colored Petrels were  
seen in the evening (white  
Petrel (Rodgers Fulmar))

about the size of Bonaparte's  
Gull followed us toward evening  
and several "Choochie's" and  
a pair of another species of  
small dark were noted.  
The gulls were flying toward the  
main land. The present  
~~time~~ is probably the time for  
migration of the Aries and  
several other sea birds.

While at Oumalaska I noticed  
that on calm evenings  
the water appeared to be alive  
with myriads of small jelly  
fishes which gave out flashes  
of phosphorescent light at short  
intervals and gave much the  
same appearance as the  
same number of fireflies  
in the grass on a summer  
evening.  
Before I left the snow line had  
receded very considerably and  
several species of wild flowers

were in bloom and sheltered spots on the hillsides were becoming green.

Thursday June 14 1877

Off Kunevak Is - Schuchm. Miller - The fair, warm weather continues with but slight breeze. Made only 19 miles in the 24 hrs. up to 12 m. In the afternoon we had almost a calm, making but little over 10 miles per hour. The weather is as fine <sup>as I</sup> could wish but no wind.

A life on the "Ocean Wave" is becoming stupid in the extreme only on the sailing vessel I am free from the sea sickness which I suffered on the steamer.

Friday June 15, 1877 -

Made but 12 miles since yesterday noon. A few "Arctic" are seen at times and a species of Oceanidroma comes about the boat ~~at~~ now & then.

Saturday June 16, 1877 - Still making slow progress. The <sup>weather</sup> ~~for~~ last few days has been as warm and pleasant a though we are in Californian waters and I am not sure but warmer as we could sit on deck without overcoats or wraps.

Foggy in the morning but cleared just after noon -

A number of small flocks of snipe were seen during the day and quite a number of gulls before mentioned.

(Rissa tridactyla Yar. kozlovi!)

Warm & pleasant in the evening but a fog bank along the northern horizon indicates ice. Some Eider ducks were seen in the evening -

Sunday, June 17, 1877.

Off St. Lawrence Island - Behning Sea. Was aroused at 12:30 a.m. by hearing the Captain give repeated orders to change the course of the vessel. Went on deck and found to my surprise that it was

light enough to see the horizon  
and in the distance (some 3000 miles  
away) loomed one end of St. Lawrence's  
surrounding us on every hand ~~was~~  
were large fragments of ice which were  
drifting rapidly southward. The  
washing of the waves on the ice  
made a constant ~~or~~ sullen roar  
which, combined with the lowering  
sky where heavy masses of cumulus  
and cumulo-stratus ~~was~~  
was drifting ~~by~~ up from the  
horizon and gave warning of approaching  
rain; and the peculiar light of an  
~~arctic~~ <sup>arctic</sup> ~~polar~~ summer night gave the  
scene a strikingly sinister aspect.  
Soon the horizon to the N. W. lighted up  
and changed from gray to purple then  
a flush of crimson touched the edges  
of the clouds and changed the water  
from a muddy green to molten  
copper, and as the sun approached  
the horizon the colors changed and  
shifted until the whole sky in  
the N. W. was one beautiful mass

of color in the form of an aureole  
in which the outer portion was  
faint crimson which became intensified  
toward the center while outlying masses  
of clouds took on changing shades  
of gold, which changed to copper  
and then to copper and back  
to gray as the sun came above the waves  
and changed them from copper to  
gold. The scene was rendered still  
more impressive by the masses  
of ice which showed shades of green and  
blue their tops & borders silvered as they  
were touched by the rays of the sun -  
while their fantastic shapes took  
new form under the influence of the  
golden alchemist which seemed to  
delight in dispensing beautiful color  
with a lavish hand. The sun soon  
entered the clouds and a twilight took  
the place of the usual light of day until  
about 6 A.M. when the light became clear.  
About sunrise 1:30 A.M. there were a  
great many Crested Auk (Phalacrocorax cristatus)  
in the water among the ice.

They were in pairs or in small flocks.  
A number of Kittiwake gulls were  
also about, also a few specimens of  
*Uria columba* and of *Uria a. r.*  
I also noted some other small birds  
and Guillemots and some eiders  
but was unable to identify them.  
About 10 A.M. three Emperor Geese  
flew by the ship heading for St. Lawrence Is.  
And in the evening two specimens of  
*Tringa ~~montana~~ <sup>Semipalmata</sup>* came flying about  
the boat. The first ice belt was passed  
between 12 M. & 5 A.M. About 10 P.M.  
Another belt was sighted and passed during  
the afternoon. Another schooner was  
sighted standing in the same course with us.  
Lost sight of St. Lawrence in the afternoon  
and at 7 P.M. we are nearly encircled with  
a heavy swell, a light rain set in and  
an ice belt lies to the eastward.  
All day yesterday we were passing  
fragments of driftwood from  
the Yukon and pieces of grasses  
rushes &c. were almost all the  
time in sight.

The water was ~~was~~ tinged with a  
muddy hue which became more  
decided today although we are about  
100 miles from the mouth of the  
river. *Prionides brachypus*  
One of the large white Fulmars  
was seen in the morning, and  
it was common in Akoutan Pass  
of Alaska 20-

Off Mouth of the Yukon June  
18 1877. Sighted Cape Darby  
and Stewart's Islands before  
noon but made but little  
progress. Dead calm in the afternoon  
and we drifted rapidly to the south.  
Did some dredging and secured  
several Radiates and Crustaceans  
in 24 fathoms about 70  
miles off shore.

Off Stewart Island, June 19 1877  
In the morning found we  
were off Pictolik and in sight  
of the mouth of the Yukon

Stood to the northward and  
ran in to St. Michael's in the  
afternoon. On the preceding  
evening a great many ♂♂ of  
*Somataria S-nigra* were seen.  
As soon as we anchored the Whale  
Boat came alongside with the  
entire white population of the  
place including a number  
of traders from up the interior.  
The appearance of the place was  
very inviting the day being  
very pleasant and the green  
hills formed a fine background to the  
Redoubt and the Indian village  
on the opposite point with the  
white tents of the traders, scattered  
along the shore.

Landed in the evening and examined  
my future quarters. They are  
better than I expected.

St. Michael's - June 20, 1877.  
The Schooner was discharging  
cargo and I did nothing but  
keep on the Lookout for my various

boxes etc. - Quite a number of  
sidarvas were passing back and forth  
to the main-land about three miles  
distant.

One Sidava came alongside from  
a trading trip. It was loaded to  
the top with furs, dogs, women and  
children and a few men.

They had many ~~wooden~~ Kantags on board  
some of them were small and  
used for urinary vessels as I  
had opportunity to observe.

The Indians had some furs to  
trade and were very anxious to get cartridges  
for Army rifles with which they are  
well supplied.

In the evening in company with  
Mr. Lamer and Mr. Armstrong I visited  
the Indian village near the fort.

St. Michael's, June 21, 1877  
Went up the Canal shooting  
with Mr. Armstrong in the A.M.  
found Aleutian Terns very common  
on an island within sight of

The Fort. As was seen *Sterna macrura*  
*S. v. nigra* is quite common but shy.  
*Colymbus pacificus* is plentiful  
in the Canal but difficult to shoot.

We had gone out a short distance  
up the Canal when the steamer  
from the upper Yukon with five  
to six and bidarras came in  
laden with furs collected  
during the preceding winter by  
the A.C. Co's traders. It soon came  
along side and we went aboard  
and came back to the village.

In the evening <sup>Mr. Turner</sup> went to the Indian  
village and traded for some ivory  
dolls and small parkies.

St. Michael's June 22 1877

Kept about the fort today.

There are a large number of  
esquimaux dogs about the  
place whose main occupation  
seems to be that of fighting.

They have made a lot of  
burrows on the hill in

front of the Fort where they  
lie during the heat of the day  
but in the morning they unite  
in parties of a half dozen  
or so and go on the war path  
for any stray canine  
stranger which they may  
come across.

The weaker party soon gives  
out to his feelings in doleful  
howls which generally bring  
someone to the rescue with  
a long raw-hide whip which  
soon disentangles the struggling  
mass of snarling fur.  
By no one is about these raids  
often result in the death of the  
dog attacked.

They also have terrific battles  
among themselves, two usually  
starting the fracas which the  
others join.

June 23 1877-

Went out back of the fort with Mr. Sumner in the evening. Saw plenty of Lap. long spurs in breeding plumage, and a pair of Golden Plover which were evidently breeding on the Tundra. A Stercorarius parasiticus flew by and was badly wounded & fell a short distance off. While going after it a ♀ Somatania ~~sp. t. t.~~ <sup>v. nigra</sup> flew from a nest of 5 eggs close by. She was afterwards secured. We also saw quite a number of Sudytes flava.

The birds nest was composed of a fine down lining to a slight depression in the moss.

June 24, 1877

Stayed aboard the Redoubt. Nothing of importance occurred until

~~June 25 1877~~

June 23 continued. In the evening a meeting of the white population of the Redoubt and of the opposite shore was called on board the Gen. Miller to consider the propriety of sending a man by the name of Kunggan who shot a Mr. Boyle at Kelua Koff on the Kus ~~Koqum~~ the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 1877. ~~Mr. B. was shot~~ down to Unalakleet to be handed over to the Capt. of the Revenue Cutter "Richard Rush" (Capt. Bailey, to be taken to San Francisco for trial. An interview was held with some relatives of Kunggan one Sovie and Ugh na piugh uk a noted trader and rascal who is feared both by whites and natives. They are all Mahlemuts. The latter expressed his disapproval of the proposed measure and somewhat

could the whites who then  
proposed to adjourn until  
the next morning to meet again  
and settle the affair.

About 9 a.m.

June 24 1877 -  
A second meeting was held  
on the schooner and  
we at once resolved to  
send the man down and  
a paper was drawn up by  
Mr. Turner myself requesting  
the Kinnear cutter to make  
this place a visit in order to  
overhaul the natives who are  
becoming slightly unruly and  
are causing a fear of some  
serious result arising from  
their violence.

Some of the more impetuous  
were for shooting the man  
at once while the others engaged  
sending him away.

When he was captured on the  
mainland, the matter was

resistance but said kill me  
but don't hurt my brother.  
The cause of this will be mentioned  
below. The cause of the murder  
was as follows; Kinnear

was employed about the house of  
Mr. <sup>John</sup> Clark, a near neighbor of  
Mr. Boyles, during the winter but  
stealing a quantity of furs from  
his employer he was discharged  
upon suspicion. As he had  
sold Mr. Boyles a portion of the  
furs he feared detection from  
that quarter and so after  
vainly endeavoring to persuade  
his brother, a boy, who was living  
with Mr. Boyles to kill Mr. B.  
he loaded his musket and  
going to B.'s house in the afternoon  
shot Mr. B. in the back of the head  
as he sat writing, killing him  
instantly. The ball then buried  
itself in the wall. Kinnear  
wrote a piece of paper and then  
pasted it over the bullet hole



in the wall and returned to Mr. Clarke's place at Kohukohu a half mile or more, by a circuitous route which was afterwards trailed. The body was discovered the next a.m. when Kunnigan said that his brother shot Mr. B. during a quarrel in which B. threatened to kill the boy. Kunnigan was sent to St. Michael by Mr. Clarke with a letter in which K's brother was supposed to be the murderer. Afterwards Mr. C. sent a second letter stating the true state of affairs. Kunnigan's brother also came to St. Michael and they both remained in the vicinity until the seizure of K. When K. was put into the boat to be taken on board the vessel he said kill me but don't hurt my brother. When the hand cuffs were put on him he became frightened and turned a sickly yellowish

showing evidence of fear. When he was searched he ~~wanted~~ wished them to throw his knife overboard.

July 24 - 1877

The schooner left yesterday noon -

Kept about the fort the entire day -

July 25 1877

The steamer Yukon went to Stewart's Is. for wood. I went also and spent a few hours collecting on the island shot 3 White-fronted Geese and obtained a number of their young. The Harlequin were nesting quite commonly on the Is. - one nest was found - It was a very slight structure, of grasses and ferns. Quite a number of *Som. U. nigra* ~~and *S. cf. *fulvifrons**~~ were seen on it & of the former

was obtained. Some Phalaropus  
fulvicornis and limosa uropygialis  
were seen also Gustafaterculus.  
Several Pintail Ducks and  
Larus brachyrhynchus.

A curious scoter was obtained  
♀ & ♂ They are about the size of  
Ardeia americana with a  
large triangular, white patch on  
the occiput. The rest of the  
plumage black in ♂. The feet  
were black with dark reddish  
orange showing on webs & along  
angles, joints & scutellae.

The bill black with two large  
dusky orange spots on sides of  
upper mandible, just in advance  
of nostrils & slightly connected.  
We went around the northern end  
of the Is.

June 26 - 1877 -  
The wind proving too strong  
we were obliged to return  
by way of the Canal -  
Stopped near the mouth for

some more wood and  
I improved the opportunity to  
do some shooting.

Had the good fortune to secure  
5 fine specimens of Sabine's Gulls  
They were feeding about the  
numerous small pools on the  
tundra although it was only  
1.30 A.M. Their movements were  
much like those of Bonaparte's Gull  
except that they rarely plunge  
into the water but pick  
their food from the surface after  
alighting for an instant.

A number of Gustafatercula  
were seen but not obtained  
although not very shy.  
They walk about feeding and  
when alarmed start to walk away  
from the object of their suspicion  
uttering a note like ki-kurroo  
made by rolling the tongue.

A Pacific Diver (Loon) was driven  
from a small pool and not  
getting under a gainst headway

fall ~~into~~ on the ground some  
25 yards from a large pond.  
It at once commenced jumping  
along by raising itself by its wings  
and springing forward with its feet  
and made very quick time.

June 27 and 28 remained  
about the Redoubt attending to  
my specimens

June 29 1877

Went to the islands at the mouth  
of the Canal after Sterna albertica  
Managed to get to the place and  
found but few terns about the  
place, most of which were S. arctica  
I found that S. albertica was much  
more shy than the former and  
that it had no harsh cry like its  
companion. S. albertica could be  
distinguished at quite a height by  
its darker color and short tail.  
Four specimens were obtained.  
A large flock of male Som.

V-nigrum were seen on a  
point of rocks but none  
secured.

June 30 to July 3

Went, in the morning, with  
the whale boat to Whale Is.,  
off St. Michaels after Mormons  
Although quite common yet  
I only secured 1 cinrhata and  
3 corniculata owing to poor  
shooting & wind. Saw a pair  
of Mergus (serrator?) and  
several cormorants.

July 1 to 3 - 1877

Attended to the specimens  
on hand -

July 3 - 4

Started in the Whale Boat  
with Mr. Turner for a trip  
up the Canal after Xmas.  
Mr. Peterson one of the A. C. Co's  
traders started at the same  
time we outstripped him and

had dry nests when he arrived at the union of the two canals.

A nest of King American with 4 fresh eggs was found here by an Indian.

We went on about 3 miles and camped for the night on Fox creek.

I obtained two Xemas, 1 Esquimaux curlew & 1 white murred Godwit.

Early the next morning we were awakened by the trader preparing to leave about 2 a.m. I soon after went on the tundra and shot a Xema and during the forenoon about a dozen others were obtained.

At noon I was taken ill and we returned to the Redoubt.

July 5 - 10 - 1877

Remained about the Redoubt doing one odd job and another.

July 11 - 1877 - Steamer Yukon & Alamosa left  
Went up the canal in a 3 hole Redoubt with two Mahlemuts from Unalakleet, they proved very good men. On our way up I obtained a number of Xemas a few other birds. About 10 P.M. we tried to ~~camp~~ find a camping place but no fresh water could be found nor any dry ground, we being in the Crooked Canal. As it became later I became desperate and pitching the tent one man was sent after water and the other after wood. The water proved very nauseating but the men seemed to enjoy it when under the influence of a handful of tea. The next morning some more Xemas and some Jaegers, pomatorch. buffoni & parasiticus were obtained and one Som. fischeri? The latter were quite common about the

poor but difficult to shoot.

July 12 returned to the Redoubt.

July 13 attended to the birds on this and the following day.

July 14, 1877

When we arose in the morning what was our astonishment to see the St. Paul lying at anchor off the Fort.

~~What a bore~~ We soon learned that they had brought back Kungun as the Revenue Cutter refused to take him on insufficient evidence.

July 15

Made a visit to the Steamer and helped Mr. Turner pack also packed some birds for myself. Sent two boxes of birds from here.

July 16, 1877 -

At noon the Revenue Cutter "Richard Rush" came in and anchored. Went aboard after dinner and had a chat with the officers.

After in the evening a number of them came on shore.

July 17, 1877 -

Upon the case being represented to him Capt. Bailey agreed to take Kungun prisoner to San Francisco.

The officers dined ashore and made me a call.

Mr. Doyle 1st Engineer aboard the cutter has several curious fishes which he has obtained about Bristol Bay for me.

July 18, 1877 -

The Cutter left at 5 A.M. and at 11 P.M. we had good bye to Mr. Turner, Mr. Clark

and the officers of the St. Paul and she stowed out to sea, leaving us until next year.

July 19 - 1877 -

Bishop Segher with an assistant who arrived on the St. Paul having made the necessary arrangements left in the afternoon for Ulukuk from whence he is to make a portage to Neulato to establish a mission.

July 20, 1877 -

Alexis, my Indian assistant who returned from Pitmitalik River on the 18<sup>th</sup>, and who was coming off to the St. Paul in his bidarkie with a box of birds for Mr. Turner as we were returning to the shore, received a trading outfit to obtain ethnological specimens also some collecting materials and leaving his bidarkie started to return today.

July 21, 1877.

The young of *Budytes flava* are about <sup>the garden + yard</sup> in considerable numbers.

July 22 - 23 & 24 did various small jobs I had on hand.

July 25 - The Lapland Longspurs are changing plumage also *Chondestes virginicus* - ~~At~~ The young of *Agrotherus linaria* are about in abundance also those of *Passerculus* - and a few of *Zonotrichia querula*.

July 26 to 31 Nothing of importance done.

Many small birds about the redoubt.

Obtained two or three *Merula* warblers on the 30 & 31 of the month.

Salmon, Arctic Raspberries and Blueberries are ripe -

August 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>

Have kept about this  
for owing to bad weather  
but have obtained many  
interesting birds including  
8 more Kennicott's Warblers,  
Yellow, Black-poll, & Black  
Cap Warblers & a Sparrow  
juv & ad - Linnæus Co.

The young of the land birds  
are now about preparing  
for their migrations  
Larus Alisear has also  
been taken with several  
Siumus novboracensis.

Aug. 9, 1877

My Bidarkie which  
had engaged a native to  
construct arrived day before  
yesterday and was put in  
trim today.

We have commenced  
lifting weights here for  
amusement and exercise.  
By getting some natives  
to take hold we found to  
our astonishment that  
they could lift more  
than we at first thought  
our ambition becoming

found we lifted the same i.e.  
288 lbs in one hand -

A lamentable occurrence  
took place at the rival  
trading station on the  
Main Land three nights ago -  
owing to the brutality of two  
white men, or rather brutes.  
A native girl about 16 or 17  
who had been married in  
native fashion to their native  
cook at the station ~~had~~ went  
there to live a few days since  
and a few nights after her  
arrival a man named Hanson  
and Canadian and John Johnson  
or "Big John" a Norwegian  
entered their tent and driving  
her husband away proceeded to  
rape her and she struggling to  
prevent them Johnson knelt  
with his knees upon her  
chest and struck her several  
severe blows with his knees  
in the chest & side

rupturing some bloodvessels  
in her lungs and causing  
profuse hemorrhage.  
She came here to be doctored  
and gave us considerable  
trouble but we finally  
succeeded in checking  
the blood -

Aug. 10, 1877 -

Went out to Whall Is in  
my bidarkie after 2 P.M.  
obtained a few worms and  
some specimens of Larus -  
which were exceedingly  
numerous there.  
I also saw a single ~~golden~~  
Wandering Tattler and  
a ~~the~~ flock of some 20 or 30  
specimens of Linga ptilocnemis  
two of which were obtained.  
Sterna macroura was also  
very numerous, both adults  
and young.



August 11, 1877.

A fine Cormorant was brought me yesterday and I made the attempt to make a water color sketch of it and succeeded beyond my hopes.

I then decided to color the bills & heads of all the water birds of interest I might see, and colored the bills of two species of ~~Long~~ Mormon groundherons.

Aug. 12 '77

Strong wind from N. & E. all day - passed the time in attending to specimens on hand.

Aug. 13, 1877 -

Wind still from the north - In the evening some native women brought me a lot of small fishes obtained in pools left by the low tide caused by the strong winds from the north.

Also obtained some curious crustaceans along the beach. Mr. Neumann is walking along in search of specimens to the Indian village.

Aug. 14 -

Light wind from the N - My collector Alexis went up the canal collecting. In the afternoon the company's *Fidena* returned.

from Unalakleet where it had  
gone ~~to~~ to my saloon. As it approached  
the shore I saw a bundle of  
native spears and a stuffed  
Porcupine or "Munit" placed in  
a prominent position on the bow and  
as they landed I found they were brought  
me by Oguluk who I had given some  
goods to trade for me in the Spearman  
line. The results were some 46  
spears and arrows, several seals  
skins and a lot of wavy carvings.  
About 1200 dried fish were obtained.

Aug. 15 -

Alexis returned in the morning  
bringing a number of ducks & geese.  
The fresh water ducks are nearly  
done moulting and are nearly  
all going now but the eiders &  
scaups are still pinionless.  
Alexis reported that he saw a  
female murret and gannet on the  
canal but having no rifle although  
within a few yards he was unable

Aug. 15 Continued -  
Went to Whale Is - about 1 1/2  
miles from the Redoubt - in  
my bidarkie in the P.M.  
while trying to land on a small  
rock close under the precipitous  
side of a small rocky Is. when  
just beyond the Is. where  
quite a sea was running  
my bidarkie was upset  
and I found myself ~~clung~~  
hanging to the bottom and  
making desperate efforts  
to keep on the surface -  
Having on long skin boots  
which filled with water  
I found it extremely  
difficult to get to the  
rock and considered  
myself fortunate in not  
making a call on the  
fisher. I succeeded in  
forcing the boat from under  
and rescuing my game  
which was floating prominently

about and warming the water  
out of my clothing I proceeded  
with collecting the main  
object of the trip being to bring a  
philoscenus of which I obtained  
none on that trip than had  
ever been collected previously.

to get them. On his way back  
he showed a party of men seal  
which I obtained from him  
for 10 bars of lead. he retaining  
the flesh. A peculiarity about  
the natives is that although you  
may employ them to hunt for  
you and furnish ammunition  
and pay for his time yet should  
they kill a seal or orindur or  
any fur bearing animal this  
is their private property and  
must be paid for in addition

Aug. 16 -

The day was occupied in caring  
for the specimens on hand  
In the evening a bidarra  
sail was observed coming from the  
Canal and soon the company's  
flag was seen floating from the  
mast. As they drew near under  
an immense sail, although  
a strong wind was blowing,  
the natives on board commenced

firing salutes from their spot  
guns. Seeing the people out  
looking at the boat all the  
dogs in the redoubt became, as  
usual, intensely excited and  
rushed about with their tails  
curled over their backs and  
howling at the top of their voices  
seemingly so delighted that  
they could scarcely contain themselves.  
As the boat was beached the dogs  
mad as mad for the bow and  
crowding around raised such  
a din that scarcely a word could  
be heard. The boat proved to be  
from Anvik with the co-traders  
Mr. Adrich aboard with a  
lot of Ingaliks and a couple  
of Russians.

The trader reported the arrival  
of Bishop Seger at Nulato  
and said he had come down  
in 3 days from Anvik. He  
also reported that another bidarra  
from the mouth of the Yukon would

arrive tomorrow.

Aug. 17 —

The bidarra came in  
while we were at breakfast.  
A hard wind blew all day and  
very little was done. But  
a long chat with the trader  
and innumerable pipes smoked.

Aug. 18 —

Nothing occurred of interest  
except a visit from one  
of the traders from the opposite  
shore.

Aug. 19 —

During the afternoon  
Mr. Neumann, one of the  
traders, happened to visit  
the opposite shore in the  
Whale Boat as we drew near  
the wharf we were surprised  
to find a strange bidarra  
there and on inquiry learned

that it was from King's Is. near Cape Pr. of Wales. They had seal skins attached along the sides which in calm weather were left hanging inside, but when it becomes rough they are raised and strong sticks are attached to the skin on the inside and to the frame of the boat in order to keep the sea from breaking over the boat.

Among the new arrivals was Aguma-pick - who appears very friendly.

Three seals were seen as we approached the shore.

~~Aug. 2~~ -

My man Alexis who ~~was~~ started hunting to see if ~~any~~ last evening was here waiting for clear weather.

~~Aug. 4~~

Soon after we returned the Bidarra came over and stopped at the redoubt - the natives asking permission to sleep in some of the out-houses as the rain made it uncomfortable in their tents - permission to sleep in the bath house was granted.

Aug. 20 -

The natives brought their dried fish, seal oil &c. to trade in the morning and it was amusing to watch them barter for the goods they desired. One man would come in with some dried fish and throwing it on the floor would stand as unconcerned as though he had no interest in the proceedings until the trader would ask Chevo to test when he would

name the articles he wanted when the trader would show how much he would give (i.e. the usual price) but instead of accepting these nations from the north almost invariably refused at first until haggled for a larger price and in some instances took their things away. Perhaps after an hour or so the same man would come in with something else he wished to trade and so they continued making an exceedingly long winded affair out of every bargain. After a large amount of talk a water parkie was secured for me at about a cost of 50¢.

The cause of the difficulty in trading with these northern nations is that a great many of them do more or less trading with them and they pay almost anything for

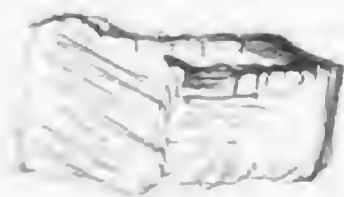
charge for their goods and thus give them an exaggerated idea of their value.

Aqumapiak stated that a Mahlemut had been shot a short time since by a Ko-yakou Indian north of Kuvlak's white deer hunting.

During the day a number of drill bow (wool) and various ivory carvings were brought me by the natives to trade some of which were very good.

These natives wear enormously large labrets made generally of some stone or mineral.

One was obtained made of coal (<sup>Pituminous</sup> ~~intermediate~~) and a number were seen made of quartz crystals ground down to the following size & shape



Egorka who obtained a collection of Ethnological specimens for me at Uvaloklet a short time since announced his intention of going with Agriasiak to the neighborhood of Cape Por. & Walls and wished some goods to get me specimens so I taught him how to prepare bird skins and giving him about \$25 worth of stuffs started him off - His people live in that vicinity and he will remain until sometime during the winter when he will return. The bidarra started on its return trip during the afternoon.

Aug. 21 -

Nothing of note - The padres from the Yukon are getting goods -

I have made arrangements with them through Mr. [unclear] head agent of the [unclear] [unclear]

to get me specimens, principally ethnological though a Russian Kamloff from Kuthik at the mouth of the Ushoon promises to send a three-hole bidarra load of [unclear] [unclear] during the fall -

Aug. 22 -

Egorka one of the natives brought me a lot of things and a new today with two young [unclear] year of *Ardea herodias*, one *Heterosceles [unclear]* and *U. [unclear]* and several commoner birds. *Passerculus savanna* and *Plect. lapponicus* are at present represented by but a few individuals the majority having left [unclear] in small flocks) some two or three weeks since.

*U. [unclear]* is very

abundant in the woods  
about the fort. The swallows  
left about 10 days ago, now  
only three or four are about  
the fort.

Budytes flavus is also rather  
scarce nearly all left over  
a week ago.

Aug. 20 two specimens of  
Hirundo calata were shot  
near the fort also several  
Yellow Warblers and a spec. of  
Black-poll " was seen in the  
garden. On the 18<sup>th</sup> an unglazed  
half grown Sora-nigræ was  
brought in by the natives and  
~~seen~~ on the 21<sup>st</sup> some spec. of  
of Sora. <sup>fischeri</sup> ~~speculata~~ with the  
wing feathers ~~unplumaged~~  
from the summer moult.  
Also a spec. of O. trauridgii  
the bill of which I made a  
sketch. Aug. 13 I shot a  
spec. of Picus pubescens from  
a staff projecting down one of

the bastions.

Aug. 23-

The traders left with  
a fair wind for the mouth  
of the Yukon.

A bidarra near its  
immense spruce of Canaan  
with a motley crew of  
fur clad natives with their  
guns and various goods  
chattels makes a sight  
well worth witnessing  
and one involuntarily  
compares them to the  
Esquimaux or more  
appropriately to the hardy  
norsemen on their  
adventurous voyages.

Aug. 24-

Some bidarkies arrived  
from the coast toward  
the Yukon to trade.  
The only sound of water



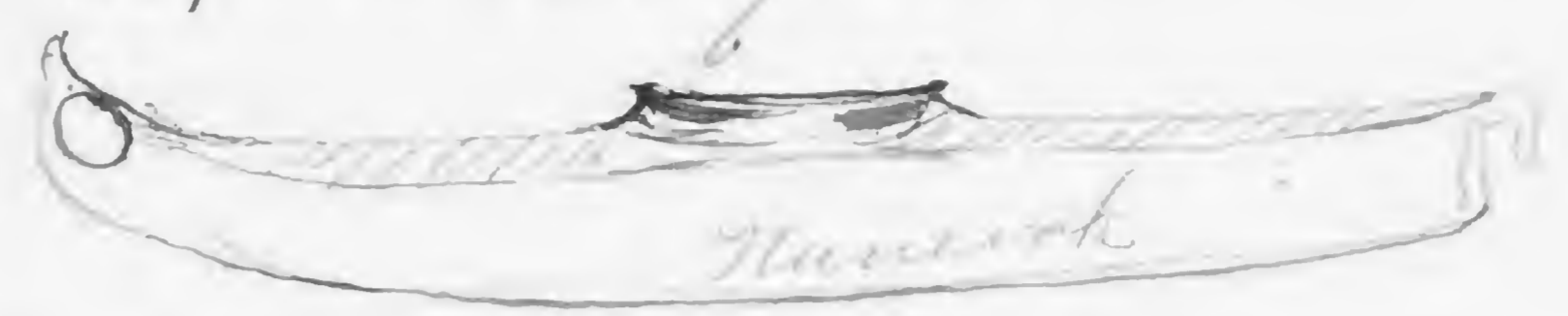
Aug. 25 -

A curious Sylvia, resembling  
Humboldt's Warbler in some  
respects and differing in  
others, was brought me today  
by a native boy who shot it  
on the opposite shore.  
In the evening a native  
brought a specimen of *Polystus*  
*torquatus* the second I have  
obtained here also a partly albino  
*Ammodramus* and a specimen  
of *Corvus uropygialis* in  
fall plumage.

Aug. 26 -

Have anxiously looking  
for the arrival of the steamer  
from the upper York on  
which is due some days ago.  
The monotony was relieved  
by a visit from Mr. Hanover  
from the other side who  
came over in a bidarkie -  
This bidarkie was brought from  
Nunavak Is. and is quite

different from the ones used  
here the following is a rough  
~~dog~~ on three of each



The Nunavak bidarkie is also  
noticeable for its breadth and  
shortness and the large size  
of the hole.



from  
St. Michael bidarkie

Mr. H. informed us that a  
rumor had been circulated  
among the natives here that  
some natives in the vicinity  
of C. Pr. of Wales had committed  
some theft upon a schooner  
there and damaged her to  
some extent and that after  
she had left a large three  
masted vessel came in

and killed 13 natives in retaliation.

A wreck is also reported along the north coast and Jenson entertained that it may be the vessel belonging to the company as she is long overdue from a trip to that portion of the coast.

Aug. 27. Monday  
Nothing of interest occurred. Remained at the Redoubt all day.

Aug. 28  
Some natives came from up the coast one of them bringing me a Kingfisher obtained at Keyiktoovuk

— Aug. 29. A hard wind from the N. brought the other company's vessel back much to

our relief. The wind blew 60 m. per hour at 11 a.m. which was its maximum.

The note of the 26<sup>th</sup> regarding the killing of the natives at Cape Prig W. is confirmed.

This vessel has been up to Point Barrow where only two of the 16 whalers wrecked last year are to be heard of and only 69 men left there only 2 were saved.

A successful season is reported for the traders here. Large quantities of heavy Rifles, Cartridges and Whisky and such contraband articles, are being traded to the Chukchees and by them are brought across the Strait and sold to the natives on this side.

Aug 30 —

No new developments,  
Went on board the vessel  
to lunch. They will lie  
here several days and  
we can send letters  
by them so have work  
on our hands.

Aug. 31 —

Wrote letters home and  
to Prof Baird.  
A cold rain set in  
about 7 A.M. and continued  
all day.

About noon some men  
returned who had been  
gathering wood on the  
other side of the Is  
and brought me the  
following birds:—  
2 *Strap. maculosa*, 1 *Heterocetes*  
*meanus*, 2 *Prasocella iliaca*, one  
being a young of the year, 2  
*Harporhynchus plumicollis* Nes.

as a specimen to the fauna  
of N.A.

September 1877 —  
— St. Michaels —  
Sept. 1 —



Sept. 24-

Remained about the fort  
all day - Nothing of interest  
occurred.

Sept. 25-

Alexis, my nation trader  
came in the evening asking  
for more goods and appears  
quite dejected because he has  
so few goods to trade with  
and said that the nation did  
not want to trade with him  
he had some few things. He  
appeared to think my objection  
to giving him a large supply  
was because I doubted his  
honesty and so he gave in his  
imperfect English an account of  
his good behavior from the time  
he was a little boy, so I finally  
yielded and gave him some  
of the articles. In the morning  
he remained with me  
and I asked him about

the Wharfedale mountains  
which are found at times in the  
Mts. & on the tundra here, he  
said the natives did not have  
any stories of ever seeing  
them alive but that they thought  
they live at present in a  
large hole under the ground  
and that now and then one strays  
away and comes up to the  
surface and after snuffing  
the air he dies and in consequence  
his bones are found in  
small lakes or in depressions  
in the ground.

Sept. 26 - Nothing of interest

Sept. 27

In the morning Messrs  
Kelcham & Waldron from the  
other shore came over and  
remained to dinner afterwards  
I went back with them to  
purchase some traps & to trade  
with the natives, returning  
home in my bicycle.

I ~~found~~ saw a great many  
geese flying north along the  
coast and also a flock of about  
50 swan all moving toward the  
North, asking the reason I was  
informed that they go about  
15 miles north of here around  
a point and then follow the  
course of a small river  
from here to the interior  
and over to the interior of  
Brit. Columbia, then southward.  
When I came back to the redoubt  
I found the gentlemen of  
the R.C. Co. all waiting for  
me on the beach with  
the news that two Makluks  
had been caught  
near the Redoubt during my  
absence and that I must  
hurry if I wished to see them  
I found them almost pure  
white, large, heavily built  
animals

Sept. 28, 77

Began making preparations for a trip up the canal after goose. Having arranged with ~~me~~ the gentleman at the Redoubt to take my observations during my absence.

Within the last few days a high board fence has been built around the fort to serve as a protection from the northern natives who are inclined to make trouble during the coming winter.

Sept. 29,

Remained about the Redoubt, nothing of interest occurred. An alarm is going about among the natives that the Kouykhon Singaliks have massacred the natives living at

Unalakleet.

Since this began to spread the Uqquit of the fur company has commenced fortifying his station on the opposite side of the bay.

Sept. 30,

Made my preparations and started at 3 P.M. on my trip with four natives in the Whale boat. Went up the Canal about 4 miles to a camping place and stopped for the night.

The tent was occupied by myself and three natives two making a shelter out of the boat's sail. During the evening the men amused themselves telling stories, joking and singing their

"ing-i-yah" in a bass  
monotone and rather  
musical.

As the night was  
cold ~~at~~ than we had anticipated  
and provided against  
we were chilled through  
and the natives awoke  
now and then and asked  
each other with chattering  
teeth if they were cold.

Oct. 1, 1877

Arose before day break  
and arose used the new  
we soon had the Chy-nik  
boiling and a draught  
from its contents put  
all to rights again  
and we started on our  
way with a fair wind  
and made good time  
for about 5 miles then  
stopped and made Chy  
and did some skinning

for game with very  
poor success

Golden plover, a few ducks  
and a very few geese.  
(*Branta hutchinsoni*) being  
all we saw with the  
exception of a few *Luzon*  
~~*stilo maculata*~~ and other  
small snipe

Just before we started  
again two bidarkies  
lashed together each  
containing a man and  
on a platform of house  
hold goods one behind was  
seated a woman  
In front was a mast  
about 3 1/2 feet high  
upon which was hoisted  
a sail of seal gut about  
3 1/2 by four feet when  
a gust in the tortuous  
Channel made sailing  
feasible. Travelling  
along the bank was



a native dog the pet  
of the woman.

We soon put off and  
with all sail spread  
went along at a brisk  
rate soon overtaking  
the Eskimos and leaving  
them in the rear.

Upon this the dog  
transferred his allegiance  
to us and ran alongside  
for some distance always  
keeping as near as possible  
and in consequence kept  
in the soft mud along  
the water's edge which  
evidently tired him greatly  
and the little fellow  
would then swim to  
the opposite shore  
and try the mud there  
then return after a short  
distance. Soon he commenced  
digging behind and after  
a few desperate attempts

to keep alongside he  
placed himself on the  
bank and relieved his  
feelings by a mournful  
howl.

About sunset we  
reached our camping  
place at the mouth  
of a river about a  
mile beyond the canal  
called the Kaguk-puk  
meaning ~~land river?~~  
~~spring water~~  
~~spring water~~

Game was more plentiful  
here than we had yet  
seen it, the hoarse  
notes of numerous  
swans was heard  
from the lakes in low  
and ducks were more  
numerous.

An arctic fox, *Lepus lagopus*,  
was seen at a distance  
and the abundance

of Lagopus albus  
with the snow topped  
mountains at a short  
distance made the scene  
more arctic than the  
temperature, which was  
about 38 would indicate.  
Although not a standing  
tree or bush was in sight  
yet the border of the river  
and the surrounding  
tundra for miles was  
covered with logs scattered  
either ~~in~~ singly or even  
in windows here or there  
Just deep bay properly  
about. This wood is drifted  
down the Yukon and stranded  
here during high tides thus  
furnishing the inhabitants  
all along the woodless  
districts of the coast with  
more or less of this valuable  
article.

As we were preparing camp  
a small "bidarra" came  
into the mouth of the  
Alman and seeing our  
tent the natives on  
board kept up a continuous  
fusillade until they  
landed near us and  
my natives were also  
very anxious to reply  
but were restrained.

The new arrivals proved  
to be the men <sup>an</sup> old  
Aleut who lives at the  
mouth of the Yukon on  
their way to the Kotoub after  
trading goods.

During the evening I  
obtained 4 fine White fish,  
called here "Neli-man",  
for a box of caps.

During the evening my  
man Alexis pointed  
out the "Milky Way" and  
said the natives

said it ~~was~~ is the  
tracks made by a man  
with snow shoes on, and  
a clover book showed  
alternating patches of light  
~~color~~ light which makes  
this fancy very applicable.

Oct 2 -

Started early in the  
morning up the river  
stopping at intervals  
to shoot, obtained ~~several~~  
crabs and ducks but  
found them very few.  
In the afternoon went  
into camp about 8 miles  
up the river which we  
found very crooked winding  
aimlessly about the tundra  
sending off numerous  
small branches.  
Up this river the tide  
flows the entire length  
every day with an

average rise & fall of  
about  $3\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>4</sup> feet.  
The tundra here is very  
level sloping slightly  
toward the numerous  
small watercourses. The  
presence of driftwood here,  
about 4 miles from the  
coast, although in small  
quantities compared to  
the amount near the mouth  
shows that ~~it~~ during high  
tides the entire tundra is  
covered with water.  
While passing along the  
channel examination where  
the water had undermined  
the bank shows for a  
section of about 4 feet  
~~black~~ fine black soil  
largely made up of vegetable  
matter and in some  
places decaying logs were  
found buried from one  
to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet beneath the

surface with a thick  
layer of moss and grass  
on the surface above.

These logs were in a sufficient  
state of preservation to  
be of use for fuel  
had they been dry but the  
exposure to the air had  
cracked them badly.

The large amount of  
drift wood thrown ashore  
here during the spring tides  
combined with large masses  
of earth transported from  
the sea and water courses  
attached to blocks of ice  
do much toward raising  
the surface above the sea.  
Often a ton or more of  
earth + gravel will be found  
forming a slight mound  
on the tundra marking the  
last resting place of some  
wandering ice cake.

October 9-4

Finding game scarce I  
determined to return  
to the Redoubt. Camped  
at the mouth of the river  
In the morning started  
at sunrise and a fair  
breeze opening I determined  
to sail around St. Michael's  
Island. Stopped at 11:30 at  
the native village of Slet's  
for Chy. Was relieved by  
An ~~the~~ native called  
Mac ket-ka and went to  
his house for Chy. Before  
dinner he pressed me  
to take some Inca which  
I tried, then some berries  
were brought in the only  
Ching bowl the house afforded  
These I found were a  
mixture of health berries  
& cranberries and were  
rather pleasant eating.  
But when a kind of

crummy compound of  
Seal Blubber and sunbees  
was offered & felt called  
upon to refuse.

Looked for some ducks  
here and a few ethnological  
specimens and went on  
my way. A favorable  
breeze afforded us an opportunity  
to sail a short distance  
when the bears again came  
in play.

Just before sunset we  
approached Whale Is. off  
the Redoubt point and  
as we were passing  
slowly along several Belugas  
came playing about us  
thrusting the top of their  
heads out of the water and  
with a slow puff threw  
the air out of their lungs  
then rising up for an  
instant they would slowly  
bend down their heads

and the smooth white  
surface of their backs would  
be visible 2 or 4 inches out  
of water as they went  
down.

We soon rounded the point  
and landed at the Redoubt.

Oct. 5 -  
Spent the day in getting  
matters arranged again  
after my absence.

Oct. 6 and 7  
Nothing of interest  
occurred.

Oct. 8 -  
Numerous light snow  
squalls. Temp. above 32  
Fah. nearly all day -  
Nothing occurred of  
interest.



Oct 16

At 8 a.m. a bright halo was observed encircling the sun, the sun was afterwards obscured but upon appearing again about 11 a.m. a second halo was seen but only about two thirds the size of the first, which was about 45° in diameter. The peculiar linear formation of haze mentioned before, was again observed having its nucleus in the S.W. horizon but the appearance was far less distinct than when observed before.

Oct 17

Light snow in the a.m. At 6 a.m. my collector Alexis returned from Repakhtovok and accompanied me and on being admitted brought in a great mass of various ethnological specimens snow-shoes, spears, bows, arrows, drills, fish skin bags, knives and various other things of interest. He states that he went as far as the mouth of the Kolovok R., returning to Repakhtovok on snow shoes the snow being knee deep along the coast there, while here it is but an inch or two.

Oct 18

Clear and calm in the a.m. and remains nearly all day with a few birds.

Oct 16-

At 8 a.m. a bright halo was observed encircling the sun, the sun was afterwards obscured but upon appearing again about 11 a.m. a second halo was seen but only about two thirds the size of the first, which was about 45° in diameter. The peculiar linear formation of these mentioned before was again observed having its nucleus in the S.W. horizon but the appearance was far less distinct than when observed before.

Oct 17-

Light snow in the a.m. At 6 a.m. my collector Alexis returned from Repiktoanek came and announced me and on being admitted brought in a precious collection of various ethnological specimens snow-shoes, spears, bows, arrows, drills, fish skin bags, knives and various other things of interest. He states that he went as far as the mouth of the Colusa R. returning to Repiktoanek on snow shoes the snow being knee deep along the coast there, while here it is but an inch or two.

Oct 18-

Clear calm in the a.m. and remains nearly all day preparing for skin



which I have taught him  
to do as well as I can.  
A drizzly rain continued  
during the morning rising  
during the P.M. by a sticky  
snow freezing in the eve.  
Larsen & Alexis about the  
clouds and what the natives  
thought they were and in  
part explanation he said  
they thought they remained  
behind the horizon coming  
up when they wished to  
rain or to cover the sky  
going back again when  
through.

I also asked about the  
natives idea of the formation  
of the mountains and she  
told me that a long time  
ago the ground was ~~all~~  
perfectly flat and that there  
came a flood which covered  
it completely, drowning  
many people and nearly

all the land animals  
but that a few of each were  
saved by ascending a  
single high mountain  
at which was on the  
tundra that the only  
people who were saved  
were a few who got into  
their bidanas in time  
and who subsisted upon  
fish which they caught with  
floating boats and that  
finally the waves &  
currents formed high  
ridges by cutting a way  
the ground and thus the  
mountains were formed  
and as the water cut  
deeper it gradually  
receded until the people  
landed on the mountains  
and lived there until the  
water subsided when  
they returned to their  
~~former~~ former homes.

places and that the  
reindeer came down  
with the other animals  
and multiplied and spread  
rapidly as did the people  
thus repopulating the  
country again.

Oct 19 and 20

Nothing of interest occurs  
slight snow fall and the  
weather becoming slightly  
colder the thermometer  
ranging between 25 & 15 fahr.

Oct 21

A strong wind from the  
north during the day left  
the few inches of snow on  
they round in brisk  
circulation and made  
moving about outside  
very disagreeable.

Oct. 22 -

Ice is forming quite plentifully  
in the bay. The temperature  
of the water is 40 fahr.  
The minimum temperature  
+10 for last night.  
Ice is already from six to  
eight inches in depth on the  
lundra lakes.

Oct. 23

A short snow storm  
during the morning -  
Saw a few pair of *Parus  
arcticus* flying along  
the beach on the 18<sup>th</sup>  
A pair of *Habia glacialis*  
were about in open part this  
am one was shot by a native  
and I secured the other.  
On the 20<sup>th</sup> several *Podiceps  
violaceus* were seen  
probably that last winter  
next year -

Oct 24 -

The natives took up all their seal nets yesterday as the ~~ice~~ ice is too plentiful to work them.

Alexis informs me that Rock Crystal is made in ice, that during the winter it becomes solid in the interior of large pieces of ice that a small core becomes solidified to such an extent that it does not thaw with the ice but sinks and is washed ashore. On a specimen <sup>in my possession</sup> obtained from a native, he pointed out its water worn sides in proof of this assertion and said that they were never found anywhere but on the beach.

Oct 25 -

Nothing of interest. Ice for being rapidly in the sun. But drifting during the afternoon.

Oct 26 -

Thermometer down to  $+46^{\circ}$  fahr. A fine misty snow fall during the evening. Wind from the N.E. light.

Oct 27 -

About 3 inches of snow fell last night covering the tundra and the surrounding hills.

Oct 28 -

Natives crossed the canal on the ice which is several inches thick near the shore.

Oct 29 -

Temperature rose in the a.m. and it thawed in several places. A fine sleet commenced

*L. glaucus* pale *curvatus*  
Oct 28 1873 - *curvatus* from al.

in the am. and in a  
fog in the morning.

Oct. 30 -

Thawed in the shade most  
of the day and in the evening  
a misty rain commenced  
which ended in snow.

Oct. 31/ 2 specimens of *Urocyon* and  
Oct. 31 1877 (Linnæus)

The warm weather continues  
and the snow is rapidly leaving  
the hills exposed again.

The ice is honeycombed and  
uneven.

Nov. 1 - 1877 -

A large herd of deer passed  
M. K. Linnæus place on the  
other shore a few days ago.  
Wolf tracks are reported as  
being numerous on the  
island and a few Stares  
are about.

Nov. 2 -

Still thawing. The snow  
only lies in small patches  
and the ice is nearly all

gone. Such a long spell  
of warm weather is very  
unusual and is very  
uncomfortable in more ways  
than one. We are nearly  
out of wood and can bring  
none until more snow  
falls. The ice is all gone but  
a extremely thin coating  
on the water which a  
fresh wind would quickly  
carry away.

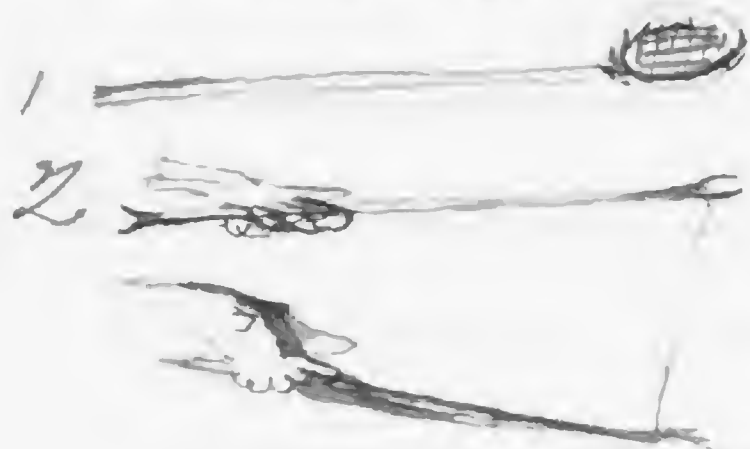
Some natives were hunting  
seals, on a belt of thick  
ice formed along the  
open water, this morning  
taking their sleds  
with them on small  
sleds.

Nov. 3 -

Wind light from the North  
The natives have transferred  
their attention from sealing  
to fishing and are taking  
a great many Narwhals

through the ice.  
 They make a small hole  
 then erect a few sticks  
 to the windward upon which  
 they hang a grass mat to  
 keep off the wind and  
 then sit on the ice and  
 fish from morning till  
 night, taking from 10 to  
 thirty and even forty pounds  
 each. They have a pick  
 to pierce the ice and a  
 small scoop made of  
 bone or bone and remain  
 attached to a handle but  
 four or five feet long to take  
 the ice fragments from the  
 hole from time to time  
 and a short stick about  
 3 feet long for a rod  
 with a slender pointed  
 stick to aid in lowering  
 the line from the water  
 as it is generally longer  
 than the pole.

The following figures represent  
 1 the scoop, 2 the pole  
 line and stick



Their hooks  
 as represented  
 generally have  
 several points  
 and are made

so that when the fish  
 is taken on the ice or ground  
 a single flap is sufficient to  
 bring up its

Nov. 4

Sleds are passing back  
 and forth among themselves  
 all the time now.

Wind very high from  
 the north.

Nov. 5

Wind still a gale from  
 the N. Nothing of interest

Nov. 6 -  
Wind a gale from the  
north. Remained about  
the redoubt.

Nov. 7 -  
Took my first ride after  
a dog team going from  
the redoubt to the other shore  
where we stopped for coffee  
and then returned.

Very good time was made  
and the day being fine the  
trip was enjoyable.

On our return a lead bluge  
was seen under the ice  
by our natives.

Nov. 8 -  
Wind very light and the  
weather very fine in the  
morning. We skated an  
hour or so on the pond  
back of the redoubt.

On our return quite a  
large flock of *Algebra*  
fulcrums was observed

feeding on the ponds  
along the beach.

We made a sundial  
and placed it by one  
of the dining room windows  
for easy reference.

Tried to make a camera  
obscura from the lens  
of an opera glass but  
failed to get a good  
image outline.

Nov. 9 -  
A high gale from the  
south all day with  
a slight fall of snow  
in the A.M.

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> nothing  
of interest

Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> blank -

Nov. 13 -  
Went to the village (practice)  
in the evening to witness  
an ung-i-yah but only  
a few natives being present  
it was not much of a

success. Will reserve  
a description of the affair  
until a larger one is witnessed.

Nov. 14-

A fog prevailed during  
the morning but cleared  
away at 12 m. and having  
recently constructed a  
sun-dial we compared  
our watches with it and  
found we were an hour and  
a half behind. Made the  
necessary corrections.

It is now dark from 4  
P.M. until 8 A.M.

A beautiful evening  
the moon shining in  
all her glory the  
contrast being so great  
that the sky appears black  
except where few of the larger  
stars show.

Nov. 15

Some women came from  
the other shore and said  
a beluga had been found  
in the ice near their  
place. Upon this I  
proposed investigating  
the matter and the  
Assistant Agent here  
Mr. Lowry proposed  
to take me over with  
a dog team, taking rope  
an ax and ~~my~~ native  
assistant we set out  
arriving at the station  
I obtained the services  
of the woman who found  
the beluga and we  
started out on the ice.  
After about ~~10~~<sup>2</sup>  
miles walk we found  
the beluga with his  
~~back~~ belly protruding  
through the ice.  
We went to work and

in a short time had  
him chopped out of the  
ice but he was so large  
that we found it necessary  
to postpone taking him out  
until more aid could  
be obtained and returned  
to the Redoubt.

Nov. 16 —

Through the kindness  
of the Agent of the U. S. Co.  
the workman at the post  
Kamneroff was sent to  
aid in securing my  
prize and accompanied  
by 5 natives we went  
after him.

Cutting him loose from  
the ice that had formed  
during the night a rope  
was passed around him  
and tied around a long  
stick at each end of which  
two persons took hold and  
quickly ran the block

out on the ice.  
To my gratification  
he or rather she it being  
a female proved to be  
a large one measuring  
11 ft. 8 in in length.  
Being quickly transported  
to the sleds we started  
in triumph for the  
Redoubt and the specimen  
was <sup>put</sup> stored in a large  
war house to be preserved  
upon. Mr. Cetchum from  
the other side was here  
and remained all day.

Nov. 17 —

My native Aleris  
commenced removing  
the flesh from the  
Beluga of which I intended  
making a skeleton.  
The meat was partly decayed  
and eaten by the fishes  
or I would have had the skin  
also preserved.



The body was a dull whitish with a bluish tint.

The skin is composed of an outer and easily decomposed layer, beneath which is a hard tough argument about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch in thickness. Beneath this is a layer of fat a trifle over an inch in thickness after which the muscles follow.

The vagina and anus open have a common orifice which looks like a long slit, on each side of the body and very near the mouth of the vagina

is the uterus divided into two kidney shaped parts connecting with the common duct. I was unable to learn more of the internal anatomy owing to the intestines being frozen into a hard

mass.

Upon my proposing to Alex. to chop the flukes of the tail off with an axe he dissented very strongly and said if he chopped any part of the animal with an axe that he would die very soon.

This also tallies with a superstition they have that no native is allowed to cut wood with an axe during the season in which they hunt Belugas.

Nov. 18

The remainder of the flesh was removed from the Beluga and it now awaits the finishing process.

Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>  
Nothing of interest except  
that for the first time  
this winter the thermometer  
stands at -1

Nov. 21  
Therm. - 3 last night  
Reached + 7<sup>o</sup> during the  
day but a strong wind  
made the weather very  
shilly.

Nov. 22 -  
Therm. - 14<sup>o</sup> last night  
and remained below zero  
all day.

We have been amusing  
ourselves lately by  
solving chess problems  
and in looking for the  
first sleds which are  
expected from the  
lower Yukon about this  
time.

Nov. 23 -  
Nothing of note.  
Therm. below zero all day  
and down to -18<sup>o</sup> last  
night.

Nov. 24 -  
One of the natives caught  
a Broad fox on the island  
a few days since and  
several Red foxes have  
been taken.  
A number of Wolf tracks  
have been seen in  
the vicinity.

Nov. 25 -  
Prepared some poison  
for foxes and started to  
put it out in the morning.  
Mr. Neumann started for  
a visit to the other side  
at the same time and  
was taken over in a  
very short time as I  
could see while going  
across the ice on my

way. I went directly south towards a pair of small volcanic peaks about 8 miles from the fort. I followed a small ~~over~~ ravine up the slope and placed my poison in suitable places.

The ravine has a dense growth of scrubby alders in every sheltered nook and these with a crust on the snow just sufficient to not bear ones weight made walking anything but pleasant. Otherwise the day was fine.

The tracks of numerous foxes and two wolves were seen and numerous mouse tracks of several species and also numerous tracks of the minute. Shrews found here in abundance.

Ptarmigan were very numerous but shy, flying long before I was within range.

I found numerous places where they had stopped the night before, always in coveys and always in an open space near or surrounded by bushes. Here they would nestle into the snow making a cup shaped hollow just the size of their bodies so that their back would be just on a level with the surface. Each cavity contained a little heap of excrement showing that the place had been occupied all night. In no instance did I see a cavity placed where its occupant did not have an unobstructed opportunity

to fly away in any direction if alarmed although dense brush patches were plentiful they were always avoided evidently to give the game an opportunity to escape from a fox or wolf should they be attacked.

No tracks of Hares were seen until the foot of the mountain was reached when they became numerous but no hare was seen. The day being well advanced I ascended the nearest mountain and was well repaid by the view which was very fine.

Off to the south west ~~an~~ an arctic sun was slowly passing along the horizon before it went to rest and tenting the

sky with a dusky red reflecting back across numerous low, snow-covered peaks to the south and south west, stretching far to the east were still larger hills partly obscured by a bluish haze to the right lay a long expanse of tundra dotted here and there with black when the ice of numerous lakelets showed in sharp contrast with the snow. Meandering through the tundra could be traced a line of white which marked the "Canal" a tortuous channel separating St. Michael's island from the mainland about 20 miles in length. Beyond this came the sea and a dim glimpse

of tundra until stopped by  
the range of mountains  
forming Cape Romanoff  
40 miles distant.

Back of me lay all the  
islands of St. Michael's in  
view and beyond Stewart  
Is whose rocky shores stood  
out black and forbidding.  
On either side of these  
islands as far as the eye  
could reach an unvarying  
expanse of ice stretched out-  
toward the sea. To the  
north to my surprise  
the black and rocky shores  
of Capes Starby and Dumbigh  
were distinctly visible  
although at least 75 miles  
away.

While on the mountain  
a strong N.E. wind was  
blowing at least 20 miles  
an hour yet down 100  
feet from the top the wind

from the same direction  
was not over 2 miles per hour  
and was blowing at this rate  
all day.

The peak I ascended was  
only about seven or eight  
hundred feet above the sea.

It was of a peculiar  
formation. The adjoining  
sketch will give an idea  
of a bird's eye view of it.  
On the S.E. side it much more  
abrupt than the other  
sides.



The mountain is covered with a scanty coat of plants with a few bushes along ~~the~~ side. The hill as depicted is in the form of an amphitheatre with its opening toward the east.

The hills are formed of basalt & evidently from the outcroppings to be in a very fragmentary state. Upon my arrival at the Redoubt I found the native cook had been out and secured a large Northern Hare during my absence.

They are fine animals with soft silky fur, entirely pure white except jet black ear tips and hazel eyes.

Tonight and tomorrow night an *Esquimaux* takes place at Stettin's on the other side of the Island.

Nov. 26 -  
Recruited from yesterday's tramp.

During the afternoon some Eskimoes came in from the hills with some furs to trade.

Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>  
Nothing of interest except a warm spell of weather which has lasted for several days with the thermometer only a trifle below freezing.

Nov. 29 -  
Warm weather continues. *Arctostaphylos* is seen quite frequently in the woods about the fort.

Nov. 30 -  
Finished my mounted work. We are on the look-out for sleds now from both north and south

St. Michael's, Alaska

December 1877—  
1st—

Fog and light snow  
during the day.

Dec. 2

At 10 a.m. a mock sun  
was observed about 20°  
to the right of the sun  
upon a cumulus cloud.  
It was of a peculiar  
brassy lustre but not  
very sharply defined.

~~Dec. 3~~ A peculiarity  
about this was that  
the sun had not yet  
appeared above the horizon.

Dec. 4

Nothing of interest—  
A faint aurora was  
seen on the evening of  
the 5th only a faint glow  
however was seen.

Dec. 6 about 4 inches  
of snow fell only a small  
portion of which was caught

in the rain gauge owing  
to the wind

Dec. 7

Light snow in the P.M.  
A short time before dark  
Agna-piak arrived from  
Unalakleet with a sled.  
During the evening he  
produced some presents  
he had brought among  
which were some tobacco  
for the agents and some  
models of squirrels and  
fox traps for me also  
a kind of "bolos" with  
eight ivory balls each attached  
to a string of braided deer  
sinews fastened together  
at their extremities  
with the balls hanging free  
a loop in the end, the  
cords for admitting the  
third finger is used in  
throwing the instrument.  
He showed us how it was

used with the statement  
that it ~~was~~ is used only  
by the people whom he was  
born which is on the  
Kovung peninsula near  
Cape Pr. of Wales.

The missile is used for  
killing geese and by a  
suggestive pantomime,  
he took the missile and  
holding the balls carefully  
in his left hand with the  
strings straight and not  
entangled, he then took  
the other end and passing  
his third finger through the  
loop he crouched as though  
watching the approach of a  
flock of geese and then  
straightening ~~the~~ the strings  
by drawing on the balls with  
his left hand he suddenly  
sprang to his feet at the same  
time and with marvellous  
rapidity ~~also~~ gave the balls

two rapid swings and  
to our astonishment sent  
them fully 60 yards into  
the air with such swiftness  
that their course could  
scarcely be traced. As  
they began to lose their  
impetus the balls which  
had heretofore kept a nearly  
parallel course, spread apart  
and commenced a kind of  
gyratory movement and as  
they stopped an instant before  
descending the balls started  
out on every side then they  
turned and fell to the ground,  
during their ascent and descent  
until within a few feet of the  
ground the balls did not appear  
to interfere with each other and  
on picking it up the strings  
were found in a most intricate  
tangle that occupied a quarter  
an hour for about twenty minutes  
to undo.



The account of the balls was remarkable  
for their direct flight. The donor  
stated that when a bird was  
struck by them that they  
wind about the wings and  
neck and bring it to the ground  
at once.

Another very ingenious  
contrivance for killing animals  
he brought a model of  
which the following figure  
and description will give  
an idea.



The main part (1) is a wooden cylinder  
through which are passed a  
number of strong deer sinews,  
cords passing around the two  
cross bars of the wood in the  
middle of the cylinder a  
slit is cut and a strong piece  
of bone, with an ivory  
part in its outer  
end, is inserted and works as

on a hinge the end in  
the cylinder is under the  
cords which are parallel and  
form a flat spring which  
as the bone lever (2) is lifted  
tend to throw it back again  
with force. The lever 2 is  
drawn back to the opposite  
side of the slit and kept  
there by means of a pin  
projecting from its side  
as sketched the ivory pin (3)  
is put into the hole in the  
ivory block (3) and then  
they stand at right angles  
when the pin in the lever  
is placed in the angle the  
head of the pin (3) pointing  
toward the cylinder; to the  
head of this pin is attached a  
string leading through the  
slit in the cylinder and  
attached to a piece of meat  
or 5. Other pieces of meat  
are scattered about, the

trap is concealed in the snow  
and when the bait is touched  
the lever is forced and comes  
down driving the spike into  
the head of whatever is eating  
the meat.

Agnapiak states that they  
kill foxes, wolves and can  
make them for traps and  
even can kill a man with  
one.

Dec. 8 -

Agnapiak reports his  
wife sick and that  
he has not been able  
to go out this winter for  
furs and owing to one of  
their superstitions none  
of the natives men are  
~~so~~ willing to enter his  
house the women only  
coming. He obtained  
some goods upon credit  
and the Agent here tells  
me that although he

is a much feared ruffian  
who has committed several  
murders ~~yet~~ and who tries  
to outwit and defraud  
if possible in trade yet  
he always keeps his  
word and faithfully repays  
whatever he obtains on credit.  
About noon he left  
for Umalakleet -

Dec. 9 -

My collector Alexis has  
gone to live in Kegiuk <sup>bay</sup>  
this winter. He left on the  
~~8th~~ taking a few trading  
goods. And will collect  
birds there during the  
winter.

A fog prevailed during  
the day which owing  
to the cold was rendered  
visible in the form of  
minute flakes of snow  
or rather in small fog  
crystals.

DEC. 10 —  
Although the thermometer  
was below zero nearly all  
day yet the fine snow  
fog whose crystals were  
so minute, that the  
sandy had weight  
enough to sink slowly  
down, kept the sky  
obscured all day.

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> Slight snow  
fog in the morning.

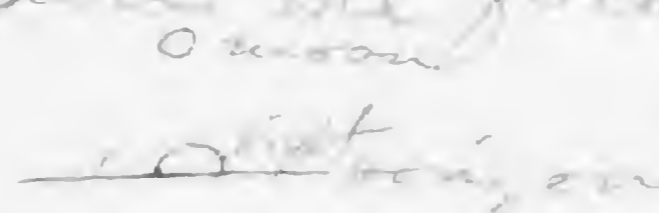
DEC. 12 —  
Thermometer below zero  
all day.

At 1.30 P.M. two bright,  
red-tinted sun dogs were  
observed, each about  $25^{\circ}$   
to one side of the sun.  
Instead of being oval  
they were about 50 yards  
long and about a yard  
wide and were standing  
at right angles to the  
horizon their lower ends

appearing to rest upon the  
ground three miles distant  
from the observer.

Their greatest intensity  
of color was in the middle  
line near the top. No  
colors but a reddish was  
seen. Although no mist  
was evident when I  
stood yet the landscape  
was partly obscured behind  
the "dogs".

During the afternoon a  
fresh wind blowing started  
the snow to flying and  
the landscape was obscured.  
The moon being very bright  
a peculiar phenomenon was  
observed. Directly below  
the moon with its base  
resting on the earth was  
a half circle of light  
like the following figure.

  
This light was  
quite bright.

and gave much the appearance of a fire upon the ground when seen in a fog, the intensity of the light being greatest at the centre upon the ground and diminishing toward the outside. The semi ~~circle~~ appeared about 20 yards in diameter and kept its intensity and position following the moon all night.

— Dec 13 —

A near haze formation was formed after noon but disappeared in the evening. High N. wind all day.

— Dec. 14 —

Thermometer -  $21^{\circ}$  during the evening and during the morning of the 15<sup>th</sup> fell to -  $24^{\circ}$  the lowest it has yet reached. Linear haze formation at

2 P.M. from E. to W. - In the morning Messrs. Robert and Isaac Traders for the opposition company came over and said they arrived at their company's station on the other side of the bay three days ago.

They are the first arrival from the vicinity of Yule to our fact from the Yukon this year.

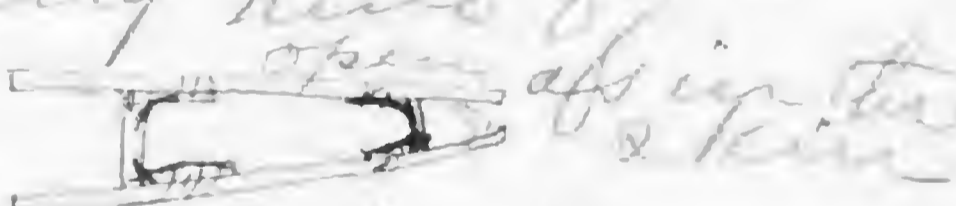
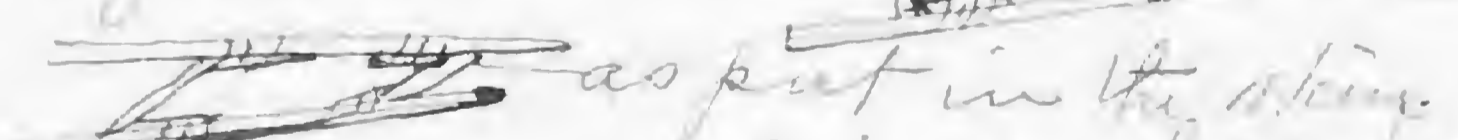
— Dec. 16. —

Just at dark the dogs about the Redoubt began barking and ran down to the track. We all went out and discovered three sleds approaching rapidly over the ice with an Indian running ahead of the dogs. The sled came up to the port with a rush and amid great excitement among the dogs we welcomed

one of the companions  
traders Rojernikoff who  
has come from Tula to  
with his son, and two  
Ingaliks bringing furs  
and to take some goods.

— DEC. 17 —

The furs brought by Rojernikoff  
were examined in the am.  
Among them were a number of  
Red Cross foxes and two Black  
foxes also several hundred  
martens and mink with  
an otter or two. The marten  
present are almost endless  
variation in color which extends  
from a dark chestnut with  
a black gloss through yellow  
and yellowish brown to a rich  
deep orange. In all cases  
the long ~~black~~ hairs of  
the back & sides are black  
or nearly black thus shading  
the lighter fur beneath.  
Some of the martens were

only recently caught still  
had the stretching sticks  
still in them, their  
peculiar and ingenious  
make draw my attention  
and I kept some for specimen.  
The mouth of the marten is  
not large enough to admit  
a frame large enough  
to stretch the skin and  
as no incision must be  
made in the skin,  
the Indians surmount  
the difficulty by making  
the following kind of  
a frame. —   
 as put in the skin.  
The frame it is fastened together  
by a cross bar near each end  
and these bars are partly cut  
through them but and each  
end of the cross bar being  
cut so but and the ends  
attached to the side pieces  
forms a hinge by means

of which the frame may  
be nearly shut in the  
manner of a pair of parallel  
rulers.

Dec. 18

At 8 A.M. on looking to  
the N.W. a beautiful  
moon was observed  
which fairly glowed in  
its silvery lustre as it  
passed along the horizon in  
its circular course.  
The deep blue black  
twilight shadow in  
that quarter forming  
just the needful frame  
to set off the silvery  
lustre and brilliancy  
of this body. Nowhere  
have I seen such  
magnificent moons  
as here. Its brilliancy  
is such that often only  
a few of the larger stars

can be seen and I have  
read moderate sized prints  
in the evening by its light.

Dec. 19

Egorka was sent with  
a sled this morning  
to Pastolik at the Yukon Mouth  
for White Fish. During the  
afternoon

Some men came from  
the Russian trader  
living there.

Dec. 20

Nothing of interest.

Dec. 21

Kojnikof is getting us  
trading goods and preparing  
to start back to Kulato.  
I gave him some boxes  
ammunition and  
a jar of carbolic acid  
water to get me some  
specimens. He appears  
to be quite an intelligent  
young fellow (a half-breed)

or Russian (orals)  
has been to San Francisco  
and takes fair English tongue  
diffident

Dec. 22 —

Kamkeff's men started  
early in the AM. and  
a little later Koinik  
started up the coast.

The south wind has driven  
the ice from shore north  
so that we have no travelling  
made over the tundra.

Dec. 23 —

Mr. Loren and I went  
across the bay to the  
other trading post after  
luncheon and on the  
way over my nose was  
slightly frost bitten  
upon vigorous application  
of snow restored it.

Soon after our arrival  
there a party of native  
traders with their sleds

Came from the canal  
and came to the same place  
They proved to be from  
the tundra at the mouth  
of the Yukon —

After stopping to coffee  
and having a chat with  
Mr. Ketchum we ~~took~~  
harnessed our dogs and  
returned to the Redoubt  
after also inviting Mr. K.  
his assistant to come over  
and spend Christmas  
with us —

Dec. 24 —

Nothing of note —

Dec. 25 — Christmas  
Morning opened with a  
dull cloudy sky and high  
wind. Later in the AM.  
the snow commenced  
falling slowly and  
the wind filled the air with  
flying particles so that  
a person could see only

a few yards in advance.  
We made presents to the  
Workman and ~~women~~ <sup>women</sup> ~~and~~  
about the Redoubt and also  
made a Christmas call  
upon them.

The Russian workman  
gave us an invitation  
to a Christmas dinner and  
as his house ~~is~~ is small  
asked to serve it in our  
dining room. We accepted  
his invitation and although  
the dinner could have been  
improved upon yet the  
good will with which it was  
served covered many sins.

We were through dinner but  
a short time when to our  
surprise two sleds came  
in and we recognized Mr  
Fredrick and his assistant  
from Anvik. They reported  
that Mr. Gessner from the  
same place came to the

other side with them.  
The *Issooga* caused them  
to lose their way while  
crossing the bay and they  
reached the shore some  
distance from the  
Redoubt then followed the  
shore to the place.

In the evening our Christmas  
dinner ~~proffer~~ was served  
up and consisted of  
Soups, roast goose, Canned  
Vegetables, Plum Pudding  
&c. making a very fair  
meal to which full justice  
was done by all parties.

D.R. 26

Six sleds left the  
station on the opposite  
shore, for the Yukon this  
a.m.

D.R. - 27 - Nothing  
of interest -



Dec. 28 -

Mr. Kessner came over on a visit from the other side. Soon after he returned in the afternoon Mr. McQueston from the Tanana River arrived with a team of very large dogs such as are used in Hudson Bay Territory. He was heartily welcomed and paid with questions on all sides until bed time.

Dec. 29 -

Mr. McL. has been on a trip up the Tanana about 250 miles this winter. He tells me that the river is very shallow and can be waded at many places in the fall. It is about 400 yards wide at the highest point he reached. He says the country through which it flows is low and marshy in many

places with numerous ponds, lakes and sloughs, with scattered and small timber. To the south about 60 miles rises a range of mountains one of which appears to be very high and stands out alone and appears to bear a table land on one side.

Farther up than he went the river passes through a range of mountains.

He saw plenty of Moose, bear and food was plentiful among the natives.

He had no trouble with the Indians who have had but very little intercourse with the traders.

Dec. 30 & 31 -

Nothing of interest occurred. The weather remains still.

January 1878  
1st

New Year's Day was passed with no occurrence of note.

Jan 2 -

In the afternoon a number of sleds were seen coming from the north and as they drew near one turned to the village and the other came to the Redoubt.

This proved to be Egeeluk who has been living in the vicinity of Cape Darby this winter. He brought a lot of ethnological specimens for me and tells me that he has many more at home which he will bring on a bidarra in the Spring.

Jan 3

Early in the morning Mr. M'Questen left for his station. I found that the other sled that came

yesterday brought Alexis my native collector. This morning he put in an appearance accompanied by his wife and said he had been sick for some time. I gave him some salts and he ~~was~~ went to Stebens probably to see his father-in-law. To day and yesterday a fine frozen fog has filled the air and obscured the landscape.

Every exposed object has been covered with a fine fluffy coat which gives the appearance of every thing being covered with very white cotton wool.

Jan 4

During the early AM about 2 inches of snow fell and later in the day the snow fog showed itself again although less distinct than before.

Jan. 6-

The temperature fell during the night and this morning the snow fog is being precipitated in fine feathery grains which come steadily down one by one and unite in covering everything with a downy layer. During the prevalence of these snow fogs every piece of metal and every rough board or other convenient place becomes covered often to the depth of an inch or more in a night. My thermometers which were so sheltered that the air had access from below and through inclined lattice work were covered so completely that in the morning nothing but a mass of fog & zigzag work was visible.

9-

Egeulik left for the north this morning. The weather has been remarkably calm for several days and has allowed the snow fog to encompass everything.

7-

Nothing of note except the continuance of the snow fog and calm weather. The low temperature seems to promote the fog from attaching itself so abundantly to exposed objects.

16-

Nothing of interest up to date. When Professor [name] returned from Tulato bringing furs and also some birds and fishes from that vicinity. The birds were all common species including *Quercus canadensis*, *Pomarine* *Canadensis*, *Alouatta leucina*.

*Picus pubescens* and also  
two specimens of *Sciurus*  
*hudsonius*. Among the fishes  
which are all from the Yukon  
River were two specimens of  
*Lota maculata*, which are  
very abundant in the river,  
*Catostomus hudsonius* two  
specimens, these are also very  
numerous and are called  
"trapka" or "pipe" by the Russians.  
Beside these I was surprised  
and pleased to find a fine  
specimen of *Chrysallus* or  
*Thymallus* among them, this  
latter our English cook says  
are not common in the winter  
but very numerous in the spring.  
The species is *Thymallus* *sp.* *classis* *Thymallus*  
immense basal fin and is probably  
the *Thymallus* *sp.* *classis* *Thymallus*  
Waska + its resources p. 5-79  
The *Catostomus hudsonius* may  
also be in *C. terra* and his  
*Calocottus* *sp.* (Blackfish?)

have already learned is a  
species of *Hydrargysa*,  
a cyprinodont bearing much  
resemblance to some of the larger  
Atlantic species.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> Kopevnik says  
he left but in the  
afternoon Lavinia Petersen  
arrived with six sleds from  
Andraeffsky, with furs  
and also bringing me  
a specimen of *Picus pubescens*  
and two jars filled with  
fishes among which were a  
number of small *Catostomus*  
*hudsonius*, one *Esox*, 1 or 2  
small *Lotas* several Black  
fish (Cyprinodonts) a species  
of stickleback probably new  
being different from those  
found here, a number  
of young white fish (*Gygis*)  
including several species  
and some other unknown  
fish which have not been

examined. He also brought  
some spears, arrows and a bow  
from the tundra below  
the mouth of the Yukon.  
And tells me his traders  
are getting me ethnological  
specimens on the tundra  
and sea coast.

20<sup>th</sup> of Oct 1892

Charlie remained at  
the Redoubt and I made  
some inquiries about  
the natives along the coast  
with whom he has had  
intercourse and among other  
things about Shamanism -  
It appears that one of the wishes  
for things by the Shamans is to  
visit the moon and various  
ways are taken to effect this  
object; one of which is to have  
a slipping piece of walrus  
or "minim" placed about their  
neck and then to have a lot of  
natives take the other end

and drag them around the pole  
for a considerable length of  
time. Two noted shamans on  
the lower Yukon have made  
the trip in this manner and  
their obsequies took place  
the next day. According to the  
directions of the Deceases the people  
were to expect him the next morning  
time but on being asked after that  
time had passed whether he has  
returned yet or not one of the  
natives of the same village replied that  
he had come out of the ground a little  
ways but that he was very small and  
as there was no one with him but children  
to hold and care for him at the time he  
had gone away again.

One of the main objects of their  
desire to visit the moon is  
that they think the moon to be  
a hole through the sky and  
when you get through it  
you are plenty of deer, seal &c  
which can be caught and

thrown down thus supplying  
plenty of game below.  
Charlie told of another belief  
held by some of the natives  
south of the Kupuk mouth that  
Belugas ~~has~~ changed to walrus  
He also informed me that  
the natives along the sub-  
sea coast make a practice  
of putting the bladder of the  
seal they kill into the water  
through the ice with great  
ceremony every winter.

Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>

Charlie left early in the  
morning

Talyatuk arrived in the afternoon  
bringing me some interesting  
ethnological specimens and what  
was also very acceptable for  
us he brought a deer which  
his brother killed at Kegiktoiwuk

Jan 27

A curious fog was observed  
today under the following circumstances

Due to the intense cold the moisture  
in the air became visible as fog  
(the thermometer standing far below zero)  
When I ascended the aneroid bar  
in the morning on looking directly  
away from the sun a white fog low  
well defined was plainly visible apparently  
forming just half a circle and touching  
the ground about 75 yards distant  
when standing on the ground  
no such appearance could be seen.

Jan 27<sup>th</sup>

The cold has crystallized the moisture  
in the air and today if comes blowing  
and flashing down to the ground in  
a shower of flashing diamonds in a perfectly  
quiet atmosphere owing to the intense  
cold the sun is more visible but the  
cold is so intense that upon going  
from a warm room into the open  
air one feels suddenly grasped by  
an invisible force which causes  
him to gasp for breath for a moment  
as when breathing laughing gas.  
The natives go about as usual and say

It is not very cold

Jan 30 -

Saxe and his brother came today bringing some furs and a few ethnological specimens to trade. They also brought some *Ermine* and *Sciurus hudsonicus* but so much was asked for the former that I declined to purchase.

Distinct mirage today which took many liberties with the landscape by simply moving back and forth or jumping up and down the hills would appear to assume the most diverse shapes, changing in height and outline as though one would look at them through a glass containing many contortions and flaws. Pieces of ice would rise into perpendicular columns one instant then be flattened horizontally the next. Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>

Saxe and brother left this morning.

About noon Lennan's boy

came from the other side with a sled load of ethnological specimens for me from the mouth of the Yukon.

Later in the afternoon Belkoff arrived from the Yukon below Nulato.

February 1<sup>st</sup>

Big John and Lannan came across today for a visit. ~~It is 31<sup>st</sup>~~ the weather remained intensely cold on the last named date falling down to  $-52^{\circ}$  Fahr. We were careful to remain at home and I have been busily engaged on my reports for several weeks. The constant want of exercise tells on me as lack of appetite and a general feeling of inertia shows. The days are becoming longer hours and we look forward with pleasure to the coming of springtime. Time slips by rapidly and we are aware of it - we shall have

the grass springing up and  
the birds back again —

During the remainder  
of February little of interest  
took place. The weather remained  
cold. Fredrickson and a few  
other traders were here from  
the Yukon and nothing more  
of interest.

— March — 1878 —

The first two weeks of this month  
were very cold, the rest of the  
third week the weather became  
very warm reaching 41° on  
the 24<sup>th</sup>.

March 21<sup>st</sup> Kapiwonkoff arrived  
from Nulato with six sleds.  
His son Paul and Suroka a  
native (Ingalik our former cook  
came down bringing me  
quite a number of birds  
and fishes and a <sup>portal porcupine</sup> porcupine.  
This was a queer <sup>anomalous</sup> looking little  
animal with long black hair

a pig nose and long deer  
like claws of feet.

Among the birds were about  
a dozen Hudsonian Titmice and  
Canada jays, Pine grosbeaks  
were numerous, one snow  
bunting, one Hawk Owl and

one Snowy Owl and one fine  
specimen of Legman's Owl —  
I furnished them both  
(Paul & Suroka) with collecting

materials for birds and eggs  
and instructed them as to  
what was especially desired.

They were very doubtful about  
getting the eggs of the Canada  
Jay which they say conceals its  
nest so that it can rarely  
be found. It has eggs in  
April ~~May~~ and if they are taken the  
natives say it will cause very  
cold weather.

Among the birds were also three  
fine Water Buzzards which they  
tell me remain all winter



about open places in the small rivers. A native trader tells me they are very numerous at Ulukuk summer and winter.

They also brought a number of species of small white fish and several Grayling.

Leguain's Owl they say sees very badly in the day time and may be taken by hand or by a noose on the end of a stick but is very shy during the night.

March 22 finished labelling the ethnological collection upon which I have been working for the past week. The number has risen to over 1200 specimens besides the considerable amount that is yet to come in from traders to whom I have given goods.

29<sup>th</sup> Kojonikoff left about 8 a.m. and in the afternoon of the morning Charlie Peterson

arrived from Andraeffsky, he brought me a snowy Owl and some specimens of Grayling and white fish and told Mr. Munn and I that he had obtained over 20 masks for us from the tundra natives, two of them are so large that when in use they hang by cords from the roof of the kashime and the wearer stands behind with his head in it and simply swings it from one side to another or turns it about.

When he brought the masks he says the natives had just ended a dance and were burning the masks according to their custom and that whoever sold their mask had to bring wood to burn in its place.

The native shamans all along the coast and up the Yukon as far as the "mēt" people extend have a great desire

to go to the moon when ever  
anything unusual occurs  
and in addition they say that  
is when all the seals and  
bees come from and if they  
get them they can throw enough  
to make good hunting again  
The Russian Priest from  
Mission (here a short time ago)  
said there was an eclipse of  
the moon about the 13<sup>th</sup> of July  
and that about the same  
time some dozen or more  
natives died from a throat  
disease, upon this two native  
shamans, father & son, started  
to go and see the man in the moon  
to see what he meant by this  
having such an epidemic  
and what must be done to  
stop it. After an absence of  
several days they returned  
and reported that they had  
been nearly to the moon when  
the old man became tired out

and the younger went on alone  
until he was very near when  
the man in the moon came down  
to meet him and appeared  
very angry and asked what he  
wanted, he made known his  
errand in great fear but determined  
to brave it out. The man in  
the moon informed him that  
the epidemic was going to  
kill a number of people and  
then stop - but he was  
determined not to let his  
visitor return just the old  
man who was down below  
begged so effectively for his  
release that he at last  
relented and the pair returned  
gave their valuable information to  
the people. -  
Charley Peterson gave an  
account of the <sup>pretended</sup> burning of a  
shaman on the tundra south of  
the Yukon - the natives were all  
assembled in the Cashim

and after putting on his parkie  
and announcing his intention  
to be burned and then to return  
to them, he ordered a kind of  
crib made by piling logs up in  
a square with an open space  
in the center large enough  
for him to stand in, he then  
named two men who were to attend  
to the fire. He was then bound  
and his large mask, reaching from  
above his head to his waist  
and entirely concealing his body,  
was put on, he was then  
carried out and stood up in  
the center of the pyre and it  
was set on fire. Then the assistants  
called out that anyone who did  
not think he was burning could  
come and see. Some natives  
looked out of the cashim but  
the masks of the shaman were  
facing the cashim concealing  
the upper part and the wood  
hid the lower part of his length.

But the natives were satisfied  
and returned after which no  
one was allowed to come out  
during the rest of the night.  
The *modus operandi* behind the  
scenes is that the shaman  
pays their assistants a large  
tribute to keep silent about  
what he sees. Then he avenges  
that as soon as the natives return  
to the cashim after he is  
brought out he is to be released  
and a log of wood substituted  
for him and then he stands  
behind his mask until the fire  
is lighted in front and the  
natives are called out and  
as soon as they return he  
reenters himself in the vicinity  
until the early morning when  
he returns and taking two brands  
from the still burning fire  
he mounts quickly to the top of  
the cashim and sitting down  
close to the gut skin window

in the center of the roof,  
and which is always held  
bulging outwards by the warm  
air from within. He then  
waves his five brands about  
making a shower of sparks  
at the same time he keeps  
moving his feet about over  
the gutskin so that the natives  
think he is walking in air. After  
he thinks he has made a sufficient  
sensation he descends and  
enters the Eskimo from below  
and is of course a big Shaman.

March 25<sup>th</sup>

Just finished cataloguing the  
ethnological collection obtained  
up to date - the number  
reaching between 72 & 100 hundred  
specimens besides which  
a considerable number is yet  
to come in from various  
traders native and white to  
whom I have given goods.

The thermometer yesterday (24<sup>th</sup>)  
stood at +41° Fahr. Between 12 & 12 PM  
much higher than it reached  
last year until well along  
in May -

The 31<sup>st</sup> of March was a  
disagreeable windy snowy  
day as was also the 1<sup>st</sup> of April.  
During the first week of  
April the temperature was  
very mild the 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>  
being especially mild keeping  
in the vicinity of +35° in the  
day.

On the 3<sup>d</sup> a hawk was seen  
skimming along close to the  
ice over the bay -

About two weeks ago just  
before sunset a Ptarmigan  
settled on the roof of the warehouse  
and stood surveying the yard  
with evident curiosity until  
a workman passed near when  
it suddenly made off in a  
flight at its own temerity.

Mr. Neumann Aq. A. C. Co, at  
the redoubt, told me that  
the spring of '77 - just as the  
snow was melting off, one  
of these birds lit in the  
middle of the court yard  
only a few paces from houses  
on either hand, but that it  
had scarcely touched the  
ground before it was torn to  
fragments by an impetuous  
rush of the Esquimo dogs which  
were lying about and which  
are always on the war path for  
any living creature that they  
are not familiar with.

April 4<sup>th</sup> Mr. Loring assistant  
at the redoubt, started for Pootalik  
to see one of the Company's employees  
who has been ill all winter.  
He was compelled to return  
in a short time to obtain  
snow shoes owing to the deep  
snow on the tundra.  
The 5<sup>th</sup> he started again

going via Stebens  
On the 4<sup>th</sup> Agnassik a male  
of evil reputation of considerable  
influence among a certain  
class of the natives, came from  
Kualetkut to trade. He had  
several sons with him and  
from the party I obtained a  
number of ethnological specimens.  
On the 6<sup>th</sup> a native brought  
in 3 snow buntings one of  
which and the first I ever saw  
was pure white except a slight  
russet tinge about the head  
and some black wing and  
tail feathers.

Have been spending considerable  
time on a native vocabulary  
lately, in company with Mr  
Neumann and find that the  
many errors in published  
vocabularies are mainly  
excusable for to get a  
majority of the words described  
correctly, is almost impossible.

unless a great amount  
of time and a considerable  
knowledge of the language  
are at the disposal of the student.

April 7<sup>th</sup>

Two sleds arrived from Nulato  
for goods. The native in charge says  
that on the portage between Nulato  
and the Yukon a considerable portion  
of the tundra is free from snow and  
that the change in climate is striking  
between the coast and the country  
a day's travel toward the interior where  
it is much warmer.

Mr. Neumann tells me that this  
is always noticeable in spring and  
that some seasons the ground is  
almost entirely bare on the other side  
of the coast mts while on the coast  
spring has scarcely been perceived.  
In conversation with Mr. N. we  
both remarked the salutary influence  
upon the northern natives, that  
has been exerted by the erection  
of a high fence about the place -

Before this fence was erected  
rumors were continually going  
around among the natives that  
Agnapuk was coming during the  
winter to take revenge upon us  
for sending his relative the murderer  
Kunigan down to San Francisco.  
But since the fence was erected  
last fall the suspicious natives from  
whom we anticipated trouble have come  
here but very little and when they  
do come they leave their sleds and  
dogs about 50 yards outside the  
gate and often do not enter until  
we go out to them and when  
Agnapuk comes and is sitting  
in the room he is continually  
nervous and watchful, the least unusual  
or suspicious noise making him look  
searchingly about as though anticipating  
a trap. These Indians now come to  
their trading and go as soon as possible  
instead of loitering about for several  
days as formerly. Some time since  
Mishkin the tyne of the village

Came and told the P.C. Cov.  
agent that they had word that  
the Cape Pr. of Wales men were  
coming here in summer to  
take revenge for the killing of  
some dozen of them last summer  
by the crew of a vessel which they  
attacked. He asked if the village  
men would be permitted to  
come into the fort to help defend  
it saying that if these men came  
down they would also wish to  
kill the St. M. people as well as  
the whites.

April 8<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Loring returned from Pootok  
today - He brought <sup>me</sup> a few ethnological  
specimens from Kaut off the Russian  
trader there -

In the afternoon an Ingalik came  
from the opposite side bringing  
me a goshawk and a snowy owl  
which were brought from Thlato  
by one of his traders.

The day is becoming very long

now, and today one could read with-  
out the aid of a lamp from 4 a.m.  
until 8 P.M. - while twilight last  
nearly an hour before sunrise and  
after sunset -

Just before sunset tonight a  
halo was formed on a misty fall of  
snow flakes, only the upper half  
of the circle was visible and at the  
upper point was an indistinct  
Kruselia while a vertical bar extended  
from the sun to the earth and on  
which could be seen a faint warring  
rain bow shadow which seemed to  
run in tremors and waves across  
it.

Apr. 9<sup>th</sup> a very disagreeable  
day - Two or three Ravens were  
flying about the place all  
day and in the afternoon  
a little Avocet boy brought me  
the first insect of the season, a  
beetle which he found on the side  
of a house.

April 10<sup>th</sup> - thermometer down  
to -15° last night and cold  
all day -

11<sup>th</sup>

Therm. -17° last night.  
Linear haze formed during the  
middle of the day, foretelling a  
change in the weather.

Yesterday and today were occupied  
in painting (water color) a picture of  
the war bluish or tone cod so abundant  
here. It was my first attempt at  
fish painting but I made a very fair  
representation

12<sup>th</sup>

Clouds cover the sky during the  
night and the temperature  
drove to -22° at 9 a.m. and to 30°  
later. A light snow fall  
from 10.30 a.m. to

Lalga luk arrived from  
Ana laklik at 11 a.m. He brought  
a few ethnological specimens for Mr. Jensen.  
Cut my beluga skeleton into  
sections ready for taking the meat

off - / 13<sup>th</sup>

Labelled and packed the collection  
of fishes - occupied the P.M. - arranging  
this collection and put in boxes  
when the task was accomplished -  
14<sup>th</sup>

Weather still gloomy and chilly,  
much as it has been the  
entire month up to date -  
My native Alexis came from  
Stetens in the morning bringing  
some <sup>small</sup> traces and some axes  
which he has been putting hands  
to - the axes are a perfect model  
of those found in the swiss  
lake deposits especially one  
which has the entire handle of  
Birch bark, the two Rivers,  
which made their appearance  
about two weeks since, now  
lying about every day.  
The redpolls (*Regulus Lanius* or  
*Regulus*) which were about here  
the entire winter up to the last  
of July, left probably to the interior  
where the ground becomes bare much  
earlier than on the coast -  
Several snowy owls have been  
brought me lately some of which  
are spotted white, while one brought  
in today is over half a dull brown  
mottling



April 15<sup>th</sup>

Nothing of interest - Temp. - 90  
last night -

16<sup>th</sup>

Temp. higher than for some  
time - Snow in the sun  
during the middle of the  
day - Two inches or more in  
the evening -

17<sup>th</sup>

Fine warm day up to 39°  
in the afternoon - Cloudy  
all day -

18<sup>th</sup>

Still warm +40° at 11 a.m. -  
The snow is melting rapidly -  
Spots show upon the tundra and  
distant hill tops are changing  
from white to black -

An Indian boy brought in  
a Ptarmigan today with a  
ruff of his brown spring  
plumage around the neck

19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> gloomy

and chilly weather nothing  
of interest occurring -

Became warm and thawing on the  
24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> with a gale from  
the S.W.E. On the 25<sup>th</sup> Jax came  
from Umanakleet to trade  
obtained a pair of Lynx skulls from him  
See Vol II for details

