

all the furs, fossils, and walrus-ivory in the hands of the Arctic Innuits with rum, breech-loading arms, and ammunition. This traffic, though quite extensive in volume, lies at present altogether without the pale of official investigation, and only the continuous presence of one or two vessels of the revenue marine in these waters could reduce the trade of the Arctic division to a legitimate basis.

During the summer of 1880 an enumeration of the Eskimo inhabiting this division was made by Captain E. E. Smith, then ice-pilot of the revenue-cutter Thomas Corwin. In nearly every instance this enumeration was made by actual count, and based upon this authority we present the following list of settlements and their population:

ARCTIC DIVISION.

Settlements.	Location.	Eskimo.
Total		3,094
Kingigamute	Cape Prince of Wales, Bering strait	400
Inalit	East Diomedo island, Bering strait	40
Village opposite on mainland	Arctic ocean	18
Ta-apkuk	Cape Espenburg, Kotzebue sound	42
Kugalukmute	Kotzebue sound	12
Kongigamute	Buckland river, Kotzebue sound	90
Selawigamute	Selawik lake, Kotzebue sound	100
Kikiktagamute	Kotzebue sound	200
Sheshulegamute	Kotzebue sound	100
Tikizat	Arctic ocean	75
An-iyakh	Arctic ocean	25
Cape Sepping	Arctic ocean	50
Ip-Not	Arctic ocean	40
Tikirak	Arctic ocean	270
Cape Dyer	Arctic ocean	15
Cape Lisburne	Arctic ocean	18
Point Lay	Arctic ocean	30
Olok-kok	Icy cape, Arctic ocean	50
Kolumatourok	Arctic ocean	45
Neona-agamute	Arctic ocean	74
Ootkaiowik	Arctic ocean	55
Pinoshuragin	Arctic ocean	29
Ootiwakh	Arctic ocean	225
Refuge inlet	Arctic ocean	40
Kokmullit	Point Barrow, Arctic ocean	200
Colville river	Arctic ocean	50
<i>In the interior.</i>		
Koo-agamute villages	Kooak river	250
Noatagamute village	Inland river	400
Killaimute villages	Kok river	150

The superficial area of the Arctic division of Alaska embraces 125,245 square miles, which, with a total population of 3,094, would give us the proportion of one native inhabitant to 40½ square miles, without a single white man or woman. Fully nine-tenths of this vast area lies north of the Arctic circle.

THE YUKON DIVISION.

The second geographical division in the order of discussion is the largest in Alaska, comprising as it does the valley of the largest river on the North American continent, so far as this mighty stream flows within our boundaries. Along the eastern portion of this division its northern and southern boundaries are clearly defined by nearly parallel chains of mountains, the southernmost of which greatly exceeds in height the northern. Farther to the westward, where the Kuskokvim river takes its rise in the region unknown to white men, the branch of the main Alaskan chain of mountains, forming the water-shed between the latter river and the Yukon, gradually decreases in height, until nothing remains but isolated groups of hills only a few hundred feet above the level tundras, stretching away to the westward, until they finally merge with the shallow waters of Bering sea. In the vicinity of the portage route between these two large rivers, where they approach to within thirty or forty miles of each other, the country is so low that a canal of less than half a mile in length would allow the waters of two vast river systems to mingle with each other.

The life artery of all this vast division is, of course, the river from which it takes its name, which has served as the highway of nations and tribes for many centuries, long before the white man, with his improved means of transportation, accomplished the feat, marvelous in their eyes, of traversing in one brief season the distance from its deltoid mouth to the Hudson Bay fort at the junction of the Yukon and the Porcupine rivers.