

all rain and moisture from the heavens and melting snow are absorbed, never finding their release by evaporation, but conserved to drain, by myriads and myriads of rivulets, the great watery highway of the Yukon. I noticed a striking evidence of the peculiar non-conductive properties of the tundra mosses, or swale, last summer in passing through many of the thousand-and-one lakes and lakelets peculiar to that region, where the ice had bound up the moss and overhanging water-growth at the edges of the lakes. In the breaking up and thawing out of summer that ice failed to melt, and the renewed growth of the season of vegetation, reaching out in turn from this icy border, will again prevent thawing, and so on until shallow pools and flats are changed into fixed masses of ice hidden from view.

The borders of the bed of this river alternate from side to side, with flats here and low hills there, the river shifting from one to the other. The hills above the mission as well as the rolling uplands are all timbered, while the flats are covered with rank grasses and willow thickets. This river is bound by ice in October and is not released until the sun of June exerts its power. A very remarkable occurrence in connection with this annual event took place in the summer of 1880, by which a famine ensued at the mouth of the Yukon, and the people thereof were obliged to repair for food to neighboring settlements far to the northward or on the Kuskokvim. The ice came down the Yukon in such masses and in such profusion that it grounded in the deltoid mouth in the month of July, so as to form a barrier against the running of the salmon.

A list of settlements and stations in the Yukon division with their respective population is here appended, as follows:

YUKON DIVISION.

Settlements.	Location.	Total.	White.	Creole.	Athabas-kan.	Eskimo.
Total.....		6, 870	18	19	2, 557	4, 276
Cape York.....	Bering sea.....	24				24
Stniogamute.....	Port Clarence.....	36				36
Kaviazagamute.....	Lake Imorook.....	200				200
Nook.....	Cape Douglas, Bering sea.....	36				36
Ookivagamute.....	King's island, Bering sea.....	100				100
Aziak.....	Sledge island, Bering sea.....	50				50
Small village opposite on mainland.....	Bering sea.....	10				10
Oo-innakhtagowik.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	10				10
Ayacheruk.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	60				60
Chitnaashuak.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	20				20
Imokhtagokshuk.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	30				30
Okpiktolik.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	12				12
Tup-ka-ak.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	15				15
Chlookak.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	15				15
Ignituk.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	100				100
Atnuk.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	20				20
Nubviakheluguluk.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	30				30
Kvikh.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	30				30
Ogowinagak.....	North coast of Norton sound.....	20				20
Scattered villages.....	Head of Norton bay.....	20				20
Oonaktolik.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	15				15
Shaktolik.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	60				60
Tup-hamikva.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	10				10
Oonalakleet.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	100				100
Igawik.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	8				8
Kegokhtowik.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	20				20
Ketchumville.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	5	3	2		
Saint Michael and Tachik village.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	109	4	5		100
Pikmiktalik.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	10				10
Pastoliakh.....	East coast of Norton sound.....	80				80
Kotlik.....	Yukon delta.....	8				8
Fetkina.....	Yukon delta.....	30				30
Village (name unknown).....	Yukon delta.....	6				6
Ingechuk.....	Yukon delta.....	8				8
Kashutuk.....	Yukon delta.....	18				18
Chefokhlagamute, 1st.....	Yukon delta.....	15				15
Chefokhlagamute, 2d.....	Yukon delta.....	5				5
Chefokhlagamute, 3d.....	Yukon delta.....	6				6
Iglagagamute.....	Yukon delta.....	10				10
Askinuk.....	Yukon delta.....	175				175
Kashunok.....	Yukon delta.....	125				125
Kaialigamute.....	Yukon delta.....	100				100
Ookagamute.....	Yukon delta.....	25				25
Oonakagamute.....	Yukon delta.....	20				20
Village (name unknown).....	Yukon delta.....	15				15
Kwigathlogamute.....	Yukon delta.....	30				30
Nunochogamute.....	Yukon delta.....	40				40

YUKON DIVISION—Continued.

Settlements.	Location.	Total.	White.	Creole.	Athabas-kan.	Eskimo.
Nanvogalokhlagamute.....	Yukon delta.....	100				100
Villages on Big Lake region.....	Yukon delta.....	166				166
Coast between Pastoliakh and cape Rumiantzof...	Yukon delta.....	300				300
Komarof's Odinothka.....	Yukon river.....	13		1		12
Alexeief's Odinothka.....	Yukon river.....	16		1		15
Eliseief's Barabara.....	Yukon river.....	20				20
Chatinakh.....	Yukon river.....	40				40
Andrieievsky Rödoute.....	Yukon river.....	14	1	1		12
Starikvikhpak.....	Yukon river.....	90				90
Razboinik.....	Yukon river.....	151				151
Ooglovia.....	Yukon river.....	102				102
Ingahamé.....	Yukon river.....	63				63
Single house.....	Yukon river.....	10				10
Staric Selenie.....	Yukon river.....	55				55
Ikogmute, mission.....	Yukon river.....	148		5		143
John's station.....	Yukon river.....	37	1	1		35
Rybnia.....	Yukon river.....	40				40
Pogoreshapka.....	Yukon river.....	121				121
Single house.....	Yukon river.....	9				9
Faimute.....	Yukon river.....	89				89
Askhomute.....	Yukon river.....	30				30
Ignokhatskamute.....	Yukon river.....	175				175
Makeymute.....	Yukon river.....	121				121
Anvik station and village.....	Yukon river.....	95	1		94	
Single house.....	Yukon river.....	20			20	
Single house.....	Yukon river.....	12			12	
Single house.....	Yukon river.....	15			15	
Tanakhokhaiak.....	Yukon river.....	52			52	
Single house.....	Yukon river.....	15			15	
Chageluk settlements.....	Chageluk slough and Innok river.....	150			150	
Khatnotoutze.....	Yukon river.....	115			115	
Kaiakak.....	Yukon river.....	124			124	
Kaltag.....	Yukon river.....	45			45	
Nulato, station and village.....	Yukon river.....	168	2	3	163	
Koyukuk settlements.....	Koyukuk river.....	150			150	
Terentief's station.....	Yukon river.....	15			15	
Big Mountain.....	Yukon river.....	100			100	
Single house.....	Yukon river.....	10			10	
Sakatalan.....	Yukon river.....	25			25	
Yukokakat.....	Yukon river.....	6			6	
Melozikakat.....	Yukon river.....	30			30	
Mentokakat.....	Yukon river.....	20			20	
Soonkakat.....	Yukon river.....	12			12	
Medvednaia.....	Yukon river.....	15			15	
Noyokakat.....	Yukon river.....	107	1		106	
Kozma's.....	Yukon river.....	11			11	
Nuklnkalet.....	Yukon river.....	29	2		27	
Rampart village.....	Yukon river.....	110			110	
Fort Yukon.....	Yukon river.....	109	2		107	
Fort Reliance.....	Yukon river.....	83	1		82	
Gens de Large.....	Yukon river.....	120			120	
Fetoutin (David's people).....	Yukon river.....	106			106	
Tennanah villages.....	Tennanah river.....	700			700	
Saint Lawrence island.....	Bering sea.....	500				500

The Russian mission on the Yukon river claimed in the year 1880 that 2,252 of the natives were professors of Christianity, but personal observations lead me to believe that this estimate is exaggerated, comprising as it does quite a number of individuals in distant settlements to which this zealous missionary can show no title beyond a wholesale sprinkling of the village during a hurried visit. In 1880 there was no school in existence within the jurisdiction of this mission, but steps were being taken by the bishop for the location of an educational establishment at Ikogmute.

The trade of the Yukon division has been thus far confined altogether to the barter with the natives for furs, seal-oil, and some walrus-ivory along the coast. The importations of goods and provisions in payment of these native productions are quite large, amounting in the year 1880 to 150,000 pounds of flour, 100 chests of tea of 52 pounds each, 150 half-barrels of brown sugar, and 50 half-barrels of white sugar. The consumption of flour alone foots up 25 pounds for each man, woman, and child in the district, and the demand for this article is increasing annually. The dry goods, hardware, etc., imported, together with this large quantity of provisions, represented in 1880 a value of nearly \$20,000.