

Life and Habits of the Seal. North American Review.

The islands of St. Paul and St. George in Behring sea, known as the Pribiloff Islands, are a part of the Alaska purchase from Russia in 1867. These islands are the only places inhabited by the seal in the Alaskan Territory.

Why the American seal should have selected these two remote islands for its home, and no others, is not positively known.

The seal is sui generis. It is a warm-blooded, highly organized animal, classified with bears, dogs, cats, and other carnivorous mammals.

Summer is the breeding season of the seal. The animals are then at their home on the islands. Here the mating takes place.

During the winter months the seals of the Pribiloff Islands, male and female, old and young, make an annual excursion into the North Pacific Ocean south of Behring sea.

In company with the well-grown bulls and cows come the younger animals, the product of the herd during the past six years. The males do not reach maturity un-

til six or seven years of age, and these males together with the yearling females take up their abode by themselves on what are known as the "hauling grounds," quite apart from the rookeries, or breeding-places.

For about four months the seal is nursed, receiving nothing but its mother's milk, which it takes once every two or three days, and remains wholly on the land.

Except the full grown bulls (which can go a long time without food) and the nursing young, all the seals feed in the sea during their residence on land.

The seal-rookeries on the Pribiloff Islands are the largest in the world. Here the business of breeding, raising, selecting the male seals for slaughter at the age and season when the fur is most valuable.

No females are allowed to be killed upon the islands. All are preserved for the increase of the herd, for it is upon them that the increase mainly depends.

The industry, as conducted by the government, is a source of great profit. Its successful prosecution requires large capital and great energy and skill.

Frank and Elmer Richmond and Jas. Ross have returned from a trip to Idaho. It seems as if the boys have enough of that country.

Quite a number of our church-going people attended church in

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F. E. GORMAN, Manager, - - - - - Athena, Oregon.

your city Sunday, there being no services here. Hereafter, Rev. W. W. Brannin will preach at this place on the first and third Sundays of each month.

The band boys are working hard now; practicing three times a week. Their object is to be one of the best bands in Eastern Oregon, and we believe they will succeed.

The tunnel in the Pendleton paint mine is in about 80 feet. Since the working of this find as a paint deposit, and when in about 70 feet, a peculiar formation of rock was found, such as is usually found in opal mines.

Notice for Publication.

LAND OFFICE AT LA GRANDE, ORE. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the County Clerk of Umatilla County, at Pendleton Oregon, on June 20th, 1893.

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