

# ALASKA.

Population, White, 4,303; Indian, 23,274; Other Races, 4,218. Total, 31,795.

TERRITORIAL CAPITAL, SITKA.

ALASKA is bounded north by the Arctic Ocean, east by the Northwest Territories of Canada, west and south by the Pacific Ocean, Behring's Sea and Strait, and numerous islands. It has a land area of about 577,000 square miles, its greatest length, from north to south, being 1100 miles and greatest breadth over 700 miles. The northern half is low with great swampy morasses along the streams, running back into low, rolling hills. Native Indians inhabit that section, living along the streams in small bands. The southern half is mountainous, and along the southwest coast are some of the highest mountain peaks on the American continent; Mount St. Elias, the highest, is estimated at 20,000 feet. The northwesterly section comprises the peninsula of Alaska and the Aleutian islands, the latter the seat of the valuable fur seal and sea otter fisheries. This district is mountainous and actively volcanic. The principal industry at present is mining, the country being seamed by the largest quartz veins in the world. The Alaska Mill and Mining Co. have erected a \$600,000 plant of 120 stamps, and chlorination works on Douglas Island, across the bay from Juneau, which have been running night and day for five years. Their ledge of solid quartz is 600 feet wide, and the ore averages about \$14 per ton. The company ships \$100,000 a month in gold bricks. Other mining companies are erecting works on the same island, and at Berner's Bay, fifty miles north of Juneau, and in the Basin near the city. In a few years the fisheries and forests of red and yellow cedar will yield large returns. The Seal Islands in Behring Sea pay an enormous yearly revenue to the government. The two principal cities are Sitka, the capital, with a population of 550, and Juneau, the metropolis and supply point with a population of 1,200. The western coast, from the southern boundary to Cape Spencer, is lined with a continuous chain of islands, many of them as large as the State of Maine. Between the islands and mainland are salt water channels, navigable for the largest sized steamships. In the interior is one of the largest rivers in the world, the Yukon, navigable for 2,000 miles, and 60 miles wide at the mouth. The climate along the coast is wet and warm, the thermometer in winter rarely going 5 degrees below zero. In the interior it is warm in summer, but cold in winter.

There are three papers published in Alaska.

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Alaska Mining Record	{ Mining }	Juneau	.....	Alaska Searchlight	..... Juneau
	{ & Local }				
Alaska News	.....	"	.....	Alaskan	..... Ind ... Sitka†
					450

CIRCULATION: † Publishers' reports. Roman figures—estimated. \* Sworn.  
 POPULATION: Census of 1890. \* Estimated. † County Seat.