

The hermetically sealed branch requires about 2,500, chiefly white persons, of the female sex—for the reason that the new process of steaming, renders the opening of the oyster so simple that children may do it.

The number of cans of 1, 2 and 3 pounds each, hermetically sealed daily during the active season is quite 75,000. Thus, nearly 8,000,000 of cans are required for the oysters; and during the fruits and vegetable season of summer, the daily average is about the same for a period equal to the oyster season of winter. So that some 15 to 16,000,000 of cans of oysters, fruits and vegetables are the product of this industrial pursuit, and these again require some 600,000 cases in which they are packed.

The manufacture of the cans gives employment to upwards of four hundred persons, and the value of the tin, solder, &c., used in the manufacture, is near a million of dollars.

The case-making requires some two hundred and forty to fifty carpenters constantly employed, and the cost of them is about \$250,000.

The average cost of the oysters for the year has been about 50 cts. per bushel. The value of the hermetically sealed oysters, fruits and vegetables is equal to \$3,500,000, and that of the fresh oyster branch more than half as much more, or a sum total in value of this trade upwards of \$5,250,000.

The number of vessels engaged taking oysters for the Baltimore market is more than 1000 of fifty tons each, and some 500 to 600 vessels of larger class are running them to market. These vessels, 1500 to 1600 in number, require an average of crews equal to four each, or some 6000 persons. Then during the summer and Autumn, or the fruit and vegetable season, as many more persons are engaged pickling, boxing and shipping them to market, by steamers and bay craft; and when all these oysters, fruits and vegetables reach our wharves there is a teeming hive of carters, carmen and draymen, who derive a living from the delivery of the same.

This trade has so rapidly grown to prodigious proportions within a few years, as to excite astonishment with those even who have had most experience in it. The chief points of shipment for these goods are to the West, far West, and North and Southwest, while the trade to California, once so large, has diminished down to more insignificance."

This by no means shows the full extent of the trade as the cities of the District, Philadelphia, New York and the Northern cities derive their chief supply from this section and the quantity does not appear in the Baltimore Price Current.

#### LIVE STOCK IN THE TIDE-WATER DIVISION.

All domestic animals from the horse to the hog flourish well here and attain the highest degree of perfection. What