

23. *Mr. Marchant.*] What is the size of the sea-elephant?—Oh, some of them are 25ft. long; they are pretty nearly as big as black fish, but they are very helpless; they can hardly move; it will take ten minutes for one of them to go a chain; they are easily destroyed.

24. How many men does this so-called industry give employment to?—About fourteen; if you include the men that sail the vessel to bring the oil to New Zealand it would be about twenty. The oil has to be refined; it is not fit for use when taken from the animal. I think there are about twenty men employed in connection with the business altogether. I am speaking of the Tasmanian islands. There has been no attempt as yet, so far as I know, to get oil from our islands.

MEMORANDUM by Captain FAIRCHILD.

The sea-leopards are very numerous on the Macquarie Islands, and there are a few to be found on the Auckland and Campbell Islands. Their only value would be their skin and oil. They are much smaller than the sea-lions, and would not be worth more than 10s. or 11s. each. They would very soon become extinct if they were treated as the sea-elephants have been treated on the Macquaries during the last ten years—by being boiled down for their oil.

[*Approximate Cost of Paper.*—Preparation, nil; printing (1,300 copies), £2 3s. 6d.]

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By Authority : GEORGE DIDSBURY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1890.