formerly immense, and were used very considerable
Besides the salmon, sturgeon is taken in the Colum-
bia, and a variety of other fish, though the two
former only are staples of food. In the straits of
Fuca, and part of the Sound, halibut is found,
and rock cod and several other species are a-
bundant every where. The true cod is sometimes
taken within the Sound, but mostly without
the headlands. Off the straits of Fuca about
fifteen miles, are banks upon which the Makahs
are in the habit of fishing for these and halibut.
What salmon are taken by these tribe are chiefly got
by trolling. Among the Clallams, and some others
the flesh of the dog-fish, is boiled, and when
dried, pounded to the consistency of flour.
Shell-fish in great variety exist in the bays, and
on the coast, and many of these are dried for
Winter stores. Seals are also occasionally captured
and regarded as a great luxury; but a yet greater
prize is the whale. The Makahs alone of all these
tribes venture to kill it in whaling style. The
Klallepuyallers take it by means of harpoons,
buoyed with seal skins, which they leave to mark
its course, until it dies; and the more southern
Indians content themselves with the animal
when it drifts ashore, dead, as occasionally
happens. The blubber is cut up, and preserves
by partially smoking, or the oil tried out and saved
in the paunches of animals. As the salmon