

total forty-three hands in the factory. Until the advent of Mr. John Cook no idea was entertained of the immense numbers of lobsters frequenting the shores of Grand Manan. It would seem almost incredible that such vast multitudes of them were in the waters around the island; but the "traps" settled the matter, and the rocks and ledges, the coves and inlets proved the harvest fields, from which was fished up by the trap-system those delicious greenbacks which, by a remarkable coincidence, average betimes 80 cents to the hundred lbs.—just about the value of a greenback dollar.

The lobster factory at Grand Harbour is yet in progress, and probably will not be discontinued until the supply is exhausted, which may not be in the present day and generation, nor for centuries. In one season the Grand Harbour factory received 625,559 lbs. of live lobsters, and canned from them 125,865 lbs.

The shells of the lobsters are carted away from the factory and spread over grass-ground, and prove very valuable as a top-dressing fertilizer. True, while subject to the decaying process, olfactorily considered, one would hardly feel strongly inclined to partake of the meat late encased in such a shell. Sometimes the shells are spread over the ground and ploughed in; either way, those shells are excellent for crops.

Grand Harbour has many of the means within itself to form a neat, pretty village, were the houses and other buildings more compact—for instance, its church, meeting house, schoolhouse, customs house, magistrate's office, stores and lobster factory. It lacks a blacksmith's shop, hotel, cordwainer's shop, &c., to fill up the village requirements. The schoolhouse is the best on the island. Its schoolrooms are on the ground floor, where they ought to be. As it is, however, Grand Harbour, as being located at nearly the central part of the island, must command a prominent position.

The customs office originated here during Sir John A. Macdonald's premiership; and while our present Lieut. Governor, Hon. S. L. Tilley, was Minister of Customs at Ottawa. The appointment of customs officer was offered to Isaac Newton, Esq., who thought fit to refuse it, and the present officer, Turner Wooster,