

or 500 bushels unfit either for exportation or manufacturing into malt liquors. He had newly-spread malt ready to place on the kiln, and he desired to obtain information to re-dry those 400 bushels so that he would be able to sell them, as they had only been partially damaged with having become damp. A permit was telegraphed for to the Collector of Customs, but he did not happen to be at home. In the meantime the malt was ready to be placed in the kiln, and the brewer and maltster went to the Excise officer and asked him to make a bonded warehouse of the kiln—they adjoined each other—and he, after great persuasion, agreed to do so, locked up the kiln, allowed the malt to be re-dried and placed in the bonded warehouse. By this means 400 bushels of malt were saved and duties were afterwards paid on them to the Government. Had that not been done this quantity of malt would have been destroyed, great loss would have occurred to the maltster, and a loss of revenue would have accrued to the Government. But that was not the end of the matter. The Excise officer was not allowed any discretion, and in consequence of the irregularity in not receiving a permit owing to the Collector being absent from home—it was never attempted to be shown there was the slightest possibility of any fraud being committed—he was suspended. This is only one of a number of instances daily occurring to those engaged in this business in Canada day after day; they have fifteen or twenty men remaining idle until the Excise officer chooses to come to his post. By a change in the regulations much labor, expense and annoyance will be saved to those engaged in the business, and I believe the Government will derive a very much larger revenue from that source than at present. There is not a brewer in Canada who will not be willing to have as large a penalty, as possible, imposed rather than be subject to the delay, loss and annoyance occurring under the present regulations. If it were thought proper by Parliament to make a change it would be found that we would derive a larger revenue and effect a great saving, not only to the large class of brewers, but also to those engaged in agriculture especially in exporting barley to foreign markets.

Mr. KRANTZ. I hardly endorse what has been said by the hon. member for Centre Wellington in respect to the duties on malt. I believe it would be a great advantage to the agriculturists of this country if they could malt barley, and such other grains as are not fitted to be malted for brewing purposes. In the Old World, in Germany, from which I come, I know that on large farms the malting of grain is carried on to a large extent for the purpose not only of fattening cattle, but also for producing milk wholesome, and there is no better food for producing a plentiful supply of milk than barley malt. Not only from the farmers' point of view is it advantageous that the duty should be removed from malt and placed on malt liquor, but it is in the interests of the manufacturers of malt liquors—in the interests of the brewers. The present mode of collecting the revenue from beer is most inconvenient and annoying to the manufacturer, and I believe a larger amount of revenue at less cost will be obtained by taking the duty off malt and placing it on malt liquor in the shape of stamp duty, as is done in the United States. The production of beer is very large in the United States, and the revenue derived therefrom is enormous, and the mode of collecting the revenue is quite applicable to Canada. I hope the Government will take the matter into consideration at their earliest convenience and seek to apply a better system of collecting duty than that which now prevails.

Motion agreed to.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION WITH THE COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.

Mr. CIMON, in moving for copies of all petitions and correspondence addressed to the Government concerning postal

communication on that part of the north shore of the St. Lawrence comprised in the county of Saguenay, said: In presenting this motion I wish, in a few words, to call the attention of the Government to the importance of the county of Saguenay, which is one of the two counties I represent. This county comprises the whole of the north shore of the St. Lawrence from the Saguenay to the eastern extremity of the Province of Quebec, at Blanc Sablon, or a length of 600 miles, including, moreover, the Island of Anticosti. The resident population of this coast and of the Island of Anticosti numbers 8,879 souls; to this must be added 3,000 to 4,000 souls more, who spend their time there in fishing when navigation is open, thus giving a population, a total population, of about 12,000 souls, or a larger population than the respective population of the counties of Chambly, Laprairie, Napierville, Soulanges, Vaudreuil, Three Rivers, and Laval. Now, Mr. Speaker, in order to give you an idea of the wealth of the fisheries of the county of Saguenay, I beg leave to refer you to a Blue-book entitled "A Statement of the Fisheries for the year 1880," which is an official Report of the Government, and which shows that they represent an annual value of \$1,467,435.50 for the year 1880, as per following details:—

77½ brls. pickled salmon at \$12.00.....	\$	9,270 00
148,155 lbs. fresh salmon, packed in ice, at 10c		14,815 50
275,125 cwt. codfish (summer fishing) at \$4 00		1,100,580 00
14,589 cwt. codfish (autumn fishing) at \$4 00		58,356 00
193 brs. flounders at \$6 00		1,158 00
146 brs. haddock at \$6.00		876 00
5,493 brs. herring at \$5.00		27,465 00
516 brs. mackerel at \$5.00		2,730 00
58 brs. trout at \$3 00		464 00
10 brs. sardines at \$3.00		30 00
10½ brs. cod tongues and sounds at \$9.00		94 50
13 brs. eels at \$7.00		91 00
26,198 sealskins at \$1.00		26,198 00
111,216 galls. seal oil at 50c		55,608 00
5,460 galls. whale oil at 40c		2,160 00
166 galls. porpoise oil at 50c		83 00
237,269 cod liver oil.....		118,634 50
11,000 lbs. of lobster		1,650 00
4,401 lbs. fish for local consumption at \$4		17,604 00
29,568 brs. fish used for manure and bait		29,568 00
Total for 1880	\$1,467,435 50	

The total annual value of the fisheries of that division of the Gulf comprising the counties of Saguenay, Gaspé and Bonaventure, is \$2,357,220.20; and since the county of Saguenay is represented in that amount by \$1,467,435.50, it must be conceded that its fisheries are more extensive and more important than those of the whole of Gaspesia, including the Magdalen Islands. But more remains to be told. The county has engaged in the fisheries: 67 vessels, representing a tonnage of 2,235 tons, a value of \$64,220, and employing 315 hands; 1,067 fishing vessels, valued at \$41,457; 694 flat-bottomed boats, valued at \$9,068; 2,174 fishermen and 1,098 shoremen; 381 salmon nets, representing 33,393 yards of netting, and valued at \$14,365; 29 cod seines, representing 4,980 yards of netting, and valued at \$5,798; 24 herring seines, representing 13,385 yards of netting, and valued at \$6,988. I must add that the Government derives annually, from the letting of various rivers in the county of Saguenay, the sum of \$5,561, and from salmon-fishing licenses a further sum of \$636. So much for the fisheries. A large lumber business is also done on that part of the north shore, which is estimated annually at at least \$1,000,000. Well, notwithstanding the importance of the county of Saguenay, what has the various Governments done for it in the matter of public improvements? I dare not say, so little has it been. I must, nevertheless, congratulate the hon. Minister of Public Works for causing a telegraph line to be constructed on that