

than 20 fathoms, comprised within a diameter of about 1,100 yards, form the Main Ledge.

South shoal with 4½ fathoms, the least water, is situated south 1½ miles from Main Ledge, and occupies a space 200 yards long in a north and south direction, with a breadth of 700 yards, the depths being under 20 fathoms. This shoal is reported by the fishermen to break heavier, and to be more dangerous than the Main Ledge. Main Ledge and South Shoal are the only dangers in ordinary weather, but several other parts on these shoals are reported to break in heavy gales; the foul ground, combined with the tidal stream, causing a confused sea even in strong breezes.

Eastern Shoals.—The least water found on these shoals was 7 fathoms, about ½ mile south of the Nine-fathom Bank which lies near the center of a group of shoal patches extending about 3½ miles in a north and south direction, with a breadth of 2 miles, having depths on them of 13 to 25 fathoms. The Nine-fathom Bank is in latitude 46° 26' 45" N., longitude 50° 28' 6" W.

Eastern Shoals are the easternmost known to the fishermen; those with 13 fathoms or less over them are reported to break in heavy weather; with a strong breeze there is a confused sea in the locality.

In the immediate neighborhood of the Virgin and Eastern Rocks the tidal stream attains a velocity of three-quarters of a knot an hour, but a few miles from them it is scarcely perceptible; during the period of examination a slight southerly set was experienced.

Green Bank, on which the least depth of water is 30 fathoms, stony bottom, is in reality the western extremity of the Great Bank, being only partially separated from it by a gully of deep water, in about longitude 54° W., having over 60 fathoms mud in it. Its western limit is in longitude 55° W., and its southern margin in latitude 44° 50' N., and the peculiarity of its western limit nearly coinciding with the meridian of 55° W. makes it of service in verifying the longitude. The deep gully between it and Bank St. Pierre is 14 miles wide, with 70 to 90 fathoms mud.

A 5-fathoms patch in latitude 45° 46' N., longitude 54° 20' W., was reported on Green Bank in 1881.

Bank St. Pierre has its eastern limit nearly on the meridian of 55° 20' W., and attains its southern boundary in latitude 45° N., longitude 56° W. The bank then trends about NW. for about 140 miles to its western margin, in latitude 46° 55' N., longitude 57° 30' W.

The soundings on this bank vary from 20 to 45 fathoms, the ordinary bottom being sand and broken shells.

Nova Scotia Banks.—Although our acquaintance with the nature and extent of the principal banks which mark the approaches to Nova Scotia can not yet be deemed perfect, our knowledge of their limits and depth of water has been greatly increased during late years. Much useful information respecting the outer banks was derived by the French