

sub-quadrate, anterior rays highest, the body covered by scales so deciduous that one fancies they owe their adherence to life; color of upper third, dark blue, with faint reflections; lower two-thirds, silvery white, a decided line of demarkation between the colors; opercles, with a yellowish tinge and violet reflections; lower lip longer than upper, both dusky black, a few dark spots of blue along the sides; belly sharp, carinated rather than serrated, sharper in the young, showing very plain in the spawn-bearing female,—irides silvery,—size, 10 to 16 inches—teeth, constant on tongue and vomer; wanting, more or less, on jaws. Fin rays, P. 16, V. 8, D. 18. Though these differ in some individuals."

Those taken on the Banks, ten miles seaward, are larger, go in separate runs, are fished for with larger meshes, and are sold as distinct fish in market from the shore herring.

During winter small specimens are frequently taken from the cods' stomach caught upon the Banks, and there can be no doubt they might be obtained if looked for during this season in any of our land-locked bays, carrying 50 or 60 fathoms, as they are at Cape Breton and Fortune Bay, Nfld. They approach the Nova Scotia shore early in March, at first very stragglingly and very lean; I have myself seen spawn fish in May. The fishermen tell me they find them at all seasons. As the summer advances they become fat. During the latter part of August they are in their prime, and are preparing to spawn—which operation takes place in September and October.

The warm, sandy coves, and still land-locked bays, about Sambro, Eastern Passage, Shelburne and Prospect, are favorite resorts, in from 5 to 10 fathoms. Here the fish may be seen lying upon the bottom in thousands. They may be measured by the acre. The sea is white and turbid with the spawn, and ropes, in passing through it, become as large as small hawsers. The cod and his varieties approach to feed upon it, whilst quantities are cast upon the beaches by the sea.

Before the long cold nights and stormy seas of November arrive, the herring have left the surface to reappear the following spring. In New Brunswick, according to PERLEY, the great spawning ground is Southern Head, Grand Manan. Here the herring commence in July and end in October. Along the Bay of Fundy a run of large, thin, spawn-bearing herring appear about the middle of May. About the last of June a separate run of small barren herring appear in Digby basin from the Bay of Fundy. These are fat, and about 1 in 12 have spawn, and in August immense numbers of fry appear on the shoal bars of the Basin, doubtless the spawn deposited in early spring. PERLEY reports that spawn is found in the Bay of Fundy in June.

Thus we arrive at a very curious fact, that our herring, though of the