

This deep Bay with its expansive arms seems formed by the hand of nature for a very important purpose.

The great shoals of herring which team around the Labrador coast in the autumn months, as is well known, seem by a disposition of a wise providence, to take up their winter quarters in these deep, but undisturbed waters. And hence a specimen of fishery is carried on here unknown, I believe, in any other part of the world.

FISHING THROUGH THE ICE.

When the winter sets in and this Bay freezes over, which is generally in the month of January, the fishermen set to work for the winter fishing.

Thus they proceed : several holes about two feet square are cut in the ice in a straight line ; a pole some twenty feet in length is attached to the end of the head line of the net. The pole thus fastened is sunk into the first hole and directed towards the next, from which it is set again in the direction of a third, and so on till the last hole is reached. This corresponds to the length of the net. One end of the rope is fastened at the last hole, the other remaining fastened at the first. Between these the net is suspended and sunk to whatever distance, in the immense depth the fish is supposed to be at, and left so one night. The next day the net is drawn up through one of the apertures. This is a sight worth seeing.

Sometimes the net is as stout as a tierce with the quantity of fish taken in this way. The poor fish are shaken out of the net and left to prance and jerk on the cold ice while they are being gathered into barrels or boxes on sleds by which they are being gathered into the stores, and salted off in all manner of ways.