

March 19th.—No clear water to be seen; a great quantity of ice in the Straits.

March 26th.—Clear water from Cape Norman to about seven miles east of Cape Bauld.

March 28th.—Six steamers in sight to south east, seal hunting.

March 30.—A large quantity of ice to east and south east; nine steamers amongst it, making very little way through.

March 31st to April 7th.—Strong gale of E.N.E. wind; all the ice drove up the Straits; very heavy sea from east; all the ice batture around the Island washed away.

April 15th.—Some ice out between here and north shore; heavy sea amongst it.

April 18th.—Steamship "Lion" and "Walrus" in the Straits seal hunting.

April 19th.—Steamers "Falcon," "Arctic," "Ranger" and "Commodore," second trip. Captain Jackman reports eleven of the steamers jammed in the ice to the south since the 31st March; also that the steamer "Miacmac," late "City of Halifax," formerly of the Inman Line, had been stove in by the ice and lost; amount of seals on board, 1,100. Captain Jackman has furnished me with the following amount of seals taken to date:

Steamers:—"Falcon," 21,900; "Walrus," 6,700; "Bear," 14,000; "Iceland," 13,000; "Eagle," 15,000; "Ranger," 12,000; "Commodore," 12,000; "*Kite," 8,000; "*Neptune," 7,500; "*Merlin," 5,000; "*Wolf," 16,000; "*Vanguard," 1,000; "*Mastiff," 8,000; "*Proteus," 1,900.

Dundee steamers:—"Arctic," 33,000; "*Nanwhan," 800; "*Esquimault," 1,900.

Sailing vessels:—"Mr. Donnelly," 2,200; "Ariel," 2,500; "Peerless," 2,400; "Rosina," 2,000; "Gem," 1,700; and steamers "Leopard" and "Tiger" from the Gulf with full loads; and it is reported that 100,000 seals have been landed by the inhabitants of Green Bay.

April 19th to 21st.—Very little ice in the Straits, a good deal to east; several steamers and two sailing vessels in the Straits; steamship "Proteus" and "Mastiff," 2nd trip. Captains landed to get information of the ice and seals; those two steamers were blocked for three weeks, in company with the steamers marked thus * in the Report. Captain Wilcox reports the loss of the "Miacmac," and a great many sailing vessels, in the gale which occurred during the first week of the present month; ice scattered through the Straits.

May 16th.—A good deal of ice to east, outer edge of ice, about 16 miles to east; very little ice to west.

May 19th.—Steamship "Proteus" bound south; scattered ice to east.

May 21st.—Straits clear of ice; 56 icebergs; one French brig going into Quirpon.

May 24th.—One brig and one schooner to south.

June 21st.—One Newfoundland steamship bound west.

June 7th, 1.30 p.m.—Heard a gun and whistle; strong breeze, rain, thick fog; answered by firing two guns in succession; received answer, three blasts of whistle and gun; supposed to be mail steamer inwards.

June 8th, 4 p.m.—One bark outwards; 6 p.m., one barkentine-rigged steamer, black funnel, with white belt, inward bound.

(Signed) MICHAEL COLTON,
Belle Isle Lighthouse.