

a fortnight. I know that the mackerel fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is a thorough and complete failure this year, and cannot help being a great loss to American owners and fishermen, in having their vessels go there at all. I think the mackerel went out of the Bay, for the reason that there was nothing in the water for them to eat. I consider that the large amount of bait formerly thrown by the American fleet, when fishing with hooks, had a great effect in keeping the mackerel in the Bay. Since the vessels have ceased to go there in large numbers, this bait has not been there to keep them in. Each American vessel used to throw, on an average, 90 barrels of bait in a season, costing from 4 to 6 dollars per barrel.

My present trip from the Gulf of St. Lawrence packed out 90 barrels of mackerel, mostly No. 2s, a few No. 1s and No. 3s.

The time consumed from the date of fitting, to final settlement, will be just two months.

My vessel is a new, first-class vessel, rating 90 tons, new measurement. I had a seine boat and seine, partly used, worth 750 dollars.

My vessel's charter is worth \$300 per Month, for 2 months	\$ 600 00
The use of seine and boat for 2 months,	150 00
Sixteen Men's Wages, at \$30 per Month, for 2 Months,	960 00
Captain's Wages at \$75 per Month,	150 00
Outfits, including Provisions, Bait, Salt Barrels, &c.,	500 00
Packing and Inspection,	70 00
Insurance,	100 00
	<hr/>
Total Cost,	\$2,530 00

RECEIPTS.

Ninety Barrels of Mackerel, at \$12,	\$1,080 00
	<hr/>
Actual Loss,	\$1,450 00

In 1875, I was in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and cruised all over it, and found no mackerel at all. I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence for the last 20 years, every year, except 1873, 1874, 1876. I did not go there last year, as all the reports showed that there was no mackerel there.

In all my experience in taking mackerel in the Gulf, not more than one-fourth are taken within three miles of the shore. I have taken whole entire trips with not a single mackerel of them taken within five miles of the shore.

I have seined off the American shore parts of five years. I have stocked in a single season, seining mackerel there alone, reckoning no other fish, seven thousand six hundred dollars in a season.

The best stock I ever made in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery in one whole season, was six thousand seven hundred dollars. These figures are taken from my books, and are correct. My poorest stock in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery was in 1875, when I tried all over the Gulf, and could not raise a mackerel. Of course, I stocked nothing.

During the past 10 years, the American shore mackerel have been greatly superior to the Bay mackerel of the same brand in texture, quality, and price.

On the American shore, we take mackerel sometimes close in, and they are sometimes taken on Georges Banks 100 miles off.

I have been some trips to the Western Banks for cod-fish, and we bought our fresh bait of the shore people of the Dominion of Canada, always paying cash for it.

The people make more than double the profit selling herring to the American fishermen, than in any other manner that they can dispose of them. I have caught a whole trip on the Banks, entirely by the use of salt bait, carried from the United States.

Fish offal, when thrown overboard in very shoal water, has a tendency to keep fish away until the water clears; but in deep water, there is no perceptible effect on the fish. I never knew of the shore boats being interfered with, or injured by the vessels. The American schooners are very particular not to trouble the boats; and it is a universal fact that the schooners never can get any mackerel on the grounds inshore, in shoal water, where the boats usually fish. I never took 10 barrels of mackerel on the boat's fishing grounds in all my fishing in the Bay.

I have "hove to" this year near where the boats were fishing and getting some mackerel, and we could not catch a mackerel. In most of the places where the boats fish, my vessel could not go in, as they fish in from two to four fathoms of water, and my vessel draws 12 feet of water; and this fact applies to most of the American schooners.

I have been to Grand Manan for herring, to carry to Gloucester, to bait Georges men, and paid from 65 cents to one dollar per hundred for fresh herring, and the same herring for any other purpose or market was not worth to the people who took them 25 cents a hundred to salt. The shore people always catch the herring.

I have had but one trip of mackerel sent home from the Bay by trans-shipment, and that trip cost just one dollar per barrel to get them to Gloucester by a sailing vessel. This was in 1861.

I have been master of the following schooners:—The *Morning Light*, *Pescador*, *Ida Thurlow*, *Benj. Haskell*, *George S. Low*, *Seth Stockbridge*.

CAPT. JAMES L. ANDERSON.