

on till the approach of night, or the sudden disappearance of the remnant of the "schull" puts an end to it. The fish are then dressed, and thrown into casks of water to rid them of blood. To ensure sound and sweet Mackerel, it is indispensable that the blood and impurities should be thoroughly removed before salting; that the salt should be of the best quality, free from lime, or other injurious substances; and that the barrels should, in all cases, be tight enough to retain the pickle.

In those Harbours of Nova Scotia which are within the Strait of Canso, Mackerel of late years, have been taken in seines, capable of enclosing and securing 800 barrels; and in these seines, 400 and even 600 barrels have been taken at a single sweep. The "drift-net" is also used; but as it is believed that this mode of fishing is not so well understood on the coast of Nova Scotia, as on that of England, the manner of fishing near the latter, with the "drift net," as described by Mr. Yarrel, is given in preference:—

"The most common mode of fishing for Mackerel, and the way in which the greatest numbers are taken, is by drift-nets. The drift-net is 20 feet deep, by 120 feet long; well corked at the top, but without lead at the bottom. They are made of small fine twine, which is tanned of a reddish-brown colour, to preserve it from the action of the salt water, and it is thereby rendered much more durable. The size of the mesh is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or rather larger. Twelve, fifteen, and sometimes eighteen of these nets are attached lengthways, by tying along a thick rope, called the drift-rope, and the ends of each net, to each other. When arranged for depositing in the sea, a large buoy attached to the end of the drift-rope is thrown overboard, the vessel is put before the wind, and as she sails along, the rope with the nets thus attached, is passed over the stern into the water, till the whole of the nets are thus thrown out. The nets thus deposited, hang suspended in the water perpendicularly, 20 feet deep from the drift-rope, and extending from three quarters of a mile to a mile, or even a mile and a half, depending on the number of nets belonging to the party, or company engaged in fishing together. When the whole of the nets are thus handed out, the drift-rope is shifted from the stern to the bow of the vessel, and she rides by it as at anchor. The benefit gained by the boats hanging at the end of the drift-rope is, that the net is kept strained in a straight line, which, without this pull upon it would not be the case. The nets are "shot" in the evening, and sometimes hauled once during the night, at others allowed to re-