

traders in caplin are done up this season, the price given by the French not paying for the harbour. Mr. Pitman, the oldest fisherman here (85 years of age), told me that for the last sixteen years, he had not seen so late and severe a season; that hardly any fish had been taken, and now that the caplin were so plentiful that the cod would not catch; several fishermen along the coast told me the same; there were about 50 small schooners lying in the bay, and 32 punts fishing outside; several others were hauled up on the beach, as, in consequence of the stormy weather, two men had been employed in each punt instead of one as usual. The inhabitants here are much mixed with the French, and carry on a trade with them in fish and meat; there are about 350 head of cattle here, and a population of about 450. The fish which are not bartered to the French are sent in the schooners to the houses of Newman & Co. and Nicolle, in Fortune Bay.

The anchorage at Lamelin is very bad, and is open from S.W. by S.E., with a shingly bottom. I consider it to be a very unsafe anchorage; a heavy swell must always set in, and as the barometer was falling, I weighed and proceeded to Great Lawn, where I anchored in the afternoon.

This settlement appears to be one only used for the summer fishing, as the people leave it in the winter. The chief resident here belongs to the house of Nicolle, of Jersey, and all fish here which is not bartered to the French, are sent to the two firms in Fortune Bay. Punts are used here for fishing which is carried on at the entrance of the Bay. The French carry on a traffic here with the fishermen, who openly acknowledge, that without the French they could not subsist; there is a mutual understanding between them; and I found that good brandy was sold in one of the miserable huts for 1s. per bottle. There are few cattle here, and I only observed three small gardens.

There is a Roman Catholic chapel here, but no priest; I was informed by the fishermen that they contributed in kind one pound a-year to the priest who lived at St. Lawrence, and came here when sent for. The fishermen here also complain of the scarcity of the fish, and the old caplin-traders of the quantity of caplin on the coast of St. Pierre and Miquelon having quite ruined their trade for this season. There is a tolerable watering-place at the head of this bay. I sailed from this on 30th and proceeded off St. Pierre and Lamelin, and spoke to several fishermen, who all complained that the cod would not take in consequence of the abundance of the caplin. In the evening I made sail for Placentia Bay, and anchored in Burin in the evening of 1st July. The fish cured at this place are chiefly caught off Cape St. Mary, and are of a much larger and finer description than any I have seen elsewhere; there has been a plentiful supply this season, which has not been the case on any other part of the coast to the westward. The fishing is carried on in schooners of 25 to 40 tons, who bring their fish from Cape St. Mary to be cured. The fishermen expect upwards of 40,000 quintals of cod this year; the salmon-fishing was just commencing, very few had yet been taken; herrings, about 4000 barrels, had been exported this season to Halifax and Boston. Punts are also used here for fishing among the islands by the old men and men and boys, who were also employed doing the drying work of the fish, in the absence of the schooners. The stipendiary magistrate here informed me that he was not aware of any traffic in fish or otherwise being carried on with the French. There are three churches here—Episcopalian, Wesleyan, and Roman; all near each other. The population immediately in the neighbourhood exceeds 2000, and in the district of Burin above 4000; the three places of worship are about equally attended. There is more land cultivated here in gardens than I have seen in other places, and a great deal of natural grass on the hills; and there appears to be about 200 head of cattle in the neighbourhood. The people here seem to be a more industrious and respectable race, and chiefly descended from Devonshire and Somersetshire. I was detained here by fogs until 4th July, when I sailed for St. John's; and when off Cape St. Mary, I observed around St. Mary's Cays and off the Cape 72 schooners fishing; and during the day passed several going to Burin with their fish. I anchored at St. John's on 7th July, and found his Excellency the Governor about to embark for England in a merchant-brig; he sailed the same evening. Owing to a request from his Excellency, and afterwards by the Administrator, I felt it my duty to comply with their wishes, and received Mr. Pinsent and secretary for conveyance to St. George's Bay on the south-west side of the island. I left St. John's on 16th, and arrived in St. George's Bay on 22nd, and anchored off Sandy Point on 23rd. From all I could learn of this settlement, it appears that in 1828 there were 17 families of English extraction, and 2 families from Cape Breton; at the three Barrachois on the south side of the bay, there were about 6 families in each, and on Indian Head 7 families.

In 1841, the population had increased on Sandy Point to 167 Protestants, and 84 at the Barrachois; the Roman Catholics in the Bay about half that number. They are a breed of French Canadians and Cape Breton people, and are all called Jack-o'-tars. In August 1851, during my stay there, and from the best information I could obtain, the population at Sandy Point had increased to 267 Protestants, 108 at the Barrachois, and 8 at Indian Head, making a total of 383, while the Romans have increased to 460. The Protestants on Sandy Point are chiefly the descendants of the first inhabitants of the settlement, and possess what little property there is in the place; they subsist by the herring and salmon fisheries, every man fishing for himself, and after the herring-fishery ceases in June, they carry their own fish to Halifax Market, and return with supplies for the winter. Taxes and duties having been unknown in the place until the arrival of a stipendiary magistrate in June 1850. From the state of the society here, there is no account of the quantity of herrings caught in this Bay; several French vessels fish the