

I found only five Jersey vessels there, taking in cargoes of dried codfish for the Brian and Mediterranean markets.

There had not been any autumn cod fishing at Blanc Sablon, nor at any place between that and Mingan; and, to make matters worse, the herring, which generally visits this part of our coast in the autumn, had not yet made its appearance, and the season was so far advanced that the failure of that fishing also could be foreseen. And in fact it did fail, so that our fishermen, deprived of these resources would have found themselves in a very critical position and very much at a loss how to get through the hard months of the approaching winter, if it had not been that, fortunately, the salmon fishing was better than usual this year. But for this, many families, not being able to obtain credit from the traders to whom they were already in debt, would have been compelled to leave the coast and seek for the means of subsistence elsewhere.

I have since learned, with pleasure, that the Government had been so good as to send some provisions to the inhabitants of that coast last autumn. It is to be hoped that those provisions arrived there in time, and that the vessel sent with them was more fortunate than the one chartered for the same purpose in 1866, and delivered the provisions in good order and at the appointed places.

There had been a shipwreck in Bradore Bay; the vessel had been lost, but the crew had saved themselves, and the greater part of the cargo had been brought ashore.

During our stay at Blanc Sablon, I visited Wood Island, Little Harbour, Long Point, Sandy Bay and Bradore Bay. Order reigned in all those places.

On the 22nd we set sail, and that night I was at *Bonne Espérance*, which, as well as Salmon Bay, I visited. Not a single barrel of herring had been salted at the posts between Bradore Bay and *Bonne Espérance*, and the cod-fishing had been very bad; the salmon fishing alone had been favorable for the people at these places.

On the 23rd I left *Bonne Espérance*, and that night I was at St. Augustine, where we had the good fortune to be able to anchor before the close of day; and very good fortune it was, for in the night the wind began to blow from the north-west, we had a storm which lasted two days and two nights.

There I met Mr. Kennedy, the Fishery Overseer, who informed me that the salmon fishing had been much better than usual, and that there had not been any contravention of the Fisheries Act in his division.

On the 26th, in the morning, we set sail for St. Augustine with a north-east wind, and that day I visited the Whale's Head at Pacachoo, *La Tabatière*, Red Bay, and the Whale's Head at Mecattina.

At *La Tabatière* and at the Whale's Head at Mecattina, the cod fishing had been pretty good, but the fishermen were afraid they would not be able to obtain flour and clothing in exchange for their fish, for they knew the Nova Scotia traders would not come there (none of them daring to infringe the Customs Acts this year), and they knew also that Canadian traders did not much like to receive small cod-fish for their flour. They did not, therefore, very well know what to do; and after all, they seemed to be but little better off than their brethren who had not taken any cod.

In the evening of the same day we left Whale's Head at Mecattina, and sailed, with a good wind, for Natashquan, where I was to take on board the Fishery Overseers of Natashquan and Watsheeshoo, where we anchored on the 27th, in the evening.

The Fishery Overseer at Natashquan having informed me that a certain person whom he had fined for a contravention of the Fisheries Act, had not chosen to pay the fine, I caused the person to be arrested, and he paid the fine at once.

The cod fishing at Natashquan had not been very good, nor yet very bad, and the same remark will apply to Kégasca.

Schooners from these two places had returned from cod-fishing, bringing but few fish; the most successful of them having 250 hundred weight.

That Fishery Overseers for Natashquan and Watsheeshoo, reported to me that no Indians had speared fish in their divisions and that the rivers were full of salmon at the spawning season.

On the 29th, in the morning, the wind being south-east, we sailed from Natashquan for Esquimaux Point, which I visited the next morning; and in the afternoon we anchor-