

APPENDIX C.

TO THE CONFIDENTIAL PROSPECTUS OF THE ANTICOSTI COMPANY

EXTRACTS from the Annual Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries for year ending 30th June, 1870, by the Hon. P. Mitchell, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, dated at Ottawa, 31st December, 1870 :

Vide page 69.

"VALUE OF FISH PRODUCTS."

"The annual increase of yield and enhanced value of the produce from our Fisheries shew how rapid and extensive has been their development. Without reckoning at all the catch of Foreigners, the actual value for exportation of the produce of our waters in the Confederate Provinces now exceeds seven millions of dollars (\$7,000,000), nearly doubling in ten years."

"The labour and capital engaged in them have correspondingly increased. A few years more of efficient protection to the inshore and inland Fisheries of Canada, as well from domestic injury as against intrusion by foreigners, will, doubtless, favour the further development of this valuable resource."

Vide pages 69 and 70.

"EXTENT & INTRINSIC VALUE OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN FISHERIES."

"There is no country in the world possessing finer Fisheries than British North America. As a national possession they are inexhaustible, and as a field for industry and enterprise they are inexhaustible. Besides their general importance to the country as a source of maritime wealth and commerce, they also possess a special value to the inhabitants. The great variety and superior quality of the fish products of the sea and inland waters of these Colonies afford a nutritious and economic food admirably adapted to the domestic wants of their mixed and laborious population. They are also in other respects specially valuable to such of our people as are engaged in maritime pursuits either as a distinct industry or combined with agriculture. The principal localities in which fishing is carried on do not usually present conditions favourable to husbandry. They are limited in extent and fertility, and are subject to certain climatic disadvantages. The prolific nature of the adjacent waters and the convenience of the undisturbed use are a necessary compensation for defects of soil and climate. On such ground alone, the sea and inland Fisheries, to which British subjects have claims on this Continent, are of peculiar value, and as regards particular sections of the country, the benefits of sole privilege of fishing are, practically speaking, an almost vital necessity."

"Whether therefore, we regard them as being abundant and important for domestic subsistence, or in their much larger import as a valuable resource, capable of ever increasing development and limitless reproduction, employing an amount of capital reckoned by many millions of dollars, and engaging the labours of hundreds of thousands of persons; encouraging maritime pursuits; fostering the commercial marine; promoting foreign trade; keeping always and productively in active training an independent, spirited class of sea-faring men,—the teeming waters around the coasts of the British North American possessions and those which form the great lakes and magnificent rivers, present to our view a national property richer and more perpetual than any mere mined estimation could express."

"It is in the highest degree gratifying to find that British subjects are becoming every year more and more alive to their vast importance, and