

well as halibut and the small herrings, which, when smoked, are known as "Digby chickens." There are lobsters in various parts of the basin, clams on the flats, large scallops on Briar island bar, shrimps in the Gut, and porpoises are shot. But besides the shore and bank fisheries our fishermen have a wider field open to them. There is probably no part of the world in which such extensive and valuable fisheries are found as in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where herring, cod and mackerel abound. The cod fishery in the Gulf commences early in June and ends late in November, the principal cod grounds being the north shore of P.E.I., Bay Chaleur, Gaspé, Magdalen Islands, the eastern end of Anticosti and the north shore of the Gulf. On the Labrador coast cod abound. The cod fishery on the western coast of Newfoundland is almost wholly in the hands of the French fishermen. Spring herrings, thin and poor, appear in the Gulf at the end of April or beginning of May, and the fishing continues till 10th June, when they retire to deep water after depositing spawn. Fall herrings, fat for export, appear about 20th August, and remain inshore for a month. At Pleasant Bay, in spawning time, the shore is covered with ova two feet deep for several miles. Mackerel abound in the Gulf, and are the chief object of the American fishing fleets which we have seen whitening the ocean with their sails off the Cape Breton coast. This fish seldom appears in Labrador and never on the Newfoundland coast. Mackerel schooners are from 60 to 100 tons burthen, with great breadth of beam, and carry large cotton sails which enable them to sail fast even with a slight breeze. Like the herring, the mackerel comes inshore to spawn, arriving at end of May or beginning of June. At Magdalen Islands it disappears about 15th June. About end of July it appears again, and in August, September and October is plentiful. Of late years large quantities of mackerel have been taken in Sydney harbour, and they have likewise abounded in Bedford Basin. When the country around the Gulf of St. Lawrence was first settled, the quantities of salmon in the rivers were "perfectly prodigious." Owing to obstructions in the rivers the supply soon fell off and continued to diminish from year to year, and if the Fisheries Protection Society does not display more activity the Institute of Natural Science will soon be digging up kitchen middens to determine whether the salmon ever did exist in Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia has no extensive salmon fisheries in the Gulf; they are chiefly on the Atlantic coast. Lobsters are found everywhere on the Nova Scotian coast, and in the Bay of Chaleur in such extraordinary numbers that they are used by thousands to manure the land. In some places each potato

hill is fed with two or three lobsters. The Nova Scotia lobster fishery is chiefly on the Atlantic coast; one establishment put up and exported 150,000 tins in one season. Oysters are found plentifully along the New Brunswick coast. Ice will not form over an oyster bed unless the cold be very intense indeed; and when the bays are frozen over in winter, the oyster beds are easily discovered by the water above them remaining unfrozen. The oysters are lifted upon the strong ice with rakes, the freezing opens the shell, the oyster is removed, and the shell allowed to fall back into the water, where it tends to destroy the fishery. Clams are gathered in great quantities in the Gulf, crabs are abundant but not often caught, and at times the waters of the Straits of Northumberland appear as if thickened with masses of shrimps; the more is the pity since nobody is enterprising enough to catch them. The best methods of catching and curing the various fishes are fully described and much else besides, which we have not room to enter upon in our limited space. We have read the pamphlet with much interest, and the facts are brought together in a convenient form for reference. We do not desire to enter upon any discussion at the present time of the relative merits of agriculture and the fisheries. In this, as in all other countries, the fishermen's best and truest friends will be found in the front rank of those who are seeking the development of the countries resources and the improvement of its people, by promoting agriculture, education, mining, manufactures and commerce, as well as the fisheries, everything that tends to enrich and elevate a people. Let not then the left hand quarrel with the right and say I have no need of thee. Let the fisheries be encouraged upon their own merits and not brought into antagonism with agriculture, or mining, or anything else. The great encouragement to fishing must ever be the handsome emoluments which it yields; but, if wise counsels prevail, much may be done in stocking our fisheries and stopping malpractices; a judicious imitation of the piscicultural work going on in other countries would serve to bring the salmon to every man's door, as in days of yore, and greatly increase the profits of our fishermen. *E mari merces.*

Phrenological Journal, Fowler & Wells, 389 Broadway, New York. February. Contains portraits of the Princess Dagnar of Denmark, the Czarvitch of Russia, also of Capt. Ward and Jacob M. Howard, two "representative" men of the West.

Canadian Farmer, G. Brown, Toronto, C.W. January 15th and February 1st. This number contains an excellent plan of a farm, calculated, we think, to be more suggestive and suitable to Nova Scotian than to Canadian farmers. The recom-

mendation to breed pure poultry, and not mongrels, is very much to the point.

The Abstainer, P. Monaghan, Halifax. The weekly numbers of this paper usually contain one or two useful agricultural articles.

Colonial Farmer, Fredericton, N. B. *Edinburgh Botanical Society's Proceedings* in the *Edinburgh Farmer*. From Prof. Balfour.

Bi-monthly Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Washington. From S. Selden, Esq.

Catalogue of Seeds, from Messrs. Haage, Erfurt, Prussia.

SMALL TALK—FLYING STRAWS.

The President of the Board of Agriculture has presented to the Nova Scotia Commissioners for the Paris Exhibition, a few neatly bound volumes of the *N. S. Journal of Agriculture*.—Dishonest countrymen are in the habit of bringing farrow cows into the city and selling them as Fresh Milch Cows; we see by the papers that a squire was brought before the court lately and mulcted in \$20 damages and costs, for selling a cow to a milk woman under fraudulent representations. The next General Exhibition of the Fruit Growers' Association is to come off at Somerset in October.—In San Francisco 7.76 inches of rain fell during one day, 20th Decr. last, drowning cattle, sheep, horses and swine by thousands.—There is plenty of work for the Game and Fisheries Protection Society in Nova Scotia.—Geese fatten in 14 days if shut up, a few together, in a darkened room, and fed with oats thrown in a pan of water, 1 lb. of oats daily to each goose.—The Provincial Agricultural Exhibition of New Brunswick is to be held this season in St. John; it will be the first fair of the kind that has been held there, and is expected to be the "largest and most important" ever seen in the province. We hope some of our Nova Scotian farmers will visit the Exhibition and shew our new allies what kind of stock we can raise; if they have any open prizes our blue-noses might make a successful raid over the border.—Sleighting parties have been riding roughshod over countrymen at every turn Up The Road; what with teams, tandems, wild teams, fours, sixes and eights in hand, the Bedford drive has become a terror to quiet teamsters, and dangerous to every rider, horse and vehicle on the road; if such things are to continue, we would suggest that the road be widened and straightened, the grades improved, and the side banks better protected.—Steam cultivation is extending very rapidly throughout Britain; the steam-plough goes several feet down, and enormous crops are obtained with little manure.—Another fox has been shot at Lucyfield,