

North Sydney to St. Pierre and the small ports on the south shore of Newfoundland; whilst the *Pro Patria* goes from St. Pierre to Cape Breton ports and Halifax, and on every second trip to Boston. The agent at Boston is Mr. Bailly-Blanchard, a Louisiana Frenchman, who is also New England agent of the French line of Atlantic steamers. Neither the *Pro Patria* nor the *St. Pierre* has any connection with the smugglers. The Boston trade done by the former is controlled to a great extent by De Long & Seamans of Boston, and by Outerbridge & Co. of New York, both reputable firms. The American alcohol transhipped outside St. Pierre is carried there by trading schooners, which unload the rest of their cargo, if they have any, within the harbor, or go on to Newfoundland. The exports from the United States to the islands in 1892 amounted in value to \$360,000, and embraced coal, lumber, Indian corn and corn meal, flour, lard, pork, meats and alcohol. These are the latest returns at hand. The Canadian vessels from Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, and the Province of Quebec, bring in live cattle, poultry, lumber, potatoes, hay, shooks and staves, and soft coal from Sydney. It is on these vessels that most of the American and French liquor is shipped. When they get near the Canadian coast they usually transfer the liquor to smaller craft, to the luggers of 20 or 30 tons which fish a little and trade a little between the north and south shores of the St. Lawrence, and to similar boats in the Baie des Chaleurs. Newfoundland vessels trading with Cape Breton also carry liquor obtained at or outside St. Pierre. It is probably not rash to assert that considerable quantities are stowed away at North and South Sydney by the crews of the large steamers which carry coal from those two places to Montreal, though the officers of the steamers are doubtless unaware of it.

It would be impossible for the Government to prevent the landing of smuggled liquor on the Cape Breton coasts. There are scores of inlets where it can be landed that are seldom, if ever, visited by customs officers. The thick fogs which hang over those shores for days and nights together favor the traffic. The Scott Act is in force at the two Sydneys, but, according to all accounts, and I made enquiry at both places, grog shops exist and supply themselves almost exclusively with smuggled liquor. At Kelly's Cove, a coaling point, Baddeck and St. Peter's, things are not so bad, nevertheless the crew of the *Pro Patria*, on which I was a passenger, had no difficulty in getting all the drink they wanted, despite the prohibitory law. The northern peninsula of Cape Breton is said to be a favorite resort of smugglers. I was told at St. Pierre of a vessel which in the first week of June landed 150 barrels at Aspy Bay, St. Lawrence Bay, and Margaree River. Taking them all round, the customs officers in Cape Breton appear to be rather a poor lot.

I am not in a position to speak of the extent of the smuggling industry on the Magdalen Islands or along the shores of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, not having visited those parts. But along the St. Lawrence the traffic is quite brisk. At Bic, 15 miles west of Father Point, there is a temperance hotel kept by Michel Pineault. It is a few yards from the Intercolonial station. The sign over the door reads, "Canada Temperance Hotel." Yet Mr. Pineault has a wholesale license. He expects to get a tavern license but does not particularly care for one, as he retails freely enough under his wholesale license. His storehouse, recently erected, stands in the front yard and is well stocked with Cognac, gin, "white whiskey" made from American alcohol, claret, Malaga, cigarettes and tobacco, with a barrel or two of Boswell's Quebec ale. I happened to be there on a Sunday, and, while the people were at church, Mr. Pineault loaded some of their rigs with bottles of white whiskey and brandy. The owners had seen him before going to church and given their orders. The next day there was a meeting of the County Council, and the process was repeated. The Cognac, which was in cases,