

Name of Schooner.	Name of Captain.	From what Port.	Tonnage.	Number of men	Mackerel— barrels.	No. of Licenses.	By whom and where given.
Annie Harris.....	Ed. H. Harris.....	Bremen (Maine).....	42	17	230	399	Port Mulgrave, V. Wallace.
C. Vermont.....	A. L. Colly.....	Westport.....	46	12	120	242	do do
Rattler.....	J. McKenzie.....	Georgetown (P.E.I.)...	92	22	280	do do
Eastern Light.....	J. K. Howard.....	Gloucester.....	70	16	155	455	do do
Total.....	250	67	785

Three of these schooners had licenses to fish, and, as will be seen, the fishing had been but indifferent. The captains told me there were plenty of mackerel, but they would not bite.

The next day I sold a Clergy Reserve lot. Cod fishing at Grosse Isle was indifferent. Mackerel fishing pretty good; each vessel having at the time from 15 to 20 barrels of that fish.

On the morning of the 13th we left North Cape, and at 10 P.M. we anchored off Amherst Island, having beat all the while against a high wind from the west-south-west, accompanied by a heavy sea. At this place we found 90 American schooners that had come there the same evening for shelter from the storm. I could not reach them, and the next morning, the wind having changed, they all set sail, and up to the day of my departure from the Islands, the 18th, I had no opportunity of boarding them, for they kept in the offing all the time.

During my stay in Pleasant Bay, I visited, besides Amherst Island, Grindstone Island and Allright Island. At all these Islands cod fishing had been indifferent, and it was calculated that the product would be two-thirds less than that of 1866; but, in return, the summer mackerel fishing was excellent, and our fishermen had done well.

All the schooners that had left the Islands this spring, for the cod fisheries on the coast of Labrador, had returned; but, unfortunately, their voyages had not been profitable to the fishermen, the most successful among them having taken only 240 hundred weight of cod fish. The fact is that those fishermen who plied their calling round about the Magdalen Islands, this summer, were much more successful than those who went to the North, and I think this will have the effect of inducing our people to prefer fishing near their own shores rather than expose themselves to the dangers of a long voyage, to return, perhaps, as this year, without fish enough to pay for the necessary outfit; and a proof of the truth of what I say is, that whereas, a few years ago, all the schooners from the Magdalen Islands, without exception, went to the coast of Labrador to fish for cod every summer,—scarcely the half of them are to be seen there now.

Some of the inhabitants of these islands who had bought Clergy Reserve lots last year, paid their second instalments, but many others failed to do so, most of them being away fishing at Grand Entry Harbor, so that I received money from seven persons only. Since my arrival here I have been informed, by a letter from House Harbour, that several others paid after my departure, but as the payments were made in specie, which it had not been possible to convert into paper, it was thought best not to send it, but to keep it until the return of the Government vessel in the spring.

It would be well that a surveyor should be sent to survey those lots, for as there are neither lines nor posts to be seen, it is very difficult to determine the positions of the respective lots.

The inhabitants did not make any complaints against the American fishermen who had come to the Islands this summer, and I have reason to believe that all was quiet after my departure.

On the 18th of September, all my business being finished, and not seeing any American schooners near the coast, and considering that I had still to go to the northward, I took advantage of a strong south-west breeze to give orders for setting sail and making for Blanc Sablon Bay, which we reached on the 20th, in the morning.