

The Fisheries.

The following quantities of Fish and Oil were exported out of Nova Scotia in the year ending January 5, 1852 :

Dried Fish—Halifax	243847 quintals
Out Ports	34034
	<hr/> 277879
Pickled Fish—Halifax	154744 barrels
Out Ports	13416
	<hr/> 168160
Smoked Fish—Halifax	7046 boxes
Out Ports	7521
	<hr/> 14567
Fish Oil—Halifax	952 tuns
Out Ports	124
	<hr/> 1076

The following statement, taken from the Consular records, gives a correct account of the pickled fish shipped from the port of Halifax, to ports in the United States, during the year 1851, with their average prices :

6,786 barrels	No. 1 Mackarel,	at from 35s. 6d. to 42s. 6d.
12,463 do.	No. 2 do.	do. 27s. 6d. to 33s.
16,735 do.	No. 3 do.	do. 17s. to 25s.
13,722 do.	Herrings,	at from 11s. to 13s. 9d.
1,790 do.	Salmon,	do. 52s. 6d. to 57s. 6d.

51,496 barrels.

With the view of encouraging the hook and line Mackarel fishery, the Legislature, in the Session of 1851, passed a law placing to the credit of the Government, Two Thousand Pounds to be expended in bounties, per rate of tonnage, to vessels duly fitted out for this enterprize. Thomas S. Tobin, Wm. Pryor, junr., and L. O'C. Doyle, Esquires, were appointed Commissioners, and discharged the duties of the important trust confided to their hands, with faithfulness and judgment. We avail ourselves of their able Report presented to the Government on the 21st January, 1852, (which may be found in full in the Appendix to the Journals of the same year,) to lay before the reader the information following :—

One hundred and seven vessels were entered for the Fishery, but seventy-five only, comprising 3378 tons and 699 men, qualified themselves according to Law. To this number the amount granted by the Legislature was paid. The result, however, was not so satisfactory as might have been wished for, but the Commissioners were fully persuaded that the bounty money was well expended, and would be productive of great benefit in the experience gained by the people engaged. The average take of the vessels that persevered for the allotted time, three months, was about 125 barrels, some of the smaller craft bringing in 240 to 250 barrels, and many of the larger ones but 25 to 50 barrels only. The cause of this disappointment is attributable to the interference of an immense fleet of American fishermen in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which overspread the best fishing grounds within the limits of the Treaty, provided with superior vessels, fitted with all needful appliances, and a variety of bait, and having other advantages, experience, not the last.