

Chaleurs and Gaspé Bay have made money by sending salted herring to Barbadoes and Bermuda, would they not find it to their advantage to introduce there a fish that is more than twice as good ?

For some years past this new method of fishing for mackerel has been adopted by some fishermen from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and they must have found it suited them, for they increase from year to year the number of schooners they employ in that way. Why should not we do the same thing? And why should not our merchants of the Bay of Chaleurs, and other parties in the Province of Quebec, form themselves into companies for the purpose of fishing for mackerel, in the same way as the American fishermen? If the latter succeed, as it is proved they do, why should not we succeed? One thing is certain, and that is, that the American fishermen themselves admit, that those of our Acadian and Canadian fishermen who have practised this mode of fishing from on board of their own schooners, have been very active and skilful at it.

Now, we must find some one who will devote himself to this branch of industry, and that person once found, all will go well, and we shall be able, like others, to enjoy what this fishery must necessarily bring us.

And what advantages we have over the American fishermen! Mackerel abounds close to our shores, at our very doors, it may be said; we are not obliged, like them, to go a long way to find it; it is near to us, and we have but to stretch out our hands and take it; and for all that foreigners, instead of us, profit by these riches of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. An effort should be made and we should, without longer delay, apply ourselves to this new branch of industry, and share its profits with our neighbours.

SPRING HERRING FISHING.

At the Magdalen Islands, in the County of Bonaventure, at Maria and at Carleton, this fishing was carried on last spring on a larger scale than for some years past, and it was remarked, with pleasure, that a new firm, Messrs. Petrey, Robertson, & Co., from Ireland, set up two establishments for curing herring, one at Maria and the other at Carleton. This company paid the fishermen 2s. 6d. per barrel for round herring fresh from the hook, and 10s. per barrel for packed herring, and proposed to export the fish to the Mediterranean markets.

This will be, I think, the first appearance of our Bay of Chaleurs herring in that quarter. It is to be hoped that this experiment will succeed, and that in consequence, a market will be found there for this fish, which is generally found in such abundance along our shores. As it is very fat in the spring it will be found preferable to the Labrador herring, which would not keep in those hot countries; and since it will not do for us to export that fish to the United States, seeing that we have to disburse, over and above the price, commission and freight, 5s. for every barrel exported thither, we shall perhaps, have the good fortune to be able to sell to greater advantage in those markets, so well known to our Gaspé merchants.

PORPOISE FISHING.

A company was formed also this spring, for the purpose of taking porpoise in nets, that fish have frequented the Bay of Chaleurs for some years.

Nets were first set near the shoal at Carleton, where those fish were in the habit of coming daily, and a porpoise was taken the first night, although the stretching of the net was hardly completed. This seemed a good omen, but unfortunately this state of things did not long continue, and in a few days, it seems, these fish had either almost entirely disappeared, or avoided approaching the nets in such a way as to expose themselves to the danger of being taken.

Some of the people employed by the company attributed this disappearance of the porpoise to the too great quantity of herring nets set in Carleton Bay, and also to the almost constant coming and going of schooners there; and in order to avoid these obstacles the company decided upon ceasing to set nets at Carleton, and caused a fishery to be built a little above Dalhousie, but on the Lower Canada side of the river.

Some time after the new fishery was completed, from 150 to 200 of these fish entered its enclosure in one day, and if it had not been for a mass of sea-weeds pressed by the