

the fish are built up in piles and undergo the process of *sweating*, then I believe they get a final drying. The fish, when completely dried, is either packed in tubs, in which it is screwed down by a powerful press, or it is shipped in bulk, according to the market for which it is intended; the tubs being sent to Italy, and the remainder principally to South America and the West Indies.

This seems to be the principal, indeed I believe the only *industry* on the coast. I was told that, as a rule, the fishermen were wretchedly poor, the expenses attendant on the fitting out of boats, and the procuring of tackles, nets, and fishing gear generally, being very considerable, besides which, many of them are improvident and live in a state of chronic debt, subsisting for a great part of the winter upon the fish they *intend* to catch during the ensuing summer.

This is, of course, a ruinous system, and cannot but bear lamentable fruits, but I believe it is, unfortunately, common to all fishing places in which a certain preliminary outlay is absolutely necessary; from its too evident results it seems calculated to paralyze every effort for independence on the part of those who become involved. I made some enquiry about the agricultural capabilities of the coast, and I learned that though wheat sometimes fails, barley and oats are certain and remunerative crops, while potatoes, turnips, and other roots are easily raised in abundance; and, indeed, I could judge as much from the appearance of the cultivated fields. Sea weed and fish offal for manure are plentiful in many places, and the soil is reported to be, for the most part, very fertile.

The inhabitants who are in comfortable circumstances, are invariably those who have managed to pay some attention to their farms, while at the same time taking advantage, as far as possible, of the facilities for fishing. At Percé there are two Churches, one belonging to the Roman Catholics, the other to the Church of England. I regretted that time would not permit me to take a closer view of these edifices, but in the distance they seemed to be neat and well-finished, wooden of course, and gave the place a *Christianable* appearance. From Percé I was driven, through the kindness of the agent above referred to, first to the village of Cape Cove, about nine miles distant, prettily situated on rising ground, and skirting a graceful curve or bay, from which it derives its name.

Here are several stores; also two Churches, as at Percé. That belonging to the Church of England is a pretty and well-proportioned little building; about a stone's throw from it stands a very ungraceful, square-looking parsonage. The houses here appear generally neat, and the inhabitants respectable and well-to-do; the farms, also, are of good size.

A large grist-mill, said to be of the best and newest construction, was