

construct, as he agreed to do, at a cost of \$160, a fishway about 40 feet wide, and with a declivity of one foot in six, according to a model furnished by the Department.

After that fishway had been completed in October, I saw that it was solidly built and would answer the purpose for which the Government had ordered it to be constructed.

At all these places herring was abundant, and the inhabitants had taken advantage of that to salt them in considerable quantities.

I should have liked to have gone as far as Matane, and to have visited the stations between Cape Chat and that place, but about 11 o'clock at night such a high wind began to blow from the west that we had to hoist our sails and proceed down the river.

The next morning I visited Madeleine River and *Cap-à l'Ours*, and in the afternoon Grande Vallée.

At Magdeleine River there were some trifling difficulties to be adjusted, but elsewhere all was quiet.

Several barrels of herring had been salted at these places also, but the cod fishing was much less successful than usual, particularly at *Grande Vallée*.

Having left the latter place towards evening, we were at Cape Gaspé the next morning, and I availed myself of the opportunity to visit all the small stations between Ship Head and *Grande Grève*; and in the afternoon we anchored in Gaspé Basin, where there were only a few schooners.

My stay at Gaspé Basin was prolonged to the 11th, partly on account of *La Canadienne* having to undergo some repairs, and partly because the local magistrates having several arrests to make thought it right to ask me to remain some days longer there with *La Canadienne*.

I took advantage of this opportunity to visit the oyster bed in the Basin, but after two hours' work with our drags we succeeded only in bringing up a few shells from the bottom.

I ought also to mention that, on the day after my arrival, the corvette *Sphinx*, Captain Hamilton, coming from St. George's Cove, and being now on the station extending from Cape Breton to Cape Rosier, came into Gaspé Basin.

I called upon that officer, and having shown him my instructions with regard to American fishermen, he promised me all the assistance in his power, and promised me also to tow *La Canadienne* out of Gaspé Bay if, on the day I sailed, when he would leave also, there should be a calm or a head wind; but being detained by an event which happened at the Basin, I could not take advantage of his offer.

Captain Hamilton told me he met but few American schooners near our coasts. The fact is, that our Gaspé fishermen had seldom seen so few, almost all having gone to fish at the Magdalen Islands, on the coast of Nova Scotia and at Prince Edward Island.

On the 11th, I left Gaspé Basin for the Magdalen Islands, and on the way I touched at Percé and at Bonaventure Island. All was well at those places, but the continued bad weather had prevented our fishermen from visiting the fishing banks, and the consequence was that but few autumn cod had been landed.

On the 12th of September, at one o'clock in the morning, favored by a fresh breeze from the west-south-west, we hoisted our anchor and set sail for the Magdalen Islands, where we anchored, off North Cape (*Grosse Ile*), towards evening.

About 20 American schooners were anchored at this place, fishing for mackerel. I should have been glad to have searched them all, but a high wind and a heavy sea, together with the lateness of the hour, prevented me from going on board of more than those whose names are given in the following table :—