

60.—Mr. Thomas R. Pattillo, Liverpool, N. S. :—

On September 5, 1877, the mackerel apparently extended in one body off Liverpool, N. S., for half a mile, and they were so thick that they did not seem to mind the boats going amongst them. Cod, pollock and haddock are numerous and caught close inshore. Halibut are occasionally taken inshore but *not* in quantities. The Americans fish for halibut in 90 fathoms and more, late in the season it is in 150 fathoms. As a general thing when mackerel are moving along the Nova Scotian coast off Liverpool they will not bite.

63.—Mr. Peter S. Richardson, Chester, N. S. :—

Considers from the 10th of September to October the best season for mackerel on the coast of Prince Edward Island. The best places for halibut in the Gulf are St. Margaret's River, Point des Monts, Moisie River, at Point Charles, and around Anticosti. They are caught close inshore, or from 200 yards to a mile and a half off. Witness has fished for halibut outside the Gulf at Sable Island, Western Bank.

65.—Hon. Robert Young, Caraquette, N. B. :—

Resides on the shores of the Bay of Chaleur, Codfish, mackerel and herring are taken in the Bay, mackerel inshore principally, within two miles of the shore. Cod are caught inshore in May and June, about three-fourths being so taken, after that they strike out into deep water. Haddock are taken in deep water in the Bay of Chaleurs.

## J.

### *Customs remissions on Fish and Fish Oil, by the United States.*

1.—Mr. Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Would not object to pay \$2 a bbl. if the fisheries were reserved exclusively for British subjects, because United States market must be supplied and prices would rise. Would think nothing of duty if Americans were kept off, but thought it hard that United States should take fish in our waters and compel us to pay \$2 duty per barrel.

Would rather have Americans excluded and pay any duty United States thought fit to impose on fish.

Removal of duty is no benefit, because at same time Americans catch fish in Canadian inshores and glut the United States market.

All leading men in fishing business think the inshore fisheries worth more than the remission of duty on fish, which is no equivalent at all.

2.—Mr. James R. McLean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

To have the duty of \$2 taken off Colonial fish I should think was no equivalent at all, If American fishermen were not allowed to come into our waters, close inshore, our vessels would be quite safe in fitting out for making very large catches of mackerel. The American market would require our fish, and the Americans would have to give more than \$2 per barrel duty. We should have the control of the market to a very great extent. If their vessels were excluded from our coasts we would have the advantage in our own hands. With regard to the amount of any duty imposed by the Americans, they would have to pay it indirectly. The presence of the American fleet fishing side by side with our fishermen places the American fishermen on the same advantage with ours, for while we have to pay \$2 per barrel duty in gold they get their catch in duty free. We are quite satisfied to have the duty on so long as the Americans are excluded from our inshores.

Last season the potato crop in the United States was very short, and notwithstanding the duty on potatoes, they were shipped there in large quantities from Prince Edward Island. Of course the duties came out of the pockets of the consumers. We sold at very high prices, and speculated largely in them. We obtained prices making it self-sustaining, and the parties who obtained the potatoes would have to pay the duties. The Americans would not be able to catch enough mackerel outside the limit to be able to do anything towards supplying their markets. When we had to pay two dollars a barrel duty on the mackerel we sent to the United States. Our men would not stay in the Island vessels when they saw that the Americans were allowed to come and fish side by side with the British vessels and catch an equal share of the fish. Our fishermen consequently went in American vessels. Our best men did so, and some of the very best fishermen and smartest captains among the Americans are from P. E. Island and Nova Scotia.