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of July to Halifax. These eggs, it is well known sell for from 25 cents to 30 cents a dozen ; and as it does not take much time to gather them, and a schooner can make the whole voyage in the short space of one month, there is a considerable return of profit for a very trifling expense in the way of outfit ; and this is what induces those people to return to our coasts on this errand, although they know the law is against them, and that they expose themselves to the risk of losing both vessel and cargo.

To put a stop to this it would be necessary that the Government vessel should remain off the coast of Labrador, cruising between Coacoachoo and Sheep Bay, from the 10th June till the beginning of July.

But the difficulty is that during that time the presence of the armed vessel is required at the Magdalen Islands, where there are at that time a number of schooners come to fish for mackerel, and off the coast of Gaspé, where fishing licenses have to be distributed, and where, during salmon fishing, fishermen are apt to commit infractions of the Fisheries Act.

Until now the crews of these schooners, which for the most part came from Nova Scotia, once out of the reach of the Canadian authorities had nothing to fear, and could sell their cargoes without any danger ; and it will only be when the game laws are the same in all the Provinces, and this traffic will be no more permitted at Halifax than it is here, that these expeditions to our coasts will cease, and that our wild fowl, left to themselves, will more be able to increase in number, so that our Islands will be stocked with them as they were formerly ; for the inhabitants of those coasts testify that these fowl are fewer in number now than they were a few years ago, and this decrease can only be attributed to the carrying away of their eggs every year by these fowlers.

The whole, nevertheless, humbly submitted.

THÉOPHILE TÊTU.