

the Pacific coast, to which it has been recently introduced and where it is spreading rapidly. It is sometimes taken by a system of ploughing, but rarely; the ordinary weapons for capturing it, are there, as with us, a simple bucket and shovel.

In England this species is used neither for bait nor for food, except very locally, being replaced entirely for both purposes by the edible Mussel, *Mytilus edulis*. This seems to us very remarkable and unaccountable, considering to what an extent other Mollusca are utilized there. It must be remembered that in England this is called the "Gaper," the name Clam being applied to a species of Scallop, *Pecten opercularis*.

In Acadia no statistics are available to show the annual value to the three Provinces of this species as food. The returns in the Annual Fishery Reports give the value of Clams as bait or else overlook them altogether. By the fishermen and the people of the sea-port towns it is quite extensively eaten in New Brunswick, and it is frequently for sale in the markets. In St. John, Mr. J. A. Turner estimates there are one thousand barrels per year sold, at an average price of one dollar and fifty cents per barrel, wholesale. The largest and best for city trade are brought from Lepreau.

In Nova Scotia it is very extensively used as food. Willis says it could be bought in the Halifax market for a shilling sterling per bushel in the shell, or for about threepence per quart shelled. At present, over three hundred barrels a year are sold, the most of which are brought from Cole Harbor and Chezzetcook. They sell for about ten cents a quart or six dollars per barrel shelled.

In Prince Edward Island it is very little used as food, being eaten only by the Acadian French, according to Mr. J. H. Duvar. It is not improbable that some very large individuals may be found in favorable situations, such as those referred to above, from Guilford, Conn. Certainly the sandy shores and warm summer temperature of the water ought to favor their growth to a large size.

In the vicinity of the St. Croix River, "Clam-bakes" are an institution of venerable antiquity. The Indians probably had