

The following are from the British affidavits, also to show the extent of coast used by United States fishermen:—

J. E. Marshall, fisherman, a native of Maine, was 10 years master U. S. fishing vessel:—

"1. The fishing by American schooners was very extensive from 1852 to '70. During that period the number of American vessels which have visited the shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, for fishing purposes, yearly, amounted from 300 to 500 sails. This I have seen with my own eyes. All these were mackerel fishing. The places where the Americans fished most during that period were on the shores of Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and on the shores of Bay of Chaleur, from Port Daniel to Dalhousie, and east, from Port Daniel to Bonaventure Island, in Gaspé Bay, and on the south shore of Gaspé, from Cape Rozier to Matane, and on the North shore from Moisie to Gadbout River. I have fished myself nearly every year in these places, and I never missed my voyage."

Jas. A. Nickerson, Master Mariner, N. S.:—

"4. My best catches were taken off the north coast of Cape Breton, from Shittegan to Hanley Island, Port Hood, and I never caught any of the fish to speak of beyond three miles from the shore. I am certain, and positively swear that fully nine-tenths, and I believe more than that proportion of my entire catch was taken within three miles of the shore, the nearer to the shore I could get the better it would be for catching fish. One reason of that is that the mackerel keep close inshore to get the fishes they feed on, and these little fishes keep in the eddies of the tide quite close to the shore.

"9. These American fishermen get their catches in the same place we did. They took the fish close into the shore, that is by far the larger proportion of them, and the opinion among the American fishermen was universal, that if they were excluded from fishing within these three miles off the shore, they might as well at once abandon the fishery."

John L. Ingraham, Sydney, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, fish merchant:—

"I have seen at one time two hundred American fishing Vessels in this harbor. In the summer of eighteen hundred and seventy-six I have seen as many as thirty at one time.

"3. These vessels fish often within one-half mile of the coast, North and East of Cape Breton, and all round.

"21. American fishermen come around the southern and eastern coast of Cape Breton by dozens through the Canal and Bras D'Or Lake, and wherever it suits them."

Daniel McPhee, Fisherman, P. E. I.:—

1. "That I have personally been engaged in the mackerel and cod-fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence since the year 1863.

2. That in the year 1863 I commenced mackerel fishing in the American vessel "Messina," and that during that year we fished in the Bay Chaleur, and took home with us six hundred barrels of mackerel during the fishing season of that year, one-third of which quantity, I would say, was caught within three miles of the shore.

10. That about 200 of the American vessels get their bait on the Nova Scotian coast, and, in my opinion, without the bait obtained there they could not carry on the fishing.

11. Then there is also a fleet of 40 American vessels which fish off Grand Manan. They average 350 barrels of herring per vessel, which are all caught close to the shore."

Chas. W. Dunn, Fisherman, P. E. I.:

1. "That I have been engaged in fishing for about twenty-eight years, winter and summer, in both boats and vessels, having fished in the cod-fishing on the Banks for about seven winters. I have also fished mackerel in this Gulf with the Americans, from the summer of 1868 till 1871, and also in the halibut fishery on these coasts.

2. "At Anticosti we could often see the halibut on the bottom when we were trawling. This would be about two or three hundred yards from shore. I have seen ten thousand halibut a day caught at Anticosti, in water where we could see bottom. This halibut fishery is the best paying fishery that I have ever been in. I have made ninety dollars in twelve days as one of the hands at that fishery."

Jas. Houlette, Fisherman, P. E. I.:—

1. "That I have been engaged in fishing for fifteen years, in vessels belonging to the United States. I have fished all about Bay Chaleur, from Port Hood to Seven Islands, at the Magdalens, all along this Island coast, and two years' mackerel fishing on the American shores, and many winters cod-fishing."

John R. McDonald, Farmer and Fisherman, P. E. I.:—

13. "That almost all the American fishermen, fish close into the shore of the different provinces of the Dominion, and I do not think the Americans would find it worth while to fit out for the Gulf fishing if they could not fish near the shore. The year the cutters were about the Americans did not do very much, although they used to dodge the cutters and fish in-shore."

Alphonso Gilman, fisherman, P. E. I.:—

7. "That when the mackerel first come into the Bay, they generally come up towards Bay Chaleur, Gaspé and round there,—passing the Magdalen Islands on their way. It is up there that the American fleet generally goes first to catch fish."

Joseph Campbell, P. E. I., master mariner, 9 years, U. S. vessels:—

2. "That from the year 1858 to 1867 I was constantly and actively engaged in fishing aboard American vessels, and during that time I fished on all the fishing grounds.

3. "We got our first fare generally in the Bay Chaleur. Fully nine-tenths of this fare would be caught close inshore, within the three-mile limit."

Alex. Chiverie, merchant, P. E. I., formerly fisherman; was 20 years in U. S. vessels. "We fished off the north part of Cape Breton, and caught the whole of our fare within three miles from the shore.

7. "That in the year 1867 I was master of a British fishing schooner. The first trip of that season we fished between the Miramichi and Bay Chaleur. During that trip the fish played chiefly inshore, about a mile from the shore. At times during that trip I would be getting a good catch, when the American vessels, to the number of fifty or sixty, would come along, and by drawing off the fish, spoil my fishing. During that trip, the Americans, I would say, caught fully three-fourths of their fare within the three-mile limit."

Nathaniel Jost, master mariner, Lunenburg, N. S.:—

2. "I have also seen many American mackerel-men engaged in taking mackerel around the coast of Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, and eastern side of New Brunswick, and many of these fished inshore. I would say that there were at least