

(From the Newfoundland Correspondence of the Montreal Gazette, dated St. John's, 25th June)

All our fishermen have taken their departure for the Labrador fishery. The season will probably open early, as an unusual freedom from ice is reported. From 1,000 to 1,200 fishing vessels visit the coast of Labrador annually, carrying from 30,000 to 40,000 men. The great bulk of these are Newfoundlanders. Formerly American fishermen frequented Labrador in great numbers, but they now prefer the Bank fishery, and comparatively few go to Labrador. About 100 Canadian vessels visit the coast, and the fish taken by them is carried away "green." The Newfoundlanders having the advantages of proximity to the scene of operations, arrive early and remain till October, so as to cure all the fish taken excepting the products of their late catch. Most of the codfish is now exported direct to foreign markets, chiefly to Mediterranean ports. Formerly there were a number of English mercantile establishments on Labrador, but one after another has withdrawn, and sold out to the Hudson's Bay Company, and at present, there are but three Jersey establishments on that coast. About a third of our entire catch of codfish is now taken on Labrador. Our fishermen from all parts of the island migrate there towards the middle and end of June in small vessels, often taking with them their wives and children to aid in curing the fish. Great hardships and discomforts are endured on board these small vessels, which are so crowded that health and morals are imperiled; and so loud are the complaints of abuses connected with the system, that at length our Legislature has interfered and appointed a Commission to inquire and report. A stringent legislative enactment is required to regulate the number of persons to be carried by each vessel. For more than a century the southern portion of Labrador coast has been occupied as a fishing ground and during the last thirty years fishermen large numbers of fishermen have extended their operations as far north as Cape Harrison, and latterly even up to Cape Mugford, the attraction being the extraordinary fish wealth of these seas. Professor Hind, who visited this part of the coast a few years ago, tells us that "it is fringed with a vast multitude of islands, forming a continuous archipelago from Cape Aillik to Cape Mugford, averaging 20 miles in depth seawards. Outside these islands, and about fifteen miles seawards from them are numerous banks and shoals which form the summer feeding-grounds of large cod, and a second range of banks outside the shoals, which are probably their winter feeding-grounds." This island studded area, exclusive of the banks and shoals, from Cape Harrison to Cape Mugford, he estimates at 5,200 square miles, furnishing a boat fishing ground for cod nearly as large as the combined area of English and French boat fishing ground on the coast of Newfoundland. Professor Hind estimates the total area of the boat fishery on northern and southern Labrador at 7,100 square miles. In the future, when the present fishing grounds have become partially exhausted, these distant northern shoals so favorable to the production of fish life, will become the scene of active operations, and here will be the great cod fishery of the future. Along a thousand miles of this coast the fisheries are apparently inexhaustible cod, herrings, salmon and seals being taken in enormous quantities. The coast, though rugged in the extreme, is deeply indented with bays and inlets and has many fine harbors. During the summer season the scenery is grand and impressive, often the perfection is all that is picturesque; miles on miles of the rocky precipices front the sea, carved by the blows of the Atlantic's billows into most fantastic shapes, up whose sides the great Atlantic waves fling themselves perpetually. Great dark headlands diversify the scene, sometimes grim and naked, while others are clad in the pale green of mosses, or with dwarf shrubbery. Almost every form into which the rocks can be washed and broken is visible along this vast coast of one thousand miles. Hosts of glittering icebergs, stranded or floating, impart a stern beauty to the storm-beaten shores. So great are the attractions of Labrador that, of late years, tourists in search of the picturesque, sportsmen in pursuit of game, anglers, and invalids seeking for health, are resorting to it in increasing numbers.

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AGENTS FOR HERALD

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act as our agents, all intending subscribers will therefore confer a favor by sending in their names and subscriptions that they may be forwarded to this office.

- Brigus—Mr. P. J. Power, School Teacher
- Bay Roberts—Mr. G. W. R. HERRLEY.
- Hearst's Content—Mr. M. MOORE.
- Bell's Cove } -Mr. Richard Walsh, Post Office Little Bay.
- Twillingate—Mr. W. T. Roberts.
- Fogo—Mr. Joseph Rendell
- Plton Harbor—Mr. J. Burke, Sr.
- King's Cove and Keels—Mr. P. Murphy,
- Boavista—Mr. P. Templeman
- Catalina—Mr. A. Gardiner.
- Bay de Verds—Mr. James Evans
- Collier—Mr. Hearn
- Conception Harbor—Mr. Kennedy
- HARBOR MAIN—Mr. E. Murray.
- SALMON COVE—Mr. Woodford
- HOLYROOD—Mr. James Joy.

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All correspondence intended for publication must be sent in not later than Wednesday evening.

THE CARBONEAR HERALD

"Honest labor—our noblest heritage"

CARBONEAR, JULY 22.

Preservation of Caplin.

To a country like ours so dependant upon the prosecution of the fisheries, as the staple industry of its people, no subject can be considered of greater importance than the preservation of its bait supply. With this subject in full view we to-day call the attention of all interested in this important subject to the necessity of such early and effective action, as may tend to the timely suppression of an evil which threatens at no distant day to lead to the total extinction of a source, whence in the past was drawn an unlimited supply of bait, the absence or want of which would have been felt as a most serious impediment to the successful prosecution of our coastal fisheries. We refer to that invaluable and prolific fish, the caplin, the extraordinary superabundance of which upon our coast in the early and most important portion of the fishing season, instead of being regarded as a most valuable and indispensable boon in aid of the prosecution of our fisheries, on emanating from the hand of the Great Creator, for the support and sustenance of his creatures, rather looked upon with indifference and prodigally wasted by being devoted to purposes for which, in the designs of the Almighty Providence, it was never intended. That such an unenlightened and suicidal course should have been pursued and permitted in the past is certainly a matter well worthy the most severe censure and reprehension; but looking to the disastrous consequences which the continuance of this barbarous custom has already entailed upon our fishing interests, and to the unmistakable evidence which the recurrence of each successive year discloses of the gradual but certain extinction of this most valuable little fish is it not time, we would ask, that some effective means should be applied to check the further progress of an evil which has already driven the

mackerel from our shores and which, if persisted in, must eventually lead to the total extinction or disappearance of the caplin. This being a subject of such vital importance to the general interests of the colony we would particularly direct the attention of our metropolitan contemporaries, to its most earnest and attentive consideration.

Since our last issue E. S. Pike Esq, has again commenced operations on the new line of Road between this place and Heart's Delight, with a view to put the road right through if possible, this season, though we fear his present finances are very limited considering the amount of labor to be done. We would like very much to hear of a number of men commencing at Heart's Delight and working this way, by which means the road would be finished this season. We feel sure the member for Trinity, whose district it will so much benefit, as well as our own hon member will have an attentive eye to this matter. This Road since its commencement has eaten up a large amount of our local road grant year by year, by which our streets were in a certain measure neglected. And while full appreciating the everlasting benefits which will arise from the completion of this road as well as the unknown benefits which may arise, we do not care to see our main streets totally neglected. We consider this road one of the greatest benefits which has been conferred on the community under the Rorke administration; and the public generally will consider it in days to come. Many fail to see the numerous advantages which will arise from this line of road, but we cannot when we consider that in two hours last winter we counted 100 loads of wood passing our door from that road not to speak of what went to the Valley, Long Drung, Irish Town and South Side. Also fencing material and rinds have been brought out in large quantities. Now with all this it will also cause the people of Trinity Bay to visit this town and purchase their goods as they would be able to come in the morning and return back the same evening. There is another point, in connection with this road which we believe did not as yet get full consideration, and one which may urge upon the Government the necessity of having the road in working order this season. Now for instance suppose this was made a Mail Road to Heart's Delight, New Harbor, Green's Harbor, Shoal Harbor and the other neighboring Harbors from this place instead of from Harbor Grace via Bay Roberts or Spaniards Bay, as at present, it would be the saving of many dollars as well as many miles.

The writer, appearing under the nom de plume of *Oceola*, "thought that now that this season of amusements had arrived, a few words on picnics would not be misplaced, especially that one which took place at the ancestral grounds of Pike's farm" on the 20th inst. Truly, indeed, the writer did not wrongly denominate himself by signing *Oceola* to his epistle (?). I think that if the real *Oceola* were to be found he would, though being an Indian Chief, write much better English than the *Oceola* of Carbonear. I think, Mr Editor, that such an attack on some, and almost all, the young ladies and gentlemen who participated in the days enjoyment should not be permitted to pass by unheeded: I must inform Mr *Oceola* that before he undertook a paper correspondence he should be positive that he knew, at least English construction and the tenses of English verbs. The object of the writer was, perhaps very good, but the manner in which the different persons who took part in the days proceedings were indicated destroys the supposition that the writers intention was good. His motive was (as a learned gentleman of this town would say) to air his bumpiness and make a grand effusion of words of "thundering sound." To ward off suspicion the writer indicated himself very nicely. Perhaps the readers of the HERALD may say that this letter has been written through any malicious motive; but I can assure them I wish *Oceola* well. But I warn him that before he again undertake reporting a picnic he should open an English Grammar and Dictionary and take care lest he may make any blunders as he did the last time. Thanking you, Mr Editor, for such space.

I am, sir, yours etc.

QUI NOU TIMET VOCEM AC CIPETIS.

Local and other Items.

The fishery in Placentia Bay has of late assumed a favorable appearance as also in the neighbourhood of Burin.

The fishery in St. Mary's Bay this year is the best for the past five years and in Bay Bulls and Witless Bay it is also good.

"Temper is everything," and in the pens of the Esterbrook Steel Pen Company the temper will be found all that is to be desired.

The steam-tug *Cabot*, arrived from Round Cove (about three miles west of Renew) at 12.30 to-day. Captain Green informs us that the French schooner *Pierre Eugene*, from Grand Bank, bound to St. Peters, ran ashore at Round Cove, in a thick fog on Saturday morning about 1 o'clock, and became a total wreck. The crew—16 all told—about one thousand quintals fish and all the schooner's gear were saved.

For the following Labrador news we are indebted to our friend Hon. John Rorke:—

- July 18—Long Island, boats 20 to 25 qtls., seines 100 to 120. Grady, boats 25 to 35 qtls., traps 50 to 350 qtls.
- July 19—Indian Tickle, boats 40 to 60 qtls., seines 50 to 70, traps 20 to 30. Domino, boats 40 to 50, traps 100 to 400. Batteaux, boats 30 to 40, traps 200 to 300. Punch Bowl, boats 30 to 40, seines 80 to 120, traps 150 to 200. Comfort Bight, boats 30 to 40, traps 100 to 200. Bolsters Rock, boats 40 to 50, traps 200 to 250.
- July 20—Venison Tickle, boats 30 to 40 qtls., seines 150 to 200. Tab Harbor, boats 60 to 80, seines 200 to 400. Saug Harbor, boats 60 to 70, seines 200 to 220. Dead Island, boats 70 to 100, seines 250, traps 150 to 180. Scrammy Bay, boats 80 to 100, traps 200 to 700. Fishing Ships Harbor, boats 70 to 90, traps 250 to 300. Francis Harbor Bight, boats 50 to 70, traps 150 to 170. Little Harbor, boats 50 to 80, traps 150 to 300. Murray's Harbor, boats 80 to 100. Spear Harbor, boats 60 to 70, traps 100 to 150.

Above you will see average catch up to date.

From Long Island up fish pretty plentiful, but north fish had not struck in up to our leaving. Salt appears to be very scarce. Gross Water Bay, full of craft bound north. Saw none of your vessels except the "Mary," who was at Damplog, did not hear what she had but I imagine she had, not much.

People here are doing just what they please. Three Nova Scotians here nearly loaded.

Bay are in the habit of assembling quarterly in one or other of the missions of the Bay, for the purpose of mutual edification, and the discussion of subjects of importance to the welfare of the Church.

On Monday last, then, with the above objects in view the Clergy of the association met at the house of the Rev. Reginald M. Johnson, of Carbonear. Prayers having been said by the Rev. Rural Dean Harvey, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read by the Secretary, the Rev. C. E. Smith, and confirmed; the rest of the day was devoted to the consideration of the subject matter of a highly practical paper read by the Chairman, the Rev. J. C. Harvey, R.D., and discussion as to the deputational arrangements of the Association with reference to the Fall Missionary Meetings.

The Tuesday morning session of the Association was given to Biblical Reading, devotional and critical, with, so far as the latter portion of the subject was concerned, a special reference to the English of the "Revised New Testament" as compared with the Greek of the "Greek Testament."

The public worship in connection with this gathering of the Clergy consisted of a full choral service in the Church of St. James. Prayers were sung by the Rev. R. M. Johnson, and the Hymns, Anthems, and Canticles were well sustained by the members of the Choir. The sermon, a most scholarly composition, was preached by Rev. C. E. Smith of Christ Church, Harbor Grace. At Holy Communion the celebrant was the Rev. Rural Dean Harvey, assisted by Revd's J. M. Noel and Shears. The congregation was large and the number of communicants reached quite the Sunday average.

This session of the Association was necessarily a short one as the Clergy were pledged to be present at the ceremony of laying the Corner Stone of the Church (of St. Mary's) Hearts Content. This important event took place on the 27th inst., which will be a day much to be remembered in that populous and most thriving parish and settlement—the terminal of the Atlantic cables.

The services of this festive occasion commenced with an early celebration at which quite a number of communicants presented themselves. The officiating clergy were Rev Rural Dean Harvey, Rev E Colley and Rev F Murray the Rector of Hearts Content. At half-past ten o'clock, a.m., Choral Services was sung by Rev R. M. Johnson of Carbonear, and a most appropriate sermon preached by Rev H Taylor of Brigus.

Shortly before the conclusion of this service the guns of the *Leopard* thundered forth the announcement of the arrival of the great and ancient order of Freemasonry, by whose Provincial Grand Master the Stone was to be, and was, with the imposing and significant ceremonies of the craft, formally laid in its place, amid the acclamations of the assembled throng. A telling speech from the great Dignitary of the Freemasons reminded the assembly that great as were the results which had followed from the landing (that day fifteen years ago) of the Ocean Cable in their midst, far greater were the issues proceeding from the erection of that Sacred building whose corner stone it had been their privilege now to lay, to the honor and glory of the great architect of the universe, and that quick as words could now be sent to, and received from all parts of the world—literally from the flood unto the world's end—far quicker would the word of prayer and the answer of God pass from earth to heaven and from heaven to earth.

The proceedings of the day terminated with a Concert of Sacred music, held in the new Church.

We conclude by saying that too much praise cannot be given Rev F R Murray, Rector of Hearts Content, for the untiring zeal and energy which have brought this wonderful building to its present state, we believe we are correct in adding that some £1000 will be wanted to carry the work to completion. The building had been, to use Mr Murray's words, begun in faith, in faith they had to lay the Corner Stone, and he had great faith, that by the end of next year the whole Church will be finished.

Correspondence:

To the Editor of the Carbonear Herald

Dear Sir.—In your last issue I noticed a well worded and very learned epistle (?) from the pen of, I presume, a member of the Union U.C.

We have by another news:—

- Battle Harbor, seines 200 to 400.
- Cape Charles, seines 200 and 300.
- Chimney Tickle, seines 300, traps 300.
- Henly Harbor, 300, traps 300.
- Chatteau—400, traps 300.
- Red Bay—150 to 300.
- Lance-ausle—
- Forteau—
- Blanc-Sable—
- Salmon R. 500.

THE POPULOUS.—The population of the town of Carbonear, as reported by the census taker, is 400. He informs us that on Monday evening a grand entertainment was given at the Hall, accompanied by Miss Fisher. It will give the town some well come as well.

We cannot respectably main street the past week Board will the street Hill. Though though which we and that the Meth clearing way to the road Chapel from its state. I will occupy hope "a sufficient

Messrs bankers Olander on the b port an John's.

The arrived load of Rorke days.

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