

39.—Mr. Josef. O. Sirois, of Grand Riviere, Gaspé:—

At the time when the fish were abundant I have seen 500 to 600 American schooners frequenting the Gaspé Coast from Paspebiac to Cape Gaspé; from 40 to 100 tons capacity.

40.—Mr. Abraham Lebrun, of Percé, Gaspé:—

Some thirty American vessels fished for halibut between the coast of Anticosti and the coast on the North shore of the estuary of the St. Lawrence. This was between the years 1856 and 1873. The number of American cod-fishing vessels in the Gulf was about 400 or 500.

41.—Mr. Louis Roy, of Cape Chatte, Gaspé:

Is acquainted with the South shore of the estuary of the St. Lawrence from Cape Chatte to Cape Gaspé, about 140 miles, also on the North coast for about 160 miles. The Americans began to fish there about 1854. They came in large numbers for about 6 or 7 years. Has seen about 250 to 300 schooners from 70 to 80 tons.

42.—Mr. John F. Taylor, of Isaacs Harbor, N. S.:

From 1840 to 1854 at a low average, 450 vessels after mackerel, besides that there were 100 cod-fishers. One year there were 1,000, some years 700, some years 800, all mackerelers.

43.—Mr. James Eisenhauer, of Lunenburg, N. S.:

300 or 400 cod-fishers.

44.—Mr. George Romeril, Percé:

Some years ago there were 300 or 400 mackerelers on the coast between Percé and Paspebiac. In Paspebiac there would be something like 200 or 300, all fishing within 3 miles of the shore. 70 or 80 were off Gaspé this year before I came to Halifax, they were in the Bay de Chaleurs, there were about 100 last year there. The year before that there were about the same.

45.—Mr. Wm. Macdonnell, of Argyle, N. S.:

American fleet fished in same places as we did, at Margaree I have counted 200 vessels, all fishing close inshore. Have seen between 30 and 50 sail in Fortune Bay at one time after frozen herring.

47.—Mr. James A. Tory, of Gyusborough, N. S.:

I have seen 300 sail in Port Hood harbor, on another occasion I counted 300 in Cape Canso harbor. I consider this not one half of the fleet in the Gulf. I have understood that there have been over 1,000 vessels in some years.

48.—Mr. Robert McDougall, of Port Hood, C. B.:

I counted 300 at one time in the harbor, that is about the average. I think 600 was about the average fleet in the Gulf.

49.—Mr. P. Fortin, of Quebec:—

It was a matter of public notoriety that from 1,000 to 1,200 frequented the Gulf during Reciprocity. From 200 to 350 visited the coast of Quebec before and during Reciprocity. I heard there are 70 mackerelers at the Magdalen Islands this year.

50.—Mr. James Hickson, of Bathurst, N. B.:

From reliable information I believe there were 300 in Little Shippigan at one time, during Reciprocity. I counted 30 fishing inshore in a few miles space.

52.—Mr. Wm. Ross, Collector of Customs, Halifax:—

From 60 to 100 American vessels would come round Cape North and fish on the Atlantic shore of Cape Breton Island, from Cape North to Scatarie. The vessels that frequented our place would be generally on their second trip, sometimes on their third.

53.—Mr. Charles Creed, of Halifax:—

Estimates 400 American vessels annually as a fair average of those fishing for mackerel in the Gulf. Their vessels range from 60 to 80 tons.

54.—Mr. John Dillon, of Steep Creek, Gut of Canso:—

In 1867 saw about 300 American vessels in Port Hood, this number was not considered to comprehend all the American fishing vessels then in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, not one-half. Has known them about the year 1868, to make four trips in the season. They usually send two trips home and go home with the third trip in the fall. Generally they had full fares. Scarcely a day passed from the time when they came on the coast in the spring, until, say the 9th November, or middle of November, but there were from 3 to 20 vessels in Whitehead for bait and ice.