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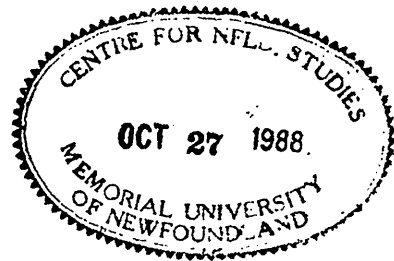
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SYNOPSIS

Of Oral Testimony, given before the Halifax Commission, by Witnesses called on behalf of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, on the following points:—

- A.**—NUMBERS OF UNITED STATES VESSELS FREQUENTING BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN WATERS.
- B.**—THE KINDS AND QUANTITIES OF FISH UNITED STATES FISHERMEN TAKE, AND WHERE THEY TAKE THEM.
- C.**—VALUE OF INSHORE FISHERIES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA TO UNITED STATES FISHERMEN.
- D.**—PROFITS REALIZED BY UNITED STATES FISHERMEN BY THEIR OPERATIONS IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN WATERS.
- E.**—BAIT.
- F.**—TRANSHIPMENT IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN PORTS.
- G.**—INJURY CAUSED TO CANADIAN FISHERMEN BY OPERATIONS OF UNITED STATES FISHERMEN IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN WATERS.
- H.**—ENCROACHMENTS OF UNITED STATES FISHERMEN, WHEN THEY HAD NOT THE PRIVILEGE OF FISHING IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN WATERS.
- I.**—THE HABITS OF FISH, AND TIMES FOR CATCHING THEM AT VARIOUS LOCALITIES.
- J.**—CUSTOMS REMISSIONS.

A.

Numbers of United States vessels frequenting British North American waters.

1.—Mr. Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

From 1848 to 1873 about 400 vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Since 1873 not over 200 in same Gulf.

For past 4 years average 300 vessels.

For 1876, average 450.

For 1877 there are 400 U. S. vessels in Gulf of St. Lawrence already. They are coming every day.

Fishing has failed on U. S. coast, and whole fleet will be down on British coast, and will number 900 sail.

2.—Mr. James R. Maclean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Number of American fleet in 1858 was 600 to 700 sail. Saw the same year, near Port Hood 450 vessels, chiefly American. Has counted 400 sail anchored under the south shore at East Point. The average of United States fishing fleet frequenting the Bay yearly would be 500, including the year 1874. The number of vessels during the last 3 years has declined, particularly in 1875 and 1876. Has been told that a fleet of 400 seiners would be in this year, 1877.

3.—Mr. John Campion, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

1862—Probably 600 vessels. Two or three hundred in our vicinity. On Cape Breton shore all fished close in shore.

1863—About 300 sail around Sydney alone; all got fares; all inshore. Average catch about 650 barrels; some as high as 1500. The whole of them so far as I know filled their vessels.

1864—About 600 or 700 sail. Average catch 600 or 700 barrels.

1865—About 600 sail. Average catch over 670 barrels.

1866—About 600; about 250 at P. E. Island. They fished so close in shore that the boats had to get out of their way. Catches good.

The American fleet were arriving in the Bay very fast when I left. Some of them in a week caught 300 barrels with seines. One vessel threw a seine around a very large school and found it so large that they had to cut it. It was estimated to contain 1000 barrels.

4.—Mr. Joseph Campbell, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

In 1855 the number of the American fleet would average from 250 to 300 sail.

The American fleet averaged 500 vessels in 1866 and from 450 to 500 in 1867, and 400 in 1869, 1870 and 1871.

I understand there will be from 500 to 600 vessels in the American fleet in the Bay this year, on account of the failure of the fisheries on the American coast. This number of American vessels engaged in mackerel fishing and from 50 to 100 more are engaged in the cod fishing.

5.—Mr. William S. MacNeill, of Rustico, P. E. I. :—

In 1852 there were from 100 to 150 American vessels in the centre of the bend of P. E. Island and were inshore most of the time. In 1860 often saw 50 or 60 American vessels come out of Malpeque and come and fish right inshore.

6.—Mr. Poirier, of Tignish, P. E. I. :—

I have seen 300 sail come into the waters between Cascumpeque and Minnigash. They fished close to the shore. The Americans run as close to the shore as they can safely do, and I have very often seen them run so close that they grounded.

7.—Honble. Mr. Howlan, of Cascumpeque, P. E. I. :—

In 1854 at the commencement of the Reciprocity Treaty the tonnage employed in the American fleet was about 154,000 tons, from 1854 to 62, it ran up to 203,000 tons odd, and in 1868, two years after the Treaty was abrogated, it fell to 84,000, caused by a number of vessels going into other business, for one thing, into the coasting trade and other lines of business. Another reason was the irritation caused by the surveillance exercised over them in the Gulf.

I have seen 340 United States vessels annually in my harbor generally when there was a gale of wind. Very few have visited the harbour within the last two or three years. They say that the present time 400 vessels are on their way to the Canadian fisheries, and that 400 more are following them. My own impression is that there will be from 500 to 600 American vessels in the Bay this year.

The estimates of 350 American vessels is no guess work. The number of vessels is pretty well known, Canso, Souris and Georgetown are generally the headquarters of the fleet in the Gulf. The

skippers come ashore and are communicative, in fact in many instances they are interested in other vessels and they look after the catch and can tell pretty well what it is. There is no difficulty in arriving at a general estimate of the take of boats. If a master of a fishing vessel with whom I was well acquainted, was an honest, straight-forward man, said he had 340 or 350 barrels, I should see no reason to doubt him.

A vessel may come into Georgetown with a broken spar and the captain state that there are 75 vessels at the Magdalen Islands, another vessel would report 100 vessels in Bay Chaleur, that is the only way at which you can get at the number of vessels in the Bay.

8.—Mr. George Harbour, of Sandy Beach, Gaspé :—

300 is about the average. Has seen as many as 50 at one time in the harbour. In 1872 there were at least 300 sail.

9.—Mr. William A. Sinnett, of Griffin's Cove, Gaspé :—

Has been told by American captains that there were 300 sometimes—sometimes as high as 500. Did not see all that number at one time, but has counted as many as 60 odd sail at one time near Madeleine River. Number has been decreasing for last nine years. Last year hardly any in his neighbourhood.

10.—Mr. Gregoire Granier, of Newport, Gaspé :—

Has seen more than 100 sail in a season, though Newport is not exactly the best place for fishing. Has seen more than 20 coming to anchor in front of his place. Latterly has not seen so many.

11.—Mr. William McLeod, of Port Daniel, Gaspé :—

During the season of 1852 there were from 460 to 470 American vessels in the Gulf,—mackeralers. In 1854 from 200 to 300 American vessels were fishing in the Bay of Chaleur. In 1855 from 200 to 300, probably in that quarter; probably 600 in the Gulf. They told me that there were about 600 inside of Canso. In 1856 about the usual number. In 1857 the same, and up to '62 about the same thing, also in '64, '65 and '66 the same. In '67 there were from 300 to 400 inside the Bay Chaleur. I have seen in 1867 250 lying at anchor in Port Daniel Bay, and as many more at Paspébiac on the same day, three-fourths Americans.

12.—Mr. Philip Vibert, of Perce, Gaspé :—

Of late years few United States vessels have visited our district for mackerel, but I have seen 200 or 300 in sight at one time. Not more than 4 or 5 years ago I counted 167 from my house. I have seen 300 in Bay Chaleur, and steaming up to Quebec, have seen as many more on the way up. The average number from the Gut of Canso upwards I should put at not less than from 350 to 400 per trip, averaging 70 or 75 tons.

13.—Mr. John James Fox, of Amherst Harbour, M. I. :—

100 United States fishing vessels entered Amherst Harbour in 1854, seining altogether from the shore for herring. They also frequent the coast in considerable numbers for mackerel, but we never see any mackerelers after the 1st of September. The weather becomes stormy, and it becomes unsafe. The fish also shift about different localities and they follow them.

Some seasons during Reciprocity the mackerel vessels in the Gulf would number 1000 or more. Except the last year or two, I should place the average around the Magdalene Islands at between 450 and 500.

14.—Mr. George Mackenzie, of New London, P. E. I. :—

Average for the past 20 years 500 sail. Has diminished greatly within the past 4 years.

18.—Mr. Angus Grant, of Port Hawkesbury, C. B. :—

From 1854 to 1856 average between 500 and 600 within the Bay. Has seen 400 sail in Port Hood at a time. The number increased from 1856 to 1869, and of larger tonnage. Since 1869 down, 600 to 700 sail. Quite a large fleet in 1873, about 500 in 1874, not so many in 1875 and 1876, perhaps not quite half of that. This year there is quite a large fleet coming. Has seen them coming every day. Lives on Strait of Canso and can see them pass. Average number of United States codfishing fleet from 200 to 300 sail.

19. Mr. James McKay, Port Mulgrave :—

I have seen as many as 20 or 25 sail sailing up the Strait of Canso with a fair wind. No one man stationed in the Gut of Canso can get an accurate list of the vessels that go through there—to do so is a moral impossibility. The number of American vessels coming into the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the Reciprocity Treaty would average 600. In one of the years 1866, '67, or '68, fished among a large fleet around Cape Breton. I should judge there were 300 sail there then. In 1867 the number of the American fleet in the Bay would be 500. In '69 and '70 the American fleet averaged 500.

In 1872 the American fleet numbered from 400 to 500 sail. In 1874 the average was about the same. The number might have fallen off slightly. In 1875 the number had slightly fallen off. The mackerel in that year were not as plentiful in the Gulf as formerly, and they were more plentiful than usual on the American coast. I have kept count of the American vessels that have passed through the Strait of Canso since the 21st of July, and I have counted 78. I am certain more have gone through of which I have not heard.

20.—Mr. James Purcell, Port Mulgrave, Collector of Light Dues :—

The number of Light Dues collected would not be a fair return as showing the actual number of vessels that pass through the Gut of Canso, inasmuch as, supposing 20 vessels came along, I would not be able to board one-half of them. The average number of the American mackerel fleet that frequented the Bay each season during the Reciprocity Treaty would be from 500 to 600. After the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty it decreased. The fleet decreased after the license of \$2 per ton came into force; when the arrangement was made for 50 cents per ton the fleet came nearly as usual. I speak of the years 1868, 1869 and 1870. There was a large fleet in 1870 in the Bay. In 1875 and 1876 the number fell off.

21.—Captain Hardinge, R. N. :—

In 1870 I saw a fleet of 53 fishing vessels. I have it recorded.

22.—Mr. John Nicholson, of Louisburg, C. B. :—

I should say 300 sail as far as my eye could extend would be the number of American vessels that I have seen fishing for mackerel at one time in Canadian waters. I have seen American vessels fishing for mackerel in number about 300 sail. Some days they were together and some days not so. They all sailed round P. E. Island and along the shores of Cape Breton.

23.—Mr. John Maguire, of Steep Creek, N. S. :—

During Reciprocity Treaty to the best of his knowledge 400 or 500 sail passed through the Strait of Canso. Has heard of 700 sail, but does not say it is correct. 25 to 75 sail on an average fishing for herring at Magdalen Islands. 300 sail of codfishermen have touched at our shores, some years more, some less. There was a large fleet in the Bay in 1873. From 1874 numbers began to diminish.

24.—Mr. William Brown, of Port Medway, N. S. :—

There were about 75 United States seiners in the Bay when he left this year, (probably about the end of July).

29.—Mr. James Maclean, of Letite, N. B. :—

About 100 or 125 American vessels are employed in the winter herring fishery about Passamaquoddy Bay. They average from 10 to 40 tons.

30.—Mr. James Lord, of Deer Island, N. B. :—

About 80 to 100 sail of vessels visit Passamaquoddy Bay every Spring for bait.

32.—Honorable Thomas Savage, of Cape Cove, Gaspé :—

Estimates that he has seen 150 to 200 American mackerelers in sight of his own door, all fishing for mackerel and all fishing within three miles from shore.

33.—Mr. James Baker, of Cape Cove, Gaspé :—

I should say that the total number of the American codfishing fleet engaged in the Gulf of St. Lawrence would be 300 to 400. I have heard that there were as many as 200 at one time at one port on the North shore of the river St. Lawrence. Witness thinks that 300 or 400 of the American fleet frequented the shore between Cape Gaspé and Bay Chaleur, including the Bay, fishing for mackerel, but not all at the same time. One day there would be from 100 to 200.

35.—Mr. William Flynn, of Perce, Gaspé :—

The American cod fishing fleet average about 400 sail in the Bay of St. Lawrence annually.

36.—Mr. Joseph Couteau, of Cape Despair, Gaspé :—

In 1857 there were over 450 American schooners fishing for mackerel in the Bay of St. Lawrence.

38.—Mr. John Short, M. P., Gaspé :—

I have seen myself from Gaspé to Point Macquereau about 150 sail, from Bay Chaleur down to Cape Chatte and around Anticosti. I have heard from the Americans of about 400 sail. The average tonnage would be 75 tons.

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.

55.—Mr. Marshall Paquet, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Fished in 1862 in an American vessel from Gloucester. There were about 500 sail of American vessels in the Gulf that year. In 1864 there were about 600 American vessels in the Gulf. In 1866 there were between 500 and 600 American vessels in the Gulf.

56.—Mr. Barnaby McIsaac, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Consider there were between 400 or 500 sail of American vessels fishing off P. E. Island in 1851 within a mile and a half from the shore. Between 1862 and 1869 supposes that in some years there were between 700 and 800 American sail in the Gulf. Between 1851 and 1874 the American fleet would average five to six hundred.

57.—Mr. Joseph Tierney, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

During the 15 or 16 years he had been at sea since 1862, there have been in the Gulf between 400 and 500 sail of American vessels. The most he has seen at one time was 250.

58.—Mr. James McPhee, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

In 1863 there were 400 or 500 sail of Americans in the Bay of St. Lawrence.

In 1864 there were 600 sail of Americans in the Gulf.

In 1866 about 400 American vessels in the Gulf.

In 1868 about 400 American vessels in the Gulf.

In 1873 there were 300 American vessels in the Gulf.

59.—Mr. John McDonald, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

In 1853 there were 500 or 600 sail of American vessels in the Gulf.

In 1854 about the same number.

In 1855 do do do

In 1856 do do do

In 1857 do do do

In 1866 between 500 and 600 American vessels fishing in the Gulf.

In 1868 between 400 and 500 sail.

61.—Mr. John R. McDonald, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Think that as many as 300 American vessels would be gathered at one time in the Gulf, and that nearly all took their fish within three miles of the shore.

62.—Mr. John D. Macdonald, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

In 1863 there were between 500 and 600 American vessels in the Gulf, and the average catch of the fleet was about 500 barrels. In 1865 there were about the same number of American vessels in the Gulf. In 1867 there were about the same number.

65.—Hon. Robert Young, of Caraquette, N. B. :—

During the time of the Reciprocity Treaty, has seen about 300 mackerelers frequenting the Bay of Chaleurs. Since 1871, about 100 vessels have frequented this Bay. Has himself seen about 40 American fishing vessels in the Bay of Chaleurs in 1872, 1873 and 1874.

66.—Mr. Ronald McDonald, of East Point, P. E. I. :

During the 15 years witness has been fishing in the Gulf, the average number of the American fleet coming into the Gulf has been from 400 to 500 sail. I have counted 300 sail at one place; they sailed past East Point, P. E. I., during one day.

68.—Mr. Clement McIsaac, of Eastport, P. E. I. :—

In 1868 there were between 400 and 500 American vessels in the Gulf. In 1873 there were between 300 and 400.

69.—Mr. Laughlin Macdonald, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

From 1862 to 1868 there were 400 or 500 vessels in the Bay, during the first years I went there, the vessels would number about 700, but after that the average would be from 400 to 500.

70.—Mr. Joseph Beaton, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

About 400 American vessels were in the Bay in 1871.

75.—Mr. John C. Cunningham, of Cape Sable Island, N. S. :—

About 40 to 75 American vessels fish along the shore of Shelburne County. Tonnage 25 to 60 tons—(average 50 tons)—they usually make about seven trips, May to August, after which halibut disappear.

76.—Mr. B. H. Ruggles, of Brier Island, Digby :—

The United States fishermen frequent St. Mary's Bay for halibut, cod, haddock, hake and herring, and sometimes mackerel. Have heard 4 or 5 years ago of as many as 180 mackerelers being in St. Mary's Bay at one time, and many small boats of 9 or 10 tons fishing inshore for other kinds of fish, including cod and halibut. Last year 30 from Tiverton and Petit Passage alone.

77.—Mr. Josiah Hopkins, of Barrington, N. S. :—

From information received I should say a large fleet of vessels from New London fish in our neighbourhood, some of them inshore and some out.

79.—Mr. John Purney, of Sandy Point, N. S. :—

United States fishermen frequent coasts of Shelburne County, a few fish inside, more outside of 3 miles for halibut. American vessels constantly in and out for bait.

B.

The kinds and quantities of Fish United States Fishermen take, and where they take them.

No. 1.—Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Has engaged in fishing since 1848, principally in United States schooners, with the following results :

1848, U. S. schooner "Josephine," 65 tons, 300 bbls. in one trip—all inshore in bight of P. E. I.

1849, U. S. schooner "Hezron," of Newburyport, 80 tons, about 500 bbls. in Bay des Chaleurs and P. E. I.

1850, U. S. schooner "Fanny," in Gulf, 1st trip, 260 bbls. ; 2d trip, 310 bbls.

1851, U. S. schooner "Herald," of Newburyport, in Gulf of St. Lawrence, 1 trip, about 400 bbls.

1852, in "Rio del Norte," of Gloucester, 60 tons ; 1st trip on U. S. coast, 110 bbls, very small fish ; 2d trip between Port Hood and Cheticamp—240 bbls. in a fortnight all inshore. Not 500 bbls. caught that season by whole fleet outside two miles from shore.

1853, "Montano," 140 bbls. in 1 trip.

1854, "Ellen," of Newburyport, 1 trip, 340 bbls.

1855, "Morning Star," of Northaven, 1st trip, 250 bbls. ; 2d trip, 310 bbls.

1856, "Julia Franklin," of Georgetown, 1st trip, 360 bbls,—some at North Cape, but principal part on Bank Orphan : 2d trip, 320 bbls. in bend of P. E. I., close inshore.

1857, "Josephine," of which he was owner, 40 tons. Took 400 bbls. in 2 months, 1 trip. Sold to J. C. Hall.

1860, was in the "Gamcock," of which he was owner.

1866, took 240 bbls. in 2½ months.

General remarks :—

Average catch of U. S. vessels for last three years 250 bbls. per vessel. Average from 1848 up to last two years, 450 barrels per vessel. Has known as many as 1,520 bbls. taken by one vessel in a season. Average in 1873 would be 300 bbls,—fully two-thirds caught inside. Seven years ago the average for that year would be 700 bbls. per vessel. This was a very good year. Two-thirds at least of the mackerel caught off P. E. I. is taken within three miles—speaking from an experience of 33 years ; and some seasons none could be caught outside. The reason is that mackerel come inshore to feed. In Bay de Chaleurs the fishing is all inshore, the reason being that in the centre it is deep water with a strong current. On the south side are banks where fish food abounds.

2.—Mr. James R. MacLean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Fished in U. S. fishing vessel "Rescue," in 1858, generally within a quarter, sometimes within half a mile ; never to his knowledge fished more than two miles off shores.

Fished one trip from September to October, caught 450 bbls. All taken except 15 bbls. close inshore.

From his experience in fishing, and from the quantities he has seen taken when fishing there, would be seven-eighths within the three-mile limit, even within two miles. From conversations he had had with different captains he may fairly say three-fourths. The reason mackerel keep so near inshore is to procure their food, such as lance and shrimps.

Some of the vessels have taken 200 bbls. in two days in the north shore with their seines. One vessel took 220 bbls.

I have seen myself along the coast for miles, as far as the eye could see, vessels among schools of mackerel, and schools of mackerel as far as the eye could see, either way, along the coast right inshore. I have seen mackerel taken with jigs in 2 fathoms of water.

The number of mackerel taken at any distance from the shore will be very small. They are only taken when shifting except in shoal grounds or banks. When the deponent fished all the mackerel he took was within 3 miles of the shore.

The second trip would be generally about the middle of August, when there is generally the best fish, particularly about Prince Edward Island. I have seen vessels make a full fare right round the north side and the south side, for in 3 weeks, in August or September, three-fourths of the mackerel catch off Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton is taken within the three mile limit.

The average catch of mackerel by the American fleet would be for twenty years (1854 to 1874) 500 barrels per vessel.

Intelligent captains have told me that each vessel would take 500 barrels; some have taken far more and more less than that. Some of the large class have taken from 700 to 750 barrels. This average is also from my own personal knowledge, having been among the fleet while they were fishing, and having traded a good deal with them and having seen them very often.

3.—Mr. John Campion, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

| VESSEL. | YEAR. | FIRST TRIP. | | SECOND TRIP. | | THIRD TRIP. | | TOTAL. | |
|--|-------|-------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|---------|----------|
| | | Inside. | Outside. | Inside. | Outside. | Inside. | Outside. | Inside. | Outside. |
| "Louise L," Curtis, Gloucester, 15th Sept., 14 men..... | 1862 | 180 b. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 180 | ..... |
| "Alferetta," Gloucester, July..... | 1863 | 200 b. | 100 b. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 535 | 100 |
| "Rescue," Gloucester..... |  | ..... | ..... | 335 b. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| "Catalena," Gloucester, June... 14 hands..... | 1864 | 300 | ..... | 220 | 80 | 285 | 45 | 805 | 125 |
| "Alferetta," Gloucester, 4th July... | 1865 | Returned to Gloucester 270 | 50 | Landed at Canso. 300 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 570 | 50 |
| | | Landed at Canso. | | Back to Gloucester | | | | | |

Did not go outside limit, because there were no fish there. Some vessels used to drift off the land, but they would have to sail in again. They could get no fish beyond the three mile limit.

If Americans were excluded from fishing within three miles of land, I do not think they would entertain the project of coming here to fish for a moment, I would not invest money in it if excluded therefrom. That opinion is shared by American fishermen I have conversed with

Average catch of United States vessels :

1863, 650 barrels; 1864, 600 or 700 barrels; 1865, over 670 barrels; 1877, some caught 300 barrels, with seines, in a week. One vessel seined a school estimated at 1,000 barrels.

4. Mr. Joseph Campbell, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

In 1860, in the "Daniel McPhee", Am. vessel, got 280 barrels, all inshore with the exception of 65 or 70 barrels. In 1861 in the American vessel "R. H. Oats," fished rather late in the year, got about 120 barrels, about all inshore with the exception of 30 barrels. Fished off Miscou, got about 20 or 30 barrels off shore; we then came down the shore to Escuminac and packed up more or less. Every day close inshore. We got five or six barrels along the shore to the bend of P. E. Island; there we got 70 or 80 barrels in one day close inshore. Total result 310 barrels. Fished in an American vessel in American waters with Captain Hunter, off Cape Cod, and got 80 barrels; we got them from 15 to 20 miles off the land, some more times within seven or eight miles. Fished in 1862 in the "C. C. Davis," in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, about the 15th July, and caught 120 barrels in the Bay Chaleur, got about 30 or 40 barrels on the Bradley Bank. Caught 308 or 310 barrels on the north side of P. E. Island; we got about 90 or 100 of our whole catch outside. The average catch of the American fleet in the Bay in 1862 was 400 barrels. In 1865 went from Gloucester in the "Galena." We left in the end of June. Up to the 1st of September we got 600 barrels. Trans-shipped them at Canso; returned to the Bay and got about 310 barrels more. We made in the round season's work between 900 and 1000 barrels.

British fishermen catch the codfish in the spring inshore from 1 to 1½ miles from the shore; later in the year they go to the banks. We catch them in trawls, principally in vessels of from 40 to 60 tons, but mostly in boats. Codfish strike inshore about the 1st of June and continue there till the middle of July when, and in the months of August, they take to deep water. Codfish we take in the spring inshore are a larger fish than we catch outside. We call them set line fish.

In 1868 fished in the "Isaac Rich," in September or the later part of August got about 210 barrels, caught two-thirds inside the limit; trans-shipped them and caught about 210 barrels more on the second trip. In 1869 was in the "Isaac Rich"; fished in August, got 450 barrels all inshore except 110 barrels. In 1870 gave up fishing in American vessels and fished in my own principally in the Bay Chaleur, fully two-thirds of the fish are taken by the fishing vessels within the limits. Caught in 1870 316 or 318 barrels, all taken inside the limits except 50 or 60 barrels. The average catch of American vessels that year and the following was from 350 to 400 barrels. In 1871 fished in the "Odell," made three short trips got 600 barrels, of which 180 only were taken outside the limits.

The American fleet caught mackerel from 2 to 2½ miles from the coast. There was not much fishing doing outside 3 miles. On the Labrador coast near seven Islands mackerel are sometimes taken within 100 yards of the shore, sometimes closer. We anchor the vessel and go in a dory. The average of our catch there would be 200 barrels all taken close inshore. In 1859 was in the U. S. vessel "Daniel Webster," and took late in July in the Bay Chaleur 110 barrels of mackerel, all within the three mile limit. Our entire catch was 310 barrels. All the fish we caught on the coast of P. E. Island were inshore with the exception of 10 barrels. Only 70 or 80 barrels out of the three hundred were caught outside. Considerably more than half were got inside the limits. We ended our trip in September and the privilege of trans-shipment prevented the loss of our time. It was a good year and although we got nearly 1000 barrels the average of the whole fleet would be about 600 barrels. In 1866 fished in the "Wm. S. Baker" in the Bay of St. Lawrence; came late in August; made one trip and got 415 barrels. In 1867 we got over 500 barrels caught within three miles with the exception of 100 barrels.

The mackerel are generally taken from a ½ a mile to 1 mile and a half or 2 miles from the shore. Codfish are generally taken from 3 to 6 miles, that is on the north side. In the Spring of the year of course they would be inside.

5.—Mr. MacNeill, of Rustico, P. E. I. :—

In the spring we catch codfish within the three mile limit, but after the first school has arrived they move off into deep water. They are pretty large fish. This season, in 1877, I am told one American seiner took 200 bbls. of mackerel between Rustico Cape and New London Head within three mile limit.

15,000 bbls. of mackerel were taken in Rustico in 1874. The average catch on the North Shore of the Island during the past fourteen years has exceeded 30,000 bbls. of mackerel. The average catch one year with another would be about 100 bbls. per boat.

6.—Mr. Poirier of P. E. I. :—

Previous to the year 1853-4 the fishing prosecuted on the North Cape of P. E. Island was for cod: since then their attention has been turned to mackerel fishing. The boat fishing has greatly increased from 1854 from 300 to 400 per cent. Our biggest boats have only about 30 ft. beam. We catch herring in the spring; we generally get bait enough for our fishing. There are about 280 boats of all sizes fishing exclusively between Minnigash and Cascumpec. 30 feet boats costs between \$300 or \$400 when properly built, rigged, and fitted out. The cod fishery is carried on to a considerable extent about a mile from the shore. They strike in close inshore to feed on the herrings spawn. Quantities of caplin are likewise caught. The catch of cod this season was about 5000 quintals. The hake fishery follows the cod. Mackerel fishery begins about the 20th day of June. Hake fishing begins about the 25th July or perhaps the 1st August, and remains about six weeks or perhaps two months about the same place, and from the 20th June up through July, August, and Sept. the mackerel are all caught within 2 miles of the shore round our portion of the Island. Can safely say from an experience of 40 years that I have never caught mackerel more than 2 miles from the shore around there. The Americans fish mackerel largely.

The catches of mackerel have been very good so far this year.

The hake eat the mackerel and follow them. Hake is a fish something like codfish only generally larger. They are caught in the night time as they do not bite in the day.

They sometimes come within two fathoms of water. As far as I know, very few mackerel are taken outside three miles from the shore. I am not aware of any being caught outside the three mile limit all around this shore. When the fish are decoyed away we lose them for that year. Another school may strike in, but the same school will not return. That we know by seeing the different quality of mackerel. The average catch would be from 500 to 600 barrels to the Americans per season, per vessel.

7.—Hon. Mr. Howland, of Cascumpec, P. E. I. :—

Mackerel are caught from one to two miles from the shore.

8.—Mr. George Harbour, of Sandy Beach, Gaspé :—

They come in right to the shore—close in to the rocks. Upon an average they take 500 bbls. in a season (two trips). One more, Capt. Marshall, took 350 bbls. in three weeks—that was nine years ago. Has never seen them fishing for mackerel outside 3 miles—but has seen them fishing for cod outside.

Mr. William S. Sinnett, of Griffin Cove, Gaspé.

Inside is the best place to fish. Has seen American skippers fish 2 miles from the shore, and inside of a mile for mackerel—never seen them further than that—they generally fish in by the shore. Has never seen them fishing outside of three miles. One U. S. vessel he was on board took 200 bbls., all inside one mile. Average catch per year, 500 bbls. One captain told him he had caught as high as 1390 bbls.

During last few years mackerel have been scarce in his neighbourhood—but this year more cod than last year. Cod is caught in his neighbourhood at 1½ to 2 miles from shore—not further—there are no banks. Some boats get 300 draughts of cod—a draught is 224 lbs., worth \$2 to \$2.50 per draught.

N. B.—The witness speaks entirely with reference to his own locality, where cod fishing is the principal business.

10.—Mr. Gregoire Grenier, of Newport, Gaspé :—

Has seen Americans fishing for mackerel 25 yards from the Point. Should think the vessels coming to his place would carry from 400 to 450 bbls. each. I would estimate season's catch 500 to 600 bbls. This gives a good many mackerel reported near the Magdalen Islands. Has seen some fishing for mackerel beyond 3 miles, but the majority fished within the three miles. More than two-thirds of whole catch of Americans taken inside 3 miles.

11.—Mr. Wm. Macleod of Port Daniel, Gaspé :—

American fishing vessels fished mostly within three miles of the shore in the Bay of Chaleur. Fished in U. S. schooners. In the "Ida," 65 tons, of Gloucester, in 1851. Took 325 bbls. Fished in the "Biona," caught 40 bbls. off Pabas Bay in 1852, in 2½ hours within a mile and a half of the shore.

In 1853 fished in the American schooner "Minerva." Fished within ½ a mile of Bonaventure Island. Left the vessel after three weeks. Took only 80 bbls., much molested by cutters and we could catch no fish outside the limits. With regard to mackerel an exceptionally heavy catch was made in 1854 in the centre of the Bay of Chaleur. But that occurred only once. It was made by an American fishing vessel handlining. Took fish off Miscou and Shippegan within half a mile of the shore. The coast is bold and rocky with deep water right inshore.

In '67 and '68 the average catch *per trip*, I heard, was 250 bbls., or an average of 500 bbls. for the season. The same average would apply to the year 1870. This year promises to be a plentiful one. When I left home one seiner, a schooner 90 or 100 tons, had then 250 bbls. on board. He had caught them between Miscou and Escuminac.

12.—Mr. Philip Vibert, of Perce, Gaspé :—

The Americans fish largely for cod on our waters and halibut, which are caught within 3 miles.

13.—Mr. John James Fox, of Amherst Harbor, M. I. :—

600,000 barrels of herring have been entered outward from M. I. by Americans since 1854, and at least one-half the vessels have failed to report. They can be sold at a profit at \$2 a barrel. We value them on board at \$1 per barrel. They are taken in seines from the shore, also purse seines outside. Mackerel have been abundant the last few years.

14.—Mr. George Mackenzie, of New London, P. E. I. :—

United States fleet fish from one mile to two miles of shore, from Miscou to Richibucto, on the "west shore,"—banks Bradley and Orphan used to be good, they seldom go there now. On shore of P. E. Island, they fish from one to two miles of shore. At Cape Breton most of the fish taken inshore, not often outside. Average catch about 700 barrels per season—for last three years average not so large. They take two-thirds in shore, but some skippers got all their catch in deep water, perhaps about one vessel in 20.

18.—Mr. Angus Grant, of Port Hawksbury, C. B. :—

In 1846 was in United States vessel *Sea Flower*, 50 tons, Capt. Alonzo Furbush, of Newburyport. Took in Canadian waters 250 to 300 bbls., 1st trip half inshore, same second trip, all inshore, on coast of P. E. Island, never caught any on Magdalen Islands, it is a stormy place.

In 1847 in the *Sea Flower* again, 2 trips 250 to 300 bbls. each trip, half of 1st trip inshore, all of second trip inshore, "fall" trips usually taken all inshore.

In 1848 in the *Eagle* of East Machias, 45 tons, Davis, Master. One trip 150 qtls. codfish and 120 or 130 bbls mackerel, off north side of P. E. I., close inshore, from half a mile to a mile and a half.

In 1849 in the *Cypress* of Newburyport, Captain Furbush, 2 trips, about 300 bbls. each trip, half 1st batch inside, all of second. This was the invariable rule.

In 1850 in *Cypress* again, 2 trips, about the same results.

In 1851 in *Cypress*, two trips, 1st, trip about 300 bbls., 2nd about 200, went home on account of gale without full fare.

In 1852 in the *Garland*, 150 or 120 tons, Captain Furbush, one trip not more than 300 barrels, half inshore and half offshore.

In 1853 in a native vessel, the *Matilda*, got 200 bbls, close inshore.

In 1855 in United States vessel *Kuneta*, 90 or 100 tons, one trip 160 bbls in 5 days at Aspy Bay.

Average catch would perhaps be 600 bbls. Some vessels got 1000 or 1100 bbls., about ¾ taken inshore.

From 1856 to 1869 average catch would be 600 to 700 bbls.

19.—Mr. James McKay, of Port Mulgrave, Inspector :—

Fished in 1837 on board United States vessel *Propoise* of Maine, and caught 160 bbls. In 1842 or 1843 caught only 35 bbls in about two months.

Caught on board the United States vessel *Marshall Ney*, in 1862, on her first trip, close inshore off Cape Breton, so close that we would sometimes be and anchor among the boats, about 250 bbls

None of the fish taken on that trip were caught offshore. Caught 260 bbls. second trip, two-thirds of which were caught inshore. In 1863 caught 400 bbls, about one-third outside. What I call fishing inshore is when we run close to the shore and induce a school of mackerel to follow us out. Though we then drift off for 10 miles, I call that inshore fishing, because we fetch the mackerel from the shore.

In 1872 fished in the American schooner *Colonel Cook*, and caught 400 bbls on second trip, $\frac{3}{4}$ caught inshore. Caught 800 bbls. of mackerel in two trips in 1872. In 1873 caught 360 bbls. in two trips. The greatest portion of the fish were taken about Cape Low, Cape Breton, close inshore.

Captain Joyce told me there was a good prospect for mackerel fishing this year. He got 300 bbls. in the schooner *Alice* in about one month and went home. He got them all in two or three small hauls, caught with a seine, and close inshore,

20.—Mr. James Purcell, collector of Light Dues, Port Mulgrave:—

The average catch of the American fleet is about 250 barrels *a trip*. I take the whole thing as a general average good and bad years as they come. During the American Civil war the average was higher, when they made more than two trips.

With regard to the average catch of cod fishermen, I have heard that they go down with 500 barrels and return with a 1000. I have seen their vessels deeply laden, and have asked how they fared, and they have said they fared well, or if they had not done so they would tell me so. With regard to the herring fishery there are on an average 50 vessels on the Magdalen coast, average about 1000 barrels per vessel. They bring a large quantity of herring from Boone Bay, Newfoundland. This year there was some vessels taking large cargoes at the Magdalen Islands for Norway.

21.—Captain Hardinge, R. N. :—

The best fishing is within 3 miles, without a doubt, there can be no two opinions on that point. From my experience and observation on my own station, and from information I obtained, it is my opinion that the outside fishing for mackerel is of no account whatever, I never received any information to the contrary, it was always to that effect.

22.—Mr. John Nicholson, of Louisburg, C. B. :—

Of a fleet of 300 American vessels that I have seen mackerel fishing about all were within 3 miles of the shore. They generally fish from close to the rocks till they get off fifteen or twenty miles. If the fish are inshore they run right in till they are obliged to get underweigh to prevent going on the rocks. Perhaps at other times the vessels will have to go 15 miles out. They fish sometimes off and sometimes on shore. I have been catching as high as 400 barrels of mackerel in one season. About all the catch was within three miles of the shore. With regard to the other vessels most of the mackerel is taken within three miles, that is close inshore. This applies to the mackerel I have seen taken. I have taken mackerel close inshore even with seines, that is in Canadian waters. On the American coast it is different,—they go away from the shore.

I have seen Americans fishing for cod in Canadian waters inside the Gulf. Not long ago I saw one up here a little to the West of Halifax, close inshore. She was fishing for cod; her dories were out drawing trawls. I was on board a vessel going outside.

The halibut fishery is a deep sea fishery. It used not to be. Halibut used to be caught very close inshore. In the summer the Gloucester people get halibut in shallow water, but in winter they have to fish in 100 fathoms of water.

23.—Mr. John Maguire, of Steep Creek, N. B. :—

Has known mackerelmen to take 1000 barrels some seasons, down to 300. Take an average of 600 barrels per season for all trips. In 1864, out of 25 vessels which dealt with him, 14 made 2 trips, eleven made 3 trips, and one sent one fare and took two home. Most of the United States captains with whom he has conversed say they catch them inshore.

24.—Mr. William Brown of Port Medway, N. S. :—

75 United States vessels were seining right inshore this year—right against the shore—on the Island coast in about 12, 15, and sometimes 18 fathoms of water, about two miles off. The "*Panama*" had a shoal seine and came right in—closer than two miles. Fishing this year the "*D. F. Low*" got 150 barrels not over 2 miles from shore. The "*Frederic Garon*" caught 200 barrels in one day and another vessel had about 200 barrels, as well as others with very large decks.

One year a vessel owned in Boston took 500 barrels at Bathurst and in Port Daniel Harbour—about half a mile from shore.

About 20 years ago was in the "*Diadem*" and "*Austerlitz*," United States vessels. In the latter, a Gloucester vessel, they made two full fares, one 360 and the other 400 barrels, 760 about in all. Caught them all inshore the first trip, on the West shore—Point Miscou and off Shippegan and Tracadie. The second trip over 200 barrels were taken just outside Malpeque Harbour, hardly half a mile from shore. The rest at Cheticamp. During four years that he fished in United States vessels they averaged about 300 barrels per trip in the fall. Took over 200 barrels once in a small United States vessel, the "*Fairy Queen*," Captain McLeod, 50 tons, (probably old measurement—equal to about 33 tons of present measurement). After some years fishing in vessels of his own he again went in United States vessels. The "*Charles H. Hildreth*," was the first. Made 2 trips, 300

barrels each trip. That was all she could carry. In British vessels—the “Emeline,” had 300 barrels the first trip and 250 barrels the second. Made full fares also in the “Belle” and the “Fan.” In 1869 and 1870 was in the “Abby Alice” a British vessel owned in Boston by Clark & Woodworth. In 1869 landed between 800 and 900 barrels—the heft of them right against shore in the Bay de Chaleur as far up as Bathurst.

25.—Mr. James W. Bigelow, of Wolfville, N. S. :—

An American will generally make one trip for mackerel and one for cod. Early in the Spring they fish for cod and in August and September for mackerel. For the Spring codfishery they go to Western and LaHave Banks, and Summer and Autumn fisheries they go to the Grand Bank and Banquereau Bank. The Spring fishery for cod is in the months of March, April and part of May. The Banquereau fishery is in May and June and the Bank fishery in June, July and August and all the season. When they fish for fresh fish and carry home the fish in ice, they make from 6 to 8 or 10 and perhaps 20 trips in a year. Quality and not quantity is the desideratum in the fresh cod fishery. The salt fish business is at an end on this continent—fresh fish in ice is the new method of transacting the fish business with the United States. Witness contemplates going into the business at Halifax.

26.—Mr. John Stapleton, of Port Hawkesbury, C. B. :—

Fished for cod in an American vessel off Cape North, P. E. I. in 1836, '37 and '38. Fished in the Spring school of cod in shoal water about $2\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from shore. The last year got 600 quintal of cod. In 1841 fished for mackerel off Tracadie, P. E. I. one mile from land and caught 150 barrels. The cutter took five vessels that year, about 20 to 30 vessels being on the fishing grounds on Cape Breton Island close in shore. From 1848 to 1851 fished in Bay Chaleur, on the West coast of New Brunswick, to Escuminac and Point Miscou, from Point Miscou to Shippegan, and thence to Paspebiac and Port Daniel down to Gaspé, around Bonaventure Island as far as Cape Rozier. Fished during that period in British vessels with the American fleet and always inshore. As a result of conversation with American fishermen witness considers that three-fourths of the fish are caught inshore. In 1851 witness fished with 50 American vessels close inshore near Margaree and round Cheticamp, C. B., and all got full fares, within a quarter of a mile from shore. Witness has seen 300 of the American fleet at Port Hood at one time.

29.—Mr. James Maclean, of Letite, N. B. :—

Before the Washington Treaty the Americans bought fish on this coast; since 1871, they come in in great numbers and fish inshore. In the winter herring fishery they employ 100 to 125 vessels, small and large, from 10 to 40 tons—if there is a large catch the men take the herring to the beach to freeze them, if a small catch they freeze them on board. They sell the fish as they freeze them, and the buyers take them away, the trade is continuous throughout the winter. The fishermen along the coast of Maine come and fish in British waters within three miles of the coast. At least from 7 to 10 millions of herring are caught in our waters and go to Eastport, a few may be taken outside.

30.—Mr. James Lord, of Deer Island, N. B. :—

Considers that the value of the British catch within three miles of the shores of the Islands, and on the mainland from Point Lepreaux, including West Isles, Campbello and Grand Manan is about nine or ten hundred thousand dollars. The American fishermen take on these coasts every year as much as the British fisherman. The fishermen belonging to the numerous settlements westward of Eastport, in the State of Maine, fish in British waters. They cannot make a business fishing in their own waters. All the fisheries in witnesses' district are within three miles from land, that is the hake, haddock, herring and pollock.

31.—Mr. Walter B. McLaughlin, Fishery overseer, at Grand Manan, N. B. :—

Since the Washington Treaty the Americans do a large amount of boat fishing about the island of Grand Manan. As soon as they get a boat load they go home. They fish inshore. They get bait there. About 40 sail come to Grand Manan.

The value of the Grand Manan British fishery is about \$500,000 annually. Witness thinks the American catch at Grand Manan is large. If debarred from coming within the three mile limit, they could not get bait nor fares. The mainland British fishery from Letite to Lepreaux would be more than half of Grand Manan fishery, or the Campbello and West Isles fishery, which are annually \$500,000 each. Witness judges that the Americans catch the same amount of fish as the British. “I would say that they probably surpass our catch.” Witness thinks that a million and a half of dollars worth of fish would be a fair valuation of the American catch around the islands and the mainland named, or around Grand Manan, West Isles, Campbello, and from Letite to Lepreaux on the N. B. shore, and within three marine miles from the shore. Witness considers this a low estimate.

32.—Hon. Thomas Savage, of Cape Cove, Gaspé.

Nine-tenths of the cod caught on our coast are taken within the three mile limit, and this has always been the case. The fishing grounds referred to extend from Cape Gaspé to Cape Chatte,

and on the Orphan and Bradley banks. As soon as the mackerel come in the Americans take that fish and the Gaspé fishermen cannot get bait. Witness considers that this diminishes the Gaspé fishermen's catch by one-fourth.

33.—Mr. James Baker, of Cape Cove, Gaspé:—

Between Cape Gaspé and Bay Chaleur the principal part of the cod in the district is within three miles from the shore. Outside fishing is on Miscou bank after the spring inshore fishing is over. Codfishing last from May to October, sometimes November. Witness has seen 40 American schooners codfishing on Miscou banks. They get bait principally along the shores, catching it for themselves, close inshore, herring, squid, mackerel and caplin. Americans take codfish on the north shore of the river St. Lawrence. Witness has heard that there were as many as 200 of the American codfishing fleet in one port on the north shore at one time. They fish half a mile from the shore and less. 700 quintals of dry fish would be an average for one of these American codfishing schooners. There are about 1100 boats belonging to the coast between St. Peters and Paspébiac. Witness believes that the principal part of the mackerel taken up by the Americans on the Gaspé coast towards and in Bay of Chaleurs is taken inside the three mile limits, about three fourths of the whole catch. About 700 barrels is the average American catch down to 1866. If prevented from coming inshore they could not prosecute the mackerel fishery with success.

34.—Mr. James Jessop, of Newport, Gaspé:—

Has seen the Americans fishing from Cape Chatte to Gaspé, right along the shore, all within one mile or two miles from the shore. On the north shore of Bay Chaleurs the great body of mackerel is found along the shore, was on board an American vessel anchored in Newport Harbor, they caught the mackerel in Carnival Cove, two cables' length from shore, and got 100 barrels a day..

35.—Mr. William Flynn, of Percé, Gaspé:—

Americans fish on our shores for cod, chiefly, however, on Miscou and Orphan Bank, they average 40 sail on Miscou Bank. They come inshore to take bait, which is essential for their trawls on the Banks. They catch mackerel and herring for this purpose. The bait is taken quite close inshore, about half or three quarters of a mile off. The average quantity of mackerel the Americans take off the Gaspé shore is about 600 to 700 barrels, many make two trips. The ordinary tonnage of these vessels is about 70 tons, some range up to 120 tons.

36.—Mr. Joseph Couteau, of Cape Despair, Gaspé:—

The Americans fish along the coast of Gaspé from one to three miles offshore, and also on Miscou Bank. They procure their bait on or near the coast. Have taken cod in an American vessel in 1857 on Cape Breton coast from a mile to a mile and a half from the shore. Fished about the same distance from the Magdalen Islands. Took 330 quintals, three-fourths being taken off the Cape Breton and Magdalen Islands, and one-fourth on Miscou Bank. Obtained the bait from Cape Breton shore. Caught mackerel in the same vessel off P. E. I. within two miles of the shore, caught 260 barrels. A vessel of 70 tons requires a load of between 450 and 500 barrels, this is the load generally taken. Three quarters of the cod are, in my opinion, taken within three miles of the shore, taking the whole Gulf of St. Lawrence into consideration.

38.—Mr. John Short, M. P., Gaspé:—

In estimating the American catch I could not place it at more than 700 barrels per season. That would leave a large margin for those not successful.

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

Americans take mackerel on the north shore of the Estuary of the St. Lawrence, from Point des Monts easterly. They take them from half a mile to a mile from the shore. The shore on the south side from Cape Chatte to Gaspé is of the same character as regards mackerel ground. In the Bay of Chaleurs the mackerel are caught within three miles of the coast. I have repeatedly seen American vessels, especially when the cruisers were in the Bay, come inside of the three mile limit, and their only chance of making a fare was to come and fish along the shore. The usual fare of the American cod fishing vessels is from 700 to 800 quintals.

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

Has seen from 250 to 300 American schooners in the Estuary of the St. Lawrence, they were fishing for cod. On the south shore cod can not be caught beyond three miles from the shore. At Mingan they fish from 15 to 20 miles offshore. The schooner would take about 500 or 600 barrels in the season. The mackerel is taken generally within three miles of the shore.

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

Average catch for season of mackerel, 600 barrels.

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

200 or 300 barrels mackerel a trip, making three or perhaps 4 trips.

44.—Mr. George Romeril, Percé:—

From 250 to 400 barrels a trip. Making two, sometimes three trips. I think 700 barrels a season would be a fair average, the greater part of which is taken inshore.

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

Fished in the *Bridget Ann*, took our first fare on Bank Bradley, and in Bay de Chaleurs we made three successful trips that year, the second fare we took 330 barrels at anchor, close to Bird Rocks, Magdalen Islands, the third trip we took at Margaree and Cheticamp, all inshore. All the fish taken at Margaree and Cheticamp are taken within 3 miles of the shore.

In 1852 fished in the *Charles Robin*, we made only one trip and took, I think, 300 barrels, most of them at Margaree, inshore.

In 1853 fished in *Sunbeam*, made one trip in the fall, took about 300 barrels, most of them taken between Cheticamp and Margaree, all taken inshore.

Sailed next in *Quickstep*, made two trips, first trip not successful, took 150 barrels, on last trip took 250 barrels off Cheticamp, inshore, the first trip we seined on Bank Bradley.

Sailed next in *Arbutus*, made two trips of 300 and 350 barrels, the first trip taken off Magdalen Islands and East Point, the last trip we took off Margaree and Cheticamp, close inshore.

Fished next year in *James Seward*, made two trips, it was a 300 barrel vessel, and we took two full fares. The first fare was taken at Magdalen Islands and at Bend of P. E. I., the last fare was taken at Cheticamp and Margaree.

Fished next in *Mohenia*, as Captain, made two trips, took 250 barrels first trip, and perhaps 300 barrels the next. I think first fare was taken off East Point, P. E. I., might have got a few at Bank Bradley, the last fare was got at Margaree.

Fished next year in *Mohenia*, made two trips with about the same result, the fish being taken on about the same ground.

Fished next in *Shooting Star*, made two trips, taking some at Bend of Island, and off Point Miscou, and perhaps some at Bank Bradley, last trip was taken chiefly off Port Hood Island, also at Margaree, we fished half a mile from land.

Fished next in *Charles Macdonnell*, made two trips, one of 200, another 300 barrels, some of the first fare taken at Bend of P. E. I., and some off Pictou, the last fare was taken inshore.

Fished next in *Allan Forester*, made only one trip, took 750 or 775 barrels fat mackerel, most of it was taken at Margaree, about three-fourths was taken inside 3 miles, it took us 11 or 12 weeks for the trip.

Went next year in *Allan Forester* to Newfoundland for herring.

Next year went in *George B. Loring*, made three successful trips, landed 900 barrels, of which three-fourth was taken inshore, the first fare was taken in Bay of Chaleur, the second was at Magdalen Islands, the third off Margaree, making two-thirds of whole taken within prescribed limits.

During years I fished in Gulf in Summer, I went to Newfoundland in winter for herring, I went there, I think, 10 winters, paid \$1 per barrel for frozen herring, have heard of vessels giving \$3.

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

I was informed by the master of one vessel that he landed one season 1,500 to 1,600 barrels at the Strait of Canso. Part of these were transhipped. I understood he made four trips—average catch might be from 500 to 600 bbls. a season.

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

Their usual rule when there was no cutter was to fish within three miles.

49.—Mr. P. Fortin, of Quebec:—

Americans take on an average 350 to 600 quintals of cod, and 250 to 350 barrels of mackerel.

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

I remember the "John Wesley," United States mackereler. She used to come regularly to our inshores in the Bay. She took usually 2 cargoes. She took always all she could carry.

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

The American fishermen fish for mackerel on the Atlantic coast of Cape Breton Island from Cape North to Scattarie in August, September and October, fishing inshore and offshore, but more inshore than offshore. In the fall they follow the mackerel and go home. Americans fished on the Atlantic coast of Cape Breton between Cape North and Scattarie with the hook generally. They would throw bait overboard, and then if they raised mackerel they would drift off shore and catch them, returning toward the shore when the fish diminished in numbers and repeating the operation.

53.—Mr. Charles Creed, of Halifax:—

A fair average catch of mackerel by the American fishermen would be 800 barrels.

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

Fished on an American vessel the "Swan" in 1867 off Port Hood and Margaree, C. B., within the three mile limits.

55.—Mr. Marshall Paquet, of Souris, P. E. I.:—

Fished in an American vessel in the Gulf in 1860, caught about 450 barrels mackerel. In 1862 took 475 barrels. In 1864 fished in a Gloucester vessel and took 950 barrels in the Gulf. In 1866 was in a P. E. Island schooner and took 550 barrels. Three quarters of all these fish were taken inshore, within the three mile limits. In 1864 seven-eighths of the 950 barrels of fish were taken within three miles of the shore. The fish taken near Margaree, Cheticamp, Broad Cove, and Lindo Cove on the Cape Breton shore were all caught within the three mile limit. About P. E. Island the fish are taken between half a mile and two miles from the shore. On the New Brunswick shore within 2½ to three miles from shore. In the Bay Chaleur within a ¼ mile and 1½ miles from shore. A few may be caught in the centre of the Bay. Along the South side of the River St. Lawrence about 150 yards from shore. Fished on Banks Bradley and Orphan in 1860 for five or six weeks but caught no mackerel worth mentioning, ran over to P. E. I. and got 450 barrels between West Shore and P. E. I. Doubts whether if prohibited from going within three miles of P. E. Island shore he could have caught the fish he took outside when drifting off the coast.

56.—Mr. Barnaby McIsaac, of East Point, P. E. I.:—

In 1857 fished in the *C. C. Davies* of Gloucester, about P. E. Island and the Magdalen Islands, caught about 300 barrels, most of them inshore. In 1858 fished in the *Ellie Osborn*, caught 250 barrels. In 1859 went in the *C. C. Davies* and took 660 barrels, making two trips. Caught the first trip on the Canada shore, from Cape Rosiere to St. Anne on the south shore of the St. Lawrence, about half a mile from shore. In the second trip caught them mostly along Margaree and P. E. Island about a mile and a half off shore. In 1860 made two trips in *L. E. Bartlett*, off Gloucester, took 450 barrels, catching 100 barrels by Cape Rozier, about a mile from shore, and the rest of the trip off the Magdalens. The second trip caught the fish between Port Hood and Margaree, about 1½ miles from land. In 1861 got 300 barrels about P. E. Island and the Magdalen Islands. In 1862, '63, '64, '65, '67 and '69, went in the *John Soames*, of Gloucester, with the following results:—

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| 1862 | ..... | two | trips, | catch | 600 | to | 640 | barrels. |
| 1863 | ..... | " | " | " | about | the | same. | |
| 1864 | ..... | three | " | " | 975 | barrels. | | |
| 1865 | ..... | " | " | " | 600 | to | 640 | barrels. |

In 1864 some large vessels with large crews took 1300 to 1400 barrels. Of the entire catch McIsaac made about two-thirds, were taken within the three mile limit.

In 1870 fished in the *George P. Rice* of Gloucester, took 250 barrels, went also this season in the *Restless*, and took about 250 barrels, three-fourths of this catch being inshore. In 1871 made one trip in the *Thomas Fitch*, New London, Connecticut, caught about 300 barrels about 1½ or 1¾ of a mile from the shore. In 1874 fished in *Freedom*, from Gloucester, made two trips, catching 300 barrels, about half a mile from the shore of P. E. Island.

57.—Mr. Joseph Tierney, of Souris, P. E. I.:—

Made one trip in the *Ellen Francis*, of Gloucester, in 1872. Took 380 barrels mackerel chiefly around P. E. Island about a mile and a half from shore. Fished 11 years around P. E. Island in Island vessels, caught on an average 400 barrels a year about P. E. Island, and took three-fourths of them within the same distance (1—1½ miles) from shore. The average catches of American fishermen from 1862 to 1872 would be about 500 barrels. The Americans caught all their fish inshore.

58.—Mr. James McPhee, of East Point, P. E. I.:—

Fished in the Gulf of St. Lawrence as follows with the results named:—

1862 in the *Fannie R.*, from Gloucester, took 180 barrels within three miles of shore.

1863 in the *Edward A. D. Hart*, of Gloucester, caught 700 barrels. Landed 250 to 300 barrels taking them home in the fall. 100 barrels taken off Bradley bank, 400 barrels inshore.

1864 in the *Julia Parsons*, of Gloucester, caught 1000 barrels, made two trips, nearly all caught inshore—a few in the middle of the Bay of Chaleurs.

1865 *Edward A. D. Hart*, caught 500 barrels.

1866 " " " caught 450 barrels.

1867 *Colonel Ellsworth*, of Gloucester, got 450 barrels.

1868 *A. M. Wanson*, of Gloucester, made two trips and got 100 barrels. Took 100 barrels off shore.

1869 *Eliza R. Bradley* of Gloucester, made two trips, got 170 barrels the first trip, and about 80 the second trip. A poor year.

1870 made one trip and got 180 barrels.

1871 fished in an island vessel, got 600 barrels.

1873 fished in the *Charles Sears*, got 500 barrels.

1874 fished in the *Victor*, of Gloucester, made two trips, took 600 barrels, 500 barrels being caught inshore. Considers that three-fourths of the fish taken during the whole period he was fishing from 1862 to 1874 were taken within the three miles.

39.—Mr. John Macdonald of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Has fished about 15 years in American vessels.

Was in the *Evangeline* of Gloucester in 1853. Caught 300 barrels.

In 1854 was in the *Flying Eagle* of Gloucester. Caught about 300 barrels.

In 1855 was in the *Forest Queen* from Belfast, Maine. Got about 300 barrels.

In 1856 fished in a British vessel, the *Emerald*, and took about 300 barrels, and 450 quintals of codfish.

In 1857 was in the *John Pugh* of Gloucester. Got about 400 barrels.

In 1858 was in the *Pioneer*, an English vessel, fishing for codfish and herring.

In 1859 in the English schooner *James*. Got 300 barrels.

In 1863 fished in the *Ianthe* of Portland, Maine, codfishing. Got 600 quintals. There were 15 American vessels fishing for cod where witness was fishing.

In 1864 fished for mackerel in the *Argo* of Portland, got 500 barrels in the bend of P. E. I., within a mile and a half offshore.

In 1866 was in the *Veteran* of Gloucester. Took 700 barrels, three-fourths being taken inshore.

In 1867 fished in the *Laura Seward*, got 550 barrels, all inshore.

In 1868 was in the *Isaac Rich* of Salem, got 540 to 550 barrels, three-fourths taken inshore.

In 1869 fished in *E. Hudson*, an English schooner, caught, during the time witness was in her 140 barrels, taken close in.

In 1870 was in the *Isaac Rich*, got 450 barrels, all taken inside.

In 1871 fished again in the *Isaac Rich*, got 400 barrels, close in, perhaps one-third taken outside.

In 1872 fished in the *Ida Thuriow* of Gloucester, took 300 barrels.

During the time witness fished in the aforementioned American vessels about Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, or West Shore, Bay of Chaleurs and Gaspé, he fished generally within the three mile limit, or from one to two miles off shore. The American fleet sometimes fished 3 miles out, they came in, drifted out, and worked in again, as the fish left off biting.

61.—Mr. John R. Macdonald, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Fished in an American vessel named the *Fashion* of Gloucester about 1864, and made three trips that year. Caught 250 barrels the first trip within two or three miles from the shore, in the Bay of Chaleurs and off Miscou. In the 2nd trip fished off P. E. I. from North Cape to East Point, and in the third trip fished off Port Hood and Margaree; all the fish were taken within two and three miles off the coast.

Two years after fished in the *Winged Arrow* of Gloucester, made two trips and took 280 to 300 barrels the first trip, and in the second about the same number. The next vessel witness sailed in was the *Sunnyside* from Gloucester, made three trips and caught 250 each trip. One trip was taken off Sydney, the other off P. E. I. and Margaree, nearly all within two miles from shore, 20 or 30 barrels being taken on Bradley and Orphan Banks. Fished next year in the *Corsair*, an Island vessel, caught 200 and some odd barrels, all inshore, in the Bay of Chaleurs.

The next succeeding year fished in the *Octavia* of Charlottetown, made three trips and took 760 barrels during the three trips, all close inshore. Fished two seasons in the *Lettie*, caught each year between 450 and 480 barrels, all inshore. Fished next in the *George T. Fogg*, an Island vessel of about 108 tons, made two trips in her and caught about 700 barrels, nearly all inshore. Next year was in the *Little Bell*, a small vessel of about 38 tons, got 120 to 140 barrels in Antigonish Bay, about a mile from shore, would not invest money in the mackerel fishery if not allowed to come within three miles of the shore. The presence of the Cutters did not prevent the Americans from slipping inside to fish.

62.—Mr. John D. Macdonald, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Fished in 1862 in the *Fanny R.* of Gloucester, caught 180 barrels at the Magdalen Islands and North side of P. E. I. In the same season fished also in the *Empire State*, of Gloucester, took 300 barrels off Sydney, C. B., about 1½ mile from shore. All mackerel are taken within 1½ and 2 miles off the Cape Breton shores. Next year went in the *Empire State*, took 600 barrels in two trips in the Gulf and off Sydney. In the Bay Chaleur and off Gaspé the fish were taken within 2½ miles from shore. On the Gaspé coast near Magdalen River they fish for mackerel at anchor altogether. In the first of the trips above referred to about two-thirds were taken in there. In 1864 fished in the *General Burnside*, of Gloucester. Made one trip and caught 320 barrels between North and West Cape of P. E. I. Next year fished in the *Aphrodite* of Gloucester. Caught from 620 to 630 barrels in two trips, taking about two-thirds inshore within the three mile limit. In 1866 was in the *Colonel Cook* of Gloucester, took 620 barrels in two trips in the Gulf. The fall mackerel come quite inshore and are the best. In 1867 fished in the *Rattler* of Gloucester, made two trips, caught 650 barrels in the Gulf, two-thirds of the catch being taken inshore. In 1868 fished in the *Cadette* of Gloucester, made two trips, caught 600 barrels more or less, and about two-thirds were taken inshore or within the three mile limit. Did not keep outside of the three mile limit when the cutters were on the coast; when the cutters appear his vessel "jogged off."

63.—Mr. Peter S. Richardson, of Chester, N. B. :—

During 1860 down to 1874, fished in American bottoms, and as near as witness could judge, for every fish caught outside of the limits, 25 were caught inside, or "nine-tenths" were caught within 3 miles from the shore. Would not go as a shamesmen on board of a Gloucester vessel if not allowed to fish within three miles of the shore. Has taken or helped to take in the *Rattler* as many as 1500 barrels in one season. 500 barrels would be the average he took in his voyages in the Gulf.

Codfishing.—Witness has been five different trips codfishing in the Gulf during the last nine years in American vessels. Came to the Gulf as soon as the ice left, went to the Magdalen Islands and Cape Breton shore for bait. Fished between Cape North and Bird Rock, went home with a fare and returned for the mackerel fishery.

Halibut Fishing.—Witness has fished for halibut close inshore in the Gulf of St. Lawrence at Point de Monts, St. Margaret's River, Moisie River, Point Charles, and around Anticosti. Took 2500 lbs. at Point de Monts in 10 days.

64.—Mr. Charles E. Nass, of Nova Scotia :—

American fishermen coming to the Gulf to catch mackerel always are provided with some cod fishing tackle and generally catch some codfish.

66.—Mr. Ronald McDonald, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Has fished in boats, which kind of fishing has much increased of late years, and is profitable. The boats take their fish from 1 to 1½ miles from shore. Witness has seen great numbers of Americans fishing principally along the shore of P. E. Island, and largely on the same ground as the boats. Codfish taken within three miles of the shore, some outside. Herring also taken in the spring for bait quite inshore. Fished in the *Rattler*, of Gloucester, about 1860; took 1000 barrels of mackerel. About one-half of their catch was taken inshore, the other half outside on Bank Bradley and at the Magdalen Islands. Fished for four consecutive years, in the *W. S. Baker*, of Gloucester, caught in

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1864, 1st year..... | over 900 barrels. |
| 1865, 2nd "..... | " " " |
| 1866, 3rd "..... | about 400 " |
| 1867, 4th "..... | " 500 " |

Size of schooner, from 98 to 100 tons. Caught about two-thirds of the above catches within three miles of the shore.

67.—Mr. Holland C. Payson, Fishery overseer, Westport, N. S. :—

St. Mary's Bay, the coast about Digby neck with Briar Island and Long Island are valuable fishing grounds. The Two Islands exported in 1876 about \$200,000 worth of fish. The district is frequented by a number of small American schooners, who fish for cod, halibut, pollock and herring, and catch their own bait. Other American vessels come in mainly for bait and ice.

68.—Mr. Clement McIsaac, of Eastport, P. E. I. :—

Has fished on board American vessels. In 1860 was trawling at Cape North, and between Broad Cove and Kimbo. Took the cod from one to two miles from shore, got a few mackerel for bait, on the banks where they were fishing, and a supply of fresh herring from the Magdalen Islands. Witness always fished in shoal water. Never caught 100 barrels of mackerel outside of three miles. In

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| 1864..... | caught 370 barrels. |
| 1868..... | " 170 " |
| 1869..... | " 500 " |
| 1870..... | " 270 " |
| 1871..... | " 170 " |
| 1873..... | " 270 " |

69.—Mr. Laughlin Macdonald, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Fished in the year—

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 1861..... | in the <i>Equator</i> , of Newburyport, caught 350 barrels. |
| 1862..... | " <i>Spartley</i> , of Maine, " 90 " |
| 1863..... | " <i>Ianthe</i> , of Portland, " 130 " |
| 1864..... | " <i>S. A. Parkhurst</i> , of Gloucester, " 250 " |
| 1866..... | " <i>Franklin Snow</i> , " " 690 " |
| 1867..... | " <i>A. H. Wansom</i> , " " 280 " |
| 1868..... | " <i>Sergeant S. Day</i> , " " 750 " |
| 1869..... | " <i>S. S. Day</i> , " " " " " |
| 1870..... | " <i>Ruth Groves</i> , " " 240 " |
| 1871..... | " " " " " 330 " |

Of these catches I may safely say that two-thirds were made within three miles of the shore. Fished on Bank Bradley but never caught anything. The Americans all make for inshore.

70.—Mr. Joseph Beaton, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Has been engaged in boat fishing. Is paying well at the east end of the island. The people fish from half a mile to two miles from the shore. The Americans fish a great deal there. From 130 to 200 vessels is the largest fleet witness has seen at one time fishing on these grounds. A few fish off shore.

In 1864 was in the *Forest Queen*, of Gloucester, took 970 barrels.

In 1867 was in the *Joseph S. Allen*, got 680 barrels.

In 1871 was in the *Isaac P. Rich*, took 350 barrels.

Four-fifths of the catches were taken inshore.

71.—Mr. James McInnis, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Has fished much in boats about P. E. Island, and from half a mile to two and a half miles off shore. Cod are not as a rule taken more than three miles off shore in boats. Fished in—

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------|
| 1858..... | in the <i>Freeman</i> , of Maine, | caught 150 barrels |
| 1859..... | " <i>Union</i> , of Provincetown, | " 200 " |
| 1860..... | " <i>Congress</i> , of Gloucester, | " 220 " |
| 1861..... | " <i>Florence</i> , " | " 350 " |
| 1862..... | " <i>T. G. Curtis</i> , " | " 350 " |
| 1864..... | " <i>E. E. Hudson</i> , (British) | " 250 " |
| 1866..... | " <i>Mary Ellen</i> , (British) | " " " |
| 1867..... | " <i>Alex. McKenzie</i> , of N. S., | " 300 " |
| 1868..... | " " " " | " 350 " |
| 1870..... | " <i>Ruth Groves</i> , of Gloucester, | " 240 " |
| 1871..... | " " " " | " 330 " |
| 1872..... | " <i>Northener</i> , " | " 350 " |
| 1873..... | " <i>David F. Adams</i> , of Salem, | " 300 " |
| 1873..... | " <i>Etta E. Tanner</i> , of Gloucester, | " 200 " |

Thinks that two-thirds of the catch was taken inshore or within the three mile limit.

72.—Mr. Alexander McDonald, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Fished two years in the Gulf, in the American vessels, *Galena*, *Warrior*, and *Joseph S. Allen*. Two-thirds of the catches of these vessels were taken inshore.

73.—Mr. John McLellan, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Has fished in four American vessels. Three-fourths of the catch in the Gulf were taken inshore.

74.—Mr. Benjamin Champion, of Alberton, P. E. I. :—

Has fished seven years in vessels and four in boats. Caught his fish at the west end of the island, right inshore, or one and one and a half miles off. During the seven years witness fished, two-thirds of the catch were taken inside of the three miles. The present year is looked upon as one of the best fishing years they have ever had in boats. One stage landed 700 barrels with five boats. The fish are reported this year to be too close inshore for seines.

75.—Mr. John C. Cunningham, of Cape Sable Island, N. S. :—

United States fishermen take halibut of Shelburne County. Within three miles of shore—say 1½ to 2 miles, are carried in ice or alive in (welled) smacks to United States ports. Banking vessels average 60 tons—a full fare is about 800 quintals per trip—take about 2 fares in 3 months.

76.—Mr. B. H. Ruggles, of Brier Island, Digby :—

United States fishermen take codfish, haddock, hake, pollock, halibut, herring and some mackerel inshore around St. Mary's Bay, and in fact from Cape Split to Brier Island. They catch from 50 to \$60,000 worth around coasts of the two islands alone. Cannot speak of other parts of coast. Halibut fishing one-half mile to two miles from shore, in spring.

C.

Value of Inshore Fisheries of British North America to United States Fishermen.

1.—Mr. Simon Chiverie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Fully two-thirds of catch is inshore—sometimes all. Fish come in to feed and spawn and can then be taken. Would not fit out a vessel at all if I could not fish inshore.

U. S. fishermen all declare they cannot succeed without this privilege. Never heard fishermen express an opinion to the contrary, and has talked to many of them on subject. They could not do it, and say they would not fit out for the business unless they could come inshore.

2.—Mr. James McLean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Captains of fishing schooners always set the most intrinsic value on the inshore fisheries.

I do not think if I had a vessel and were going to engage in the fishery business I would engage in it if excluded from the inshore fishery. It would be a too uncertain business; you might catch some mackerel outside, but there probably would be none at all outside. You might happen to hit them, but not in any large quantity.

If American fishermen were excluded from Canadian inshore fisheries, with the exception of the Magdalen Islands, it would not pay them to fit out a fleet, as they would not get any mackerel.

3.—Mr. John Campion, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Supposing American vessels were excluded from the inshore fishing in the Gulf, I do not think our fishermen would entertain the project of going there to fish for a moment. I think they would try some other business. I have talked with many of them on the subject, and they all considered that the privilege of coming within the limits was of especial advantage to them. Captain Binney last year said—in reference to the subject: "I for one would not be inclined to have anything more to do with the fishing business if I did not have the benefit of fishing where I please."

5.—Mr. William MacNeill, of Rustico, P. E. I. :—

If American fishermen were prevented from fishing within three miles of the shore for mackerel, it would not pay any prudent man to invest his money in the business.

A vessel fishing outside the three mile limit would not get a full fare.

6.—Mr. Poirier, of Tignish, P. E. I. :—

The Americans could not prosecute the mackerel fishery with any success were they excluded from three miles of the coast.

7.—Hon. Mr. Howlan, of Cascumpec, P. E. I. :—

Were Americans rigidly excluded from fishing within three miles of the shore, the fishing would not be profitable. It is generally very difficult to procure a crew of men to fish in any waters where they are peculiarly embarrassed and irritated from time to time by the watchfulness and care generally exercised in these cases. Men dislike to do it unless they have the right to fish inshore or to fish wherever they (fish) are to be found. The chances would be very much against any vessel making a fare were they excluded from three miles of the shore. I don't think any man would commence the business and put his capital in it if he knew he would be excluded from the inshore fisheries. This is the opinion I have received generally from the Americans. They very much wish to have the use of the inshore fishery, as on that depends pretty much the success of their voyage. That is the universal feeling both of American owners and masters.

8.—Mr. George Harbor, of Sandy Beach, Gaspé :—

Has been told by Americans themselves that if excluded from the inshore fisheries it would not pay them to come for mackerel at all. Has heard that from more than one.

9.—Mr. William A. Sinnet, of Griffin's Cove, Gaspé :—

United States fishermen would not come at all to British American waters if they could not fish within 3 miles, it would not pay them at all, Americans have told him they would not come to fish outside, the tide is too strong outside, so they come inshore to catch, where there is very little tide.

10.—Mr. Gregoire Grenier, of Newport, Gaspé :—

American vessels would not frequent British American waters for fishing purposes if they were prevented from fishing within 3 miles of shore, because it would not be profitable for them to do so.

11.—Mr. William McLeod, of Port Daniel, Gaspé :—

In my opinion no money indemnity could compensate us for the concession of ceding our inshore fisheries to American fishermen.

12.—Mr. Philip Vibert, of Percé, Gaspé :—

I don't believe it would be worth while for Americans to come to our waters if they were rigidly excluded from the bays and inshores. Have always understood this to be the opinion of the Americans themselves.

13.—Mr. John James Fox, of Amherst Harbor, M. I. :—

United States vessels come in and decoy the fish offshore, the best fish are found inshore, and to get at them vessels must come in very close, which is dangerous, they therefore decoy them outside and there catch the fish. Many herring are now caught by United States vessels and exported direct to Sweden. I don't think it would be worth their while to come into the Bay if they could not fish inshore.

14.—Mr. George Mackenzie of New London, P. E. I. :—

United States vessels must fish close inshore. At Seven Islands they cannot do anything in deep water, the tide is too strong. Down the northern side of the St. Lawrence it is the same. Fish in Bay Chaleur, not taken over 2 miles from shore, water is too deep, not over one-third taken in centre of Bay. Does not think that there are generally any fish in deep water. United States vessels would not fish in Canadian waters if they could not fish inshore.

18.—Mr. Angus Grant, of Port Hawkesbury, C. B. :—

Mackerel are taken close inshore, they cannot be taken outside, the water is too deep. United States vessels would not come to the Bay at all if they could not fish inshore, not the least doubt of this.

19.—Mr. James McKay, Port Mulgrave :—

I do not think it would be possible for American fishermen to prosecute the mackerel fishery in the Gulf unless they had the right to come within the 3 mile limit. I would not go in a vessel unless I could fish where I pleased inshore or offshore. If the Americans were kept outside the 3 mile limit they could not successfully prosecute mackerel fishing in the Gulf. It would not be worth their while to come there.

20.—Mr. James Purcell, Collector of Light Dues, Port Mulgrave :—

If the Americans were excluded from the inshore fishery they would not be such fools as to prosecute it. For my part I would not fit out a vessel if I were prevented from going along shore fishing. I would not invest a sixpence in it.

23.—Mr. John Maguire, of Steep Creek :—

If he had this hall full of gold he would not invest \$100 in a vessel that could not fish inshore, three-fourths of United States vessels would not come if deprived of the right to fish inshore. Has often heard the Captains say it would be of no use.

24.—Mr. William Brown, of Port Medway, N. S. :—

Never saw mackerel so plenty as this year. They are right against the shore. With reference to all the years of his experience they catch mackerel two or three miles from shore. You don't get them of any account outside of three miles. You might catch a few outside sometimes, but as a general thing about a mile or two from land. If he were not allowed to fish within three miles he would leave the Bay, he would not go there. This is the result of 30 years experience.

25.—Mr. James H. Bigelow, of Wolfville, N. S. :—

Supplied American fishing vessels largely during the war. Believe that if the Americans were excluded from fishing within three miles from British American shores they could not carry on the fisheries with profit. With regard to the mackerel fishery it was only the prospect of catching the fish within three miles of the shore that has induced them to come and fish on our shores.

26.—Mr. John Stapleton, of Port Hawkesbury, C. B. :—

Americans want all the privileges they can get before it pays to fish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

29.—Mr. James McLean, of Letite, N. B. :—

Considers the value of the fishery about Passamaquoddy Bay, on Charlotte and the adjoining Islands at \$1,000,000 annually for British subjects, and the Americans take as much more. The American catch is at least a million dollars worth annually.

34.—Mr. James Jessop, of Newport, Gaspé :—

Knows from Americans themselves that they could not do much if excluded from the inshore fisheries. The average taken by American fishermen is 600 to 700 barrels per schooner. Some vessels have made three loads of 500 barrels each. Never heard of a mackerel vessel that did not get one full fare.

35.—Mr. William Flynn, of Percé, Gaspé :—

The Americans could not prosecute the fisheries on our coast if they were excluded from fishing within the three mile limits. They would not be able to do without bait.

36.—Mr. Joseph Couteau, of Cape Despair, Gaspé :—

If American vessels were excluded from coming within the three mile limit, either as respects fishing or securing of bait, it would not pay them to come to our shores to fish.

39.—Mr. Joseph O. Sirois, of Grande Rivière, Gaspé :—

From what witness knows of the mackerel fishery, he is of opinion that the Americans could not profitably carry it on if prevented from fishing within the three mile limit.

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

Is well acquainted with the North shore of the estuary of the St. Lawrence from Point du Monts to Sheldrake. Has a knowledge of the coast for 180 miles, having resided at Sheldrake for ten years. The fishing grounds on the coast are reckoned the best in the world for cod, halibut, mackerel, herring, squid, lance and caplin. Bait strikes in about middle of May, and witness has never known it to fail up to the latter end of November. Mackerel comes about the middle of July in great hddies, keeping close in shore. The mackerel are fished for by the Americans.

42.—Mr. John F. Taylor, of Isaac's Harbour, N. S. :—

Mackerel fishing could not be carried on successfully without the privilege of fishing inshore. If kept outside the three mile limit mackerel fishermen would in a very short time fail. They might get fares for a few weeks; it is possible the mackerel might play off shore, but I don't think they would get fares. I believe it would be ruinous for any parties to go into the business not allowed to come inshore to fish. I don't think it could be carried on. The Americans say themselves it is one of the most essential privileges they can obtain. I never heard a single fisherman or master of a vessel say it was not so.

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

Americans have told him fishing would not be worth carrying on if excluded from inshore waters.

44.—Mr. George Romeril, Agent of Messrs. Robins & Co.'s., Percé :—

With few exceptions, our codfishing boats fish within 3 miles from the shore, usually between one and two miles, the inshore fishery furnishes the prime fish, at least three-fourths of our fish are taken within three miles.

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

Three-fourths of fish are taken inshore, you may find some United States captains who do not come inshore. The old captains of Cape Cod vessels are frightened of the land, and they, as a general rule, will fish on Bank Bradley. I never heard of one of them getting a fare. If I were prohibited from fishing within three miles of the shore I would not fish in the Gulf. I might possibly get the first fare outside, but the last and most valuable I could only get inshore. The last fare is worth twice as much as the first. The first fare is not a paying one.

46.—Mr. John Holliday, of Moisie, Quebec :—

Codfishery at Moisie and where he fishes is entirely within three miles of coast.

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

When not prevented from coming inshore Americans come in as close as they can. I have seen Americans come to anchor where there was hardly water enough to float their ship. They raise the fish by means of bait thrown out and drift off until they lose them. All American captains with whom he has spoken said that if prevented from fishing inshore they would have to give up fishing here. Codfishers say if they could not get bait inshore they would have to give up their voyages.

49.—Mr. P. Fortin, of Quebec :—

80 or 85 per cent of the cod taken by our Canadian fishermen is caught within three miles of the coast. I state positively that at least 75 per cent of the mackerel are taken inside of 3 miles. Americans could not draw their seines if not allowed to land on Magdalen Islands,—herring is always fished with seines.

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

No one could make the fishing pay not having the right to fish within three miles. Three-fourths of the mackerel taken on South side of Bay Chaleur is taken inside three miles. The greatest quantity is at about 2 miles.

51.—Mr. Enos Gardner, of Tusket, N. S. :—

All the mackerel taken on our coast are taken inshore, I don't know of any being taken beyond $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the shore.

53.—Mr. Charles Creed, of Halifax :—

If the Americans were prohibited from coming inshore they could not allure the fish out. They come inshore to do it. From my knowledge of the facts, if the Americans were prohibited from coming within the three mile limit they could not successfully carry on the mackerel fishery in the Gulf.

55.—Mr. Marshall Paquet, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Has heard American captains say that there was no fish except around the shore. In his opinion an American vessel could not catch a fare of mackerel if she was absolutely prohibited from coming within the three mile limit.

58.—Mr. James McPhee, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Has heard American captains state that they could not do without the inshore fishery. Does not think any prudent man would fit out to fish for mackerel in the Gulf without he had liberty to fish within the three mile limit.

59.—Mr. John McDonald, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Does not think that the Americans would go mackerelling at all if they were not allowed to come within the three mile limits.

65.—Hon. Robert Young, of Caraquette, N. B. :—

No one could successfully carry on the business of mackerel fishing in the Bay of Chaleurs in the Gulf, if prohibited from coming within three miles of the shore to fish.

D.

The profits realized by United States Fishermen by operations in British North American waters.

1.—Mr. Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Gives wages of ten men at \$25 each, and four at \$40 each per month. Barrels cost 65 cent each, of which 400 are taken; 100 barrels of salt at 90 cents each. Minor supplies, \$75. Provisions, \$1.50 per man per week. 46 barrels of bait, about \$3 a barrel; hooks, \$10.

3.—Mr. John Campion, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

In 1863 Capt. Andrew Layton had a vessel built, at a cost of \$14,000. He sold her that fall at St. Peters for the same amount of money, and he declared that he cleared on the business these years—1862 to 1866—the price he paid for this vessel. Other men I knew made money. I think that Gloucester this year increased its wealth nearly 100 per cent,—all due to fisheries in the Bay of St. Lawrence.

8.—Mr. George Harbour, of Sandy Beach, Gaspé :—

A vessel of 65 to 70 tons would take 500 barrels at \$12 per barrel. It takes 100 barrels to pay expenses, all the rest would be profit to owner and crew on the share system, 12 and 15 crew.

10.—Mr. Gregoire Grenier, of Newport, Gaspé :—

Has been informed by Americans that 120 barrels will pay all expenses, all over that is clear profit, halved between owner and crew. Thinks one-third of catch would pay expenses, before the division between owner and crew.

12.—Mr. Philip Vibert, of Percé, Gaspé :—

Has always understood from the captains that 100 or 120 barrels paid for the outfit, in addition to wages for men. A vessel of 70 tons would, in two trips, take 700 barrels, which, at \$12 would be \$8400. The men would get half, and the vessel the remainder. I should consider \$250 per month a good remunerative charter for a 70 ton vessel.

13.—Mr. John James Fox, of Amherst Harbour, M. I. :—

The average catch of a 75 ton vessel would be 350 to 400 barrels each trip, or 700 to 800 for the season. Some made three trips, 75 ton vessels would usually have 15 or 16 hands on shares. It takes half bushel of salt at 20 to 25 cents per bushel, to cure a barrel of fish. Barrels cost 60 to 75 cents. For a vessel of that size about 80 barrels of bait would be required, say \$4 to \$5 per barrel. Provisions for 4 months might be put at \$10 or \$12 per month per man. Remaining outfit about \$150. Packing out costs 60 to 75 cents per barrel. I should think \$12 to \$14 would be a fair price to estimate the value of mackerel at. If the vessel were chartered I should say \$250 to \$300 per month a good price.

14.—Mr. George Mackenzie, of New London, P. E. I. :—

Cost of outfit of his own Canadian vessel of 54 tons, \$2,000, including pay of men, lining, salt, barrels and provisions. Average catch 500 barrels at from \$10 to \$12.50 per barrel. Pay of men either \$25 per month or half of their catch.

23.—Mr. John Maguire, of Steep Creek, N. S. :—

In 1864 or 1865 he had a British schooner of 44 tons. She netted in 11 weeks mackerel fishing \$2,200. The crew took half and paid for half the barrels and half the bait. The vessel pays for the salt, provisions, half the bait, the hooks and lines. Next year after that she was out a little longer and netted \$1,800. The next year about \$1,400. These sums were the results of the fishing voyages alone irrespective of what she made by trading at other times of the year. The profits of the vessel were divided between him, as owner, and the persons engaged in her. In 1876 she only got 80 barrels, the poorest year she ever made. In 1875 she netted about \$600 for himself and \$600 for the crew. When he speaks of the above sums he does not allude to the crews share. For instance, in the best year he, as owner, got \$2,200. The crew got \$2,200 alone. In 1865 the *J. M. Maguire* took 300 barrels. She was about 114 tons. He made money by it. He never lost but one year. His experience is a fair average estimate of the mackerel business.

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

Cannot say what profits of Gloucester vessels are. They must make money, how else could they build fishing vessels costing \$12,000? When I first went to Gloucester it was a small village, now it is an incorporated city,—fishing alone has done it, no other business whatever is done there.

49.—Mr. P. Fortin, of Quebec :—

I have seen 600 barrels Labrador herring hauled in one haul, and 3,000 Magdalen herring in one haul with seines. They run from 1,000 to 3,000, but often less.

68.—Mr. Clement McIsaac, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

In 1862, '63, '64, '65, '67 and '69 made \$200 to \$300, some years more; 510 was the most. Received as high as \$18, \$15 and \$14 for the mackerel.

E.

BAIT.

1.—Mr. Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Americans get bait entirely from Newfoundland and from British Canadian Provinces. They fish for bait at Magdalen Islands. One year he took 7,800 barrels herring with seine. Has known one hundred sail of United States vessels fishing for bait at once at Magdalen Islands.

2.—Mr. James R. Maclean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

The Americans have of late bought all their bait for the cod fishery in the Dominion.

The Americans catch herring round the coast of Labrador. They take a lot of them within half a mile of the coast in Spring and Summer. They prefer herring when they would not get pogies good. They generally buy them on the Island, where they are imported. It would not pay to send down to American waters to fish for pogies for the number of vessels engaged in mackerel fishing. Our merchants get their pogies from the States, and American fishermen buy them of them when their own bait had turned sour or was bad. If our merchants have a quantity of good bait on hand they can generally sell it. It is in the interests of the American fisherman to buy

this bait. They cannot lose time in catching herring; and it would take too much time to cross to Magdalen Islands and catch them. American fishermen prosecute the herring fishery by netting and seining. They use the shore for that purpose. It has only been during a year or two that herring have been taken with purse-seines there. A good deal of herring is taken for bait in Newfoundland.

4.—Mr. Joseph Campbell, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

The Americans get their winter bait (frozen herring) at Newfoundland; some at Grand Manan. They could not prosecute their cod-fishery without procuring their herring bait, which is taken exclusively in shore.

Herring is the best bait for codfish. They cost 75 cents per barrel, but more in winter season.

5.—Mr. William S. MacNeill, of Rustico, P. E. I. :—

Herring are caught on our shore and at the Magdalen Islands in the Spring. A great many clams are used. Mackerel can be taken with clams when they could not be taken with any other bait. We can get any amount of clams on our own shore.

The shrimps the mackerel feed on are not found outside three miles from the shore. They are found in eddies close in shore.

Pogies are brought from the United States. Our people do not buy a very great deal of it. They buy it sometimes, just for a change of bait.

11.—Mr. William Macleod, of Port Daniel, Gaspé :—

It would be a great disadvantage to any American fisherman to carry on the codfishing on our coast without being able to come in for bait. The bait for cod must be fresh.

18.—Mr. Angus Grant, of Port Hawkesbury, C. B. :—

United States codfishing vessels get bait round the shores, but take it on board their vessels too. Squid they both buy and catch. They have done very well catching them in Port Hawkesbury—they catch them altogether there. There was none sold. They got from 25 to 30 bls. Salt squid are kept at Newfoundland—but not in his neighbourhood.

20.—Mr. James Purcell, Port Mulgrave, Collector of Light Dues :—

The Americans get their bait in our harbours. They sometimes buy it and sometimes catch it, herring, mackerel and squid. I have seen them catching it. I have seen them catching squid as fast as they could haul them. Fifteen vessels at a time. The ice is essential to them. They require to go 500 miles to the Grand Banks and Banquerean to catch codfish. They have to take their bait fresh, and if they have not ice to keep it fresh, it is of no use. They cannot fish with clams or trawls, they must have fresh bait to fish on trawls. They must have ice, and they must procure that ice in our ports. I say positively that the codfishery cannot be carried on by American fishermen unless they have the privilege of procuring bait and ice.

I do not say that the Americans could not carry on the codfishery at all without the advantage of obtaining bait and supplies, because I know that before the Treaty of 1818, they did carry on the codfishery, but we know how. They carried it on with the assistance of bounties.

22.—John Nicholson, of Louisburg, C. B. :—

Americans both fish and buy bait. I should say they mostly buy it.

23.—John Maguire, of Steep Creek, N. S. :—

Has owned a drag seine for 18 years at the Magdalen Islands. It cost £110. The Americans have used it for 18 years to trawl herring. They used to pay 3 cents a barrel for all it could catch, sending their crew to help to haul the herrings. He had 2 men and 2 boats which he paid himself and the Americans then helped to catch the herring and paid \$60 or \$70 for loading the vessel. Bait and ice are indispensable for the codfishery which could not be procured without access to Canadian or Newfoundland waters. Has known 3 or 4 codfishermen fish for mackerel and 25 to 75 for herring. Squid makes better bait than herring. A vessel with herring on the Banks will not catch half as much as one with squid. United States vessels could not bait profitably at St. Pierre or Miquelon because the French have to buy bait at Newfoundland, and they would then charge \$10 or \$20 a barrel for squid or herring.

25.—James W. Bigelow, Wolfville, N. S. :—

Under the present system on account of using trawls the Americans must have fresh bait, and if they were excluded from catching or buying bait on our coast, witness does not think the fishery could be profitably carried on.

26.—Mr. John Stapleton, of Port Hawkesbury, C. B. :

During the last two or three years Port Hawkesbury has been a good harbour for squid. The Americans have been catching the squid there, from 15 to 50 sail this year, last year (1876) from 25

to 30 sail; they catch the squid and go off with them to the Banks to fish for cod. Salt bait will not catch fish while there is any other bait there. They could not prosecute the cod fishery with any success without fresh bait.

27.—Mr. Michael Wrayton, of Barrington, N. S. :—

American cod and halibut fishermen who fish around Cape Sable Island, frequently call in at my place for bait. They often also get ice. They get mackerel in the Spring and herring in the Summer. Fresh bait is always used now, mackerel come in about 15th May. They buy but do not catch the mackerel. They take from 10 to 15, 20 or 50 barrels for bait, according to the size of their vessel. Their own bait which they bring from the States often sours, they throw it overboard and buy fresh bait. American fishermen admit that the herring they get on the Nova Scotia coast is the best bait.

30.—Mr. James Lord, of Deer Island, N. B. :—

The Americans come here for bait, some catch it, some buy it, it is used for the cod fishery. From 80 to 100 sail come every Spring chiefly for bait. They take 10,000 to a vessel, all caught in British waters.

32.—Hon. Thomas Savage, of Cape Cove, Gaspé :—

Americans fish for cod on the Banks (Orphan, Bradley, &c.) and come in shore for herring and caplin for bait. If they did not come in for bait they could not do much fishing. With salt bait alone, they cannot compete with the Gaspé fishermen. They seine for bait from the shore. Bait is just as abundant as it was 40 or 50 years ago. The bait the Americans take away is a dead loss to us. Sometimes owing to bad weather bait disappears, our people want all the bait there is here. I say that we could catch one quarter more fish if the bait was not interfered with.

34.—Mr. James Jessop, of Newport, Gaspé :—

Americans get their bait for codfishing on our coast at Shippegan and Caraquette, they fish for herring with nets, they use also mackerel and squids. They catch bait also outside on the Banks. They seine caplin on the coast sometimes. They cannot fish profitably with salt bait. Witness has tried salt bait. Bait will only keep fresh one day without ice, with ice two or three days.

35.—Mr. Wm. Flynn, of Percé, Gaspé :—

Americans get a great deal of cod bait by setting nets inshore, and sometimes buying it. I have seen them seining herring. They jig for squid and bob for mackerel, they catch also caplin, the herring and caplin being taken close inshore. When the Cutters were around they would watch opportunity and come in and take bait when the Cutters were away.

40.—Abraham LeBrun, of Percé, Gaspé :—

Considers that the right of the Americans to procure bait on the coast a necessity for their cod fishery in the Gulf. They ran the risk of capture to procure it after the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, year after year. They had to procure bait or go without fish.

42.—John F. Taylor, Isaac's Harbor, N. S. :—

Since 1871 Americans get bait principally on our shores, they often get their first supply of bait on our shores, they also get ice, they buy their bait as they find it cheaper to do so. At Newfoundland Americans sometimes fish for bait inshore. Codfishing could not be carried on without coming inshore for bait.

44.—George Romeril, Agent of Messrs. Robins & Co., Percé, Gaspé :—

I do not think Americans could carry on the codfishery without coming inshore for bait, they catch their bait themselves inshore, as well as buy it, they also get ice to preserve their bait.

45.—Wm. McDonald, of Argyle, N. S. :—

Fresh bait is absolutely necessary to take codfish. Bank fishing could not be successfully carried on without it. American captains say they have to get fresh bait or they can catch no fish.

46.—Mr. John Holliday, of Moisie, Quebec :—

All bait taken for Bank inshore fishery is caught inshore.

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

American codfishers came inshore to buy bait, they could not carry on the fishery profitably without procuring fresh bait on our shores.

49.—Mr. P. Fortin, of Quebec :—

Salt bait cannot be used profitably for bank fishing. The bankers on Miscou or St. John Lanks if they had not a right to go ashore for bait must be idle at times. Sometimes there is no bait on the banks for several weeks.

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

Americans must get bait inshore either by buying or fishing. The Americans could not successfully carry on the codfishing either in the Gulf or in the Bay without the privilege of getting bait fresh inshore.

51.—Mr. Enos Gardner, Tusket, N. S. :—

American vessels come in largely along our coast after bait. I do not think the Americans could successfully carry on the codfishing without having the privilege of coming inshore for bait.

52.—Mr. William Ross, Collector of Customs, Halifax, N. S. :—

I think, for the successful prosecution of the codfishery, fresh bait is absolutely necessary. I should think a vessel using fresh bait would catch at least double the quantity of fish.

53.—Mr. Charles Creed, Halifax :—

Americans get bait and ice at the outports in Nova Scotia. They buy the bait. They might use salt bait, but I do not think they would get as good a fare of fish. The Americans began to get frozen herring for bait in Newfoundland in 1850.

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

Has sold bait and ice to the Americans during the last six or seven years. Some vessels remain codfishing on the banks a couple of months or so, and during that time they come inshore six or eight times to get bait and ice, others would come only three or four times during their trip. They would usually make three trips in the season. The fishing ground of some of these vessels was between Sable Island and Whitehead, and they would frequently come in to Whitehead for bait and ice. They took their fares to Gloucester or other American ports.

60.—Mr. Thomas R. Patillo, of Liverpool, N. S. :—

Is engaged in trap-fishing on the shore for bait. Catches chiefly mackerel and squid. Americans come in to get bait for cod and halibut fishing. They are served in turn according as their orders are on the book. Estimates he could have sold 2,000 barrels this year if it could have been obtained. Americans have caught some mackerel for bait this year. They ice the bait and go to the fishing grounds with it. They could not successfully carry on the deep-sea codfishery if they could not so obtain bait. One vessel came in five times for bait, one three times, and a third twice this season. Baited 14 vessels last season, this season so far 22, but had 43 applications which could not be filled.

63.—Mr. Peter G. Richardson, of Chester, N. S. :—

Obtained fresh bait at Magdalen Islands, or on the Cape Breton shore, for the Spring codfishery between Cape North and Bird Rocks in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. American vessels procure bait at Prospect, thence to Ketch Harbour up to the north-west cove for the Spring codfishery. They would buy their bait from the inhabitants, paying \$2 a barrel.

67.—Mr. Holland C. Payson, Fishery Overseer, Brier Island, N. S. :—

American bank fishermen come into the ports of this county for bait, as at Sandy Cove, Freeport and Westport harbour.

75.—Mr. J. C. Cunningham, of Cape Island, N. S. :—

United States vessels procure bait for cod and halibut fisheries from our shores—chiefly Spring mackerel. Could not carry on the outside fisheries if they could not obtain bait from our harbour—they have told me so—they do not even bring their bait with them the first trip. Trawlers take about 25 barrels bait per trip, and return say once a fortnight. Could use salt bait but not to any advantage. Would not pay expenses if salt bait were used. We at Cape Sable could not pursue bank fishery without the privilege of obtaining bait every two or three weeks. It is no accommodation to us to sell our mackerel fresh to fishermen, but we never refuse bait, even if we have to give it. A man would suffer in reputation if he refused bait to a fisherman in need of it.

76.—Mr. B. H. Ruggles, Brier Island, Digby Co., N. S. :—

Many United States codfishers go to Digby Gut to get herring for the Bank fishing. They many of them carry herring nets, with which they sometimes catch bait for themselves, and sometimes the inhabitants set the nets for them. About 30 or 40 come in during the season. I have boarded 22 in one day. A great many pass through the passage, and go right up to Sandy Cove, and many pass in the night when I would have no knowledge of them.

79.—Mr. John Purney, Sandy Point, N. S. :—

Our waters are never free of United States vessels coming in for bait—do not think they could carry on codfishery successfully without it.

F.

TRANS-SHIPMENT.

1.—Mr. Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Landed 110 barrels at Canso in 1852.

Do 250 barrels at Canso in 1854, and went back at once and got a 2nd trip in the Gulf. Advantage is equal to 1 extra trip per season.

2.—Mr. James R. MacLean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

The right to trans-ship fish saves a great deal of time in the very best fishing season. It occupies from 12 to 24 days for vessels to go home to the U. S., and refit for another trip, during that time it may be the very best of the fishing season, and a vessel remaining in the Bay may perhaps have a whole trip during that time. If they land their fish in the Provinces say at the Gulf of Canso or Souris, for example, and get them sent home in sailing vessels or steamers, they might have another trip where otherwise they would be away home with their fish.

3.—Mr. John Campion, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

When mackerel were plenty we were usually not more than 3 or 4 weeks in American schooners in making a trip. It takes about the same time to go home as to make a trip.

6.—Mr. Poirier, of Tignish, P. E. I. :—

The Americans trans-ship fish at Cascumpec. The value of trans-shipping would be equal to one trip. This is the value I have heard American captains put upon it themselves.

7.—Honble. Mr. Howlan, of Cascumpeque, P. E. I. :—

The privilege of trans-shipment is considerable advantage to both merchant and fishermen; it is looked upon by the fishermen as equal to one trip while the merchants look upon it as of very great use to them. Especially a merchant having say 10 or 20 vessels. If those vessels have 120 barrels the merchant can land them in any port and have them trans-shipped to the United States. He thus receives a return for the capital invested much quicker than if the vessel were to carry them home. Not only so, but as all the vessels are insured in a mutual insurance company it relieves the risk of the amount for crossing the Bay. The privilege of trans-shipment is equal to about one extra trip.

If the vessel fits out with 15 men for 500 barrels and catches 200 they can be at once sent home. If five vessels belonging to a Gloucester firm in the Bay, each having 200 barrels of No. 3 on board and a large fleet is coming down with seines they can land the barrels at Charlottetown, and on Friday the owner can have the proceeds in his counting room.

8.—Mr. George Harbour, of Sandy Beach, Gaspé :—

Trans-shipment is a great advantage. Scarcely thinks they could make two trips without it. They go to Charlottetown, Pictou, or anywhere, and trans-ship or store their fish.

9.—Mr. Wm. A. Sinnet, of Griffin's Cove, Gaspé :—

Hears that Americans trans-ship somewhere in the Gut of Canso] This is certainly an advantage. This gives them time to come back and get another load.

11.—Mr. William McLeod, of Port Daniel, Gaspé :—

I have heard American captains say it would save, during the season, one trip, that they would be enabled to make three trips provided they had the right of trans-shipment. It enables vessels to take advantage of a rising market, particularly since the telegraph is in operation and the Inter-colonial Railway. Some few years ago when American fishermen came to our place they complained that they could not get news from home for 2, 3 or 4 weeks. Two days before I left home a seiner came and went to the Telegraph Office telegraphed to the owners and received in two hours his instructions from Salem.

12.—Mr. Philip Vibert, of Percé, Gaspé :—

Many of the U. S. skippers have told me that they trans-ship at Canso and return to the fishing grounds, and are enabled to make two, and often three trips.

14.—Mr. George McKenzie, New London, P. E. I. :—

Trans-shipment saves United States vessels valuable time—they might get an extra cargo by doing so.

18.—Mr. Angus Grant, of Port Hawkesbury, C. B. :—

Americans trans-ship at Gut of Canso, has seen the wharf piled with mackerel waiting for steamer, 7000 or 8000 bls. About two-thirds of United States trans-ship their cargoes.

19.—Mr. James McKay, of Port Mulgrave :—

Trans-shipment is a great advantage to an American fishing in the Bay. I have known it to be equal to an extra trip. They gain thereby as good a part of the season as there is, and the best weather. That is between the first and second trip.

20.—Mr. James Purcell, of Port Mulgrave, Collector of Light Dues.

I have seen on Hart's wharf at Hawkesbury from 5000 to 6000 bls. of mackerel for trans-shipment. I hardly ever have seen the wharf when there was not fish there being shipped by Americans. I have seen our street in Port Mulgrave blocked so that people could not pass with fish being trans-shipped by Americans. The Americans themselves consider the privilege of being able to trans-ship their cargoes of fish at the greatest advantage. Because mackerel cannot be caught at all times in the Bay. There are times when mackerel can be taken. The latter part of July, August and September, are the principal months that mackerel bite, and the weather is generally favorable. When they are able at that particular time to obtain the fish, every day saved is of great importance. Consequently when they come to land and have the fish trans-shipped without delay at ports in Canso, they can prosecute the fishery without any obstruction at all.

This year there were some vessels taking large cargoes of herring at the Magdalenes for Norway, repacking in the Strait of Canso, and shipping them direct to Norway. They could not have furnished their goods to Norway without repacking them. They would have been spoiled. This is a growing trade, and one which it is expected will be a profitable one—it has been profitable—and it is a trade to which the Americans, the Gloucester men, look forward to the prospect of making very profitable. I should say 10,000 barrels had been shipped this season. I understand they came down fitted out to procure 30,000 bls if they could ; but with the Magdalene Islands the fishery was partially a failure.

The Americans by being enabled to land their cargoes at the Strait of Canso, are enabled to catch at least one-third more fish than they could possibly if they had to land their fish at their own ports. It enables them to make two more trips.

22.—Mr. John Nicholson, of Louisburg, C. B. :—

To trans-ship is a great advantage. If a vessel comes into Canso from North Bay with 500 barrels of fish she has her trip. The fish can be put on board a steamer for Boston, and the fishing vessel will take in her outfit and go right back to the fishing grounds, and before the steamer arrives at Boston she will have made another trip. That is where the advantage is, and it is a very big one. It takes about three weeks for an ordinary schooner to go with a cargo to Gloucester or Boston. If mackerel are plentiful with a seine a vessel would take a trip in one day if she did not carry more than 250 barrels. In one day she may have a trip. If the mackerel were plentiful, and the vessel required 500 barrels for a trip, she would take the catch in three or four days' at most ; so that if the fish were abundant the vessel might lose heavily if she had to return to Gloucester with the cargo.

25.—Mr. James W. Bigelow, of Wolfville, N. S. :—

American vessels may trans-ship at Halifax and send their fares in ice to the United States, thus saving much valuable time. Witness considers that in ten years time the whole fishing business of the Dominion of Canada will consist in the trans-shipment of fresh fish from Dominion ports to the Western markets by rail. A large quantity of American fish go over the railway from Shediac, N. B. to the United States.

34.—Mr. James Jessop, of Newport, Gaspé :—

Trans-shipment is a great advantage to the Americans. It is the advantage of a trip, they acknowledge this themselves.

42.—Mr. John F. Taylor, of Isaac's Harbour, N. S. :—

Privilege of trans-shipping cargo is very valuable, enabling vessels to make an extra trip.

45.—Mr. William McDonald, of Argyle, N. S. :—

I only trans-shipped one year, but have known vessels which did it several years. I trans-shipped 630 barrels in Strait of Canso. Bankers sometimes trans-ship their catches of cod. In *George B. Loring* trans-shipped two fares. The privilege of trans-shipping enabled me to take a third fare. The owner of the vessel told me he cleared \$5,000 on the three trips. Some vessels got 1,600 bbls. The *Rattler* got that many the same year. Some get 1,000 barrels, and some 1,100 barrels, others only 500 barrels and some 400 barrels.

49.—Mr. P. Fortin, of Quebec :—

Americans often make 2 and 3 trips. I don't think they could go home three times, I have heard of some going twice. During Reciprocity they used to trans-ship at P. E. I. and the Gut of Canso.

52.—Mr. Charles Creed, of Halifax, N. S. :—

The right of trans-shipment is a valuable privilege. They have a chance of any wise in the market, and they can stop and fish while their cargoes are going forward. Since the Treaty of Washington a great deal of fish has been trans-shipped by the Americans.

55.—Mr. Marshall Pacquet, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

In 1864 caught 950 barrels of mackerel in the Gulf in a Gloucester vessel. Made three trips and trans-shipped two of them in the Strait of Canso.

70.—Mr. Joseph Beaton, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

We trans-shipped one cargo in 1864 in the Strait of Canso, or we could not have made three trips.

C.

Injury caused to Canadian Fishermen by operations of United States vessels.

1.—Mr. Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Purse seining drives the fish away, and bars them off. Seines contain 600 to 800 nets and bars the passage for fully 30 miles. Decreases inshore catch.

Small fish thrown overboard—dead from seines—poisons fishing grounds.

U. S. vessels drift up among boats and entice fish away with bait. Call this "lee-bowing."

2.—Mr. James R. McLean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Purse seine is very injurious to the fisheries; as is the practice of throwing offal overboard.

The presence of the American fleet on our shores is looked upon as a decided disadvantage because they supply their own markets with fish.

The presence of American fishing vessels is a decided disadvantage to the boat fishing and is looked upon with dislike and disfavor by the people. The offal the Americans throw overboard fouls the ground so that there will be no fish where it has been thrown until a heavy wind has washed it away.

The general impression in Prince Edward Island is that we would be better off if we had our inshore fisheries to ourselves. The Americans come close in among our boats and take advantage of the fish they raise by throwing over bait from their boat. They cause great annoyance to our fishermen by lee-bowing them. I have never seen British vessels lee-bow or foul. Canadian vessels raise mackerel and American vessels come in and lee-bow them. The Americans don't mind who raise the fish but they go in and take them. If the American fleet could be kept three miles off the coast or if the Americans saw fit to withdraw from our fisheries we could command the American markets even under a duty of \$2 per barrel. We could prosecute the fishery in boats and send the fish off in vessels. If we had our fisheries to ourselves the boat fishing would very largely increase, new vessels would be built and our fishermen would at once very actively engage in the fishing industry.

3.—Mr. John Campion, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

I think the throwing overboard of the offal does a material injury to the fisheries. It has been proved by experience to be so—fishermen would not think of fishing where they have thrown it over. I believe the use of purse seines will end in total destruction of our fisheries.

4.—Mr. Joseph Campbell, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

The Americans are obliged to cut their purse seines when they come to use them in our waters for fishing in 3 to 10 fathoms of water. Purse seining is a great injury to the fishing. In the opinion of American skippers themselves seining destroys the fish, but they say they are bound to get them whatever way they can.

The American fishermen cause injury to the native boat fisheries who fish at anchor. Their vessels drift down upon the boats, and if they do not get out of the way run them down.

5.—Mr. William S. MacNeil, of Rustico, P. E. I. :—

We fish mostly about 1½ or 2 miles from the shore and the American fleet know where our boats are catching mackerel, (they have glasses) and so soon as they see where the boats are getting mackerel they dash right in and they drift right down through the boats. It is of great disadvantage to our fishermen to have the American fleet fishing among them, for when the boats raise

mackerel the vessels dash in among them and throw any amount of bait and drift off drawing the mackerel into deep water. I have witnessed this myself often and often. I have been applied to more than once as a magistrate to know if anything could be done to punish those men who dashed into the midst of the boats.

Great injury is effected on the fishing grounds by the custom of American fishermen throwing offal overboard, where this is done no more mackerel will be caught on that spot for some days afterwards. The American fishermen go to other places.

When the Americans have finished their fishing and the mackerel stop biting in the evening then the men turn to and dress the fish and throw the offal overboard.

The effect of using purse seines is going to be destructive to the fisheries.

6.—Mr. Poirier, of Tignish, P. E. I. :—

The new system of purse seining is very injurious to the fishery. It is not the large quantity they catch that is fit for use, but the large quantity they catch unfit for use, which is destroyed, killed, or thrown away. I have known some of these seines to catch as much as 600 or 700 bbls. of these small mackerel which were all destroyed and thrown away.

The practice of Americans in throwing offal overboard is very injurious to the mackerel fishery, soiling the water and driving the fish away. When there are 150 sail all throwing their offal overboard it must be injurious. Our fishermen all clean their fish on shore and use the offal for compost.

The hake follow the mackerel consequently when the mackerel are decoyed away by the Americans and are followed by the hake, we lose that fishery which is a very valuable one.

The American idea is to decoy away the school of mackerel by heaving out a good deal of bait. It makes quite a quiver in front of the vessel and keeps running along with the vessel.

The mackerel follow the bait, and thus the Americans have a better chance to fish successfully than our own small boats wherever they may go.

7.—Honble. Mr. Howian, of Cascumpecque, P. E. I. :—

The practice of throwing over offal is very injurious to the fisheries.

8.—Mr. George Harbour, of Sandy Beach, Gaspé :—

They throw offal overboard; makes the water impure and kills the eggs; codfish eat it and will not take the hook. Their seining is very injurious to fisheries, by which they destroyed the mackerel fishery. This accounts for scarcity of late years. They have a better kind of bait which is ground in mills and with this they entice the fish away.

9.—Mr. William A. Sinnett, of Griffin's Cove, Gaspé :—

U. S. fishermen haul every kind of fish to the shore. This destroys many fish which are thrown out. Immediately the offal is thrown overboard no more fish can be caught on that spot. Canadians have no chance when United States vessels fish alongside of them, they are better equipped, interfere with the nets, and have better bait.

10.—Mr. Gregoire Grenier, of Newport, Gaspé :—

Use of purse seines is injurious and destroys the fish. Throwing offal overboard spoils the fishing. Has seen Americans come and throw bait out alongside the shore, take away the mackerel, and then the Canadian fishermen could catch no more. This ruins the local codfishery as they want a supply of mackerel for bait.

11.—Mr. William McLeod, of Port Daniel, Gaspé :—

Only saw one vessel in 1871 in the Bay Chaleur. He was a purse seiner. It was a bad year for mackerel. The cause was the frequent seining on the shores. Frequent seining will drive the fish off or destroy them. Owing to the same reason the mackerel fishery was not good in 1875 and 1876. I have seen 100 barrels taken at one time in a seine and one-half of the fish would not be marketable owing to the fish being too small. They sometimes grind the small fish for bait. One-fourth at least of the fish caught in a seine would be thrown away as useless. Seining is injurious to all kinds of fish. If you destroy the young fish it is like cutting down the young forest. If seining be continued it will ruin the fishing grounds altogether for a number of years. Throwing offal overboard is very injurious to the fisheries. If done on grounds where fishermen are fishing for cod it will glut the fish. Mackerel as far as I am aware will not take the offal, but cod will feed on it when it is fresh. If a large quantity is thrown overboard it putrefies the water and poisons the small fish. On our coasts in most cases there is a strong current setting up or down a short distance from the shore and inside of that there are eddies and that foul matter comes into the eddies and tends to injure the fish. It is injurious to the mackerel fry in particular especially at places like Seven Islands. If a large quantity of offal is thrown in it will not get washed away until the tide has flowed for a long time, perhaps a spring tide will be required to do it. Americans concur in the opinion that the throwing of offal overboard is injurious to the fisheries. In July and August the smell from the offal could be scented at a distance of 1 mile off. We on our shore are prohibited and the penalty is a heavy fine for throwing offal into our rivers, or waters, or oceans. The smell would come on shore as well as seaward.

Captain Henry Smith, a man from Truro, was commanding a vessel from Salem. I remonstrated with him on the injury done to our fisheries owing to the American practice of seining and throwing offal overboard. He said, "That is not my affair at all. My business is fishing. I would kill the goose that laid the golden egg for present profit." That was his very expression.

13.—Mr. John James Fox, of Amherst Harbor, M. I. :—

The largest and best mackerel are inshore. The vessels come in very close and bait the fish which follow them out, when they catch them in deep water. In case of purse seining, if a storm comes on after a haul has been made the fish are lost. I have seen them lying dead to a depth of two feet along a quarter a mile of the shore. I refer to the seining of herring. I have heard Americans say they hoped their people would not bring their seines into the Gulf or these fisheries would soon be destroyed.

14.—Mr. George McKenzie, of New London, P. E. I. :—

Seining would soon clear out the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It destroys fish. Throwing offal overboard drives the fish away.

18.—Mr. Angus Grant, of Port Hawkesbury, C. B. :—

Purse seining is injurious. Purse seines cannot be used well in shallow water. Some U. S. vessels get seines for shallow water.

19.—Mr. James McKay, of Port Mulgrave :—

I have heard American fishermen say that purse seining spoils the fishing—that it ruins the fishing. It frightens the fish and destroys a great many small fish, of which no use is made. Some American captains told me this Summer that they would sooner have it abolished than allowed to go on the way it is practised. They have told me that it has injured their own fishery, and it is my opinion that if it is allowed to be carried on two years longer in our Bay, we shall have no mackerel to catch, because the seining will drive them away and destroy them. No later than this week an American schooner was up at Gaspé, went round a school of fish with a seine, mostly herring, and filled the seine full of solid fish. They meshed in the seine and a large number were killed. Seines will scare away from the grounds the fish they don't kill. American captains intend getting more shallow seines for the fishing inshore, than the seines they have. I have a son-in-law captain of an American fishing schooner who told me his seine was 17 fathoms. He said he knew it was too deep and he was going to reduce it before he fished in the Bay with it.

In 1872 on board the *Colonel Cook*, we sometimes hove too and drifted among the boats fishing, who were then compelled to get out of the way. At Margaree we anchored on a spring, so close to the boats that they had to move away from us, we did hurt one fellow a little, but the skipper paid for the damage done.

I have heard they would reef the seines instead of cutting them, and afterwards use them the full size.

I think the practice of throwing offal overboard very injurious to the fishery.

20.—Mr. James Purcell, of Port Mulgrave, Collector of Light Dues :—

Seine fishing, if continued, will destroy the mackerel fishing. When fish becomes harrassed and worried on their feeding grounds, they abandon them finally.

Last Sunday fortnight at Harbour Bouche a seiner took 100 barrels right inshore, where it happened that the water was deep. The American seines are too deep for our shores, and that is the reason they assign to not being able to catch fish for the last two years in the Bay—that the fish keep too close in shore and their seines are too deep. I have heard that some Americans are supplied with shoal seines and are to some extent being successful now.

The throwing overboard of offal is injurious to the fishery, and the fish abandon the ground where offal is thrown. The presence of American vessels on our boat fishermen injures them immensely. The Americans go in with superior tackle, superior bait, and all other appliances. They drift among the boats which are at anchor and take the fish away from them.

I have seen American vessels dash in among the boats, throw bait, and drift off.

21.—Captain Hardinge, R. N. :—

The inhabitants of Gaspé complained to me of the American practice of using seines for hauling fish to the beach. They said it was great injury; that small codfish were brought to land when the seine was hauled; that the locality was a favorite breeding place for the cod, and that the seines were around them when fishing in their boats, and consequently they had to haul up their lines and leave. I heard complaints at Paspébiac of the American fishermen throwing offal overboard, which fed the codfish, and the fishermen were unable to take them. The codfishery, I believe, is the chief fishery at Paspébiac, and it was thus interferred with, the fishing season being comparatively limited.

22.—Mr. John Nicholson, of Louisburg, C. B. :—

I think seining is the biggest injury to the mackerel fishery that ever was. A seine is taken and they go round a school of mackerel where there are 500, 600, or 800 barrels. The fish are all crushed together. The vessel can only take 250 or 300 barrels; they cannot cure more, and the fish

will spoil. When they have taken 250 barrels or so they trip the seine and away the rest go. There is not an American seiner to-day who would not tell you that seining is a big injury to the fishing, although they have to do it; they are all in it, and one has to do it as well as the other. It is a plague—it is a bad thing, there could not be a worse thing for the mackerel fishery.

The throwing of offal overboard is an injury to the fishery, it has a very bad effect indeed. I know by experience that overfishing destroys the mackerel fisheries. Seining frightens the mackerel. I saw the *Schuyler Colfax*, of Gloucester, on the same day as the *W. T. Smith* took 80 barrels at one haul, shoot her seine 8 or 9 times around fish and never take any. The fish were going Southward and it is pretty hard to purse them when they are going in that direction. It broke up the schools and scared them off shore. If the use of the purse seine is continued the mackerel fisheries will be injured.

29.—Mr. James McLean, of Letite, N. B. :—

The American system of fishing on Sundays and generally leaving their nets in the water during the day time drives the herring out of our harbours into deeper water. If there is a large school of fish they set so many nets that they can not take proper care of them all, and if the nets are allowed to remain long in the water when full they sink after a certain time to the bottom, and if they are allowed to remain for 24 or 48 hours the fish become spoiled, and they corrupt the bottom of the fishing grounds. The effect of this on the fishing grounds is that the herring will not frequent those grounds at all but keep further out. The Americans have in great part destroyed the herring ground in St. Andrew's Bay within the last two years. The system of trawling destroys many mother fish and also the skate, which witness thinks consumes the offal thrown overboard. It also destroys the seaweed growing at the bottom of the sea and cleans the surface. In spite of all the Fishery Warden at Grand Manan can do the Americans come in and meddle with the spawning grounds of the herring.

30.—Mr. James Lord, of Deer Island, N. B. :—

Trawling injures the fishery, it takes small fish of no use, and catches old mother fish. Killing the useless small fish and throwing them overboard pollutes the fishing grounds. It has the same effect as throwing gurry overboard. Numbers of American nets are sometimes allowed to go to the bottom with fish in them when a breeze comes up. They often lose nets this way. The nets are left and the herring in them rot. Nets ought not to be allowed to remain in the water during the day time, they frighten the fish away.

31.—Mr. Walter McLaughlin, of Grand Manan, N. B. :—

The halibut spawning ground near Grand Manan has been pretty well destroyed by trawl fishing. The trawl fishing catches the spawned (spawning) fish and small fish. The small hook on the trawl is swallowed by the fish and kills them. The large hook used on hand lines is not swallowed and does not get into the stomach of the fish. The trawls kill the skate, which is considered a scavenger, as well as the sculpin. Our men will go and raise a good shoal of fish with hand lines. An American will take a glass and see what they are doing, and which boat have the best shoal they will come alongside, and our boats have to pick up their anchors and away. The fish will leave the hand lines for the trawling in an instant. A boat with two men has eight hooks to the four lines, the trawl has 1500 hooks. A boat with hand lines got 40 quintals in about a month, they are then fitted out with trawls and in about three weeks or a month get 400 quintals.

32.—Hon. Thomas Savage, of Cape Cove, Gaspé :—

Some Americans have told me, that although they trawl, this was before our boats did so—they knew that it was not a good and proper way to fish; that it had destroyed the fishing in their own waters, and that in several more years they would thus destroy the fishery in our waters. There is witness's opinion also. Americans throw gurry overboard, I think it must hurt the fishing. The Americans when trawling throw the small fish overboard. They catch also the mother fish with trawls, which is destructive to the fisheries.

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

Throwing out offal disturbs the fish and drives them away.

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

The opinion of our people is that if the Americans were excluded from our waters our people who are away in the States would come home, and perhaps a good many Americans would follow them and fish here, and the increase of people is the making of a place.

49.—Mr. P. Fortin, of Quebec :—

Americans frequently committed depredations of all sorts. Their vessels were frequently anchored among, and inside our net moorings. They have sometimes torn the nets while getting under weigh, and have prevented our fishermen from drifting.

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

Fishing has been destroyed on Caraque and Shippegan Banks by the throwing out of offal. Purse seining is very destructive. The other day a United States schooner cast her seine about a mile off shore, and surrounded a very large quantity of mackerel. They drew the seine but it caught on the fluke of an anchor, and was torn so that a great portion of the mackerel escaped; they brought up also a very large quantity of lobsters. The seine takes all kinds of fish, big and small, thus killing many uselessly.

52.—Mr. William Ross, of Halifax, N. S., Collector of Customs :—

Sometimes the American fishermen would run in among the boats on the Atlantic coast of Cape Breton, between North Cape and Seatarie. The boat fishermen alleged that this practice prevented them from catching mackerel, the bait the Americans threw overboard drawing away the fish.

56.—Mr. Barnaby McIsaac, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

In the previous year (1877) the Americans came close inshore and lee-bowed the fishing boats, the mackerel being close inshore, about a mile or a mile and a half from land.

58.—Mr. James McPhee, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

The effect of the American mode of fishing with tole bait is to take the fish away from boats fishing inshore.

67.—Mr. John R. McDonald, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

Considers that Americans injure the boat fishing by throwing so much bait overboard and glutting the mackerel.

64.—Mr. Charles E. Nass, of Nova Scotia :—

American fishermen clean cod on deck and most likely throw the "gurry" overboard on the fishing ground.

66.—Mr. Roland McDonald, of East Point, P. E. I. :—

The boat fishermen do not like to see the Americans come. They lee-bow the boats, throw out large quantities of bait and take the fish from the boats so that the boats have no chance with them.

67.—Mr. Holland C. Payson, of Brier Island, N. S. :—

Issued a warrant in two cases directed against American vessels for transgressing the law by Sabbath fishing and throwing gurry overboard. The vessels got out of the way, and the warrant was not served.

58.—Mr. Clement McIsaac, Eastport, P. E. I. :—

Americans injure the island boat fishing. They lee-bow the boats and throw out a great quantity of bait, and get the fish away from the boats. The boats generally fish on a spring, and they have to get away before the vessels drift down upon them; so the vessels spoil their fishing.

75.—Mr. John C. Cunningham, of Cape Sable, N. S. :—

Halibut fishing by United States vessels around Shelburne done by trawling—very injurious—kills the mother fish—will eventually destroy fishery.

76.—Mr. B. H. Ruggles, of Brier Island, N. S. :—

United States vessels use the trawl on our inshores, and are injuring the fishery. They acknowledge having destroyed that on their own coasts, and ours will eventually be ruined by the same means.

77.—Mr. Josiah Hopkins, of Barrington, N. S. :—

American schooners coming in use trawls. We used to have a school of large cod come in late in the fall, but not during the last four or five years. I attribute it to the trawlers having caught up the big fish; since then they have not come in.

H.

Encroachment of United States Fishermen in British North American Waters.

1.—Mr. Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Before 1854 United States fishermen fished inshore.

When fishing in "Rio del Norte," 50 United States vessels were fishing close inshore, and one vessel was captured.

After Reciprocity Treaty they went on fishing inshore.

One third of the United States fleet do not pay the light dues.

2.—Mr. James R. Maclean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

When cutters were in the immediate neighbourhood, American vessels did not venture within the 3 mile limit, but as soon as the cutters were gone they did go.

3.—Mr. John Campion, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

There were not cutters enough to keep the American vessels out of the inshores.

Vessels often succeeded in evading light dues in Gut of Canso.

5.—Mr. William MacNeil, of Rustico, P. E. I. :—

Before the Treaty when American fishermen were not supposed to fish inshore, the presence of cutters did not practically prevent them doing so. They still continued to fish in the limits. Of course there were some cautious men who would keep out to prevent losing their vessels.

7.—Hon. Mr. Howlan, of Cascumpeque, P. E. I. :—

American vessel were in the habit of going within the three-mile limit when the cutters were not in sight. I can speak of this from actual observation.

11.—Mr. Wm. McLeod, Port Daniel, Gaspé :—

When cruizers appeared, one of the vessels at the outside of the line made a signal and then the vessels hauled out of the 3 mile limit, as soon as the cruizers was out of sight they were back again.

12.—Mr. Philip Vibert, of Percé, Gaspé :—

When watched by cruisers they kept away, but one of them would run in and strew bait there and the mackerel would follow them out and they would catch them outside the limits, and sometimes we would never see a mackerel there again during that season.

18.—Mr. Angus Grant, Port Hawkesbury :—

Was in an U. S. vessel when the cutters were there, and that vessel used to go inshore to fish, and was stopped and warned by a cruiser. If they had not gone inshore they would have had no fish. This vessel was the *Garland*.

19.—Mr. James McKay, of Port Mulgrave :—

We used to keep offshore whilst cutters were about, but nevertheless we fished inshore. If a cutter came about we got out of the way. We wanted to get all the fish we could, wherever we could secure them. My experience is that the most fish are caught within 3 miles of the shore.

21.—Captain Hardinge, R. N. :—

I commanded a paddle-wheel steam frigate. She might be told exactly at a distance of five miles and known to be a man-of-war. For the purpose of catching fishing vessels within three mile limits she was practically of no use. During the 20 days I was on my station I frequently saw, with my own eyes, American vessels fishing within the limits off Miramichi on the coast between Miramichi and Bay Chaleur and in the Bay. I have seen 13 at one time within the limits fishing. By the time I got down they were outside the limits. I boarded the *Ben Wood* of Gloucester off Miscou when she came out of the 3 mile limit, she had been fishing inside. The fish had just been previously taken; they were actually alive at the time. As I passed along the coast the Americans went out of the limits and when I had passed by I am informed they ran in.

32.—Hon. Thomas Savage, Cape Cove, Gaspé :—

The Americans would watch the movements of the *Canadienne*, one of the cutters, and come on shore as soon as she passed and fish for mackerel within a mile of the shore.

33.—Mr. James Baker, Cape Cove, Gaspé :—

The American fishermen used to come in when the cutters were not there, and take bait and go away. Difficulties sometimes arose from this.

35.—Mr. William Flynn, of Percé, Gaspé :—

The Americans would always come in to take bait even when the cutters were about. They watched their opportunity. They could not have carried on their codfishery to any advantage without it.

46.—Mr. John Holliday, Moisie, Quebec :—

Two halibut vessels were taken by the cruisers in my neighborhood. I have seen several leave the coast and leave their lines when they saw the cruisers come, in a day or two they came back and picked up their lines.

47.—Mr. James A. Tory, Guysboro, N. S. :—

When cutters were present they would not come inshore, as soon as former were out of sight they would slip in. I have known them to be so brazenfaced as to fish in Port Hood Harbor. I seized one, *The Granada* I think, for selling dutiable goods. I also seized a schooner, the *D. H. Mansfield* for trading in violation of the law—part of her cargo was confiscated. I captured four vessels for fishing inside three miles of the coast. I seized one vessel for preparing to fish, she was buying bait, the *J. H. Nickerson*.

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

Some of the Americans admitted that they were committing illegal acts in obtaining bait within the three mile limits at Canso, Little Canso, and St. Peters. Some set nets and caught bait, but as a general thing they purchased it. This was during the last six or seven years. Was always on the lookout for the man-of-war in 1867 when fishing inshore. Fished inshore because he could not catch fish outside of three miles off Port Hood and Margaree.

57.—Mr. Joseph Tierney, Souris, P. E. I. :—

The Americans used to fish inshore in the Gulf, notwithstanding the cutters for the protection of the fisheries, when they saw a suspicious looking vessel they would run out, when she was out of the way they would run in again.

58.—Mr. James McPhee, East Point, P. E. I. :—

In 1869 the cutters "bothered" the American fishermen a good deal. When they saw a suspicious looking vessel they had to run outside. They were in dread all the time. When the cutters were away they would try to steal in.

63.—Mr. Peter J. Richardson, Chester, N. S. :—

When fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the period when the cutters were on the fishing grounds for the protection of the fisheries, witness and the American fleet generally always watched when fishing inshore. Nine out of ten vessels ran the risk of being captured. They ran the risk because they wanted to fish, and could not catch enough fish outside of the three mile limit.

64.—Mr. Charles E. Nass, N. S. :—

When fishing in American vessels about P. E. I. and Cape Breton, was aware of the risk run of being captured for fishing within the three miles limit. The skippers of the other American vessels were well aware of the same risk. From 10 to 100 American vessels were fishing inshore, and were well aware of the risk they ran.

65.—Hon. Robert Young, Caraquette, N. B. :—

I have seen American fishermen get underway and leave, and go down the Bay when the cutters came in sight. They were fishing close inshore (1866 to 1871). I have seen off my own place about 100 vessels, three-fourths of them fishing within three miles of shore.

66.—Mr. Ronald McDonald, East Point, P. E. I. :—

Whether the cutters were about or not, went inshore to fish.

I.

The habits of fish and times for catching them at various localities.

1.—Mr. Simon Chiviric, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Mackerel appear first in April or May off Capes May and Hatteras. The run up coast to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. About 10th of September they return down the coast—striking across bays from Headland to Headland—coming inshore to feed on small shrimps or bait found close inshore.

Season for mackerel fishing begins in April or May and ends 1st November.

Mackerel bite well after spawning—as they run inshore to feed.

Bay fishing from June 15th to November 1st.

5.—Mr. Wm. S. McNeil, of Rustico, P. E. I. :—

Mackerel first make their appearance along the north shore of P. E. Island the last week in June, sometimes they remain the whole Summer. About the 20th of October they generally go away ; it depends a good deal upon the winds. If the gales of wind are late coming in the fall the mackerel remain long, but if the gales begin early in October they go away sooner.

8.—Mr. George Harbor, Sandy Beach, Gaspé :—

Mackerel breed in the Bay. They are poor after spawning—then they get fatter till October. Herring come in Spring before mackerel. Mackerel feed on shrimps and bait, which he thinks is a small fish of reddish colour—it is found inshore.

14.—Mr. George McKenzie, of New London, P. E. I. :—

Mackerel keep inshore to feed on shrimps—lants and other small fishes. Have been keeping closer inshore lately than formerly. Cod on Labrador coast caught close inshore.

19.—Mr. James McKay, Port Mulgrave, N. S. :—

In 1864 caught about 130 qtls. codfish in the Bay of Chaleur. A great many fine fish are caught close inshore off Port Daniel. A good many boats fish there for codfish. That same year went mackerel fishing and caught two-thirds of my catch inshore. In 1866 fished around Cape Breton, and took in one trip from 250 to 260 bls. We got most of them late in October, right in against the shore.

Has caught in the month of August 130 qtls. of codfish close inshore, 10 fathoms of water between Cape Allright and Bantry Island. Caught in 1861 about 260 bls. right inshore by Cheticamp. Mackerel spawn a great deal off Cape North, P. E. I., all along the ground down to Point Miscou. That is the first place to catch mackerel in the Spring with hooks. They spawn also a great deal in Antigonish Bay, Port Hood and all along the coast. They are caught there very early in the season after they are done spawning.

20.—Mr. James Purcell, Port Mulgrave, N. S. :—

I have seen American vessels fishing thousands of times along the shore, among the boats wherever the fish were. I never saw them fish out in the deep sea. They might have fished there but I was not there to see them. From my 30 years experience in fishing I always saw them fishing along the shores of Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island.

29.—Mr. James McLean, Letite, N. B. :—

Herring appears to spawn all the year. Their chief spawning time extends from about the middle of July to the middle of October. Witness has seen herring spawn in the winter. The herring, since their spawn has been protected, have increased wonderfully. Their chief spawning grounds are off the Southern head of Grand Manan Island. It has often been meddled with by American fishermen. In the winter all the herring are large.

30.—Mr. James Lord, Deer Island, N. B. :—

I have caught pogies (menhaden) myself on our coast,—they have left our coast.

31.—Mr. Walter B. McLaughlin, Grand Manan, N. B. :—

Halibut spawn in different parts off the Island. The chief spawning ground is considered to be between Three Islands and Wood Island, they spawn here inshore. They take the herring all the year round at Grand Manan. The great fresh frozen herring business is carried on in the winter almost exclusively. In the summer they catch them for bait, pickling, smoking, &c. Cod, pollock, hake and haddock are taken about Grand Manan.

34.—Mr. James Jessop, of Newport, Gaspé:—

We get mackerel on our shores on the 15th June, the larger body comes in about the 15th July and from that to the 15th and 20th August. Has seen them remain on the 15th October, but generally until about 15th September. Some years they are exceedingly plentiful, they remain thus abundant about three weeks. They are almost a solid body in the water. We have between 800 and 1000 boats between St. Peter's and Paspebiac, the average catch on the whole line will be from 100 to 120 quintals of dried fish. Codfish spawn on the Banks, they have been caught spawning there. On the coast also we have found them in the act of spawning, the spawn running from the fish quite soft when hauled in. They spawn in July on and off the Gaspé coast, the large cod outside on the Banks, the small cod inshore. They can be trawled when spawning. They will bite on trawls when they will not bite on hand lines. Very few can be caught on hand lines when spawning.

35.—Mr. William Flynn, Percé, Gaspé:—

We fish for cod about two miles to two and a half miles off shore. There are between 1000 and 1,100 boats on the coast from Paspebiac to Gaspé. The average catch would be from 120 to 125 quintals during the season. They catch cod with trawls, requiring fresh bait, and for this purpose fresh bait is absolutely necessary. Most of the bait is taken within half a mile to a mile from the shore. The mackerel feed on shrimps close inshore.

37.—Mr. T. J. Lamontaigne, of St. Anne des Monts, P. Q.:—

Along the Gaspé shore the codfish is never taken outside of two miles of the coast, on the part between Cape Chatte to ten miles below St. Anne des Monts. Our fishermen have tried to get fish outside of three miles in the St. Lawrence, but without success. The fishery is later on the North shore of the estuary, but the fishery is generally as good as on the South shore. The cod strike the South shore first in June and afterwards cross the river. In July they go over to the North shore. The fishery is good in July, August and September. Halibut have left our coast.

38.—Mr. John Short, M. P., Gaspé:—

Mackerel have come in very plentifully this year in every direction around the coast of Gaspé.

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

Speaking of the coast on the North Shore of the estuary of the St. Lawrence, between Point des Monts and Shelbrake and on that coast for 180 miles, witness stated:—I have seen mackerel there school for miles along the shore. They will school for a whole week at a time, and then they may disappear for some days, after a few days they will school again. Small mackerel called "tinkers" are found outside of the three mile limit, the large fish inshore. The shores of Anticosti are a great place for halibut fishing, also on the North shore of the estuary. From Cape Chatte to Gaspé is also a famous halibut ground. Halibut are caught with trawls. This fishery has been injured by the Americans. On the North shore of the estuary the halibut has apparently diminished in numbers. Think that if halibut fishing ceased altogether, in six years time it would be as good as ever. I have seen codfish as thick as two feet in depth on the bottom, and in trying to catch them with the hook and line they would not touch the bait. There are certain hours in the day when they will not bite, but a few hours afterwards they will bite ravenously.

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

Cod is as abundant on the North and South shores of the estuary of the St. Lawrence, between Cape Chatte and Gaspé, and Point des Monts and Mingan as it was thirty or forty years ago.

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

Mackerel come from the southward, and appear between Scatarie and Cape North, C. B., about the 25th of May, and follow on until about the 15th or 20th of June. They are poor, large mackerel full of spawn. Prepare to fish about 25th May, but the best fishing would be from the 5th to the 20th June for Spring mackerel. The crews are kept engaged for mackerel fishing from the 25th of May to the 10th of November. From the 20th of June to the middle of July the fishing would be slack, but after that date the mackerel would brim the shore until they left for their winter quarters. The fish brim the shore close in fine weather, when the wind is off the shore. When the wind is on the shore, the fish is like a ship, and work out gradually into deep water. Mackerel always bite on a fine day before a storm. The farther you go north the fatter and better are the fish. They get fatter earlier the farther north you go.

53.—Mr. Charles Creed, Halifax, N. S.:—

I have always heard that mackerel is a fish that strikes inshore. When mackerel are in season they are inshore. They come in the spring of the year quite poor and thin. In the fall they go away south. My experience always led me to believe that except on banks they could not be caught in deep water. Along the coast of Nova Scotia mackerel are not taken outside of two or three miles off the coast. A great deal of codfish is caught within one or two miles of the Nova Scotian shore. All the herring taken on the coast of Nova Scotia are caught within one or two miles off the shore.

60.—Mr. Thomas R. Pattillo, Liverpool, N. S. :—

On September 5, 1877, the mackerel apparently extended in one body off Liverpool, N. S., for half a mile, and they were so thick that they did not seem to mind the boats going amongst them. Cod, pollock and haddock are numerous and caught close inshore. Halibut are occasionally taken inshore but *not* in quantities. The Americans fish for halibut in 90 fathoms and more, late in the season it is in 150 fathoms. As a general thing when mackerel are moving along the Nova Scotian coast off Liverpool they will not bite.

63.—Mr. Peter S. Richardson, Chester, N. S. :—

Considers from the 10th of September to October the best season for mackerel on the coast of Prince Edward Island. The best places for halibut in the Gulf are St. Margaret's River, Point des Monts, Moisie River, at Point Charles, and around Anticosti. They are caught close inshore, or from 200 yards to a mile and a half off. Witness has fished for halibut outside the Gulf at Sable Island, Western Bank.

65.—Hon. Robert Young, Caraquette, N. B. :—

Resides on the shores of the Bay of Chaleur, Codfish, mackerel and herring are taken in the Bay, mackerel inshore principally, within two miles of the shore. Cod are caught inshore in May and June, about three-fourths being so taken, after that they strike out into deep water. Haddock are taken in deep water in the Bay of Chaleurs.

J.

Customs remissions on Fish and Fish Oil, by the United States.

1.—Mr. Simon Chivirie, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Would not object to pay \$2 a bbl. if the fisheries were reserved exclusively for British subjects, because United States market must be supplied and prices would rise. Would think nothing of duty if Americans were kept off, but thought it hard that United States should take fish in our waters and compel us to pay \$2 duty per barrel.

Would rather have Americans excluded and pay any duty United States thought fit to impose on fish.

Removal of duty is no benefit, because at same time Americans catch fish in Canadian inshores and glut the United States market.

All leading men in fishing business think the inshore fisheries worth more than the remission of duty on fish, which is no equivalent at all.

2.—Mr. James R. McLean, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

To have the duty of \$2 taken off Colonial fish I should think was no equivalent at all, If American fishermen were not allowed to come into our waters, close inshore, our vessels would be quite safe in fitting out for making very large catches of mackerel. The American market would require our fish, and the Americans would have to give more than \$2 per barrel duty. We should have the control of the market to a very great extent. If their vessels were excluded from our coasts we would have the advantage in our own hands. With regard to the amount of any duty imposed by the Americans, they would have to pay it indirectly. The presence of the American fleet fishing side by side with our fishermen places the American fishermen on the same advantage with ours, for while we have to pay \$2 per barrel duty in gold they get their catch in duty free. We are quite satisfied to have the duty on so long as the Americans are excluded from our inshores.

Last season the potato crop in the United States was very short, and notwithstanding the duty on potatoes, they were shipped there in large quantities from Prince Edward Island. Of course the duties came out of the pockets of the consumers. We sold at very high prices, and speculated largely in them. We obtained prices making it self-sustaining, and the parties who obtained the potatoes would have to pay the duties. The Americans would not be able to catch enough mackerel outside the limit to be able to do anything towards supplying their markets. When we had to pay two dollars a barrel duty on the mackerel we sent to the United States. Our men would not stay in the Island vessels when they saw that the Americans were allowed to come and fish side by side with the British vessels and catch an equal share of the fish. Our fishermen consequently went in American vessels. Our best men did so, and some of the very best fishermen and smartest captains among the Americans are from P. E. Island and Nova Scotia.

3.—Mr. John Campion, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

I should not consider it any hardship to have to pay \$2 per barrel duty, because if American vessels were excluded we would have a monopoly of the market.

4.—Mr. Joseph Campbell, of Souris, P. E. I. :—

Were the American fishermen excluded from our inshore fisheries we could set up the price of mackerel ourselves. Americans do not catch enough mackerel to supply their whole markets.

5.—Mr. William S. McNeil, of Rustico, P. E. I. :—

If American fishermen were excluded from inshore fisheries and a duty raised of \$2 per barrel on our fish in the United States market, I think we would perhaps gain on it in the price we should obtain for our fish.

6. Mr. Poirier, of Tignish, P. E. I. :—

Could we keep them out we should have no objection to paying duty in the United States market. The number of fish would be limited and the market would be good for us, and the good price we could get would by far overbalance the \$2 tax.

Last year we got a big price for our potatoes although there was a protective duty of 15 cents per bushel upon them in the United States. We monopolized the market that year to a certain extent. If the Americans have a right to take away our fish and glut the American market with them it will reduce the price and we cannot get a sale for ours at all.

7.—Hon. William Howlan, of Cascumpecque, P. E. I.

Were the Americans excluded from the Canadian inshore fisheries an advantage would accrue to Canadian fishermen irrespective of any duty that might be imposed on Canadian fish in United States markets. If the quantity of fish required by the United States is, say 100,000 barrels, and the catch by American fishermen is only 60,000, it follows that they are 40 per cent short. So up goes the price of mackerel and they must go outside for them. That was clearly established last year in potatoes. While they were 20c. a bushel at the Island they were exported and sold at \$1.10 in the United States, were there was a duty on them of 15c. The consumer must have paid the duty.

11.—Mr. William McLeod, of Port Daniel, Gaspé :—

Were the Americans kept out of our inshore fisheries our fishing grounds would be protected and our fish increased. In a short time our people would enter in the business themselves, and as for a market the consumers must have our fish and would buy them. I represent the opinion of all my neighbours engaged in fishing, and I and they will be quite satisfied if the Americans were kept altogether out of the inshore fisheries and the imposition of a duty of two or three dollars a barrel on our mackerel would not injure us, for the consumers would pay the duties if levied.

12.—Mr. Philip Vibert, Percé, Gaspé :—

The fishermen and fish houses in the District of Gaspé, say from Bay Chaleur to the River and River du Loup, don't ship anything to the United States except salt herring. Their markets are Spain, Portugal and Brazil. The foreign markets regulate the price of fish other than mackerel. We should not object to the imposition of duties if we were protected in the enjoyment of our rights as to the inshore fisheries.

22.—Mr. John Nicholson, Louisburg, C. B. :—

The benefit of the free market accrues very little to the fisherman. It remains mostly in the hands of the merchant. The fishermen do not get enough to pay for the injury that is done by scaring their fish off. I do not consider it any benefit whatever to Canadian fishermen to have their fish go into the American markets free of duty. Our fishermen ship their fish to Halifax. The Halifax merchants buy them and ship them where they please, perhaps to Boston. Only a small quantity of British fish goes into the American market.

29.—Mr. James McLean, Letite, N. B. :—

If the Americans were kept out of our waters altogether and we had the privilege of sending fresh fish into their markets it would be vastly better for us now. Prior to the Treaty we had better times, got more fish, and could afford to pay the duty.

30.—Mr. James Lord, Deer Island, N. B. :—

When we had to pay \$1 a barrel duty on salt fish exported to the United States, we generally got enough more to pay the duty. As regards salt fish the Treaty has been an injury to us. Witness would rather pay a reasonable duty and keep the Americans out from British fishing grounds.

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

Price of mackerel has been lower since remission of duty, duty does not affect price materially, the supply regulates the price. As a rule the consumer pays the duty. Duty does not affect price paid to our fishermen. Remission of duty is no advantage to Canadians. I think we would to a certain extent have a monopoly of the United States market if United States fishermen were excluded from our waters and the duty re-imposed.

44.—Mr. George Romeril, Agent of Messrs. Robins & Co., Gaspé :—

The United States market is of no advantage to us for our cod, as they are not adapted for it, and we cannot obtain there a sufficient price.

46.—Mr. John Holliday, Moisie, Quebec :—

Americans seriously compete with us in the Dominion markets in cured fish. The Washington Treaty has not altered the course of trade at all in regard to fresh fish, and we send no cured or salted fish to United States markets.

47.—Mr. James A. Tory, Guysborough :—

My opinion is the duty only affected U. S. fishermen, enabling them to obtain more than our fishermen for their fish. Our people say they would willingly pay the duty if Americans were excluded from our shores.

67.—Mr. Holland C. Payson, Fishery Overseer, Briar Island, N. S. :—

Has been in the habit, previous to the treaty of Washington of carrying fish to American ports. Has not continued the business since the Washington Treaty, because the price of fish has declined so much that it does not pay him to go. We get more for our fish in our own markets. Does not think the provision of the Treaty which admits fish into the United States free an advantage. Under the former *regime*, when we paid the duty, the fish netted our fishermen more than they have since. They brought more money per quintal then than since. Since the Washington Treaty has sent the fish to Halifax, St. John and Yarmouth. A large amount of fish is sent from Yarmouth to the West Indies.

75.—Mr. J. C. Cunningham, Cape Sable Island, N. S. :—

Would prefer that Americans kept out of our inshores even if a duty were put on our fish, because there are not fish enough caught by Americans to supply their own consumption ; they must buy fish in some other market.

76.—Mr. B. H. Ruggles, Briar Island, N. S. :

It is generally considered that we got as much or a little more for our fish in U. S. markets during the time there was a duty than since.

77.—Mr. Josiah Hopkins, Barrington, N. S. :—

Have taken fish to U. S. market every year before and since Reciprocity Treaty was abolished. I am not aware that the abolition of that Treaty made any difference in the prices we realized for fish. As a rule the prices have ruled lower since the date of the Washington Treaty than before.