

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

PIERRE FORTIN, Esq.,

STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATE,  
COMMANDER OF THE EXPEDITION FOR THE PROTECTION OF  
THE FISHERIES IN THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE, ON BOARD

"LA CANADIENNE,"

DURING THE SEASON OF

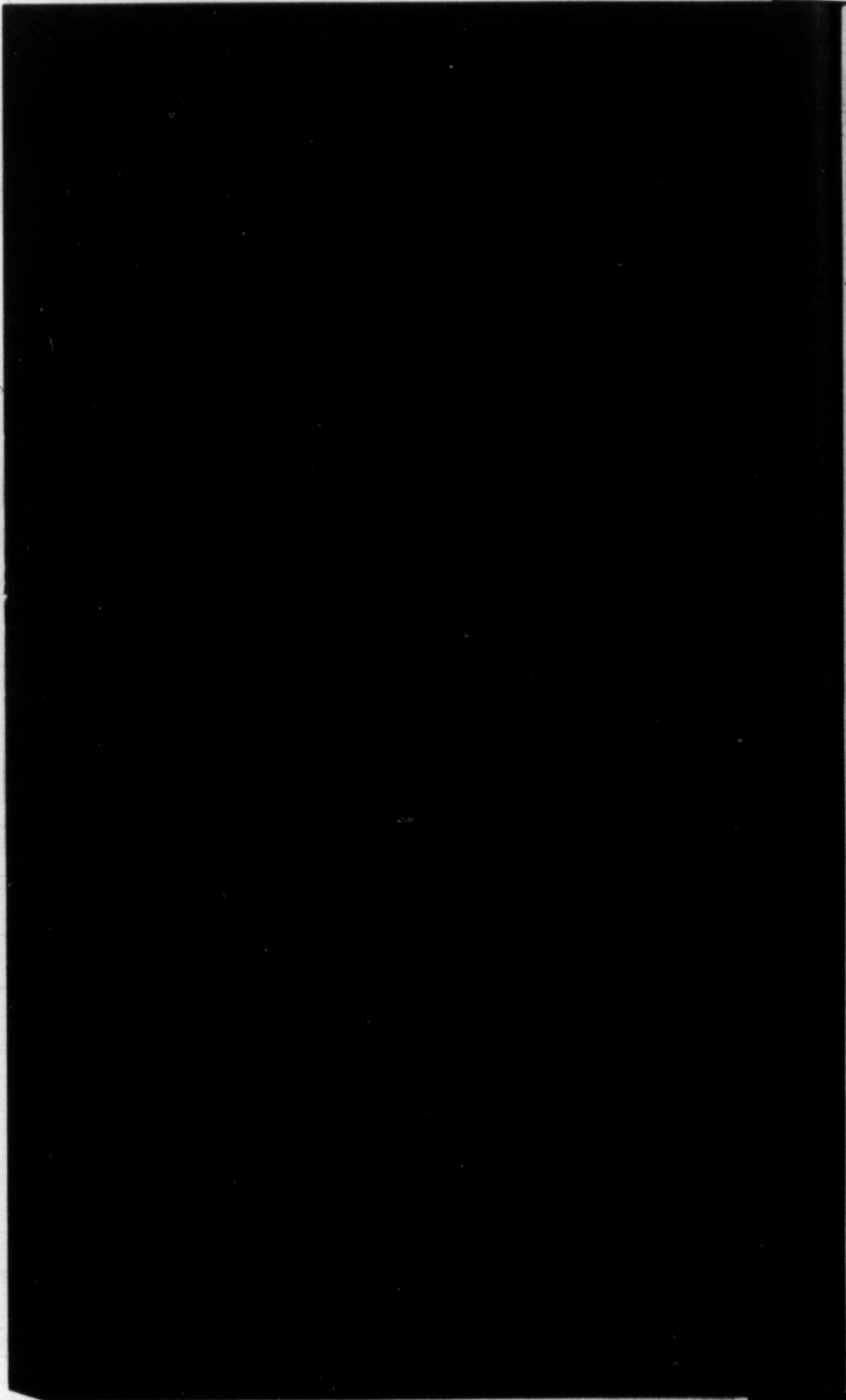
1864.



Printed by order of the Legislative Assembly.



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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

1907

1884

Printed and Published by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company

By transfer  
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LAWRENCE, ON BOARD OF "LA CANADIENNE," DURING  
THE SEASON OF 1864.

LAPRAIRIE, 30th December 1864.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit to you my report of the operations of the Expedition for the protection of the Canadian Fisheries in the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, during the season of 1864.

I have used every possible effort, and availed myself of all the means at my disposal, on board of the "La Canadienne," to afford to our fisheries all the protection and all the administrative care of which they are so worthy; and I trust that after the perusal of this report, you will find I have faithfully discharged the duty entrusted to me, and thoroughly carried out the several instructions with which you honored me throughout the season which has just come to a close.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your very humble and obedient servant,

(Signed,)

P. FORTIN.

Hon. ALEXANDER CAMPBELL,  
Commissioner of Crown Lands, Quebec.

The service for the protection of the Fisheries, at the head of which I have the honor to be placed, requires the presence of the armed Government vessel in the Gulf, at the earliest moment on the opening of the navigation, that is to say, between the 20th and the 25th April, and I have already had occasion, in former years, to draw the attention of the Government to that point of my duty.

In the present year, I had hoped to be able to sail at the requisite period, but the unfavorable weather and the extreme cold of the month of April prevented us from completing the repairs necessary to be made on "La Canadienne," to strengthen her, before the 30th of the month, notwithstanding the activity and zeal evinced by the employees of the Public Works in executing them. I left the Port of Quebec, however, on that day. This was upwards of a month earlier than the previous year, and a week earlier than the date of my departure in the year 18... which was the earliest before the present year. This was, in good truth, a great improvement, but something still remains to be done. I do not think, however, that under the present system of docking the schooner every autumn and painting her all over (which requires fine weather) before taking her out again, we can, with all possible exertion, succeed in getting away earlier than the end of April or the beginning of May. This is why I would suggest the plan of laying up the schooner for the winter afloat in the Coves, either at the *Anse des Mères*, or at Indian Cove, where she would be well sheltered from the ice. But for this purpose she would require to be cooped, a work easily executed and not very expensive, and one which would effect a great saving in the annual expenses for the wintering of the vessel.

On the 30th of April, therefore, we left the Port of Quebec with a light breeze from the West, which rapidly changed into a strong North-east wind, and it was not until the 6th of May that we succeeded in reaching Bersimis, and the 7th, Point aux Outardes, the first place where I was called upon to hear a criminal prosecution.

I judged the case of an individual accused of assault and battery; and, in a case in which information was laid of an assault with intent to commit murder, I carried out the preliminary proceedings prescribed by law and the person accused was held to bail to appear at the next session of the Criminal Court for the District of Saguenay, at Malbaie.

At Bersimis, I had, in my capacity of Commissioner *per dedimus potestatem*, sworn in Mr. Matthew Fortescue, a resident of that locality, and I have no doubt but that that gentleman will do good service to the cause of order upon that part of the coast, where the necessity for a Magistrate had been keenly felt for a long time. It is known that Bersimis is now the central point of meeting of most of the Montagnais families who inhabit the North shore of the River and Gulf of St Lawrence; and I recommended the appointment of Mr. Fortescue chiefly with the view of providing protection for those poor Indians, and to prevent travelling dealers from going there to sell spirituous liquors.

On the 9th I arrived at Point des Monts, and there met Mr. Alexander Comeau, fishery overseer in that division of the coast, and disposed of the licenses for the salmon fishing at the fishing posts which it contains.

Meanwhile the wind, which had blown without ceasing from the east, continued to blow from that quarter, and we did not succeed in reaching Seven Islands until noon on the 12th.

I had to land there the Collector of the Port, Mr. Smith and his family, together with his luggage, and this business being accomplished, we shaped our course for the south shore, the wind still holding in the same quarter, and not favorable to my intention of calling at River Moisie.

Having reached the coast of Gaspé, we steered for the Magdalen Islands, where we arrived on the 16th, having had foul winds and met much floating ice on the south side of Amherst Island.

I was much astonished on reaching Amherst Harbour to find no more than nine schooners there, six of which were fitted out for the herring fishery and three for the cod fishery, (their names will be given hereafter) and that at a time when the Harbour usually can hardly contain the hundreds of fishing-vessels which assemble there from the Lower Provinces and the United States, and even of the few we found, the first had been there only a few days.

This state of things was occasioned by the ice. In fact, the south side of the Gulf, from the Gut of Canso to Prince Edward's Island, and even quite near to the Magdalen Islands, was filled with it, so that the navigation of these waters was completely obstructed, and as we were informed by the fishermen, the ice-field which we fell in with on the 15th, extended as far as the Isle of Cape Breton, and its presence had still the effect of keeping the air cold and damp.

PORT OF AMHERST, MAY 17TH, 1865.

Name of Ship.	Name of Captain.	From.	Tonnage	Men.	Nets.	Cargo.
Ne plus Ultra.....	Peter Malcolm.....	Canso, Guysborough.....	48	6	8	Herring. 10 Brls.
Bright Ann.....	M. McKay.....	Do do.....	43	5	.....	10 "
Bluemer.....	James Walker.....	Bay of Inhabitants, N.E.	43	6	6	15 "
Shooting Star.....	James Murray.....	Canso, Little River.....	36	6	4	30 "
Trois-Sœurs.....	Théodule Gaspard.....	St. Pierre Miquelon.....	29	6	.....	.....
Victory.....	Edward Proctor.....	Canso, Guysborough.....	37	4	4	20 "
Spec.....	Walter Murray.....	Canso, Ship Harbor.....	36	6	3	8 "
Espiègle.....	Eugène Petitpas.....	St. Pierre Miquelon.....	27	11	3	.....
Hirondelle.....	Jules Poirrier.....	Kégasca.....	27	4	.....	.....
Total.....			330	54	28	73 Brls.

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I saw the Collector and the principal inhabitants of the Port, and was informed that the last winter had been very mild, but that the Islands had been almost entirely surrounded by ice, from the month of January to the month of April.

In the month of March, an immense ice-field, thickly strewn with seals, almost all young, had grounded on the beach of the north-east coast of the Islands, and in two days the fishermen of House Harbour, of *Etang du Nord*, and even of Amherst Island, killed, either with firearms or with clubs, nearly 6,000 of them, a rich harvest speedily gathered in, though not without danger which would have been greater if an east wind had not come on and carried off the floating ice burthened with such wealth.

The Herring had made its appearance in the Bay of Plaisance towards the end of April, and had been abundant as also on the neighboring coasts, and the enormous quantities of spawn cast up by the waves on the beach of the bay, the putrescence of which was offensive to the inhabitants, plainly indicated that they had accomplished the important office of reproduction with immense effect. Unluckily, the herring-fleet had not arrived in good time, and the inhabitants of the Islands are not possessors of the large seine-nets necessary for the purpose, consequently only a very small quantity of fish had been captured.

I had touched at Entry Island on the 10th; on the 18th I visited House Harbour and Grindstone Island, and took note that all was right at those places. Nothing requiring the presence of "La Canadienne," until the mackerel fishery, I gave orders to make sail for the coast of Gaspé.

There had been twenty-five wrecks the previous autumn, on the northern coast of the Islands, in one of which a captain and four sailors perished while endeavoring to land in their jolly-boat. Such accidents, commonly the result of inexperience or carelessness on the part of the captains, are very injurious to the navigation of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, by creating an impression that it is still more dangerous than it really is, and contribute mainly to keep the rates of insurance on ships leaving Canada, higher than what are charged on vessels bound for the Lower Provinces or the United States, to the great detriment of the maritime commerce of our country. Vessels from Richibucto and Miramichi are most frequently unfortunate enough to terminate their existence (often a short one, for some of them are just off the stocks and newly launched) on the sandy shoals of the Islands, from which, when once they are grounded, they seldom get off.

I cannot quit this subject without bearing testimony to the ready zeal of the inhabitants of the Magdalen Islands, in affording aid to shipwrecked persons, and the regular system which prevails in the salvage and sale of articles belonging to wrecks.

On the 20th of May, about noon, we arrived at Percé.

Both herring and cod had made their appearance some time before, and the fishing commenced under the best auspices.

I ascertained, by visiting the fishing-establishments, that no disorder existed.

The following day I landed at Douglstown and issued salmon-fishing licenses for the River St. John, and in the evening we entered Gaspé Basin. I passed the 22nd and 23rd in visiting the Harbour, which contained 25 vessels, some from Europe, the rest from Quebec or the Lower Provinces, and in issuing salmon-fishing licenses for Dartmouth and York Rivers, fifty in number. This business being completed, we sailed for Paspébiac where we arrived on the following afternoon. We counted 26 ships in the roadstead here; some from Europe with full cargoes of goods and fishing-gear and supplies, the others taking on board all necessaries for the cod-fisheries on the north shore, everything betokening great activity and an evident increase in the fish-trade, of which Paspébiac is the grand centre for the County of Bonaventure, and even for that part of the North Shore east of Mingan. I ascertained to my great satisfaction, that at this port, where more than 500 men were at work, there was not the least disorder.

On the 25th I issued licenses for salmon-fishing, at Port Daniel, not having occasion to visit that place, and at noon weighed anchor and reached Carleton the following day. That day, in the afternoon, I visited Maguasha and Dalhousie, and returning to Carleton, on the 27th made sail for the Magdalen Islands.

During my stay off the Bay of Chaleurs, I had issued salmon-fishing licenses for all the stations on the River Restigouche, the Bay of Carleton, Maria, and the Cascapédiac and Bonaventure Rivers. Salmon-fishing was not sufficiently advanced to enable me to judge of its probable success. This year, again, a large number of white porpoises (*Delphinapteres*

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	Nets.	Cargo.
		Herring.
6	8	10 Brls.
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6	6	15 "
6	4	30 "
6		
4	4	20 "
6	3	8 "
11	3	
4		
54	28	73 Brls.

*Beluga*) were found in the Bay of Chaleurs, near its inner shore, and it was a prevalent opinion among the fishermen, that they were in pursuit of the salmon, on which they feed, and that they are therefore very injurious to the Salmon-fishery.

I think we must await the experience of a few years more before committing ourselves to this opinion; we must, in the first place, have some certain facts verified, concerning the habits of these fish, and especially as to the nature of their food.

Last year the porpoises appeared in as great numbers as in the present year, at the mouth of the River Restigouche, and it was not found that the salmon-fishing was diminished in any remarkable degree at that place.

On the 30th, after a two days' run, we came to an anchor, for the second time, at Amherst Harbour, in the Magdalen Islands. My object in using so much expedition was that I might be present during the mackerel fishing, and I arrived in sufficient time, as the fish had not yet made its appearance in the Bay.

There were no other foreign schooners in Amherst Harbour, besides those we had already seen; but there were some belonging to the Islands, which had lately returned from the Seal-fishing on the ice, and which unluckily brought back but little for their labor, so unproductive had the fishery been, through the difficulty which vessels found in leaving their winter-quarters sufficiently early, the entrance being blocked up with solid ice. The fields, also, which they fell in with in the Gulf, carried but few seals.

At House Harbor, the schooners fitted out for the seal fishery had returned from their dangerous and most adventurous cruise, with no more success than those belonging to Amherst Harbor, except two which had been lost with all on board: one near East point of the Island of Anticosti; the other off the Island of Bonaventure.

The loss of those two vessels had carried grief and dismay amidst the population of the Islands, as their crews were of the most respected and experienced inhabitants of the country; and as they were nearly all married persons, they had left behind them many widows and orphans, most of them in a state of poverty.

In another part of my report, I shall give a statement of the vessels belonging to the Magdalen Islands with the value of the seals taken by them respectively; but before entering on another subject, I must remark that the failure of the seal fishery, carried on by the vessels belonging to the Magdalen Islands, in the two last years, notwithstanding the skill and active enterprize of the fishermen in their expeditions, in which they have to contend with constantly recurring storms, cold and ice, would be fatal to the future prosecution of this important branch of industry, (important as yielding an article of great value in commerce, and as training a hardy body of seamen) if the bounty did not encourage it by aiding to defray the expenses of the outfit. This premium on their labors, will moreover be a strong motive to induce the fishermen to make new efforts in the same pursuit next year, under the influence of the never-failing hope that their toil must sooner or later be crowned with full success.

I continued at the Magdalen Islands until the 11th of June, during which time I was engaged in protecting the cod-fishery, by preventing American fishermen from making use of deep sea-lines in taking cod on the coast of the Magdalen Islands, or within three miles of the same, in pursuance of the law; and the mackerel-fishery, by obliging both foreigners and Canadians to set their nets according to the by-law regulating the fisheries in the Bay of Plaisance, and keeping free from obstruction, that part of the said Bay, which subtends the entrance of Amherst Harbour.

Most of the fishermen complied with the by-laws, but several of them persisted in their determination to set their nets in places reserved for the passing of vessels, and I was obliged to have them removed, to the number of 13, and confiscated them; for the owners fearful of being sentenced to pay the fine, did not appear to claim them. Accordingly, when I left Amherst, although there were upwards of a thousand mackerel nets set in the Bay of Plaisance, from the 6th, on which day the taking of that fish commenced, none were set contrary to law.

The schooners, also, in the different harbors, had complied with the law, in every respect, and particularly in these provisions which relate to the disposal of ballast. I devoted a few days to the duty of visiting Coffin Island, Gross Isle, Bryon Island, and the Bird Islands, and found good order prevailing in all.

On a future page I shall give a statement of the different fisheries of these islands.

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The 13th was the date of our arrival at Percé. The cod-fishery had commenced and was progressing favorably, some of the boats having taken already nearly 100 drafts. The bait made use of was herring, which was plentiful near the coast. The capelin had not yet made its appearance. On the 14th, I sat in Court at Percy, with Dr. Konick, a Justice of the Peace of the District, to try five fishermen who were charged with having broken their engagement. Their guilt having been fully proved, they were sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars each, or to be imprisoned for twenty days, and as they did not pay the fine, they were all sent to Percy Gaol.

I must here remark that such an example as this could not fail to produce a salutary effect among the people of the coast, by showing them that if any of them should be inclined to break their engagement, after having received from their shippers considerable advances in fishing-tackle, and especially in provisions, justice would overtake them and punish them for their bad faith; but would also protect them against any unworthy treatment from their employers, if need were.

On the 14th we touched at Point St. Pierre, and the following day we entered Gaspé Basin. Everything at that place was quiet, as also on all other parts of the coast visited by me.

The cod-fishery was proceeding with middling results; the greatest success was at Percé, and Point St. Pierre; in Gaspé Bay, it was very poor.

On the 18th we left Gaspé Basin to proceed to the North Shore, visiting the fishing-stations at Cape des Rosiers, Griffon Cove, Fox River, Grand Etang, Petite Vallée, Grande Vallée and Magdalen River. I had intended to visit the establishments at Mont Louis, but on account of a calm which happened first, and next of a strong gale from the Northwest, we were obliged to give them a wide berth, and to make for the Seven Islands.

The length of coast which I had visited since leaving Cape Gaspé was upwards of sixty miles, and comprised a great number of important cod-fishing establishments. Unfortunately the fishing had been very unproductive, although throughout the spring herring bait had been very abundant near the coast. It was the cod which was wanting. No capelin has been seen. I had several difficulties to settle on this coast, and I took measures to prevent vessels from discharging their ballast in several of the small rivers—those of Grande Vallée and Mont Louis for instance, into which the small schooners engaged in the coasting-trade, are glad to run for shelter in bad weather. In all other respects, everything was quiet, and no United States vessels had appeared in those waters.

At the Seven Islands, where we arrived, as I observed, on the 23rd, I learned that the cod had not yet made its appearance, and consequently the fishing had not yet commenced, although the capelin had been taken from the 10th May.

The Collector of this port, Mr. Smith, had nothing new to report.

From the 24th to the 27th I was engaged in visiting the establishments between the Rivers Moisie and Mingan, a distance of 80 miles; they are those of Pigou, Gibraltar Cove, Shell-Drake, River Jupitagan, Rivers St. John and Longue-Pointe. I stationed a keeper at the River Moisie, and satisfied myself that everything was going on well. The salmon-fishery had commenced some time before, and promised to be productive; as to the cod-fishery, it was absolutely nothing. The first fish had been taken the night before we arrived; and this was the more surprising because there was abundance of capelin and lance on the coast; and it is well known that the cod habitually lives on those pretty little fish, and with good reasons, as they are usually very delicious.

At Pigou, I had a difficulty to settle, relating to the possession of certain beach lots occupied for fishing purposes, and having received the evidence, I gave judgment in favor of those who, in accordance with the fishery-laws, were entitled to them.

At all these places the cod-fishing had just commenced, and was very poor, although the bait was had in abundance. The fishermen had succeeded best at Shell-Drake, Magpie Bay, and the River St. John.

The salmon-fishing in the River St. John and the neighborhood had hitherto had but little success.

I gave Mr. Ross, the Hudson's Bay Company's Agent at Mingan, the fishing-licenses for the River St. John and several other salmon-fisheries in the Seigniorie of Mingan.

On the 28th I was informed that a person named Edward Quigley was fishing in the River Rensselaire without a license, and even within the limits of the stakes occupied by the

Hudson's Bay Company. I proceeded, therefore, with all diligence to the place, and on his conviction, sentenced him to pay a fine of \$20.00, and confiscated his nets, which had been set within the limits assigned by their license to the Company.

On 1st July, I arrived at Esquimaux Point. Eleven schooners which had been to the seal-fishery in the spring, had returned with 2,500 seals, almost all young. This was no great success, but as oil bore a high price, the animals produced enough to repay them for the toil and misery they had undergone in their dangerous expedition.

On the 5th I visited the River Corneille, and went up to the first falls, in a canoe. There I found the nets belonging to the Lessee set according to law. The fishing was not very successful, either there or at the River Natshee-shoo.

On the 7th I touched at the River Napitippi and the River Agwanus, and found everything in order. The fishing not very good, and towards evening we anchored opposite the River Natashquan. I immediately landed to inquire into a complaint laid by Mr. Gauthier, the lessee of the River Natashquan, against Mr. Hypolite Vigneault, that the latter had set his nets within the limits of that River.

Together with Mr. Tétu and the canoe-man, and in presence of Mr. Gauthier and his associate, Mr. Boulé, I measured the distance from North Point, at the mouth of the river, to Mr. Vigneault's fishing-station, and found it to be 1000 yards, being 1100 yards beyond the northern boundary of that river, as shown by a post bearing the initial letters of the name of Robert Stanley, planted by Captain Bernier, by my directions, in 1861.

The post itself is a little outside of the limits which extend one mile on each side of the river, measuring from the middle of it north. For as the stream is a mile and two cable lengths in width at its mouth, if we measure a mile from the middle, we find that the northern limits extend no further than half a mile, less by a cable's length, or about 771 yards from the north point of the river.

I found moreover that Mr. Vigneault had set his nets this year, as in former years, and consequently could not be blamed in any way. But a remarkable change had taken place at the mouth of the river, north, for the channel, instead of a direct course as formerly, had changed its direction and now ran N.N.W., making a much nearer approach to Mr. Vigneault's station. For this reason it was,—and perhaps because of the diminished productiveness of the fishery in River Natashquan this year,—that Mr. Gauthier was led to make his complaint against Vigneault. That gentleman had also taken less Salmon this year than he did last year. The sand-bar which I have just mentioned, extends from the north-west side of the Island at the mouth of the river, in a semi-circle, half a mile towards the N.W.; is dry at low water in spring-tides; and as I have said, completely fills up the former channel of the northern mouth of the river; but the new channel, although it takes a different direction, is as deep and as wide as the old one was.

Mr. Gauthier alleged that his limits extended to the distance of a mile on each side of the river, and that therefore Mr. Vigneault's station was within his (Mr. Gauthier's) limits; but I proved to him, by reading his lease to him, that he was mistaken, and that his pretensions could not be maintained.

The following day I visited and measured the fishing-stations on the River, and found nets as follows: one on the north bank, reaching from a point about 150 yards above the Hudson's Bay Company's House, to a distance of 400 yards towards the middle of the Island; a second, commencing on the N.E. side of the said Island, opposite to the spot where schooners are accustomed to anchor in the river, and taking the direction of the Company's House, to a distance of 433 yards. It even overlapped the first mentioned, and left a distance of no more than 108 yards between the two; a third range of nets was affixed to the south-east bank of the Island, and took a south-easterly direction to the distance of 203 yards in the south entrance of the river; a fourth line of nets, 534 yards long, had been set on the opposite shore, in a direction which brought it so near to the third that there was no more than 175 yards between them. This I ascertained by measuring the line of stakes on which the nets comprising it, had been extended, and which were still standing. The line of nets was carried away by a freshet on the 28th June, and not since replaced. Accordingly, previous to the last mentioned date, there was no more than 175 yards of the river open in the southern channel, and only 107 in the north channel, while the fishery-laws require at least 200 yards free between the several ranges of nets.

In the face of such a flagrant violation of the fishery-laws, my duty was plain. It

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required me to punish the delinquents; but in consideration of the great loss of money which Mr. Gauthier would suffer in the present year (competent judges estimate it at over \$2000) through the failure of the fishery, which would yield no more than 50 barrels instead of 250 barrels and upwards, the usual yield of this river, I inflicted no greater fine than \$20, and only confiscated the line of nets set in the north channel, 108 yards from those of the opposite side.

The law might have visited the offence with greater severity, but after full consideration I thought the punishment severe enough, especially as this was his first offence.

Mr. Gauthier, in his defence, pleaded ignorance of the principal provisions of the Fisheries' Act, but I could scarcely believe that the main heads of the Act respecting the salmon-fishery had not been explained to him at the Fisheries' Department, and that he had not been informed, at least, that he was not to obstruct the principal channel of the river, and that he must leave a distance of not less than 200 yards between the ranges of the nets.

On the same day I sent my assistant, Mr. Têtu, to examine the nets in the upper part of the river. That officer found, three miles above, a range of nets extending too far over the channel, and a portion of it was, by my orders, taken up. Still three miles higher, George Morissette was setting salmon-nets for Mr. Gauthier, which were lawfully placed. I left as keeper in this river, one of my sailors named F. X. Labbé, giving him necessary instructions.

I have to add, while on the subject of Mr. Vigneault's fishing-stations, that although it is not within Mr. Gauthier's limits, yet, as the bar of the river has changed its position, so that the body of the water passing down the north channel takes a more northerly direction than heretofore, and therefore inclines more to the beach where Mr. Vigneault's nets are set, though I do not think they are more injurious to the free passage of the river than formerly, yet to make things go more smoothly and remove any ground of discontent, however unreasonable, from the mind of Mr. Gauthier, I beg to recommend that Mr. Gauthier's lease be modified as to the limits, so that instead of being measured from the middle of the river, they may commence in future from the points at the mouth of the river, and that Mr. Vigneault's station may be removed to the extremity of the new limit, northerly.

I informed Mr. Vigneault that such a change might take place, as I have mentioned, and as he will be, in some degree, a loser by the change, I did not think it fair or reasonable to raise the price of his license.

As to the Natashquan, I have only to add that the cod-fishing there had been very unsuccessful. A large number of fishing-schooners had come into the bay in the spring, but had soon left when they found how scarce the cod was on the banks.

On 10th July I left Natashquan in order to visit the fishery-stations of the Island of Anticosti. I proceeded to Bear River on Metallic Bay, to Salmon River where a person named Harrison carries on a salmon-fishery belonging to Mr. William Corbett, the lessee of the Seigniorship of Anticosti and next to Bell Bay, where I found six establishments and three schooners engaged in the cod-fishery.

All these establishments are on the north side of the Island. Cod was tolerably abundant, but the bad weather was a sore hindrance to the operations of the fishermen.

On the southern coast, I stopped at Shallop Creek, at the south-west point of the Island, and the River Jupiter. I had found everything in good order on the Island, except at the last-named river, where Mr. William Corbett had set his nets in direct violation of the fishery-laws. I was therefore obliged to summon him before me, and full evidence of the fact being found, I sentenced him to pay a fine of \$8, and confiscated the net which had been set unlawfully, besides ten salmon which had been taken in it.

This was the second time I found Mr. Corbett or his men violating the Fisheries' Act, in the River Jupiter.

On the 16th we stayed a few hours at west point of the Island of Anticosti, and then stood away for the eastern extremity of the coast of Labrador. The following day, as the wind was no longer favorable, we entered the Bay of Coacochoo, where, having some repairs to make in our shrouds to prevent them from being cut by friction against the mast, we remained in an excellent roadstead till the 19th. We then proceeded to our anchorage at Wapitigan.

There were so few salmon in the Coacochoo that Mr. Aubé had, up to that time,

taken only one; and Mr. Blais, in the river Etamamu, had taken no more than 125 (about 5 barrels) and his fishing was ended and his nets taken up. This showed a very extraordinary falling off in the number of salmon in that fine river, where formerly from 60 to 80 barrels were wont to be taken in a season; and yet there was no obstruction in the channels of the river; the salmon had always had free ingress. In another part of this report, I shall return to this subject.

On the 21st we entered Mutton Bay, having lain to the whole of a very stormy night. The fog prevented me from putting in at the various ports between Etamamu and Mutton Bay. At the latter place the cod had been plentiful, in the spring, but was now falling off. We found 15 schooners, Canadian and Nova Scotian, each with about 200 quintals of cod, as will be seen by the following table:\*

MUTTON BAY, 23RD JULY 1864.

Name of Schooner.	Name of Captain.	From what port.	Tonnage.	Number of men.	Cargo.	Remarks.
Loup-Marin .....	Eugène Bourgeois...	Magdalen Islands.....	37	11	38,000	codfish.
Espérance.....	D. Chiasson.....	Do do .....	52	11	300	quintals.
Flora.....	Louis Boudreau.....	Do do .....	40	11	28,000	codfish.
Augédi.....	Gilbert Cormier.....	Do do .....	25	7	130	quintals.
Idea.....	Jos. Smith.....	Louisbourg .....	37	11	170	do
Iberville.....	F. Boudreau.....	Esquimaux Point.....	36	9	200	do
Aïssa.....	Frank Cumming.....	Do do .....	41	11	31,000	codfish.
Amelia.....	Xavier Cormier.....	Do do .....	42	12	31,000	do
Ocean Pride.....	Jacob Conrad.....	Halifax.....	16	6	20	quintals.
Marie.....	Tassien Harquell.....	Bay St. George.....	21	6	15,600	codfish.
Président.....	Onésime Montigny...	Magdalen Islands.....	38	8	200	quintals.
Venée.....	John Doyle.....	Esquimaux Point.....	46	12	31,000	codfish.

We were prevented by the bad weather and the logs from leaving Mutton Bay before the 23rd, in the evening of which day we were able to reach St. Augustin, from which time till the 31st, I was engaged in visiting the principal fishing-stations between St. Augustin and the easterly limits of Canada, (Blanc-Sablon Bay) as follows: On

24th I visited Wood-Island

25th " Blanc-Sablon Bay.

" " Bradore Harbour.

26th " L'Anse des Dunes and Little Harbour.

28th " Salmon Bay and Bonne Espérance.

29th " Entrance of River St. Paul, Lizotte's Fishery, Dog Island, Bay of Rocks, Malouin Bay, the River Napitippi.

30th " Nicataca, Portage Bay, St. Augustin, Whale Head, and Paccachoo.

At all these places the cod-fishing had been unsuccessful, although the bait had been generally abundant.

The salmon-fishery had not been more productive, and the fish had not appeared in the river till a late period.

During my visit at Blanc-Sablon Bay, and while engaged in visiting the ports which have always been considered as a part of the territory of Canada, those namely of Fruing & Co, at the head of the bay, and LeBoutillier & Co, on Wood-Island, I was informed that the officers of customs, of the Labrador coast, which belongs to the Government of Newfoundland, had been to those establishments, and had demanded from the persons in charge, the duties payable on the goods which they had imported from Europe this year, amounting to a considerable sum, under pain of having them confiscated, as they had been last year. I shall remark, further, that the said officers claimed the whole of Blanc Sablon Bay, as well as Wood Island, as belonging to Newfoundland, in virtue of a clause in an Imperial Act, which declares that the western boundary of the territory belonging to Newfoundland, on the Labrador coast, shall be in *51° 25' N. and 57° 09' W.* (The words in Italics are extracted from the Commission of the Governor General.)

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On 25th July, I went on board of the armed cutter, "Hawk," Stephen Marsh, Esquire Commander, belonging to the Government of Newfoundland. That gentleman, who is the Commissioner of the Fisheries, told me that he had received orders from his Government to consider the western boundary of the territory belonging to Newfoundland, as lying on the meridian of 50° 9' W. from Greenwich, and that accordingly the whole of Blanc Sablon Bay and Wood Island lie within his jurisdiction. Now as my letter of instructions from the Department, dated 20th June, 1864, directed me to treat Wood Island as a possession of Canada, a conflict of jurisdiction arose, creating for the inhabitants of these parts, a state of things full of difficulty and even peril, as they did not know to which Government obedience was due, and their industrial as well as their commercial pursuits suffered in consequence.

If I had been at Blanc Sablon Bay when the Newfoundland officers of customs made their visit to the establishments on Wood Island to collect duties, I should have resisted their claims, as required by my instructions, and should have made use of all the means at my disposal to prevent them from levying contributions on fishing establishments, which, up to that time, had always been considered as belonging to Canada. The House of Le-Boutillier and brothers, at Wood Island, were forced to pay, this year again, £60 sterling for duties, and the House of Fruing & Co., of Blanc Sablon Bay, £46 8s. 11d. sterling. But as an undesirable conflict of jurisdiction might have ensued, and as the claims of the Newfoundland officers of Customs will probably be renewed next year, and it might happen again, as it has happened in the present year, that I should not be on the spot in time to protect our traders and fishermen against these encroachments on our territory, and it is very desirable to put an end to these conflicts of jurisdiction, I take the liberty of recommending that the Governments of Canada and Newfoundland come to an understanding, with a view to a final arrangement of the matter in dispute, and that monuments should be planted on the division line, by competent persons, to show, in an unmistakable manner, the boundary line (East) of Canada, in Blanc Sablon Bay.

I have to add that the said Officers of Customs of Newfoundland compelled schooners, both Canadian and those of the lower Provinces, anchoring in Blanc Sablon Bay, this year, for the purpose of taking cod, to pay duties on their salt and their empty barrels.

During my visits to Green Island and Bradore Bay, I fell in with French schooners (from Miquelon) fishing in these waters, and, on the complaint of our fishermen, obliged them to quit our coast, and to carry on their fishing in the open sea.

On the 31st we left the North shore, sailing from Whalehead of Pacachoo, and on the 2nd August we cast Anchor at Bryon Island, one of the Magdalen group. From that date to the 13th, when we set sail for Percé, we cruised about without intermission among the islands, to protect our fishermen and the inhabitants of the coast from the insults and deprivations of the foreign fishermen, (from the United States) who, to the number of 3,000 men, with nearly 250 schooners, were for the most part engaged in the mackerel-fishery, though a few were fishing for cod.

These American schooners had arrived on the coast within two, three or four weeks, and it was reckoned that they had taken each from 100 to 150 barrels of mackerel, then in its finest season and condition. I saw a great many of them, sometimes on one part of the coast, sometimes on another, and I have great pleasure in stating, that during the whole cruise, I never heard that any of our fishermen suffered any wrong at their hands.

The only thing that they had to complain of was a habit, on board of several French schooners, fishing off the Etang du Nord, of throwing the offal of their fish overboard, and I hastened to put a stop to this evil by obliging the fishermen belonging to those schooners, to carry out their offal, either to the open sea, or near to the beach, where it could be in no way injurious.

With regard to our fishermen belonging to the Magdalen Islands, I have only to say that they carried on their cod-fishing with various success; generally less than the average of long past years.

The fishing for mackerel, which abounded in the neighborhood of the Islands, especially in the Bay of Pleasance and about Allright Island, had succeeded much better, and many fishermen from House Harbour and Amherst Harbour followed it zealously whenever they had fine weather; and it was hoped that they would derive great profit from it, as it bore a high price in the American market.

There had been two shipwrecks near the Etang du Nord since my former visit. Fortunately no lives were lost.

At Percé, where, as I before stated, I arrived on the 14th August, I ascertained, by visiting the establishments, that nothing remarkable had happened since my former visit. The cod-fishing was highly prosperous here, as well as at Bonaventure Island.

On the 16th I touched at River St. Pierre and was informed that the cod-fishery was going on satisfactorily. Everything here, as elsewhere in the environs, was in the best order.

The same day we entered Gaspé Basin where we found only a very small number of vessels.

I had been informed that the Indians in Gaspé had been spearing salmon in the south-west and north-west rivers. Accordingly I proceeded, on the 19th August, to Deadman's Bay where they reside, in order to make inquiry and ascertain the truth of the report. I found no salmon in their houses, nor any instrument or fishing-tackle forbidden by law; and the inhabitants of whom I made inquiry, declared that they had no knowledge of their having taken or sold any. But although I found no evidence to establish the guilt of any of the Indians, I was by no means convinced of their innocence, and before leaving the place, I instructed the keeper of the division, Mr. Thomas Boyle, to redouble his activity, in order to find out the guilty parties, if such there were, and to watch over the salmon-fisheries entrusted to his care, with increased vigilance.

We passed some days at Gaspé Basin, to lay in stock, and on the 20th we set sail to continue our cruise, which was this time to extend on the south shore of the River St. Lawrence, as far as Rimouski, then to be continued along the coast of the Bay of Chaleurs, until the time appointed for our last visit to the North shore.

I was thus occupied from 20th August to 6th September: visiting the fishing-posts from Cape Gaspé to Rimouski. At the former date, I landed at Cape des Rosiers, and the next day at Fox River and Little Cape.

After the last-mentioned place, we were prevented from approaching the coast, by the fog brought up by the east wind, and we made sail for Rimouski. We were off that place on the 23rd, but fog prevented us from anchoring before the next day.

On the 25th I delivered the salmon-fishing licenses for that place and the neighborhood.

On the 26th, having been informed by Mr. Luc Sylvain, that a person named Julien Landry had obstructed the River Rimouski, by setting nets therein, during the season of salmon-fishing, and moreover that he had speared salmon, I lodged two informations against him, by Nazaire Hynse, and the defendant was summoned to appear before the Justices of the Peace of the village on the 27th. On that day I was in attendance before the Court, consisting of two magistrates of the place, to support the charge, having all necessary evidence to prove the two charges laid in the informations. But the defendant, appearing by his advocate, obtained a delay of the hearing of the causes till the 25th of September, under pretence that his most important witness could not be produced before the Court before that day. Nothing remained to be done in the cases but to entrust them into the skilful hands of Augustin Michaud, Esquire, advocate, being convinced that that gentleman, who feels a deep interest in the fishery laws, would conduct the causes before the Court, with all proper care and diligence.

The salmon-fishing had not been successful at Rimouski and the neighboring places, and nobody knew to what cause the change was to be attributed, from a good season like that of 1863, to a bad one like the present. The herring-fishing had been tolerably good. As to the cod-fishing, it may suffice to say that the fish had hardly made its appearance on the coast this year, between the Island of St. Barnaby and Matane.

While at Rimouski we had constant bad weather, that is to say, an East wind, rain and fogs, and we could not put to sea before the 29th, on which day also, we came to an anchor at Grand River of Metis.

I immediately went to see Mr. Noble, (who was not at home) and Messrs. Page and Ouellet, his partners in the salmon-fishery, and heard from them that they had taken no more than 303½ lbs. of salmon during the season of 1863, making about 1½ barrels. In 1864, the fishery had fallen off still more, as it had produced only eight salmon, total weight 87 lbs., with two ranges of nets, each 10 fathoms long. It was evident, therefore, that the fishery did not yield enough to pay half the expenses. For this reason, to which

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I gave due consideration, and having the promise of Messrs. Page and Ouellet, that if I granted a licence on lower terms, they would undertake, to the best of their ability, to cause the fishing-laws to be observed, and to prevent nocturnal depredations by the Indians and others, I gave them their license for 1864 for \$2.00, and received \$2.00 likewise, on account of the license for 1863.

Before quitting this subject, I must remark that this River of Metis, as it is now situated, without a passage for the salmon over the mill dam, cannot be a salmon river of any consequence, and if there be no change, in a few years the salmon will have entirely forsaken it.

I was told that some Indians had speared salmon in the spring, but it was utterly impossible for me to ascertain the truth or falsehood of this report.

The cod-fishery had been very unsuccessful both at Metis and at Sandy Bay.

The herring-fishery, on the contrary, had been very productive throughout the season, and I was informed that not less than 1,000 barrels had been taken in the wattle-fisheries of the parish, since the spring. Part of these were used fresh, some were salted for winter, and a few hundred barrels were cured for the Quebec market.

On landing at Metis, I could not but remark the fine appearance of the crops in the fields, which are generally well cultivated. The hay, on the contrary, was scarce, on account of the drought. The land seemed to be of good quality.

At Metis and in the neighbourhood all kinds of grain grow and ripen perfectly, and it is worthy of notice that the wheat there is not attacked by the Hessian fly. It is the absence of markets within reasonable distance which deters the farmer from extending his operations in this part of Canada.

In the morning of the 30th, we came to anchor opposite the mouth of the Grand River, Matane.

I immediately visited the river, as also the salmon-pass made in the mill-dam belonging to Mr Price. This I found to be very substantially constructed and apparently well calculated to answer the purpose for which it was made. There was a constant stream of water of great volume passing over it; and Mr. Poire, the agent at the mill, informed me that he knew positively that several salmon had leaped the pass, no doubt for the purpose of ascending to the upper part of the river.

I hope, and I have no doubt, that this account is true; nevertheless, no salmon had been seen above the dam. This does not prove, however, that there was none; but it affords ground for believing that if there are any, they are few in number.

It seems, that in former years, the Indians and even some white people, were in the habit of spearing the few salmon which were found in this stream. This year, at least, this destructive practice has not been carried on.

The lessee of the River, Mr. Laeroix, had taken only 10 salmon, a proof how small a number of these fish frequent the River Matane, which formerly, before the erection of the mill and mill-dam, abounded with them. Mr. Fraser one of the most respectable inhabitants of the parish, told me that fifty years ago this pretty river afforded yearly 100 barrels of salmon, and up to the period when the mill-dam was made, 17 or eighteen years ago, it still produced from 25 to 30 barrels yearly. It is plain that the salmon threaten to desert the river, and it will require great care and labour to stock it again with its ancient denizens, even if the pass in the dam should prove to answer the purpose.

On the coast of Matane, the cod-fishery had been tolerable, the herring-fishing good, and quantities of sardines had been taken.

In the afternoon I went to visit Little Matane. I found the number of fishing-boats had been greatly increased since last year, although the cod-fishing had been rather less productive than usual. The settlement is quite new, but as it offers to settlers the two great and inexhaustible resources of agriculture and fishing, it promises to become very important and populous. The soil is fertile, and the woods of fine growth, affording all kinds of timber for building. Nothing is required but colonization roads to enable the inhabitants to penetrate to the interior of the country. Trade also seems to be on the increase in this part of the coast. It is carried on with Quebec and the free port of Gaspé, by means of schooners; but as it has no harbour nor safe anchorage, vessels are sometimes in great danger. A pier which might afford shelter to small vessels, would be of great utility; and if the Government were able to award some slight pecuniary aid to the Municipality of Little

Matane, I do not doubt that the latter would make an effort to effect such an important improvement, at least so say the chief inhabitants of the place.

I next visited the fishing-stations of *L'Anse-à-la-Croix*, at Méchins, in the evening. I found everything in perfect order. The fishing was about an average success. For a few years past, the part of the coast extending from Little Matane to Cape de Chatte, had acquired a certain importance, both on account of the number of fishing-establishments, and from the great number of new settlements opened there. It was said that all the farms along the road which connects the Cape de Chatte with Little Matane, were taken up already, and nearly all were inhabited: a striking difference this, between the present aspect of this coast, and what it was fifteen years ago! Then it was a dense forest, without a single human habitation, and, in order to pass from one parish to another, it was necessary either to go by water or to travel along the beach, and those who then traveled, are alone able to describe the difficulties and fatigue which they encountered—the loose rocks which they had to climb over, and the other natural impediments which were met with at every step. Decidedly this part of the coast is advancing in the road of improvement.

I arrived at Cape de Chatte on the 21st, and immediately communicated with Mr. Joseph Roi, who made the following report of the fishing operations on the coast.

The cod-fishery had not been as productive as usual; but as the number of boats had considerably increased, it was thought that the quantity taken would equal that of former years. Herring had been abundant, but salmon had been scarce on the coast.

Mr. Lamontagne had had built, for the House of Price, at Cape de Chatte, a salmon-leap or passage in the mill-dam, 100 feet in length, 12 feet in width, and 7 feet in height, or fall; but scarcely any water passed over it, as the dam was broken down in the middle, and more than half the water of the river passed through the opening, which still continued to grow wider, and it was hoped that in a short time, both salmon and trout might be able to pass through it without difficulty, and so reach their spawning-grounds in the upper waters of the river. In that case, this pretty stream will be stocked again with salmon, in a few years, especially if torch-fishing be prevented, by the presence of a river-keeper.

At St. Anne des Monts, the salmon-fishing had fallen off within the year, but that had not prevented the spearing of salmon, of which several cases were reported. My inquiries after the delinquents, were ineffectual. I knew, of course, perfectly well, that such breaches of the law could not have taken place without the knowledge of the inhabitants of the banks of the river; but the odium which attaches to the name of an *informant*, is strong among the people of Canada, and it is therefore as difficult at St. Anne des Monts as elsewhere, to obtain evidence to convict friends and neighbors of a breach of the fishery-laws; and it will always be difficult to prevent the destruction of salmon in these remote spots, unless paid fish-keepers are appointed, whose interest it will be to do their duty. The remarks here made, with respect to the fishery at Cape de Chatte, will equally apply to those of St. Anne des Monts.

From the evening of the 31st, when we left Cape de Chatte, till the 3rd September, when we entered Gaspé Basin, I was engaged in visiting the fishing-stations at Mont Louis, at Great Fox River, at Griffin Cove, and at Grand Grave. I found everything quiet, but the cod-fishing had not improved.

Very few American schooners had been seen on the south side of the river, throughout the season, to the great delight of our fishermen, who often have complaints to make of the proceedings of their crews.

Our stay at Gaspé Basin was prolonged till the 10th, as we had to clean the bottom of the schooner, which was covered with moss and shells, to paint the vessel, repair the rigging and take in wood and water. Nothing occurred worthy of notice. I was required twice to sit as a Justice of the Peace, in matters of summary jurisdiction.

The trade in dry cod-fish was very active in the port, the price offered for the best being from 19s. to 27s.

In the evening of the 10th, I was at Percé. My intention then was to set sail at once for the north shore; but a heavy north-east gale came on and obliged us to make for shelter in the Bay of Paspébiac; and, being in the Bay of Chaleurs, I availed myself of the opportunity to visit the principal fishing-ports, on the Bonaventure River, Carleton, Point Maguacha, New Richmond, Little Pabos, Grand River, *L'Anse du Cap*, and Percé. This cruise, in which nothing happened that was remarkable, occupied the time till the 19th.

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The keepers of the divisions here mentioned, had no complaint to make; but at Bonaventure River, it was reported that certain Indians had gone so far as to spear fish on the spawning-grounds. As these violations of law always took place at night, it was very difficult to discover the guilty parties, especially as Mr. Dimock, the keeper, resides 18 miles off, and I fear the same difficulty will always exist, unless a keeper resides on the bank, and is always at hand to observe who goes up or down the river, by night as well as by day.

On the 18th we returned to Percé, and the following day, having touched at Point St. Peter, we made for the S.W. point of Anticosti.

On the 20th, in the morning, we were making the point when a heavy gale set in from the N.W., driving such mighty breakers on the shore that we were compelled to take shelter at Salt Lake, about 12 miles to the east. We managed, however, to make S.W. point the next day, by the aid of a light breeze from the S.E., and I was enabled to land in the bay, behind the light-house. The keeper, whom I had left at River Jupiter on my former visit, was in waiting, and I hurried him on board, as the wind had veered to the N.W. again and the sea was running high on the Point, so that it was not without danger (we were nine in the long-boat) that we came up with the schooner, which was not able to anchor near so dangerous a shore, and had been laying to till I should get on board.

The keeper seemed to have done his duty with great zeal; he had visited several important fishing-posts on the island, namely: those of Jupiter River, Shallop River, Dauphiné River, Salmon River, and Bell Bay. He reported that he had no knowledge of any infraction of the laws, on the island, except perhaps, at a small river near Shallop Creek, where an individual from Point Esquimaux was said to have taken salmon by the torch and spear. It was too late to take cognizance of the affair in the present year; accordingly I put off all inquiry on the subject, till next year.

The whole produce of the salmon-fishery, on the Island of Anticosti, had not exceeded the small amount of 31 barrels, a remarkable falling off from the quantities taken in former years.

My intention in going to Anticosti, was to sail round its western part, and to stop at Mingan and the neighboring posts, before proceeding to Natashquan; but the N.W. wind which blew strong and was dead in our teeth in taking that course, did not allow me to carry out my plan, and we were obliged to scud as far as East Point, where we took shelter for 24 hours, from the gale, which increased in violence. At last the weather cleared, and we reached Natashquan at noon of the 24th.

Nothing worthy of notice had happened at this place, since my former visit, and the keeper of this important river had no knowledge of any breach of the fishery-laws, either in the river or its neighborhood. That officer seemed to have fulfilled his duties with much zeal and efficiency. He had ascended the river several times as far as the fourth rapids, to ascertain if there was any violation of the law.

I must not omit to notice, in the first place, the signal service and assistance afforded to my keeper this season, by Mr. Francis Doré, the Hudson's Bay Company's Agent, as also the correct and interesting information which that gentleman was willing and anxious to give me, relative to the fisheries at Natashquan, and its environs. Mr. Doré understands the value of our sea and river fisheries, and has, on all occasions lent a willing hand to enforce the observance of the fishing-laws. It is needless repetition to state that the fisheries, both of cod and salmon, had been very bad at Natashquan, and several families established at Grand Harbor, were completely disheartened by the ill luck attending the fisheries for two years past, and had resolved to return to the Magdalen Islands, which they had left a few years before, to seek their fortune on the north shore. They had been cruelly disappointed in their expectations; as, since their arrival on the inhospitable shores of Labrador, the famous bank of Natashquan, which was so renowned for the quantities of cod till then found upon it, had not received their visits, but at long intervals, and then in scanty numbers; while on their native fishing-grounds, at the Magdalen Islands, the fishing had been prosperous. This, among a thousand others, is an instance of the ill-fortune and great difficulties attendant on the life of a fisherman: the success of his calling depending as much on chance as on continuous and intelligent labor; and he must be endowed with great courage and perseverance to contend with elements which sometimes seem to conspire to render all his toil useless and unproductive.

Unquestionably, all care and solicitude should be evinced by the Government, and every means employed, to protect and encourage the fisheries; a branch of industry which abounds with material resources for the country—for any country where it can be carried on, on a large scale, as in Canada.

On the 26th, I visited Kegasca Bay, and the next day came to an anchor in Mutton Bay. I made haste to visit the fishing-posts in the neighborhood, but found nothing worthy of notice.

On the 28th, we arrived at Bonne Espérance, where I visited all the fishing-stations, as well as those at Salmon Bay. The fishing had been closed some time, and not a single vessel remained. In the afternoon, I proceeded to Five Leagues where two fishermen were brought before me, charged with having taken salmon after the close of the season, namely, in the month of August. The evidence was complete, and the two defendants were sentenced, both to pay a fine, and one to lose his nets, which were confiscated; the details of which will be found in an appendix to this report.

Great destitution prevailed among the inhabitants of the coast of Labrador, in consequence of the ill success of the fishing-season, and the almost total failure of the hunting of fur-bearing animals, the previous winter; and, if the herring-fishery had not been successful, in an extraordinary degree, at some places on the coast, I do not know how the greater number would have been able, without great suffering, to struggle through the long winter, in that inclement region: for, in consequence of the heavy losses which they had suffered by the system of credit, for many years past, the traders seemed determined to make no advances of provisions to a great number of the poorest of the fishermen, who, failing to receive such providential aid as they had found in the herring-fishery, would have been absolutely destitute of provisions. I have learned, since that time, that public charity had been invoked in their favour, in Quebec, and that the Napoleon III. had been sent down with stores of flour and other provisions.

On that part of the coast of Labrador which belongs to Newfoundland, the distress was still greater than on ours; many of the inhabitants were already reduced to the brink of destitution, and it is very certain that if some help is not sent to them, in the present autumn, a large portion of them will perish by starvation, during the winter. It was the failure of the cod-fishery which produced this great distress, which was ascribed, probably with reason, to the unusual quantity of ice remaining closely compacted along the coast of Cape Charles, northward, to a very advanced period of the fishing-season.

On the 30th I visited several fishing-posts at Old Fort and at Dog Island, and, on the 1st October we arrived, with a fair wind, at St. Augustine. The fishermen at these places and at White-head Pacachoo, which I visited on the following day, declared unanimously that the fishery had been less productive this year than it had proved for several years, and that the salmon had been late in making its appearance on the coast. This was, in their opinion, the principal cause of their ill success in taking it.

Here I ended my visit to the North shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the Straits of Belle-Isle. There were still some ports besides, which I had not seen; but generally they were of little importance, and as I knew that nothing required my presence, and moreover, the season was already advanced, and the weather very unfavorable, I resolved to make sail for the South, and, on the morning of the 4th October we landed at Bryon Island. My visits to the several islands of the group occupied my time till the 8th. I satisfied myself that good order prevailed, and collected a varied mass of information relating to the several fisheries carried on there, which will be found in the appendix to this report.

On the 8th we left Amherst Harbor, and touched at Georgetown, on the coast of Prince Edward's Island, under instructions received from the Honorable the Commissioner of Public Works, to take on board a grist-mill, for the Colony of Matapédia, which I was to carry to the Restigouche River. By some accident or another the mill had not reached Georgetown, and, having waited a few hours in the harbor at Georgetown, we left it, to steer for the Bay of Chaleurs. We came to anchor at Carleton, in the morning of the 14th, and were detained there four days, by a gale from the east; not exceeded in violence by any that I have encountered in the Gulf, during the thirteen years that I have navigated it. Happily it blew itself out, without doing any mischief on our coast, and we had no calamity to deplore. Nothing had happened at Carleton worthy of notice, nor at the Restigouche, since my last visit.

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On the 17th we proceeded to New Richmond. I immediately hastened to the River Cascapédiac where Mr. Dimock made a complaint before me, of a woman who had purchased salmon from an Indian woman, which had been speared. The charge was proved and the defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of \$8.00, and costs. This zealous keeper had learned, some time before, that some Indians had taken salmon in the places reserved in the river as spawning grounds, and had made the most active inquiries to discover evidence of the fact, but had found no clue to the discovery of the guilty parties, if such there were.

On the following day, in the morning, we went to New Carlisle, and in the afternoon, to Paspébiac. We found in the roadstead, 12 vessels loading with dry codfish, which was less plentiful than in former years, and much higher in price. It was hoped, however, that enough would be collected to load all the ships in the harbor. Their destination was Spain or Italy. At the close of this report, will be found a list of the ships here mentioned as taking in cargoes of fish in our ports, for foreign markets.

In the evening we left Paspébiac, and the next day cast anchor at Percé. On visiting the fishing-establishments of the latter place, I learned that the autumn cod-fishing had produced very little, and that the cause of the failure was the bad weather, which had prevented the men from putting out to sea, and had kept them idle whole weeks. The same may be said of other parts of the coast.

On the 21st I put in at Malbaie and Point St. Peter, and on the following day anchored in Gaspé Basin.

Summary proceedings, instituted before me on several successive days, and many matters connected with my particular duty, which required to be done during this my last visit, detained me there till the 30th October; and I was fortunate in having remained in the port till then, as the shipment of the cod intended for the foreign markets, brings together a great number of seamen and fishermen, and the public peace was broken on two occasions, in a shameful manner, and had I not been on the spot, it is more than probable the guilty parties would have escaped from justice.

When we arrived in the Basin, we found 32 vessels which were engaged in the fish-trade. This commerce was going on briskly, and cod-fish of the first quality was in greater demand than it had been in September. For many years, cod-fish had not borne so high a price on the coast of Gaspé, and accordingly the fishermen made great efforts to dry a portion of their autumn fish for the markets of Spain and Italy, instead of sending it green to Quebec and Montreal, in which latter markets it is often disposed of at a loss. We are no doubt to attribute the high price of cod on the coast of Gaspé, in the present year, to the scarceness of the fish; but we must not forget that the rivalry and competition between the many commercial houses at the Basin, established there since it became a free port, and serving to increase the traffic, have much to do with this result—a result which favors the fishermen, and is of importance to trade.

The old mode of doing business is gone, never to return, which was prevalent at a time when two or three great firms in the whole district, fixed the price of fish beforehand, and on terms suitable to their own interests, and paid for that important article in provisions or goods, almost never with money. Now I have personal knowledge, that in the present year, there have been sales of fish to the amount of many thousands of pounds, ready cash. This is an auspicious change in our fish-trade, presaging for the future the most beneficial results.

On the 30th, we set sail from the Basin; and at noon of the following day, anchored at Griffon Cove, the wind being strong from the N.W.

At this place I received three complaints for theft of cod. I caused the persons accused to be arrested, and, after having heard the evidence of the witnesses in the case, held them to bail to appear at the next session of the Criminal Court at Percé.

On the 1st November I visited Fox River, where I found all well.

The late season cod-fishery had been bad there, as at Griffon Cove, and generally upon the whole south shore of the River St. Lawrence, principally in consequence of the bad weather.

A fever of a serious character, and of a very contagious description, and to which several had already fallen victims, was raging at Griffon Cove and the vicinity. A large number of families were attacked by it, and there being no physician in those parts,

they were suffering greatly from it, without its being in their power to obtain the remedies necessary to effect a cure, or to give relief to the patients.

During the few days which we passed at the place, I made it my duty to visit the greater number of sick there. I distributed medicines to them, and at the same time gave instructions to those who were not yet attacked by the disease, as to the best means to be employed to arrest its progress, and to prevent its attacks. I also left with the Curé of Fox River, febrifuge powders, with directions as to their administration to those of the sick whom I had not seen.

On the evening of the 3rd, favored by a light breeze from the west, we left Griffon Cove, for Seven Islands.

In the night of the 4th and 5th, off Cape Cormorant, on the north shore, we encountered a violent storm, which compelled us to lie to for nine hours, and next day we entered the Bay of Seven Islands, with a light breeze from the west and fine weather.

The sea was too rough near the coast to allow of our thinking of anchoring at the Moisie River; I therefore sent three of my men to fetch the fishery overseer whom I had left there. They had much difficulty in crossing the Moisie River in consequence of the ice, which had already formed there; however, by walking a part of the night, they succeeded in returning on the morning of the 6th, having travelled a distance of thirty miles, going and coming, over a sandy beach covered with water in many places.

I took on board, Mr. Charles Smith, who had acted as Custom House Officer at the port of Seven Islands, since the death of John G. Smith, Esquire, his father, who had been Collector there for four years, and we set sail for Quebec.

On the morning of the 7th we passed Point de Monts, with a light east wind, which went round to the south at noon and fell entirely in the evening.

On the 8th we met a head wind, off Portneuf, which lasted the whole day. In the night the wind again went round to the east and brought us up to Quebec, where we cast anchor about ten or eleven o'clock in the morning, after cruising for nearly six months and a half on the dangerous coasts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence without accident to the crew, or any mischance occurring to the vessel.

I at once gave orders for the unrigging of the schooner. On the 11th, we moored at the Government wharf, and on the evening of the 12th, the work of unrigging being completed I paid off and dismissed the remainder of the crew, that is to say, eleven sailors; I had already discharged eight on the day of our arrival.

I only retained a few officers to superintend the landing and storing of the rigging and fittings of "La Canadienne," in the Government store-houses, which was completed on the 14th, by men employed for the purpose, a course which was much less expensive than keeping the crew of "La Canadienne" to perform the work.

At noon on the 15th, the schooner was towed to Anse des Mères, there to be placed in a dock; and on the 16th she was conveyed, (in the dock) to her berth in the Palace Harbor.

#### SUMMARY.

The cruise of "La Canadienne," in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, for the protection of our maritime and river fisheries during the season which has just come to an end has been the longest yet made by me. It has lasted one hundred and eighty-six days, or nearly six months and a half, during which time I have been constantly engaged in coasting along our shores, over an extent of one thousand nautical miles, in order to visit the fishing-posts established along them, or to take up a position in our ports and roadsteads with the view of maintaining order and public peace, as may be seen by the foregoing report.

The requirements of the service rendered it necessary for me to make four visits to the Magdalen Islands, three visits to the Bay of Chaleurs, two to the south shore of the River St. Lawrence, three to the Port of Paspébiac, six to Percé, and five to Gaspé Basin. The latter three places, like the port of Amherst and House Harbor, are our principal centres, from which expeditions are sent out to take part in the great fisheries, and from whence our dried fish is exported to foreign countries.

It will be understood that in order to make all these visits and to stop at all the fishing-posts, it was necessary to make numerous cruises and frequently to pass over great distances;

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and when it is considered that my service is performed in a sailing-vessel, and that consequently I am entirely dependent upon the wind, which may be as often contrary as favorable, to convey me from one place to another, and that I have besides to strive against the unceasing dangers entailed by a perilous coast, in many places bristling with reefs and devoid of anchorage, which are further increased by the fogs brought up, nearly always from the Gulf Stream, by the winds from the south and south-west, the conclusion will, I hope, be come to, that I have neglected no means to render the service for the protection of the fisheries as complete and efficient, as it was possible to make it, and that I have made use of the time of the cruise, in the most advantageous manner, for the mission with which the Government has during thirteen years honoured me.

Calculating in a direct line, the distances traversed during the season, from one place, visited by me, to another, I find the total to be 5214 nautical miles. But if we add a dozen hundred miles for way lost in tacking against contrary winds, or during fogs or lying to, and five hundred miles for trips made in an open boat, we shall have a total of nearly 7,000 miles, as representing the whole of the distances traversed during the season. Those who have been to sea will at once perceive how often it has been necessary to get up sail, how many times it has been necessary to go about, and how many nights it has been necessary to pass under sail in order to get over so much way and to stop at so many places as we did during the cruise, with a sailing-vessel, let her be as good a sailer as she may.

There is certainly ground for gratulation upon the result obtained by the service for the protection of the fisheries this year.

Peace and public order, with the exception of some cases of assault and battery, have reigned uninterruptedly in our ports and roadsteads, which have been frequented by a larger number of English vessels, but by a smaller number of American vessels.

The inhabitants of the Magdalen Islands have, this summer, been free from the depredations and thefts frequently committed by the crews of foreign vessels, which come to these coasts to engage in the herring and mackerel-fishery, and this is due, there can be no doubt, to my frequent visits, and to my prolonged stay during the month of August, on the shores of that important group of islands.

The continued presence of "La Canadienne," in the midst of that fleet of fishing-vessels, for several consecutive weeks, gave their crews a wholesome warning to be on their guard and to abstain for the future from acts of pillage and damage, of which those islanders have so often had to complain, up to the present time, and from which they cannot protect themselves; for generally their isolation on the coast prevents their being able to assist each other in case of aggression.

It now remains to speak of the manner in which the fishery-laws and regulations have been observed on our shores, and I shall make a distinction between the laws which are applicable to maritime fisheries, and those which regulate the river fisheries.

The especial object of the former is to prevent the taking of fish, either by means prohibited by the several sections of the Fishery Act, such as the use of seines which are not of the dimensions required by the law, and the use of ground lines for the cod-fishery, at the Magdalen Islands, within three miles from the shore, as provided by the regulation respecting those islands; or in certain places reserved for navigation, as is the case at Pleasant Bay, in the herring and spring mackerel-fishery.

This part of the regulations has been very well observed on our different shores, both north and south, excepting the infractions which occurred at the Magdalen Islands during the mackerel-fishery, but which did not produce any unpleasant consequences; for, as may be seen by this report, I caused to be raised in my presence, and confiscated to the Crown, all nets which had been set in the reserved places, and in contravention of the fishery regulations.

With respect to the laws which regulate the river fisheries, those which are applicable to salmon and trout alone, are worthy of special mention, for the other river fish, common in Canada, are not sufficiently numerous in the streams in the gulf division, to call for any special attention.

I may, in the first place, state that on those of our shores which are placed under my superintendance, and the extent of which, as I have already stated, is one thousand miles, no person fishes for salmon without a lease or permit authorizing him to do so, as provided by law.

Moreover, I visit, or cause my officers, or the fishery overseer of my division, to visit nearly all the nets set either in the river or along the coast; and I see that they are set in accordance with the law, that they are removed before the closing of the fishing season, and that the meshes of the nets are of the proper dimensions required by law.

The carrying out of this part of the regulations entails very active and uninterrupted surveillance on my part, and also on that of my officers; for many fishermen might sometimes be tempted to violate these regulations, if they had any reason to hope that they could do so with impunity. Fortunately things are no longer as they were; they can no longer lull themselves with that hope, for they are too closely watched on our shores (I must however, except that part of the coast from St. Anne des Monts to Rimouski) to commit such infractions without its almost invariably coming to my knowledge, sooner or later; and the severe penalties which I inflicted on those violating the fishery law, this year, and of late years, are of a nature to cause all those who might be inclined to commit similar offences, to think seriously before doing so.

Altogether, I may say that the regulations in relation to the salmon and trout fishery have, during the season which has just terminated, been, in general, well and strictly observed along the coast placed under my immediate superintendence, where there are more than 300 salmon fishing stations, and the proof of this is, that I have only had to sit in judgment on five cases of infraction of those regulations. It is true that I found the accused party guilty in each case, as may be seen in an appendix accompanying this report.

I must not, however, forget two other cases tried at Rimouski, in which I acted as the representative of the Crown in the prosecution. In each of these cases the accused was found guilty and fined.

A fisherman of St. Anne des Monts was also convicted, before a local magistrate, of having set nets in contravention of the law, and was consequently fined.

Besides these cases, there were suspicions that salmon had been taken with the spear and the torch in one or two rivers on the south shore, the River St. Anne, and the Great Metis river; but either these suspicions were not confirmed, or else the individuals (Indians) against whom the complaint might have been brought, and proof of whose guilt might have been adduced, had since left the place without its being in the power of the local authorities to take any steps in the matter.

As I have before remarked, the part of the south shore of the River St. Lawrence, from Rimouski to St. Anne des Monts,—I might say to Magdalen River,—which extent includes five rivers, which are certainly not as important as those on the north shore, but which may produce a certain quantity of salmon, is less protected than any other portion of the coast, for there is there no fishery overseer, although the Justices of the Peace residing in the vicinity of those streams are willing to take the cause of the fisheries in hand and to do all in their power to cause the fishing regulations to be observed in their localities. But it will be easily understood that in many cases, this is not sufficient; and that in addition the interested surveillance of a salaried officer of the Government is required; such an officer should reside at one of the rivers and should be charged to visit the others from time to time.

Before, however, concluding this summary, I must not omit to speak of what, in my opinion, constitutes one of the principal objects of the service for the protection of the fisheries; I mean the general protection afforded in an efficient manner to the fishermen of Canada, (as well as to those of the other British Provinces) who have established themselves on our coasts, or who visit them only during the fishing season, and the security now enjoyed by the proprietors of fishing-stations in regard to their habitations, the buildings used for carrying on their business, and the land and beach which they are entitled to occupy in virtue of certain sections of the fishery act.

So necessary is this security to fishery operations and the trade in fish, that without it these two great sources of riches to countries which possess maritime shores yielding fish, cannot but languish and entail loss and ruin upon those who engage in them. Without it, we cannot hope to see our fisheries grow and attain a degree of prosperity from which the people as well as the state must derive great profits; in proof of this assertion I may state that many years ago the abundance of the cod on the banks near the coast extending from Mingan to Seven Islands was already known, and that many of our Gaspé shippers and fishermen endeavored to make establishments there for carrying on the codfishery; but they could

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## EXTRACT

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not do so for want of protection for their persons and for want of security for their buildings and their fishing apparatus, and the employés of the Hudson Bay Company, who pretended to be entitled exclusively to that coast, and even to the maritime fisheries attached to them, drove them away without mercy, and several times burned and destroyed their vessels and the buildings which they had constructed on shore to provide shelter for themselves and a place wherein to deposit their apparatus. The consequence was that this coast, rich in fish of the finest description, remained unutilized until of late years; for no person frequented it, except the few agents of the company or some tribes of Indians, who there hunted for furs, sea fowl and seals.

What do we see now on this coast, some ninety nautical miles in extent, since the service for the protection of the fisheries has been established? Hundreds of cod-fishing establishments, (some of them giving employment to two hundred men, a fact which demonstrates their importance) worked by several thousand fishermen, and yielding both to foreign trade and to the home markets in a single year—the year 1861—more than 30,000 quintals of cod, which may be valued at nearly \$100,000, and cod oil to a value of \$10,000 to \$12,000, besides several hundred barrels of herrings and mackerel, as may be seen by examining my reports from the year 1861 to last year.

It is true that a law was passed in 1854 (16 Vict., c. 92) defining the rights of our fishermen on this coast, but it is well known that it would have remained a dead letter but for the service of the protection of the fisheries.

There is still another subject to which I have to allude before concluding, and that is the sedentary seal fishery and the salmon fishery on the coast of Labrador. These were especially exposed to the trespasses of foreign fishermen, and even of the inhabitants of the coast, previous to my visiting them with the expedition which I command since 1852; and many of those who held and worked them suffered serious losses, and, in some cases, had been ruined in consequence of the trespasses in question, without its being possible to obtain justice, or the smallest indemnity for their loss.

But all is now changed in those remote parts, and the weakest as well as the strongest, the poorest as well as the richest fisherman, whether engaged in the seal or in the salmon fishery has no longer anything to fear in respect of the possession of his fishing ground, or in respect of the extent of land and beach necessary for the carrying on of the operations involved by his arduous calling.

And truly we have here again one of the good results of the service for the protection of the fisheries, for the part of the coast upon which are situated the fishing-stations to which I allude, is entirely devoid of any organization whatsoever, and cannot rely on any assistance of any public power other than mine.

We must not, moreover, lose sight of the fact that since the construction of "La Canadienne," in 1855, which allowed of my expedition being placed upon a better footing, no English vessel of war has appeared upon our maritime coast, except in passing, and that all the police duty in our ports and harbours and along the whole of our coasts, has entirely devolved upon the service which I have the honor to command on board the schooner "La Canadienne," fitted out by Government.

P. FORTIN.

30th December, 1864.

EXTRACT FROM THE LOG BOOK OF "LA CANADIENNE," DURING THE SEASON OF 1864.

	Nautical miles.		Nautical miles.	
	H. M.		H. M.	
April 30. Left Quebec.....	5	5 p.m.	" 5. Anchored at Goose Cape..	6 30 a.m. 33
" 30. Anchored at Patrick's Hole	7	0 p.m. 5	" 5. Left Goose Cape.....	12 0 a.m.
May 1st Left Patrick's Hole.....	2	30 a.m.	" 6. Anchored at Bersimis....	1 45 p.m. 57
" 1st. Anchored at Point-aux-			" 7. Left Bersimis.....	3 45 a.m.
Pins.....	8	0 a.m. 25	" 7. Anchored at Point aux	
" 2. Left Point-aux-Pins.....	3	30 a.m.	Outardes.....	4 50 a.m. 6
" 2. Anchored at the Pillars.....	8	20 a.m. 13	" 8. Left Point aux Outardes..	2 30 a.m.
" 3. Left the Pillars.....	2	25 p.m.	" 9. Anchored at Pointe des	
" 3. Anchored at Pointe-aux-			Monts.....	6 15 a.m. 45
Pins.....	4	0 p.m. 13	" 11. Left Point des Monts....	2 30 a.m.
" 4. Left Pointe-aux-Pins....	5	45 p.m.		

	Nautical H. M. miles		Nautical H. M. miles	
May 13. Anchored at the Bay of Seven Islands.....	0 55 p.m. 68	June 20. Anchored at Grand Etang.....	8 45 p.m. 10	July 15. Anchored at Grand Etang.....
" 12. Left the Bay of Seven Islands.....	3 35 p.m.	" 21. Left Grand Etang.....	4 15 p.m.	" 15. Left Grand Etang.....
" 16. Anchored at Amherst Harbor (Magdalen Island).....	6 45 p.m. 273	" 21. Anchored at Grande Vallée.....	9 45 p.m. 18	" 15. Anchored at Grande Vallée.....
" 18. Left Amherst Harbor.....	0 10 p.m.	" 22. Left Grande Vallée.....	7 20 a.m.	" 15. Anchored at Petite Vallée.....
" 18. Anchored at Cap aux Meules.....	4 30 p.m. 9	" 22. Anchored at Petite Vallée.....	8 30 a.m. 3	" 22. Left Petite Vallée.....
" 18. Left Cap aux Meules.....	11 30 p.m.	" 22. Anchored at Magdalen River.....	9 30 p.m. 11	" 22. Left Magdalen River.....
" 20. Anchored at Percé.....	4 15 p.m. 136	" 22. Left Magdalen River.....	10 30 p.m.	" 23. Anchored at Seven Islands.....
" 20. Left Percé.....	8 15 p.m.	" 23. Anchored at Seven Islands.....	9 10 p.m. 73	" 24. Left Seven Islands.....
" 20. Anchored at Douglstown.....	11 15 p.m. 18	" 24. Left Seven Islands.....	4 0 a.m.	" 24. Anchored at Moisie River.....
" 21. Left Douglstown.....	1 0 a.m.	" 24. Anchored at Moisie River.....	8 0 a.m. 16	" 24. Left Moisie River.....
" 21. Anchored at Gaspé Basin.....	2 50 p.m. 8	" 24. Left Moisie River.....	10 0 p.m.	" 25. Anchored at Point St. Charles.....
" 23. Left Gaspé Basin.....	8 30 p.m.	" 25. Anchored at Point St. Charles.....	5 0 a.m. 8	" 25. Left Point St. Charles.....
" 24. Anchored at Paspébiac.....	4 30 p.m. 81	" 25. Left Point St. Charles.....	9 15 a.m.	" 25. Anchored at Pigou.....
" 25. Left Paspébiac.....	0 30 p.m.	" 25. Anchored at Pigou.....	11 10 a.m. 10	" 25. Left Pigou.....
" 26. Anchored at Carleton.....	8 20 a.m. 26	" 25. Left Pigou.....	2 20 p.m.	" 25. Anchored at Sheldrake River.....
" 26. Left Carleton.....	4 35 p.m.	" 25. Anchored at Sheldrake River.....	5 35 p.m. 27	" 25. Left Sheldrake River.....
" 26. Anchored at Maquacha.....	5 55 p.m. 8	" 25. Left Sheldrake River.....	8 0 p.m.	" 25. Anchored at Thunder River.....
" 27. Left Maquacha.....	11 15 a.m.	" 25. Anchored at Thunder River.....	11 0 p.m. 6	" 26. Left Thunder River.....
" 27. Anchored at Carleton.....	2 20 p.m. 8	" 26. Left Thunder River.....	5 30 a.m.	" 26. Anchored at River St. John.....
" 28. Left Carleton.....	2 0 a.m.	" 26. Anchored at River St. John.....	0 45 p.m. 18	" 26. Left River St. John.....
" 30. Anchored at Amherst Harbor (Magdalen Islands).....	2 45 p.m. 196	" 26. Anchored at Long Point, (Mingan).....	3 45 p.m.	" 26. Anchored at Long Point, (Mingan).....
June 1. Left Amherst Harbor.....	5 30 a.m.	" 27. Left Long Point.....	9 45 p.m. 7	" 27. Left Long Point.....
" 1. Anchored at House Harbor.....	6 30 a.m. 9	" 27. Anchored at Mingan Harbor.....	3 10 a.m.	" 27. Anchored at Mingan Harbor.....
" 1. Left House Harbor.....	2 15 p.m.	" 28. Left Mingan Harbor.....	6 0 p.m. 5	" 28. Left Mingan Harbor.....
" 1. Anchored at Old Harry Point.....	5 30 p.m. 21	" 28. Anchored at River Romaine.....	9 45 a.m.	" 28. Anchored at River Romaine.....
" 2. Left Old Harry Point.....	6 0 a.m.	" 28. Left River Romaine.....	1 0 p.m. 7	" 28. Left River Romaine.....
" 2. Anchored at Cape Gosselin.....	9 00 a.m. 9	" 28. Anchored at Mingan Harbor.....	7 0 p.m.	" 28. Anchored at Mingan Harbor.....
" 2. Left Cape Gosselin.....	0 p.m.	" 30. Left Mingan Harbor.....	8 10 p.m. 7	" 30. Left Mingan Harbor.....
" 2. Anchored at Bryon Island.....	2 p.m. 9	" 30. Anchored at Mogniac Island.....	1 20 p.m.	" 30. Anchored at Mogniac Island.....
" 2. Left Bryon Island.....	4 p.m.	July 1. Left Mogniac Island.....	4 0 a.m.	July 1. Left Mogniac Island.....
" 2. Anchored at Bird Island.....	6 30 a.m. 13	" 1. Anchored at Esquimaux Point.....	8 30 a.m. 9	" 1. Anchored at Esquimaux Point.....
" 2. Left Bird Island.....	8 15 p.m.	" 4. Left Esquimaux Point.....	5 0 a.m.	" 4. Left Esquimaux Point.....
" 3. Anchored at Amherst Harbor.....	4 20 p.m. 46	" 7. Anchored at St Geneviève Island.....	10 45 a.m. 24	" 7. Anchored at St Geneviève Island.....
" 4. Left Amherst Harbor.....	0 30 p.m.	" 5. Left St. Geneviève Island.....	3 0 p.m.	" 5. Left St. Geneviève Island.....
" 4. Anchored at House Harbor.....	2 30 p.m. 9	" 5. Anchored at Appetat Bay.....	7 p.m. 5	" 5. Anchored at Appetat Bay.....
" 5. Left House Harbor.....	5 0 a.m.	" 6. Left Appetat Bay.....	5 0 a.m.	" 6. Left Appetat Bay.....
" 5. Anchored at Amherst.....	6 55 a.m. 9	" 6. Lay to at Nabitippi and Agwanus.....		" 6. Lay to at Nabitippi and Agwanus.....
" 7. Left Amherst Harbor.....	11 30 a.m.	" 6. Anchored at Natashquan River.....	6 15 p.m. 48	" 6. Anchored at Natashquan River.....
" 7. Anchored at Cap aux Meules.....	0 35 p.m. 9	" 9. Left Natashquan River.....	1 17 p.m.	" 9. Left Natashquan River.....
" 8. Left Cap aux Meules.....	3 0 p.m.	" 9. Anchored at Natashquan Harbor.....	2 0 p.m. 4	" 9. Anchored at Natashquan Harbor.....
" 8. Anchored at Amherst Harbor.....	4 5 p.m. 9	" 10. Left Natashquan Harbor.....	7 20 a.m.	" 10. Left Natashquan Harbor.....
" 10. Left Amherst Harbor.....	3 50 p.m.	" 10. Anchored at Metallic Bay (Anticosti).....	7 15 p.m. 46	" 10. Anchored at Metallic Bay (Anticosti).....
" 10. Anchored at House Harbor.....	6 30 p.m. 9	" 11. Left Metallic Bay.....	5 25 a.m.	" 11. Left Metallic Bay.....
" 11. Left House Harbor.....	6 0 a.m.	" 11. Anchored at Salmon River.....	7 15 a.m. 8	" 11. Anchored at Salmon River.....
" 13. Anchored at Percé.....	5 30 p.m. 136	" 11. Left Salmon River.....	10 30 a.m.	" 11. Left Salmon River.....
" 14. Left Percé.....	3 30 p.m.	" 11. Anchored at Hay Cove.....	5 0 p.m. 21	" 11. Anchored at Hay Cove.....
" 14. Anchored at Point St. Pierre.....	7 0 p.m. 6	" 12. Left Hay Cove.....	1 30 p.m.	" 12. Left Hay Cove.....
" 15. Left Point St. Pierre.....	2 45 a.m.	" 13. Anchored at Shallop Creek.....	4 15 p.m. 49	" 13. Anchored at Shallop Creek.....
" 15. Anchored at Gaspé Basin.....	0 40 p.m. 20	" 14. Left Shallop Creek.....	5 0 a.m.	" 14. Left Shallop Creek.....
" 18. Left Gaspé Basin.....	6 25 a.m.			
" 19. Anchored at Cap des Rosiers.....	10 10 a.m. 22			
" 20. Left Cap des Rosiers.....	7 30 a.m.			
" 20. Anchored at Griffon's Cove.....	1 0 p.m. 8			
" 20. Left Griffon's Cove.....	2 15 p.m.			
" 20. Anchored at Little Fox River.....	3 0 p.m. 13			
" 20. Left Little Fox River.....	5 15 p.m.			

Nautical miles		Nautical miles		Nautical miles		
H. M.		H. M.		H. M.		
8 45 p.m.	10	July 15. Anchored at the South-west Point of Anticosti.	6 30 a.m.	41	Aug. 16. Left Point St. Pierre. ....	1 5 p.m.
4 15 p.m.		" 15. Left South-west Point of Anticosti .....	10 15 a.m.		" 16. Anchored at Gaspé Basin. ....	3 45 p.m.
9 45 p.m.	18	" 15. Anchored at Jupiter River	11 30 a.m.	5	" 20. Left Gaspé Basin. ....	4 45 a.m.
7 20 a.m.		" 15. Left Jupiter River .....	4 15 p.m.		" 20. Lay to and landed at Cap des Rosiers .....	1 0 p.m.
8 30 a.m.	3	" 15. Anchored at South-west Point of Anticosti ..	7 0 p.m.	5	" 20. Left Cap des Rosiers .....	2 0 p.m.
10 0 a.m.		" 15. Left South-west Point of Anticosti .....	8 35 p.m.		" 21. Lay to and landed at Little Fox River .....	9 0 a.m.
9 30 p.m.	11	" 16. Anchored at West Point of Anticosti .....	8 0 a.m.	49	" 21. Lay to and landed at Little Cape .....	11 0 a.m.
10 30 p.m.		" 16. Left West Point of Anticosti .....	10 0 a.m.		" 21. Left Little Cape .....	2 0 p.m.
9 10 p.m.	73	" 17. Anchored at Coacoacha Bay .....	0 45 p.m.	172	" 24. Anchored opposite Rimouski Wharf .....	1 0 p.m.
4 0 a.m.		" 19. Left Coacoacha Bay .....	2 45 p.m.		" 26. Left Rimouski Wharf .....	1 10 p.m.
8 0 a.m.	16	" 19. Anchored in Wapitigan Harbor .....	6 45 p.m.	25	" 26. Anchored at St. Barnabé Island .....	2 0 p.m.
10 0 p.m.		" 20. Left Wapitigan Harbor ..	8 15 a.m.		" 29. Left St. Barnabé Island ..	5 0 a.m.
5 0 a.m.	8	" 21. Anchored in Mutton Bay ..	8 0 a.m.	55	" 29. Anchored at Rimouski ..	5 45 a.m.
9 15 a.m.		" 23. Left Mutton Bay .....	2 10 p.m.		" 29. Left Rimouski Wharf .....	10 15 a.m.
11 10 a.m.	10	" 23. Anchored at St. Augustin ..	6 0 p.m.	32	" 29. Anchored at Métis River ..	2 20 p.m.
2 20 p.m.		" 24. Left St. Augustin .....	4 45 a.m.		" 30. Left Métis River .....	0 10 a.m.
5 35 p.m.	27	" 24. Anchored at Wood Island ..	2 0 p.m.	55	" 30. Anchored at Great Matane River .....	6 12 a.m.
8 0 p.m.		" 25. Left Wood Island .....	3 30 p.m.		" 20. Left Great Matane River ..	0 5 p.m.
11 0 p.m.	6	" 25. Anchored at Green Island ..	4 25 p.m.	2	" 30. Anchored at Little Matane ..	1 0 p.m.
5 30 a.m.		" 25. Left Green Island .....	5 40 p.m.		" 30. Left Little Matane .....	2 0 p.m.
0 45 p.m.	18	" 25. Anchored at Bradore Bay ..	10 30 p.m.	6	" 30. Anchored at Cross Cove ..	4 0 p.m.
3 45 p.m.		" 27. Left Bradore Bay .....	2 15 p.m.		" 30. Left Cross Cove .....	5 15 p.m.
9 45 p.m.	7	" 27. Anchored at "Bonne Espérance .....	7 45 p.m.	19	" 30. Lay to and landed at Méchin Is'and .....	8 0 p.m.
3 10 a.m.		" 29. Left Bonne Espérance ..	8 10 a.m.		" 30. Left Méchin Island .....	9 45 p.m.
6 0 p.m.	5	" 29. Anchored at Nabitippi ..	3 15 p.m.	21	" 31. Anchored at Cap Chatte ..	8 0 a.m.
9 45 a.m.		" 30. Left Nabitippi .....	5 50 a.m.		" 31. Left Cap Chatte .....	7 30 p.m.
1 0 p.m.	7	" 30. Anchored at St. Augustin ..	0 30 p.m.	16	" 31. Anchored at St. Anne des Monts .....	8 30 p.m.
7 0 p.m.		" 30. Left St. Augustin .....	1 0 p.m.		" 31. Left St. Anne des Monts ..	11 55 p.m.
8 10 p.m.	7	" 30. Anchored at Whale-head ..	6 0 p.m.	12	Sept. 1. Anchored at Mont-Louis ..	8 30 a.m.
1 20 p.m.		" 31. Left Whale-head .....	5 35 p.m.		" 1. Left Mont-Louis .....	11 00 a.m.
4 0 p.m.	8	Aug. 2. Anchored at Bryon Island ..	10 0 p.m.	216	" 1. Anchored at Fox River ..	6 40 p.m.
4 0 a.m.		" 3. Left Bryon Island .....	2 45 p.m.		" 2. Left Fox River .....	6 0 a.m.
8 30 a.m.	9	" 3. Anchored at Bird Island ..	9 15 p.m.	13	" 2. Landed at Griffon's Cove ..	9 0 a.m.
5 0 a.m.		" 4. Left Bird Island .....	5 40 a.m.		" 2. Left Griffon's Cove .....	10 0 a.m.
10 45 a.m.	24	" 4. Anchored at East Point ..	9 0 a.m.	17	" 2. Lay to at Jersey Cove ..	11 33 a.m.
3 0 p.m.		" 4. Left East Point .....	1 0 p.m.		" 2. Left Jersey Cove .....	0 25 p.m.
7 0 p.m.	5	" 4. Anchored at Etang du Nord .....	4 30 p.m.	28	" 2. Lay to at Anse-à-la-Louise ..	0 45 p.m.
5 0 a.m.		" 5. Left Etang du Nord .....	5 30 a.m.		" 2. Left Anse-à-la-Louise .....	1 10 p.m.
10 45 a.m.	24	" 5. Anchored at Amherst .....	1 45 p.m.	30	" 2. Anchored at Grande Grève ..	3 30 p.m.
3 0 p.m.		" 6. Left Amherst Harbor .....	7 0 a.m.		" 2. Left Grande Grève .....	5 10 p.m.
7 0 p.m.	5	" 6. Anchored at House Harbor .....	11 15 a.m.	9	" 2. Anchored at Sandy Beach ..	9 0 p.m.
5 0 a.m.		" 7. Left House Harbor .....	2 20 p.m.		" 3. Left Sandy Beach .....	7 0 a.m.
6 15 p.m.	48	" 7. Anchored at East Point ..	6 0 p.m.	27	" 3. Anchored at Gaspé Basin ..	8 45 a.m.
1 17 p.m.		" 7. Left East Point .....	11 0 p.m.		" 10. Left Gaspé Basin .....	5 0 a.m.
2 0 p.m.	4	" 8. Anchored at Old Harry ..	1 40 a.m.	3	" 10. Anchored at Percé .....	7 45 p.m.
7 20 a.m.		" 8. Left Old Harry .....	8 5 a.m.		" 11. Left Percé .....	7 0 p.m.
7 15 p.m.	46	" 8. Anchored at the Sables ..	11 40 a.m.	28	" 12. Anchored at Paspébiac ..	7 0 a.m.
5 25 a.m.		" 8. Left the Sables and cruised as far as Dead-man Islet ..	8 0 a.m.		" 14. Left Paspébiac .....	11 0 a.m.
7 15 a.m.	8	" 10. Anchored at Amherst Harbor .....	0 30 a.m.	44	" 14. Anchored at Grande Bonaventure .....	5 45 p.m.
10 30 a.m.		" 13. Left Amherst Harbor .....	5 30 a.m.		" 14. Left Grande Bonaventure ..	10 0 p.m.
5 0 p.m.	21	" 14. Passed East Point and anchored at Percé .....	2 10 p.m.	54	" 15. Anchored at Carleton .....	4 0 a.m.
1 30 p.m.		" 16. Left Percé .....	5 10 a.m.		" 15. Left Carleton .....	5 0 p.m.
4 15 p.m.	49	" 16. Anchored at Point St. Pierre .....	10 0 a.m.	6	" 15. Anchored at Maguasha ..	9 15 p.m.
5 0 a.m.					" 16. Left Maguasha .....	11 45 a.m.
					" 16. Anchored at New Richmond .....	7 10 p.m.
					" 17. Left New Richmond .....	1 0 a.m.
					" 17. Anchored at Little Pabos ..	10 10 a.m.
					" 17. Left Little Pabos .....	11 15 a.m.

	Nautical H. M. miles.
Sept. 17. Anchored at Grande Rivière.....	11 45 a.m. 4
" 17. Left Grande Rivière.....	1 30 p.m.
" 17. Anchored at Anse du Cap.....	3 0 p.m. 8
" 17. Left Anse du Cap.....	5 40 p.m.
" 17. Anchored at Percé.....	8 0 p.m. 7
" 19. Left Percé.....	10 0 a.m.
" 19. Anchored at Point St. Pierre.....	1 45 p.m. 6
" 19. Left Point St. Pierre.....	3 15 p.m.
" 20. Lay to opposite the light-house on the South West Point of Anticosti.....	6 30 a.m. 52
" 20. Left South West Point.....	7 15 a.m.
" 20. Anchored at Lac Salé (Anticosti).....	9 10 a.m. 19
" 21. Left Lac Salé.....	9 25 a.m.
" 21. Lay to opposite the light-house on the South West Point of Anticosti.....	2 15 p.m. 10
" 21. Left South West Point.....	3 30 p.m.
" 22. Anchored at the East Point of Anticosti.....	8 45 a.m. 80
" 23. Left the East Point.....	5 50 a.m.
" 24. Anchored at Natashquan River.....	0 45 p.m. 60
" 24. Left Natashquan River.....	2 0 p.m.
" 24. Anchored at Natashquan Harbor.....	3 0 p.m. 4
" 26. Left Natashquan Harbor.....	7 30 a.m.
" 26. Anchored at Kegashka.....	11 30 a.m. 30
" 26. Left Kegashka.....	5 0 p.m.
" 27. Anchored at Mutton Bay.....	10 10 a.m. 106
" 27. Left Mutton Bay.....	1 30 p.m.
" 27. Anchored at la Tabatière.....	2 45 p.m. 5
" 27. Left la Tabatière.....	7 15 p.m.
" 28. Anchored at Bonne-Espérance.....	10 0 a.m. 60
" 29. Left Bonne-Espérance.....	2 0 p.m.
" 29. Lay to at Salmon Bay.....	2 30 p.m. 3
" 29. Left Salmon Bay.....	3 0 p.m.
" 29. Anchored at Five Leagues.....	3 45 p.m. 4
" 30. Left Five Leagues.....	6 15 a.m.
" 30. Lay to at Burnt Islet and landed.....	7 30 a.m. 8
" 30. Left Burnt Islet.....	9 30 a.m.
" 30. Anchored at Greenly Island.....	11 30 a.m. 7
Oct. 1. Left Greenly Island.....	6 30 a.m.
" 1. Anchored at St. Augustin.....	9 25 a.m. 27
" 1. Left St. Augustin.....	0 30 p.m.
" 1. Anchored at Whalehead.....	2 20 p.m. 12

	Nautical H. M. miles.
Oct. 1. Left Whalehead.....	4 0 p.m.
" 4. Anchored at Bryon Island.....	11 40 a.m. 216
" 4. Left Bryon Island.....	3 45 p.m.
" 4. Anchored at House Harbor.....	9 30 p.m. 38
" 6. Left House Harbor.....	3 45 p.m.
" 6. Anchored at Amherst Harbor.....	7 0 p.m. 9
" 8. Left Amherst Harbor.....	6 0 a.m.
" 9. Anchored at the East Point of Prince Edward Island.....	11 30 a.m. 53
" 9. Left the East Point of Prince Edward Island.....	6 30 p.m.
" 10. Anchored opposite the Light-house at the entrance of Georgetown Bay.....	4 0 a.m. 30
" 10. Left entrance of Georgetown Bay.....	6 0 a.m.
" 10. Anchored at Georgetown, Prince Edward Island.....	10 30 a.m. 5
" 10. Left Georgetown.....	4 45 p.m.
" 13. Anchored at Nouvelle (au haut).....	0 20 a.m. 249
" 13. Left Nouvelle.....	6 40 a.m.
" 13. Anchored at Carleton.....	10 15 a.m. 4
" 17. Left Carleton.....	6 0 a.m.
" 17. Anchored at New Richmond.....	1 25 p.m. 12
" 18. Left New Richmond.....	5 40 a.m.
" 18. Anchored at New Carlisle.....	9 30 a.m. 27
" 18. Left New Carlisle.....	3 50 p.m.
" 18. Anchored at Paspébiac.....	4 20 p.m. 3
" 18. Left Paspébiac.....	11 0 p.m.
" 19. Anchored at Percé.....	2 30 p.m. 5
" 21. Left Percé.....	6 0 a.m.
" 21. Anchored at Malbaie.....	9 0 a.m. 6
" 21. Left Malbaie.....	5 45 p.m.
" 22. Anchored at Gaspé Basin.....	11 30 a.m. 22
" 30. Left Gaspé Basin.....	4 20 p.m.
" 31. Anchored at Griffon Cove.....	0 0 p.m. 30
Nov. 3. Left Griffon Cove.....	8 30 p.m.
" 5. Anchored in the Bay of Seven Islands.....	11 45 a.m. 112
" 6. Left the Bay of Seven Islands.....	4 30 a.m.
" 9. Anchored at Hare Island.....	0 0 p.m. 208
" 9. Left Hare Island.....	4 30 p.m.
" 10. Anchored in Quebec Harbour.....	11 0 a.m. 86
Total..... 5,214	

FISHER

Canada the lower part along which, of these the I purpose worked during are not content of fishery di idea of their which they of fishery or trade, I share The first of coast. The second County of G united, cons miles. Lastly, St. Lawrence of Anticosti The wh This Island, Allr banks of sa two, Entry arms of the width, and passage to v In a di called beca mer, for an and of Ford There Island, at a ceived it th when seen l The M They lie ne to that inla erly extrem the 61st an

## REMARKS

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## FISHERIES DURING THE SEASON AND THEIR PRODUCTS.

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Total.....		5,214

Canada, as I have already frequently remarked, is possessed, both in the Gulf and in the lower part of the River St. Lawrence, of a large extent of maritime and river coast, along which, from the opening of spring, fisheries of various descriptions are carried on; of these the most important by far and without any question, is the codfishery.

I purpose to give an abstract of the manner in which these several fisheries have been worked during the present year and of the results produced by them; but, as our coasts are not continuous, and as, moreover, many parts of them give opportunities for descriptions of fishery different from those on other parts, and also with the view of conveying a better idea of their extent and position and importance in respect of the various sources of riches which they contain, so that the trader or shipper who is desirous of engaging in any branch of fishery or of trade, may know what places offer the greatest chances of success for his trade, I shall consider them in three distinct divisions.

The first will comprise the Magdalen Islands with an extent of 114 nautical miles of coast.

The second will comprise the County of Bonaventure with 72 miles of coast, the County of Gaspé with 202 miles of coast, and part of the County of Rimouski. These, united, constitute what is commonly called the Gaspé coast, and includes an extent of 354 miles.

Lastly, the third division will comprise the whole north shore of the river and gulf of St. Lawrence, from Bersimis to Blancs Sablons Bay, an extent of 510 miles, and the Island of Anticosti with 260 miles of coast.

The whole extent of coast amounts to 1228 nautical miles.

## FIRST DIVISION.

## MAGDALEN ISLANDS.

This group consists of seven islands, five of which, Amherst Island, Grindstone Island, Allright Island, Coffin Island, and Grosse Isle, are more or less connected by long banks of sand, among which are found considerable lagoons and even harbors; the other two, Entry Island and Bryon Island, are entirely separated from the rest of the group by arms of the sea called Sandy Hook and Bryon Canal. The former is about three miles in width, and from four to five fathoms deep in the centre of the channel; the latter gives passage to vessels of the largest tonnage and is not less than 7½ miles in width.

In a direction of about east by north, at a distance of 11 miles, lie the Bird Rocks, so called because they are a habitation (especially the great rock) during the spring and summer, for an innumerable quantity of birds known as gannets (called *Margots* in Canada) and of Forda penguins, called *Mermettes* by the Canadians.

There is also a rock, situated about west by north from the west point of Amherst Island, at a distance of about eight miles, which received from the early voyagers who perceived it the singular name of Deadman Rock in consequence of its striking resemblance, when seen from a certain point, to a corpse covered with a shroud.

The Magdalen Islands are about 45 miles in length; their greatest width is 13 miles. They lie near the southern point of the Gulf of St. Lawrence facing the principal entrance to that inland sea, between the 47th and 48th degrees of north Latitude—their most southerly extremity being only 25 miles further north than the city of Quebec,—and between the 61st and 62nd degrees of Longitude west from Greenwich. Discovered by Jacques

Cartier on his first voyage to the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1634 these islands received the names of Ramées, Bryoff, and Alezay, and it was not until a later period that they acquired the names which they now bear.

Situated as they are at the mouth of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and in the sailing line of vessels on their way to Canada, they were frequently visited by the French trading and fishing vessels after the discovery of Canada. But it does not appear that at that time any considerable settlements were made upon them previous to their concession in 1663 by the Company of New France to François Doublet, a ship captain of Honfleur, who in the following year associated with himself François Gon de Quimé and Claude de Landemare, for the purpose of trading and fishing there. But there is reason to believe that in 1719 the islands again became the property of the French Government, as the latter, according to Charlevoix, conceded them to Lecompte de St. Pierre.

In 1763, at the time of the cession of Canada and its dependencies to the British Government, they were only inhabited by some ten families of French and Acadian origin, who engaged in walrus and seal hunting, and to a small extent in the herring and cod fishery. Subsequently an American shipper, Gridley by name, founded, on Amherst Island, near the entrance to the harbour of that name, a trading and fishing establishment, the ruins of which still exist. He took into his service families of French origin, residing upon the islands, in order specially to carry on, upon a large scale, the hunting of the walrus and the seal, the oil obtained from which brought a good price in the markets of the New England colonies, as did also the skins which yielded a very thick leather, and the tusks which served as a substitute for ivory.

The property of Mr. Gridley and his apparatus were partly destroyed during the American War, by the privateers of the revolted Colonies, but on the conclusion of peace he resumed his trade and his labors; but the walruses, whose habits of coming in herds upon the beach, had exposed them to the constant attacks of the hunters, to whom they had become a valuable prey, had already almost completely disappeared from the vicinity of the islands.

On the other hand the seals did not appear in as large numbers near the shore, and were not as easily captured as formerly, and in consequence the establishments of Mr. Gridley and of other shippers, engaged more especially in the hunting of amphibious animals, rapidly decreased in importance and prosperity.

I must here observe that besides the fishermen of the Magdalen Islands, a large number had also come from the English Colonies, since the conquest of Canada, to engage in walrus hunting; they had carried it on with that perseverance and energy for which they are so celebrated, and to them, in great measure, is to be attributed the extinction in our waters of this amphibious animal which is second in importance only to the whale.

But the inhabitants settled on Amherst, Grindstone and Allright Islands had already begun to engage in a more steady manner in the cod and herring fishery, the produce of which they bartered with the traders of the other British Provinces, and even of Jersey, for provisions and merchandise, and this yielded them undoubted benefit. Moreover the cultivation of the soil, which however they by far too much neglected, as their descendants do at the present day, yielded them some certain supplies, and at the time of the concession of all the Magdalen Islands by the British Government to Admiral Isaac Coffin, in 1798, as a reward for the services which he had rendered to the English Crown during the American War, the population of the Islands was estimated at one hundred families; but from information which I was able to obtain at Amherst, I believe this amount to be a little exaggerated. In 1821, according to Bouchette, the number of families had increased to 133, and in 1831, to 153, the total population being about 1000 souls. The census of 1850, shewed it to be 2202, and that of 1860, 2651. But it must not be forgotten that the Magdalen Islands had sent out three Colonies to the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the total population of which amounts to about 500 souls.

The fisheries of the Magdalen Islands, in their order from spring to autumn, are the seal fishery or rather seal hunting on the ice, the herring fishery, the spring mackerel fishery, the cod fishery which lasts till autumn, and the summer mackerel fishery.

#### SEAL HUNTING.

Seal hunting is carried on upon the floating ice in the Gulf of St. Lawrence throughout

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nearly its whole extent, although it seldom happens that the schooners go higher up than Gaspé Cape, to try their fortune in the River St. Lawrence. It is rather upon the North shore of the Gulf near the Island of Anticosti, and at the entrance of the Straits of Belleisle, that the fields of ice are met with upon which are generally found the greatest number of seals. It is hardly necessary for me to repeat that the female seals, which penetrate the Gulf of St. Lawrence in enormous herds in the month of December, get upon the floating ice about the middle or end of March, to bring forth their young which they nurse with great tenderness and suckle for the three or four weeks, or perhaps more, which time they pass upon the ice without going into the water. It is during this period that our hunters have to use their endeavors to get them into their possession by killing them either with clubs or by shooting; for subsequently when they have attained sufficient strength, they take to the water and the hunters see them no more. But the floating ice also serves for a habitation for the adult seals, especially the females while they are tending their young, and our hunters pursue them eagerly when it is in their power to do so, that is when they can approach them without being perceived, or else when these amphibious animals are upon ice so closely packed together that they can find no open place through which to plunge into the water, and so escape pursuit. Then our hunters make great slaughter among them, and crews of seven men have been sometimes known to kill hundreds of these animals in some hours. Sometimes high winds, blowing from the same quarter for some length of time, drive the fields of ice covered with seals towards the shores of the Islands, and keep them aground near the coast until a change of wind supervenes, and at such times great prizes fall to the Islanders. In an instant the news is spread through all the islands by the ringing of bells and the firing of guns, and soon the whole population rushes to the shore, whence may easily be seen the seals scattered over the ice as far as the eye can reach.

Young and old men, each armed with a large knife, a rope, and a club, spring on to the fields of ice, while the women remain on the shore within reach, to prepare their meals and to supply them with hot drinks in order to protect them from the effects of the cold and damp to which they are incessantly exposed. With their clubs they stun all the seals which they come upon, and then use their knives to despatch them and remove the skin and fat. When they think their harvest large enough, they tie together, with the rope with which they are provided, as much of their spoils as will suffice to make a burthen of from 300 to 350 pounds, and they then drag this valuable load from one piece of ice to another to the shore, where they leave it in safety and return to the same ground to gather a fresh harvest. This fatiguing and often dangerous labor continues throughout the whole day, and even the night in clear weather, so long as there are any seals on the ice near the shore and the ice has not been driven away by the land breeze. I have been told that formerly, when the seals were more numerous than at present in the waters of the Gulf, the inhabitants of the Magdalen Islands had taken as many as from 1500 to 2000 seals, nearly all young, on the fields of ice aground near the shore. But since I have been visiting the islands the results produced by seal-hunting have been less abundant, and have sometimes amounted to hardly anything. This year, by a happy concurrence of circumstances, it was productive, having yielded at least 6,000 seals, which cannot be valued at less than \$3 each, thus giving a total value of \$18,000. This excellent hunting took place on the 27th, 28th, and part of the 29th of April, having consequently lasted but two days and a half. The ice, driven by a strong east wind, drifted out to sea carrying with it thousands of seals beyond the reach of the hunters whose disappointment may be more easily imagined than described.

This hunting is very often not unattended with danger, for the currents or the wind sometimes drive off the ice before the hunters can regain the shore, and if they are not taken off by boats, they are carried off to sea, there to perish inevitably from cold and hunger. Within some fifteen years several accidents of this nature have, to my knowledge occurred. But every possible effort is made to prevent their occurrence by warning the hunters who are busy on the ice, when the latter begins to move away from the shore, by the firing of guns and by signals agreed upon beforehand.

The fat of young seals is tender and melts easily in the sun; it yields a very fine oil, which is white and almost quite devoid of unpleasant smell.

The Magdalen Island schooners fitted out for seal hunting, amounted in number this

year to 25, as may be seen in the Appendices attached to this report. Of these 16 belonged to House Harbor, and 9 to the port of Amherst. The latter usually winter in Basque Harbor, at the head of Pleasant Bay, to be the sooner ready for sea in the spring, for that harbor, like House Harbor, is free of ice long before Amherst Harbor, in consequence of the strength of the tide running into it. In spite of this, the ice was so solid in those harbors that it was only broken up by the action of high winds and the high temperature of some warm days in the month of April, too late however to allow the schooners to proceed to sea in time to have a chance of being successful in their hunting; and they had even to saw out great pieces of ice to make their way to the open sea; this was about the end of April. When they reached the usual hunting ground, they could find no great ice-bergs, or if they did, those that they saw had upon them only a few herds of seals, few in number. When, in addition to this, the bad weather and the snow storms are taken into consideration, the cause of the small success of the hunting will be easy of comprehension.

A misfortune still greater than this want of success, happened to two of these vessels; the *Emma*, belonging to William Johnston, and the *Breeze*, belonging to Germain Sire (having crews of 20, all told, 18 of whom were married and left 13 widows and 45 orphan children in a state of want), went down in the Gulf with all on board, whilst engaged in seal hunting. It is needless for me to say that these expeditions into the midst of the ice fields of the Gulf (at a time of the year when tempests and hurricanes are frequent), with vessels of small tonnage and which are often wanting in necessary solidity, are not made without great danger. But the mariners who strive on these frail vessels against the elements are inured to the labor of this rough calling, and combine prudence with the greatest daring; these are the hardy sailors of whom Canada may be proud, and it is the duty of the government to encourage them by every possible means in order to increase their number.

A reference to the Appendices will shew that the port of Amherst this year fitted out for seal hunting 9 schooners, and House Harbor, 16; the total tonnage being 1,048 tons, and the total number of hands on board being 250. These instructive statistics shew that this branch of industry, the importance of which to our country cannot be questioned, is rather uncertain in its results, but not on that account less deserving of all the care and attention of the government.

#### HERRING FISHERY.

The herring fishery at the Magdalen Islands, especially in Pleasant Bay, is carried out from the end of April to the beginning of June. That fish resorts thither to perform the important function of the reproduction of its species; and the sight of the shoals of these fish pressing forward towards the coast, and of the thousands of ova thrown up by the waves on the shore after a storm is a convincing proof that that process goes on upon an enormous scale, so that no fear need be entertained of the extinction of the species, let the fishery be as extensive as it may, provided that the fish are allowed as great facilities as possible for approaching the shores which are most advantageous for the reception and the hatching of the spawn. It is with this important object in view that the fishery regulations, with respect to the Magdalen Islands, provide that nets shall not be set in a part of Pleasant Bay, and that those that are set shall be set at a distance of at least 100 feet from each other.

The shoals of herring nearly always approach the shores of the Magdalen Islands in immense quantities, but it does not follow that in consequence the herring fishery is always plentiful in its results, for many circumstances may arise to diminish its success; the high winds, however, which raise a heavy swell near the shore are the greatest obstacles against which our fishermen have to contend. Indeed, unless the weather is fine and the sea calm, it is impossible to cast the seine to advantage. Besides the herrings rarely approach the shore in great numbers except when the sea is calm, and it has been observed that they select the night by preference for the performance of the generative act.

Under the most favorable circumstances, and when there were in Amherst Harbor a large number of schooners provided with large seines, the herring fishery has yielded immense results to the Magdalen Islands; and by consulting my reports it will be seen that

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as many as 70,000 barrels of herrings have been entered as having been taken at the Magdalen Islands either by foreign fishermen or by our own.

In the spring, for some years past, and especially since the commencement of the American war, this fish, (which at that time is lean it is true, but which keeps very well even in hot climates,) has been less sought after on the markets of the British Provinces and the United States, and sells at a very low price. This is the reason why the fitting out of vessels for this fishery has been less considerable than formerly.

This year, to say nothing of the ice which prevented the vessels from arriving at the Magdalen Islands at the most favorable time, those which did engage in the fishery,—about ten in number,—only obtained insignificant results, perhaps 1500 barrels in all; which with 1500 barrels taken with nets and seines by the inhabitants of the islands, gives a total of 3000 barrels as representing the entire yield of this fishery for the year, whereas in 1863 it reached 26,550 barrels; this is a great failure, the cause of which is specified above, as well as in the body of the report.

Let us hope that next year our fishermen will be more fortunate, and that ample success will reward their efforts and their labor as they deserve.

#### MACKEREL FISHERY.

The spring mackerel fishery generally begins at the Magdalen Islands about the first days of June. It is carried on with nets set in Pleasant Bay and the vicinity. Unfortunately it lasts at the longest but ten or fifteen days.

It is only during the time of spawning that our fishermen can engage in this fishery with nets, when the mackerel appear in shoals in the bay, and take advantage of the night to approach the shore and deposit their ova. This fishery sometimes yields large profits, but very often also it fails entirely in consequence of bad weather. It may, therefore, be said that in general it is uncertain in its results.

This year it began a little later than usual, for the first mackerel was taken in Pleasant Bay only on the 6th of June; it continued until about the 25th of the same month and yielded results which may be estimated at 900 barrels. It is known that the mackerel taken at this time is lean, and is only reckoned as second and third quality.

#### COD FISHERY.]

This fishery, which is one of the principal resources of the inhabitants of the Islands, is carried on from the beginning of May to the end of October, near the shores and upon the banks adjacent to them. The following, however, are the places where the cod is found in the greatest abundance: Pleasant Bay, the south shore of Amherst Island, the vicinity of Deadman Rock, the west shore of Grindstone Island, the north-west shore of Grosse Isle, the vicinity of Bryon Island and the Bird Rocks, and the waters which wash the eastern shores of Allright and Entry Islands.

The cod follows closely upon the arrival of the herring in Pleasant Bay and rapidly spreads around the whole of the islands. It is however to the south of Amherst Island, at Deadman Rock and off Etang du Nord that it is most abundant at the commencement of the season. It is also at this time that it approaches most closely to the shore to deposit its ova in enormous quantities on the bottom which its instinct leads it to select in preference to any other, doubtless because it offers greater advantages both for their preservation and for their hatching. This however does not prevent the fact that the greater part only of the ova come to maturity and produce small cod which are seen some months later in enormous numbers swimming in the bays, in the harbors and in all shallow places in which Providence provides suitable food for them in the form of small fish, crustacea, &c. The remainder fall a prey to the fish which frequent those waters and to the cod themselves, for it is not unusual to find in the stomach of the cod quantities of the spawn of its own species.

When once the process of reproduction is accomplished, the cod retire a little further from the shore to take up a position in waters inhabited by mollusca and crustacea which, together with the herring, the caplin and other small fish, constitute its habitual nourishment. But, when once hungry it has not even mercy on its fellows, but devours the young cod by two, three or even more at a time, a fact of which the opening of its stomach has often afforded proof.

The most common bait used by the fishermen of the islands for the cod fishery is the herring, which they take in nets. When that fish, however fails, they substitute for it shell fish, termed *coques* (*mya arenacea*) which they find buried in the sands of the bays and lagoons.

The mackerel is also made use of as bait, during the summer, but in the autumn these various fish run short and recourse is then had to a small fish known in Canada as the *goget* (*barbeau*) the fundula of naturalists; these are obtained from the little streams and the heads of the bays.

Fishermen in boats always use fresh bait, those who fish from schooners on the banks are very often compelled, when their nets which they set at night along the side have yielded nothing, to make use of salt fish (nearly always herrings) and even of salted *mya*. But the latter do not tempt the cod except when it is very hungry, and even then they have to be soaked for some time in water until they have lost in great part their salt taste, before the cod can resolve to swallow them, notwithstanding that fish's well-known voracity.

The cod is also taken by baiting the lines with what the fishermen call *gob*, that is, the stomach of the cod, and even sometimes with the flesh of sea fowl, gulls, gannets, &c.

I must not forget the mackerel, of which the cod is extremely fond; and when the fishermen can obtain them, they succeed as well as with any other bait.

Generally the cod remain in the waters adjacent to the Magdalen Islands throughout the whole season, but in greater or less quantity according as the fish, crustacea and mollusca, upon which they feed as I have before remarked, are more or less abundant there. There are indeed exceptions to this rule: for the herring and mackerel have been seen in large quantity near the islands, without the presence of the cod; this however is of rare occurrence.

The success of the cod fishery does not depend entirely upon the presence of the fish in the waters in which the fishery is to be carried on; the fishermen must also be able to procure fresh and good bait; as men familiar with the art say, and moreover (what is very essential) the weather must be fine and allow of their putting off their boats in order to reach the places where they have the best chance of finding the cod, and of keeping out at sea until the conclusion of their day's labor.

The high winds which always cause a heavy swell around the islands and make the approach to the coast very dangerous for boats, are the greatest obstacles against which the fishermen have to contend in their daily operations. They are often seen upon the banks when the day has just begun to appear, the sky being clear, the sea calm and the cod abundant and taking the bait freely, in a word when they have every reason to hope for a plentiful harvest in the shape of one and even two boat loads of fish. Scarcely however have a few hours passed, when the light breeze gives place to a gale from seaward which soon increases in violence, and a heavy sea comes up rapidly; very often currents and the tide running in a contrary direction make matters still worse, and the poor fishermen are compelled to return with all speed, with difficulty, and often amidst great danger, to the shore from which they sailed but a few hours before, buoyant with the most brilliant hopes now changed by an unfavourable wind into bitter disappointment.

For this reason the best years for the summer fishery, and especially for the autumn fishery, are those in which gales and tempests are less frequent and of shorter duration. The season of 1863, for instance, was one of the finest which we have had for a long time past in the gulf; the cod was abundant; bait was tolerably easy to procure, and accordingly the results of this fishery were more abundant that year than for a long time previously, there having been taken 12,350 quintals, against 9,170 quintals for this year; 8,270 quintals for the year 1862, and 9,131 for the year 1861.

It will be seen that there has been a diminution this year of nearly one-fourth on the products of the preceding year. This is to be attributed in the first place to the fact that the cod did not appear on the coast as early as in 1863, and also that it was not so abundant. But undoubtedly that which was most injurious to the success of this fishery, was the bad weather; in other words the high winds, the frequency and unusually long continuance of which compelled our fishermen to pass many days ashore during the best season, with their boats drawn up on the beach, the bravest of them not venturing out to

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sea. And thus it was that they found it impossible to gather from the fish-yielding waters which wash their coasts all the advantages which they were entitled to expect.

However, the high price which cod commanded this year, went far to compensate them for the losses to which they were subjected by the bad weather. This summer several schooners from Amherst Harbour, and from House Harbour, made an attempt at the cod-fishery on the banks, but the same causes which militated against the fishery in boats, exercised an unfavorable influence over their proceedings, and I calculate the results obtained by them at but little more than 400 quintals of cod.

This year the presence of an unusually large number of haddock on the coasts of the Magdalen Islands, and especially at Etang du Nord, was observed. This fish, which is excellent when fresh, yields an inferior preparation when salted, and fetches but little more than three-fourths of the price of dried cod of the best quality. Some forty American schooners, thirty from Nova Scotia, principally from Cheticamp, in the Island of Cape Breton, and eleven French schooners engaged in the cod-fishery on the great banks, as far as 20 or 25 miles from the islands, with varying opportunities; in general they did not obtain any great results.

#### THE SUMMER MACKEREL FISHERY.

The shoals of mackerel, after having completed the reproductive process near the shores of the Magdalen Islands, and chiefly in Pleasant Bay, retire to the deep water in search of the nourishment of which they stand in need, in order to recover themselves from the state of exhaustion and leanness, which is the inevitable result of the great loss of substance to which they have been subjected in the shape of spawn from the female, and milt from the male. In the middle or rather at the end of July, they have already acquired much flesh and fat, but it is at a later period, in the autumn, that they are in the finest condition, and then it is that they command the highest price, especially on the markets of the United States where the people appreciate them at their true value.

I shall not dilate upon the mackerel fishery carried on with the line; I have already remarked at length upon that subject in my report of 1859. I shall merely remark that the mackerel was generally plentiful around the Magdalen Islands, during a great part of the season, and that our fishermen, who have engaged in that fishery which was taught them by the Americans, only within a few years past, succeeded better than in former years; but it is far from having attained the proportions and extent of our other fisheries; it has always been neglected and will yet be neglected. Its importance does not seem to be appreciated in Canada.

None of our fishermen make a special pursuit of this fishery as do our neighbors. As yet not a single schooner has been known to be fitted out for this purpose in our country.

The Magdalen Island boats which engage in this fishery, took about 1400 barrels of fish. This is more than in former years: for in 1863, the spring and summer mackerel fishery together, only yielded 1000 barrels; in 1862, 943 barrels, and in 1861, 1271 barrels.

What is this when compared with the yield of the summer mackerel fishery to the American schooners in our waters, in which by treaty they enjoy the same rights as British subjects.

From 250 to 300 of these schooners well manned and the best sailers in the world, have successfully carried on this fishery around the Islands, without going more than eighteen or twenty miles away from them. Some have even made several trips.

Adopting the lowest estimate, these vessels must have carried back to the ports from which they sailed, on an average, at least 100 barrels each, and probably more; thus from 25,000 to 30,000 barrels of mackerel, of the value of from \$250,000 to \$300,000, have been taken on our Coast or in the waters adjoining it, and before our very eyes; and I repeat, not one of our shippers, not one of our great dealers in fish has, as yet, fitted out a single vessel for this fishery. Yet it would appear that there are large profits to be made, although it may be truly said that the American fishermen have certainly an advantage over ours, as they can employ during the winter on their own shores in the cod, haddock and halibut fishery, both those of their schooners which have been engaged in the cod fishery and those that

have been used in the mackerel fishery during the summer, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, while ours have to submit to a compulsory hibernation of at least five months in our ports, which are closed to navigation by the ice.

#### RECAPITULATION.

##### *Products of the several Fisheries in this Division.*

<i>Seal Hunting.</i>	
6,000 Seals killed by the inhabitants on the ice, at \$3 a Seal.....	\$18,000,00
1,633 Seals killed by the crews of Schooners, at \$6 a Seal.....	9,798,00
<i>Herring Fishery.</i>	
1,500 barrels of Herrings, at \$2 a barrel.....	3,000,00
<i>Spring Mackerel Fishery.</i>	
900 barrels of Mackerel, at \$6 a barrel.....	5,400,00
<i>Cod Fishery.</i>	
9,170 quintals of Cod, at \$3,60 a quintal.....	32,944,00
5,811 gallons of Cod Liver Oil, at 55 cents a gallon.....	3,196,05
<i>Summer Mackerel Fishery.</i>	
1,400 barrels of Mackerel, at \$10 a barrel.....	14,000,00
<i>Whale Oil.</i>	
360 gallons of Whale Oil, at 70 cents a gallon.....	252,00
Total.....	\$86,590,05

#### SECOND DIVISION.

This division comprises 354 miles of sea and river coast, and forms part of the Counties of Bonaventure and Gaspé, and the eastern section of the County of Rimouski from Magnacha Point to the Island of St. Barnabé; of which 354 miles, 72 are in the Bay of Chaleurs, of which they form the north shore; 52, including Gaspé Bay, are in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; and the remaining 230 miles form the south shore of the River St. Lawrence, according to Captain Bayfield and other Hydrographers. But the commissioners acting under the Reciprocity Treaty, have decided that the river begins only at Cap Chatte and not at Gaspé Capé, and taking this view, 124 miles more of coast must be added to the gulf, so that only 106 miles remain on the river.

These coasts, abounding in fish, did not fail to attract the attention of Jacques Cartier and those who followed him into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and many years had not elapsed after the discovery of Canada before the French founded establishments there, for the purpose of carrying on the cod-fishery, which gave employment to many vessels and people, and produced an important article of trade. Those at Percé, Gaspé Basin, and Mont-Louis appear to have been the most considerable and the most prosperous. But little, however, is known of their history, except that these establishments were several times visited and destroyed by the English ships of war. But they rose from their ashes. To provide a safe refuge for the vessels engaged in trade and in the fisheries in time of war, the French fortified the entrance to Gaspé Basin, and not many years ago the remains of the works which they had constructed on the cape, called Fort Ramsay, were still to be seen.

On the Restigouche River the point called the Battery still shows traces of work: of defence, erected by the crews of French vessels and detachments of French soldiers who had escaped from the disaster of Louisbourg, in order to defend themselves against a victorious fleet of English vessels which was pursuing them.

In spite of this they could not hold out long, the battery was attacked in the rear and taken, and several frigates and corvettes which had taken shelter above Indian Point were burned or sunk; the remains of them are still visible at the bottom at low water; and some of their guns, marked with the *fleur de lys*, still serve to decorate several properties in the vicinity. Before the conquest several centres of population had already been formed near the places which offered the greatest advantages to trade and the fishery, and Paspébiac, the roadstead and good land of which are well sheltered from the winds from the sea, Percé, with its fine fisheries, and Gaspé, with its excellent harbor and fine roadstead capable of

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accommodating from 300 to 400 vessels of the largest tonnage, are those which, at that time, were best known.

After the cession of Canada and its dependencies by France to England, the French entirely ceased sending fishing expeditions. On the other hand the traders and shippers of Quebec did not appear to attach any great importance and value to the fisheries on the coast of Gaspé, and neglected to restore the ruins of the old French fishing establishments, most of which had suffered great damage during the last war. To a merchant of the name of Charles Robin, who came from the little Island of Jersey to the coast of Gaspé, about the year 1773, belongs the honor of having understood better than any person here the whole value of our fisheries, and of having founded first at Paspébiac, and then at Percé, and at Grande Rivière on the coast of Gaspé, fishing establishments which not only still exist and are in a condition of great prosperity, but which are moreover the most considerable of their class upon the whole gulf coast.

Subsequently other traders, from the same Island, among whom we may mention Mr. Jauvrain, also founded fishery establishments in Gaspé Bay, which rapidly acquired great importance; they have now passed into the possession of the firm of Fraing & Co.

The population, however, had not increased very rapidly on the coast of Gaspe, and the wars of American independence and of 1812 had retarded its growth and had proved highly injurious to the development of the fisheries by depriving our fishermen of facilities of transport for their fish to foreign markets, and by making their trading operations uncertain.

Every year, however, some Canadian families left the old parishes in the interior to settle permanently on some point on the coast. It was principally the south shore of the River St. Lawrence, from Cape Rosiers to Fox River inclusive, and after that Percé and Grande Rivière, which had the greatest attractions for them. Again, Irish, Scotch and Jersey emigrants, attracted by the truly magnificent prospects held forth by the coast of Gaspé, its inexhaustible fisheries and its soil, which is almost every where very rich and fertile, selected it as their new country. The first mentioned settled by preference at Douglstown, Percé and Maria; while the second proceeded to open up lands, in the townships of Hopetown and New Richmond, now the most fruitful in produce of all kinds in the whole District of Gaspé. As to the last mentioned, they spread themselves over nearly the whole coast. According to Bouchette, the population of the whole of this part of our coast only amounted in 1830 to 2,567 souls in the County of Gaspé, and 5,110 in the County of Bonaventure. As to that part of the coast lying between Cap Chatte and the Island of St. Barnabé, it could not have contained many inhabitants, and the probability is that they did not exceed 2,000 souls in number.

I shall here allude to several of the causes which presented the greatest obstacles to the more rapid growth of the settlements, both those which were formed entirely with a view to the working of the fisheries (by far the most numerous), and those formed for the purpose of cultivating the soil.

One was the absolute deficiency of means of communication by land between the several centres of population and the length, difficulty and uncertainty of that by sea with Quebec. At the time of which I speak roads were almost entirely wanting on the coast of Gaspé throughout its whole length, and that interesting part of Canada was, in the winter season, entirely isolated from the centre of the country and the action of the government, for it could only be reached on foot, by using snowshoes through the forest. But the attention of the government was called to this unfortunate state of affairs, the necessary sums of money were voted by Parliament, and a road connecting all the settlements was opened from the head of the Bay of Chaleurs to Gaspé Basin; and almost at the same time, the banks of the River Restigouche, and those of the River St. Lawrence were connected by the road known as the Kempt Road. This was a new era for the country: at once rapid progress was made, and in 1850 the census shewed the population of this part of Lower Canada to be 21,748 souls.

In 1860 the total population of the District of Gaspé amounted to 27,169 souls, and that of that portion of the County of Rimouski lying between Cap Chatte and the Island of St. Barnabé, to no less than 10,000; giving a total of 37,169 souls, upon the same extent of coast, the population of which only reached 10,000 in 1830; thus it had increased four-fold in thirty years. But it is increasing still more rapidly in the present day, thanks

to the colonization roads which permit those of the inhabitants who know the value of the benefits derivable from agriculture, to settle at some distance from the coast on land which they obtain from the Crown for the moderate price of 20 cents an acre, and to the easy communication which now exists by means of steam vessels between the principal points on the coast and Quebec: and thanks also to the measures of protection and encouragement which have been so liberally set on foot by the Government for some years past; the bounties awarded to the vessels engaged in the great fisheries, and the establishment of the Free Port of Gaspé, are by no means the least important causes of the growth in question.

The Gaspé coast is beyond all question the most important of the maritime coasts of Canada, in respect of the great fisheries, and especially of the cod-fishery which can be carried on over nearly its whole extent. The herring fishery is also carried on to a considerable extent in the Bay of Chaleurs. Mackerel is also sometimes very abundant near the shore; and the rivers, some of which are very considerable, contain a certain quantity of salmon and trout.

In considering these fisheries, I shall begin with the herring fishery, because it is the first entered upon; the cod-fishery will follow, and subsequently that of the mackerel, the whale, &c.; and lastly the salmon and trout fishery.

HERRING FISHERY.

Every spring the herring leaves the northern seas, according to some naturalists, (others maintain that during the winter it merely retires to the deep parts of the sea in the vicinity of the gulf,) to spread along the coast of the Gulf, urged by the strong impulse of an instinctive desire to reproduce its species. And, as I have said, they arrive in immense shoals at the Magdalen Islands, and also, I might say if I was treating of those parts of the Gulf coast not belonging to Canada, at St. George's Bay. But the Bay of Chaleurs, and especially its north east shore, is one of its favorite spots, for they are seen there every year in very considerable numbers, from the beginning to the end of May; they come to perform the reproductive function which they accomplish near the coast, in spots sheltered from the high winds, and where the water is shallow.

Port-Daniel, Bonaventure, New Richmond, Maria and Carleton are the places where this fish is found in the greatest abundance; it is there consequently that our fishermen are most successful in the fishery which is carried on by means of nets set across the places they have to pass, although a certain quantity which is generally used for bait in the codfishery and for the daily consumption of the inhabitants, are taken along the whole of the rest of the coast of Gaspé and during a great part of the season.

At nearly the same time when the herring appears on the Coast of Gaspé, the River St. Lawrence from Matane to River du Loup, is visited by an immense quantity of fish of the same species, but generally of smaller size, and the inhabitants of the shores of the River upon which the fish appear in the greatest numbers, carry on by means of brush nets a productive fishery, the yield of which is sold, for the most part, in the fresh state in the country parts and upon the markets of Quebec. This year the herring fishery was generally good in this division, for it was observed that on the Coasts of the Lower St. Lawrence, from Cap des Rosiers to Cap Chatte, this fish was more abundant throughout the whole season than it had been observed to be for a very long time; and the results yielded by it are as follows:—

County of Bonaventure.....	15,120 barrels.
“ Gaspé.....	2,545 “
“ Rimouski.....	5,842 “
	23,507 “

Value, \$41,172-00.

N. B. The Magdalen Islands, although forming part of the Coast of Gaspé, are not included in these returns.

COD FISHERY.

The cod fishery on the Gaspé Coast, constitutes in itself one of the principal branches

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of our maritime industry. In fact it gives employment to nearly four thousand fishermen, without taking into account the women and children who work at the preparation of the cod on shore, and to more than one hundred vessels manned by from eight to nine hundred sailors; and its products, so much sought after in foreign markets, have given rise to, and keep up, internal and foreign trading operations, requiring the employment of a very considerable amount of capital; which may be estimated without any exaggeration at several millions of dollars. A mere journey along the Coast either by land or by sea, will suffice to convey an idea of its numerous establishments, several of which are upon the largest scale, each giving employment to several hundreds of men, and all well managed. The following facts show the truth of what I assert.

Its fisheries are abundant, and, so to speak, inexhaustible. They may be said to extend from the head of the Bay of Chaleurs along the whole coast as far as Metis, and sometimes even as far as the Island of St. Barnabé. But there are places for which the cod seems to have a predilection and where consequently it is nearly always found in greater numbers than elsewhere, because there also the small fish and the mollusca and crustacea, which it incessantly pursues, collect in greater shoals and remain for a longer time. These places are, the waters that wash the shores of Newport, Grand River, Cape Cove, Percé, Bonaventure Island, Point St. Pierre, Grande Grève, Griffin Cove, Fox River and Grand Etang.

It is usually Percé and the places in the vicinity that are first visited by the cod in the spring, generally about the end of April, and a few days only after the arrival of the herring, upon which it then feeds. About a week later it appears upon the whole coast of the Bay of Chaleurs.

About the 15th May it appears near the shores between Cape Rosiers and Cape de Chatte; and between the latter and Matane and Métis, from the 1st to the 18th of June. These figures must not be taken as invariable, for the arrival of this fish may be advanced or retarded by general and special causes which it is impossible to estimate fully, but which exercise a large influence over the phenomena of the periodical emigration of all fish that live in shoals in deep water, towards the shallower and warmer waters of the coasts: an emigration which they almost invariably undertake for the purpose of providing for the reproduction of their species in a place of safety, which their instinct impels them to seek.

So soon as the cod appear in each place, the fishing begins, the bait for the lines begin herring which the fishermen take with nets set specially for the purpose at night. But after a few weeks, the herring seem to diminish near the coast, and seek refuge in deep water, followed by the cod. The latter, however, soon reappears and often in greater abundance than before, in pursuit of that beautiful little fish called the capelin, which plays so important a part in our codfisheries.

Fishing is thus actively resumed, and continued until towards the end of June, when the Capelin disappears for the rest of the season; and there would then be a failure of bait for the codfishery were not the caplin succeeded by a species of herring called by our fishermen the summer herring, which is more or less abundant near the coast until towards the close of the season. Then comes the mackerel, between the 10th and 20th of July, which the cod also take very greedily. The squid, a mollusk curious from its strange form and the black liquid it pours forth upon its enemies as a means of defence, appear in shoals, generally in the night, near the shore, between Newport and Cape Gaspé about the 10th of July, and between Cape Gaspé, Cape de Chatte and Matane between the 15th and 20th July. This is one of the most enticing baits for cod, and our fishermen often succeed in taking it by fishing in the evening and at night with instruments called *Turluttes*, up to the close of the season. Lastly, trout, goget, called *choquemort* on the Gaspé coast, and *Mya* are used for bait in the autumn, when other fish fail. Smelt, a delicious fish found at the entrance of most of the rivers on the Gaspé coast is also frequently used for the same purpose.

Nevertheless, notwithstanding this variety, it often happens during the season, that our fishermen lack bait, and then codfishing ceases; for without bait there can be no fishing, even though the cod were far more abundant than they have ever yet been near the coast. In such cases it is true, recourse may be had to the use of a fishing implement called *faux*, which consists of a tin fish, thin and brightly polished, generally made in imitation of the

caplin, which is attached by the tail to an ordinary line and from the mouth of which protrude two hooks fastened back to back. The cod, attracted by the glitter of the metal, rush in shoals to the spot, and the fishermen by shaking their lines in the water succeed in hooking a certain number of fish sometimes by one part of the body, sometimes by another. This mode of fishing is, however, seldom practised on the Gaspé coast; it is toilsome and not very productive.

The produce of the codfishery on the coast of the division of which I am now treating has not been very good, it is less than that of past years, and the reason is that this fish has not been so abundant there as it usually is, more especially on the south shore of the river St. Lawrence, from Cap Rosier upwards, and particularly towards Matane and Métis, where it failed almost entirely. Nevertheless, at several points along the coast, between Ste. Anne des Monts and Matane, particularly, the take of Cod this year has equalled and even surpassed that of last year, as a larger number of fishermen were engaged in this fishery. The table in the appendix for the county of Rimouski, will shew the proportionate increase in the number of fishing-boats in these several localities for this year, and it is calculated that more than one hundred new boats will be built at Matane alone for next year.

Bait has been abundant, for while there was in some places a scarcity of caplin, mackerel and squid, the summer herring, which had not for a long period been seen in such vast numbers in the waters of the Gaspé coast, were within reach of the fishermen and supplied the wants of the fishery.

From the most reliable information procured from the fishery overseers, the fishermen themselves, and the outfitters, it appears that the quantity of fish taken on all the coasts of this second division is as follows:—

111,682.....	quintals of Cod.
690.....	do Haddock.
369.....	do Hake.

In 1863, the produce under the same heads was as follows:

117,292.....	quintals of Cod.
982.....	do Haddock.
504.....	do Hake.

A diminution of 6,089 quintals only, as compared with last year. It is clear therefore that the excess in the number of boats this year over the number last year, has fully compensated for the deficiency in the fishery in this division.

But inasmuch as a higher price has been obtained for codfish this year than last, it follows that the value of these products is..... \$405,223.20

Value for 1863 .....	354,848.00
Excess over 1863.....	\$40,375.20

The outfitters and traders of the Gaspé coast, besides carrying on the fisheries of this division, also send fishing vessels to the north shore of the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, and even to the island of Anticosti, the produce going to feed their trade, and this accounts for the fact that there are more large establishments and more trading houses on this part of our coast than any where else.

It is chiefly in the harbors or on good roadsteads that the largest of these establishments are situated. The harbour of Gaspé Basin contains not less than ten, the most considerable being those of Messrs. Jean LeBoutillier, Frung & Co., John and Elias Collas, Lowndes and Brothers, &c.

The house of Robin & Co., LeBoutillier et Frères, Jean LeBoutillier and LeBrun, have also very fine establishments on the roadsteads of Percé and Bonaventure Island. But at Paspébiac, the houses of Robin and Company, and LeBoutillier et Frères possess the finest and most extensive of our fishery establishments, and the traveller is surprised to find such noble buildings in that remote part of the country. This roadstead, which is also a port of entry, is the point from which the largest exports of dried cod to foreign markets are made.

Gaspé Basin, which is the only good harbour we possess on the coast, and to which is sent all the codfish of the neighboring coasts, for export to foreign countries, receives a

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large number of ships, which give it great commercial importance. The following table shows the number of ships I found in this port on the 22nd October, and will afford a general idea of the business of the port:—

VISIT to the Port of Gaspé Basin, 22nd October, 1864.

Name of vessel.	Name of Master.	From	Tonnage.	Remarks.
Bark "Alice Jane" .....	Thomas Le Gros.....	Jersey ....	215	General cargo.
Brig "Canada" .....	P. Horman .....	do .....	156	Loading cod for Brazil.
do "Harmony" .....	R. Bertram .....	Newfoundland.....	137	" dry cod.
do "Brothers" .....	John Vibert.....	Pointe St. Claire.	173	" cod for Brazil.
Brigantine "Shamrock".....	A. Haquoil.....	Cadis.....	136	With salt.
do "Hiberais" .....	J. W. Alexander.....	London.....	165	Loading cod for Spain.
do "Ste. Anne" .....	J. Le Gresley.....	Bahia .....	150	" cod and oil.
Schooner "Chance" .....	Thomas Vibert .....	New York.....	139	General cargo.
do "Orion Lass" .....	J. C. Stone.....	Cadis.....	105	With salt.
do "Marie Louise" .....	Germain Dienne.....	Grande Vallée.....	52	" cod.
do "Marie Emma" .....	Alexis Dupré.....	St. Thomas .....	51	Coaster.
do "Wolverine" .....	F. Adams.....	Percé.....	40	"
do "Admiral" .....	Joseph Tripp.....	Labrador Coast...	46	155 bbls whale oil.
do "Village Belle" .....	Edw. Adams .....	Percé.....	40	Coaster.
do "Lady Burton" .....	J. Morrisette .....	Métis.....	25	Dry cod.
do "Flying Fish" .....	Robert Pye .....	North Shore St. Lawrence .....	36	Coaster with cod.
do "Rambler" .....	C. Davis.....	Labrador Coast...	51	Whale oil.
do "Primrose" .....	J. Renouf.....	Sheldrake .....	73	Dry cod.
do "Cornet" .....	J. F. Cost.....	Cadis.....	72	Salt.
do "Violet" .....	H. Suddard.....	Quebec .....	37	General cargo.
do "Marmaid" .....	Jos. Morin .....	Mont-Louis .....	46	Dry cod.
do "G. Tilton" .....	Wm. Rudolph.....	Halifax .....	65	Goods &c.
do "Arthur" .....	J. Touzel .....	River St. John....	13	Cargo of dry goods.
do "Undaunted" .....	J. Howl.....	Pointe St. Pierre.	44	Coaster.
do "Highland Jane".....	J. Aseah.....	Quebec .....	64	General cargo.
		Total.....	2131	

I must not forget to mention the improvements made in this port within the past few years, many of which originated with the establishment of the freeport. These improvements consist of large storehouses, capable of holding a vast quantity of codfish, and solidly constructed wharves, alongside which vessels drawing from 8 to 14 feet of water, and even more, can lie, as will be seen by the following table:—

CODFISH STORES IN GASPE BASIN, (SOUTH SIDE.)

(Beginning at the entrance of the Basin.)

Number of Store-houses.	Belonging to	Capacity of Storehouse.
1	John LeBoutillier.....	15,000 quintals dry cod.
1	" " .....	2,000 " "
1	" " .....	50,000 " "
1	Frung & Co.....	5,000 " "
1	" " .....	2,000 " "
1	" " .....	3,000 " "
1	" " .....	10,000 " "
1	John LeBoutillier.....	2,000 " "
1	" " .....	4,000 " "
1	" " .....	15,000 " "
		Store-house for provisions, but not fit for codfish.

(North Side of Basin, commencing at the Point.)

Number of Storehouses.	Belonging to	Capacity of Storehouse.
1	Lowndes, Brothers.....	3,000 quintals dry cod.
1	William Hyman .....	3,000 " "
1	J. et E. Collas.....	15,000 " "
1	George Dumaresq .....	3,000 " "
1	J. et E. Collas.....	3,000 " "
1	" " .....	3,000 " "
1	James Perchard.....	3,000 " "
1	" " .....	3,000 " "
1	Nicolas Dumaresq .....	3,000 " "
1	" " .....	800 " "
		147,800

WHARVES IN GASPÉ BASIN.

Name of Proprietor.	No. of wharves.	No. of vessels accommodated for unloading at one time.	Depth of water at low tide, along-side each wharf.	Remarks.
Nicholas Dumaresq	1	3	12	North side of Basin, commencing by the west.
J. Perchard .....	1	2	8	
J. & Elias Collas...	1	3	12	
do .....	1	2	14	
John Eten.....	1	1	12	
Joseph Eden .....	1	3	12	
William Carter .....	1	3	12	
John Vibert .....	1	.....	6	Just commenced.
John Short .....	1	1	6	South side of Basin.
John Le Boutillier..	1	3	18	
do .....	1	5	12	
Fruing & Co.....	1	5	12	
John Le Boutillier..	1	3	10	
Total.....	13	34	.....	

Percé is an open roadstead where vessels of every size may find shelter, in all winds, ranging from south-west to north, in two large bays, called the south-west bay, and the north-west bay. But with the wind from seaward there is no shelter. Moreover, vessels must anchor in 12, 15 and even 20 fathoms water, if they wish to avoid going too near the shore.

At Bonaventure Island there is shelter from east and south-east winds. The establishments located on this roadstead have store-houses and sheds capable of holding from 50 to 60,000 quintals of cod-fish, and also immense flakes for drying the fish.

The harbour of Paspébiac is closed to all winds ranging from east to north-west. Winds from the west, south-west and south blow direct into it. But it is only in autumn, at the period of the great gales, that the winds are dangerous, for the ground is excellent and a vessel properly moored cannot drag her anchors,—the cables would part first.

There are two wharves in this roadstead, one belonging to the house of Robin & Co., and the other to the house of LeBoutillier et Frères. Schooners lie along side of them in fine weather and with the wind off the land, but large vessels cannot do so, as they would be exposed to danger in case of the wind shifting to seaward.

The sheds and stores of these two houses are of immense size, and kept in very good order. They are capable of receiving with ease from 100,000 to 120,000 quintals of cod-fish.

The narrow-limits within which I must of necessity confine these remarks, will not

permit me to Anse du Cap fishing and l

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The Ha same fishing quantities. A great The qu

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permit me to speak of other anchorages on the coasts, such as L'anse aux Griffons, Malbay, Anse du Cap, Port Daniel, the Bay of New Richmond and Carleton, where there are fine fishing and lumbering establishments.

#### MACKEREL FISHERY.

This fish appears on the Gaspé coast between the 5th and 10th of July, and ascends the River St. Lawrence as far as Cap de Chatte. The fishery has not acquired all the importance it merits. Apart from the quantity used in baiting their cod lines, our fishermen do not take more than 558½ barrels. It must be stated also, that there is no regularity in the migrations of this fish from one point to another of the coast, during the summer, sometimes it may be abundant in one place and sometimes in another.

However, some years it is very abundant on this coast, and expeditions conducted with energy and perseverance might be sent out to engage in this fishery, and derive large profits from it, as the American fishermen do.

#### WHALE FISHERY.

I found it difficult to decide as to the division in which I should place the whale fishery; for while it is at times and to a limited extent, carried on on the Gaspé coast, it is, properly speaking on the Labrador coast that our fishermen practice their difficult and dangerous avocation. But the expeditions all start from Gaspé Basin, and I deem it right to speak of them now, before treating of the fisheries of the third division.

Eight schooners have been engaged in the whale fishery this year. Their aggregate tonnage was 445 tons, and the number of hands 120.

The majority of them selected for their fishing grounds in the Straits of Belleisle, between the Labrador coasts—from Gros Meccatina to Bonne Espérance,—and the north shore of Newfoundland—from Bernachois Bay to Ferolle; while one of their number proceeded to Bay St. Marie, on the south shore of Newfoundland, to try their chance, and another to the Labrador coast in the Atlantic. The two latter, though their voyages did not succeed very well, had a better take than the others, only two of these having made good profits and the others paying their cost of outfit and very little over, the species of whale which they continually pursue during the season for that fishery—from the end of May to the beginning and even to the end of September—having been exceedingly scarce this year in the Gulf.

Bad weather also impeded the operation of this fishery, which requires a clear atmosphere, so that the whale may be discovered from a distance, and a calm sea to enable the fishermen to approach it without danger.

I estimate the produce of this fishing at 25,014 gallons of oil. The greater part of this oil is exported to England and to Jersey.

Value \$17,509 80.

#### HALIBUT FISHERY.

The Halibut Fishery is carried on at the same time as the cod-fishery, and on the same fishing grounds. But this fish is only taken accidentally and in comparatively small quantities.

A great deal of it is eaten fresh.

The quantity salted this year was 275 barrels, of the value of \$1,325.

#### SALMON FISHERY.

This is a river fishery, though it is carried on in many places along the maritime coasts, but always in the vicinity of some river, large or small, by the fresh waters of which the fish is attracted.

The habits of the salmon are now sufficiently known in Canada to justify me in not repeating what I have said in relation to this fish in several of my reports. I need only remark here, that the salmon is a fresh water fish, that it is produced in rivers, that it spends the first year of its existence and that it goes down to the sea only in the spring of the second year.

It seeks clear waters and prefers those flowing over gravel and sand.

It always reproduces its species in fresh water, depositing its spawn in our latitudes, about the months of September and October.

Many naturalists pretend that the salmon inhabits the rivers during the whole winter and that they emigrate to the sea towards the spring. Others merely hold that only a certain number remain in fresh water during the cold season, and that the others return to the sea on the completion of the act of reproduction; and both parties furnish proofs in support of these contradictory opinions.

The limits within which I desire to restrict my remarks relative to the salmon fishery on the Gaspé coast, do not permit me to enter into a critical examination of these proofs, which relate to a fact of natural history not devoid of importance. The subject has been fully treated by authors who have written treatises on the order of the Salmonidae.

In Canada we are very certain of one fact, namely: that immense number of salmon, after passing the winter in the upper parts of the rivers, descend to the sea in the spring generally at the time of the breaking up of the ice. The observation of numbers of intelligent fishermen have placed this matter beyond a doubt. The fish are then so lean and feeble as to lead to the conclusion that they must have undergone a more or less rigorous fast, under which they become exhausted during the winter. But, under the influence of the rich and copious supply of food they find in the numberless small fish, caplin, sand-eels, &c., which appear on our coasts at that period, they are speedily invigorated, and within the space of a month or two their flesh, which was flabby, dark and unfit to use as an article of food, becomes firm and red and possesses the exquisite flavor which is so well known; they have also, by that time acquired an astonishing increase in weight, an increase which it would be hard to believe possible had it not been established beyond a doubt by repeated experiments.

In the months of June and July they have acquired all their beauty, and then it is that loaded with spawn, the precious deposit which is to provide for the continuation of their valuable species, they commence their grand migration into the rivers, which they ascend generally until some insurmountable obstacle arrests their course, in search of the localities which their instinct prompts them to select as best adapted for the accomplishment of the important functions they are about to perform.

Nevertheless they do not make these migrations in one run. On the contrary, they appear to make but a short days' journey at a time. They also like to make some stay in the brackish waters of the estuaries, the object being, it is said, to rid themselves of the parasites with which they are then covered and which these waters destroy; they ascend and descend with the ebbing and flowing of the tide, selecting in preference water of little depth.

The fishermen avail themselves of these habits of the salmon to set snares for them in divers ways during their passage, and this it is that constitutes the salmon fishery. But I hear some persons exclaim: "what, you permit salmon fishing during that period! Then you wish to destroy the whole species, since the salmon (female) you kill, bear in their bellies millions of ova which would, within a few months, become so many fish, with which our rivers would soon be swimming. Why not wait, before destroying the fish, until the spawn has been deposited in a place of safety and vivified by the fecundifying fluid of the male fish?"

The answer to this objection is simple.

To prevent the taking of salmon when the fish is ascending the rivers to spawn, would amount to an entire suppression of this fishing, for after they have performed the act of reproduction they are too far up the rivers, or their branches, to be come at, and, moreover, their flesh is then lean and unwholesome. As to fishing for salmon in the sea, supposing that they do return to it in the autumn, it is simply impossible.

Formerly, in Canada, and until the passing of the Fishery Act, the appliances used in salmon fishing were nets, seines, wattle-fisheries, and spears used at night with the aid of torches. The two last modes of taking fish were condemned and abolished by the law, for with the spear the salmon might be followed up to its last retreat, and with the wattle-fisheries the smaller rivers might be completely closed.

Seines are permitted but hardly ever used (I am not aware that they have been used more than once, in the Moisie River) owing to the fact that they cost a high price and require a large number of hands to manage them.

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They might become very injurious, however, if generally used, and I think they should be prohibited, for with this fishing apparatus the salmon can be followed in the channels as well as in the shallow waters of the rivers, and even in the creeks, where they seek to conceal themselves from the eyes of man.

I have now spoken of all with the exception of the net. All the salmon fisheries of Canada are carried on with this apparatus; I do not speak of the brush fisheries, placed near the shores in the river St. Lawrence from Rimouski, in which a certain number of salmon are taken.

Nor do I deem it necessary to speak of salmon fishing with the artificial fly, for this can only be considered a pastime and pleasant recreation for persons of leisure and fortune. The real salmon fishery on the contrary is reserved for the outfitters and a host of fishermen who inhabit the most remote parts of our coasts. The latter derive a portion of their subsistence from this fishery.

To commerce it furnishes the material for highly prized preparations, both in the fresh state and when salted.

Objections are also made to the use of nets. Some parties desire that seines should be substituted for them, on the plea that they would be less destructive than the former.

For my part I am aware of but one drawback connected with nets as they are now used in Canada; it is that the salmon entangled in them often succeed, after great efforts, in breaking the bands by which they are confined and escaping into the sea, bearing, however, in many cases the marks of more or less serious wounds (of which many of them die and are thus lost to man) which they receive in striving to break the fine but strong twine of which the meshes of the net are made.

A certain number, no doubt, when recovered from their wounds, reappear in fresh water, but almost always, it is said, in a different river from that in which they have been wounded, and from the information I have acquired during the past thirteen years, in my visits to the salmon fisheries, I am strongly inclined to consider this opinion well founded.

This year, for example, the first salmon taken in the Kegashca river, nearly all bore marks of wounds on the front part of the body, evidently caused by nets. Moreover, these fish were not of the same kind as the salmon that inhabit that river. I concluded therefore that they came from the river Natasquan, where they had striven, without success, to overcome the numerous nets set at its mouth, and they bore clearly defined marks on the head, back and belly, of the nets they had broken through when they appeared in the Kegashca river, which is only some twenty miles distant from the Natasquan. What confirms me more strongly in this opinion is, that the salmon peculiar to the first of these rivers, a smaller fish than those of the latter, did not return to the river until sometime afterwards.

Hence, after duly considering the subject, I should prefer to the ordinary net in which the salmon become entangled, a net in which they imprison themselves in chambers, remaining therein alive, but without the possibility of escape until they are removed by the fishermen.

Under this system no salmon are wounded or lost, and by restricting the apparatus to a uniform length and fixed position, there is no ground to anticipate an excessive destruction of fish.

Besides, it appears to me that the best net is that in which the largest number of salmon can be taken, provided it be placed in conformity with the law.

The laws now regulating the salmon fishery were passed in 1857 and 1858, with a view, not only of preserving this species of fish in our waters, but also of increasing the quantity and then of stocking the rivers which the fish formerly visited, but from which they had disappeared within a few years.

Laws almost similar, but less general in their application, already existed in Canada, in the counties of Northumberland (composed in part of the county of Saguenay), and the county of Cornwallis (the present counties of Bonaventure and Gaspé) for a long time, but these laws having, so to speak, never been enforced, their objects had not been attained, namely, the preservation of the salmon, which had already diminished in an alarming manner in some parts of the country.

It is only since the establishment of the service for the protection of the fisheries, and above all since fishery-overseers have been located at several points on our coasts, and

particularly on the coasts of Gaspé, that these laws and the rules made by His Excellency the Governor General in Council at different times, have been carried out as strictly as could be expected in view of the number of fishery overseers, the extent of our coast, the number and length of the rivers frequented by the salmon and the great difficulty of watching everywhere on the rivers and all their branches, parties who avail themselves of the isolated position of certain places which serve as favorite retreats for the salmon, and under cover of the night, engage in taking this fish by spearing and by any and every means, quite reckless of the harm they may do and in utter contempt of the law.

In the summary of my report, I have already spoken in the same sense of the manner in which these laws have been carried out this year, in the division with the fisheries of which I am now occupied.

All that remains to be done now is to shew what influence these laws have had on the produce of those fisheries.

During the first few years of the working of these laws, the yield of salmon, according to the reports of our fishermen, seemed to have increased more or less, in most of the fishing stations, while in some it appeared to remain stationary and even to diminish.

In 1861, the yield was 688½ barrels of salmon, on the Gaspé coast.

In 1862, with the same number of fishing stations, it only amounted to 512½.

In 1863 the fishery was better and the yield nearly equalled that of 1861. It is stated at 643½ for the counties of Bonaventure and Gaspé, and 87 barrels for a portion of the county of Rimouski, extending from Cap Chatte to St. Barnabé island. Total: 730½ for the whole division.

In 1864 the fishery has been unsuccessful, particularly on the coast of the Bay of Chaleur and in the Restigouche river, and the yield for the whole division has been only 513 barrels of salmon.

An attentive comparison of the above figures,—which I have reason to consider correct, inasmuch as I received them from the fishing overseers, who themselves obtain them from the fishermen, will shew, that, in spite of all the care that can be taken to preserve the salmon in our rivers and to render the fishery more productive, and in spite of judicious laws effectually carried out, climacteric or other influences and circumstances of which we cannot tell the cause, the progress or the duration, will from time to time render all our efforts fruitless, and convince us, that in estimating the results likely to flow from our system of protection for the salmon fisheries, we must not speak too confidently nor see things in too favorable a light; nor can we hope that a few years will suffice to bring about a large proportionate increase in the yield, even under the best circumstances.

The system of protection should, nevertheless, be continued; for hereafter we shall derive good results from it. At least we may hope that such will be the case, judging from the increase in the yield of the salmon fishery in the rivers of Scotland and Ireland, under the operation of a system of protection analogous to ours.

The number of salmon fishing stations in the counties of Gaspé and Bonaventure, is 137.

In that part of the county of Rimouski which form part of this division, there are but eight net fishing-stations for salmon.

#### TUNNY FISHERY.

This fish, which has been long known on the coast of Canada under the name of the Horse Mackerel, and which many fishermen erroneously believe to belong to the shark family, is the Tunny fish of the American and European Coasts. During the summer it visits, generally in pretty large shoals, the Bay of Chaleurs and Gaspé Bay, in pursuit of the shoals of Herring and Mackerel, on which it likes to feed.

A tolerably active Tunny fishery has been carried on at Caraquette for the past few years.

Sandy Beach is the only place on our coast where a certain number of them are killed each year with the harpoon.

This year about a dozen of these fish were taken. Part of this yield has been consumed in the fresh state and part has been salted for the market. But this fishery is susceptible of further development on our coast.

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A barrel of this fish, pickled, is usually sold for five dollars at Gaspé. It is more highly valued in England.

A Tunny furnishes a barrel of 500 lbs. and more of fish fit for salting. Yield, 10 barrels of Tunny fish, value \$50.

#### TROUT FISHERY.

The trout fishing is of but trifling importance in this division.

This fish is taken with nets in the rivers, sometimes with seines on the sea coast, and far more often with the line and fly.

In the last mentioned manner this fishery constitutes a very agreeable amusement and a most beneficial recreation for persons who require exercise in the open air.

The Great and Little Cascapédiac and the St. Jean appear to be the best stocked trout rivers in this division.

The trout belongs to the same family as the salmon, and exhibits very much the same habits. But it is the salmon's greatest enemy, for it devours every year vast quantities of salmon spawn and of young fish of that species.

Its great voracity is well known, and I cannot say whether by facilitating the propagation of trout in our rivers, we do not to the same extent affect the multiplication of the salmon. This many fishermen maintain and I believe with some show of reason.

This subject deserves to be more closely studied.

I estimate at about 60 barrels, the quantity of river trout taken in this division with net, seine and fly.

The greater part of it is consumed fresh, and does not appear in the statistics of the fishery overseer.

#### RECAPITULATION.

##### PRODUCE OF THE SEVERAL FISHERIES OF THE SECOND DIVISION.

##### *Herring Fishery.*

County of Bonaventure.—15,120 barrels of Herring, @ \$2 per barrel...	\$30,240.00
County of Gaspé.—2,545 barrels @ \$2 per barrel.....	5,090.00
County of Rimouski.—5,842 barrels @ \$1 per barrel.....	5,842.00
Total.....	\$41,172.00

##### *Cod, Haddock and Hake Fishery.*

County of Bonaventure.—10,346 quintals of Cod @ \$3.60 per quintal.	\$37,245.60
148 " Haddock @ \$3 "	444.00
70 " Hake @ \$3 "	210.00

Total..... \$37,899.60

County of Gaspé.—92,500 quintals Cod @ \$3.60 per quintal.....	\$333,000.60
542 " Haddock @ \$3 "	1,626.00
297 " Hake @ \$3 "	891.00

Total..... \$335,517.60

County of Rimouski.—8,835 quintals of Cod @ \$3.60 per quintal.....	\$31,806.00
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Total for the Division.—111,682 quintals of Cod @ \$3.60 per quintal...	\$402,052.20
690 " Haddock @ \$3 "	2,070.00
367 " Hake @ \$3 "	1,101.00

Total..... \$405,223.20

##### *Cod Liver Oil.*

County of Bonaventure.—6,484 gallons @ 55 cents per gallon.....	\$ 3,566.20
County of Gaspé.—60,255 gallons @ 55 cents per gallon.....	30,140.25
County of Rimouski.—5,201 gallons @ 55 cents per gallon..	2,860.55

Total ..... \$39,567.00

<i>Mackerel Fishery.</i>	
County of Bonaventure.—114 barrels of Mackerel @ \$10 per barrel....	\$ 1,140,00
County of Gaspé.—444½ barrels of Mackerel @ \$10 per barrel.....	4,445,00
Total.....	\$ 5,585,00
<i>Whale Fishery.</i>	
County of Gaspé.—25,014 gallons Whale Oil @ 65 cents per gallon....	\$17,509,80
<i>Halibut Fishery.</i>	
County of Bonaventure.—25 barrels of Halibut @ \$5 per barrel.....	\$ 75,00
County of Gaspé.—158 barrels of Halibut @ \$5 per barrel.....	790,00
County of Rimouski.—92 barrels of Halibut @ \$5 per barrel.....	460,00
Total.....	\$ 1,325,00
<i>Salmon Fishery.</i>	
County of Bonaventure.—230½ barrels of Salmon @ \$12 per barrel.....	\$ 2,786,00
County of Gaspé.—252½ barrels of Salmon @ \$12 per barrel.....	3,030,00
County of Rimouski.—30 barrels of Salmon @ \$12 per barrel.....	360,00
Total .....	\$ 6,176,00
<i>Tunny Fishery.</i>	
County of Gaspé.—10 barrels of Tunny @ \$5 per barrel.....	\$ 50,00
Total .....	\$ 50,00
<i>Sardine Fishery.</i>	
County of Rimouski.—146 barrels of Sardines @ \$4 per barrel.....	\$ 584,00
Total .....	\$ 584,00
<i>Cod Tongues and Sounds.</i>	
343 barrels of Tongues and Sounds @ \$6 per barrel.....	\$ 2,058,00
Total.....	\$ 2,058,00
<i>Trout Fishery.</i>	
60 barrels @ \$10 per barrel.....	\$ 600,00
Total.....	\$ 600,00
County of Bonaventure.—2,400 boxes smoked Herring @ 25 cents.....	\$ 600,00
Total value of produce of Fisheries in the second division.....	\$520,410,00

### THIRD DIVISION.

This division covers 510 miles of Coast, north of the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, from the Bersimis River to the frontier of the Province at Blancs-Sablons Bay, and 260 miles more on the Coast of Anticosti Island.

The eastern part of these coasts is known as the Labrador Coast, and appears to have been discovered towards the end of the fifteenth century, by Basque fishermen.

Ere long French fishermen went there to engage in the whale and cod-fisheries; and the archives of the town of Dieppe contain documents clearly proving that the mariners of that city had visited the coasts of Newfoundland, previous to the year 1500; now inasmuch as Newfoundland is separated from the Labrador coast only by the Strait of Belle Isle, which is not more than twelve miles in breadth, between Point Fortune and the

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opposite coast, the fishermen must have visited some parts of the Labrador coast every time the requirements of the fishery induced them to visit the coast of Newfoundland.

In his first voyage of discovery to Canada, Jacques Cartier met on this coast, near the river now known as the Napitippi, a vessel bound for the port of Brest, which was probably the first settlement founded by Europeans in Labrador.

It is situated at the foot of the bay now called Old Fort Bay.

This settlement must have increased quite rapidly, for within a few years afterwards the French had built a stone fort in order to shelter themselves against the attacks of the Indians, who, according to the narratives of travellers, were then very numerous on this part of the coast.

The places most frequented by the French, next to Brest, were Blancs Sablons bay and Spaniards bay, now called Bradore bay, which afford good anchorages for ships.

Towards the end of the 16th century two hundred vessels from various French ports visited the Labrador coast each year, for the whale, cod and seal fisheries, and so soon as their labors were ended, returned home escorted by several war vessels. But a certain number of men remained to winter on the coast, and carry on the fur trade with the Indians.

An extensive fishing establishment appears also to have existed on Bradore bay, for there are still to be seen there the vestiges of a village, which had perhaps been founded by the Spaniards, and hence the name of Spaniard's bay. The village contained at least one hundred buildings.

The importance and inexhaustible wealth of the Labrador fisheries appear to have been well understood by the French from the period of the first settlement of Canada, and many large seignories were conceded in those locations, by the Kings of France, to several of their subjects who desired to engage in the fisheries and carry on the fur trade with the Indians; amongst the number were the Seignior of Spaniard's Bay, St. Paul's river, the main land of Mingan, the islands and islets of Mingan, and the island of Anticosti.

At the period of the conquest, the French were obliged to leave the coast of Labrador, never to return; and to abandon for ever the various lucrative fisheries they had carried on there for a very long time.

But the fishermen of the English Colonies rushed in, in crowds to take their place and they there found a vast field open to their spirit of enterprise. They engaged chiefly in the cod and right whale fishery, the latter being then still tolerably numerous on the north coast of the strait of Belle-isle.

Soon afterwards a powerful company was formed at Quebec, under the name of the Labrador Company, having for its object the working of the sedentary seal-fisheries on the Canadian coast, from Cape Whittle to the frontier.

Nor were the salmon fisheries neglected, for, from the accounts transmitted to us, it appears they then furnished a most abundant yield, in which, each year, numbers of fishermen from Nova Scotia and the other English colonies, largely shared.

After the war of American independence, the Government of the United States, which had always taken a deep interest in the great fisheries and encouraged them by every possible means, because it looked upon them as a great source of national wealth and the best possible training school for sailors to supply the large demand for its many and numberless merchant vessels,—reserved for itself for ever, by a treaty, that of 1784, the right of fish in common with British Subjects, on nearly the whole of the Labrador coast, from Mont-Joli, ten miles east of Natashquan, to Cape Charles on the Atlantic and thence north to the possessions of the Hudson's Bay Company. This constituted not less than 800 miles of a coast exceedingly well stocked with fish and affording numerous harbors, safe and commodious, for the operations of the fishermen. The Americans were not, however, permitted to engage in the salmon fishery.

Therefore it was that these fishermen, even after having become foreigners, in relation to us, continued to frequent this coast, as they have done to this day.

Within the first few years, however, the fishermen of Nova Scotia have entered into a vigorous competition with them in these very latitudes, and in fact I believe the Nova-Scotians are now the more numerous of the two.

The cod-fishery is their principal occupation.

To return to the Labrador Company, I may state that they carried on the seal and

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salmon fisheries for some sixty years, when, finding that these fisheries did not yield a sufficiently profitable return, the company was dissolved, and its most important posts transferred to various parties who had settled on the coast.

On the abolishment of the monopoly so long exercised by the Labrador Company over nearly 200 miles of coast, fishermen, nearly all Canadians, took possession of the posts which had been abandoned, and within twenty years their trade increased to two hundred and fifty.

On the western part of this coast this monopoly had also existed for a long period, to the benefit of the Hudson's Bay Company, in the seigniory of the mainland of Mingan, which the company rented and still rents from the proprietors, and in the King's ports, which they held under a lease from the Government of Canada.

The agents of that powerful company there carried on the fur trade with the Indians, and the salmon fishery, to the exclusion of all other British subjects who were not their servants, and what is still worse, they would not permit the latter, as I have already had frequent occasion to state, to engage in the cod-fishery there.

Happily this exclusion no longer exists, and the good fruits of the liberty now enjoyed by our fishermen of engaging in the cod, herring and other fisheries, on the coasts of the Seigniory of Mingan, and of the King's Posts, very soon became manifest; and in a few years these coasts were covered with cod-fishing establishments, affording employment to thousands of fishermen.

At the period of my first visit to the coasts included in this third division in 1852, the population was 1408 souls.

The census returns of 1861 shewed it to be 4418; a very considerable increase (3005 souls) in the space of nine years, which renders it unnecessary for me to say anything further on this subject.

The fisheries carried on in this third and last division of our coasts, are as follows:—

- The spring seal fishery;
- The seal hunt on the ice, with vessels, in the spring;
- The cod-fishery;
- The Fall herring fishery;
- The Fall seal fishery;
- The salmon and trout fishery.

#### THE SPRING SEAL FISHERY.

The seals after passing the winter in the Gulf,—where, as I have already stated, the females bring forth their young on the ice, about the month of March,—on the opening of Spring set out on their return to higher latitudes, and a climate far colder than ours, and therefore better adapted to the nature of this marine mammifer. It would appear that they go as far as the coasts of Greenland, where several varieties of the gadidæ species, which are there very numerous, constitute their food.

There are, it is well known, three passages from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the open sea; the Gut of Canso, the narrowest—the middle passage 55 miles in width, between Eel Cape on the coast of Newfoundland and North Cape, on the Island of Cape Breton, and the Straits of Belle Isle. It is by the last mentioned arm of the sea that the seals seem to make their exit in the greatest numbers, in the spring. Large numbers of them may perhaps also pass out by the middle passage, but the latter does not receive much attention.

These animals then follow the coasts of the Straits of Belle Isle, and the inhabitants of these localities set snares, in the form of immense nets, in order to enrich themselves with their precious spoils.

But this spring fishery can only be carried on on a limited scale in Canada, for we hold but a small part of the coast of the straits of Belle Isle. Moreover, for some years back the ice did not break up in the spring until towards the end of June, and thus presented a great obstacle to the labors of our fishermen.

Nevertheless the yield this year has been far in excess of that of last year, as the following will shew:—

Yield of spring seal-fishing on the Labrador coast:—

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In 1864.....	2,080 seals.
In 1863.....	165 "
In 1862.....	1,293 "

#### SPRING SEAL HUNT ON THE ICE, WITH VESSELS.

Vessels are fitted out every year for this hunt at the following points: the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Bay of Kegashca, the harbor of Natashquan and Esquimaux Point; the number has steadily increased since 1859.

These schooners carry on their perilous calling very much under the same circumstances as the Magdalen Island vessels, engaged in the same pursuit. They enjoy, however over the latter, the advantage of being to windward of the ice on leaving their ports of outfit.

This year, eighteen schooners, with an aggregate of 180 hands, and belonging to the ports above mentioned, engaged in this hunt. They brought in a total of 5,151 seals of the value of \$30,934.

In 1863 the yield was only 3,147 seals, while in 1862 it reached the figure of 13,195.

This shows that the hunt is quite a matter of chance, and that its good success does not depend solely upon intelligence and activity, which our fishermen are never slow in exhibiting in such undertakings.

#### COD FISHERY.

This fish which has seldom commanded a higher price than this year in our markets, is found, more or less abundantly, I may say on all the coasts of Canada, extending from the frontier to Bersimis.

It appears generally about the beginning of June, remains from one to two months near the shore, and then moves off to take up its abode on banks where the water is deeper, and which are generally speaking near enough to the shore to enable our fishermen to reach them in fine weather.

It is when the cod approach the shores in pursuit of the capelan, that the large takes mentioned in several of my reports, are effected. I have also enumerated therein the localities to which the cod resort in largest numbers, and which, since the discovery of Canada, have always appeared to be the best fishing grounds for this fish. It is therefore unnecessary for me to refer to these points again.

I shall then confine myself to the results of this fishery for the present year; and what I have to report is not by any means favorable, for this has been one of the worst seasons we have had for a very long time.

To begin, the cod appeared late on the coast, and in many places did not show itself at all. In the most celebrated fishing grounds, such as Blancs Sablons Bay, Bonne Esperance, Dog Islands, Natashquan, and many other posts, the boats took only an average of 15 to 20 quintals of cod each.

Other stations, such as those between Pigon and Mingan, the Bay of Kegashca, and Mutton Bay, have been more fortunate, and there the boats succeeded in taking 50 quintals of cod, and even more.

But, on the whole, the season has been a bad one, and many of our outfitters, more especially at Moisie, have, in consequence, suffered heavy losses.

Scarcity of bait has not been the cause of these bad results, for it was tolerably abundant everywhere. The cod itself failed and did not visit these coasts this year in its usual numbers.

But how are we to account for this change in the habits of the cod, which induced them to seek new latitudes for their habitations this year in place of those they had so long frequented?

It is very difficult to give a satisfactory answer to this question.

Some assert that the ice which remained so long in the straits of Belisle, in the spring, prevented the cod from entering; others allege that the fish were driven out of their course by the wind, and I should never had if I were to state all the opinions put forth on the subject.

I think it would require a more searching examination into the phenomena accompanying the migration of the cod from the deep water of the sea to the coasts, than any

that has hitherto been made, to enable us to account for the true cause of the great decrease of this fish this year, not only on the Canadian coast of Labrador, but also on those under the jurisdiction of the Government of Newfoundland.

Generally speaking, the more small fish—caplin, sand eels, and herrings, of which the cod are very greedy—there are near the coast, the more the cod abound. This year, however, there was an unusual abundance of herring on the Gaspé coast and yet cod was very scarce; I speak of the coast from cape Rosier upwards, as far as Matane and even higher up.

The Island of Anticosti, which was neglected until last year as a fishing station, will now rank under that head in my tables.

The absence of good harbors and the difficulty of approaching the coast in bad weather were the chief obstacles to its establishment as the centre of a cod fishery.

This fish, having disappeared from several places on the north shore, our fishermen were compelled to try their luck elsewhere, and a certain number of them betook themselves to the north shore of this island, selecting the following points: Belle Bay, Salmon River, Bear River Bay, and another bay in the vicinity of Cape Observation.

They have been highly successful, as may be seen from my tables accompanying the fisheries of their island.

Thirty-six fishing boats took, in the location mentioned above, over 3,500 quintals of cod, making an average of nearly 100 quintals to each boat.

I shall conclude with a statement of the yield of the cod-fishery on the coast of this third division, in 1864, and for several years previous.

In 1864.....	35,360	quintals	of cod.
In 1863.....	53,748	"	"
In 1862.....	52,475	"	"
In 1861.....	51,668	"	"
In 1852.....	9,980	"	"

This shows that the yield increased more than five-fold, from 1852 to 1861. Since then it has gradually augmented, until this year, when the ill-success of the fishery has reduced it to the figure given above.

#### MACKEREL FISHERY.

This fish does not frequent the coasts of this division in sufficiently large numbers to deserve the attention of the fisherman.

In summer it appears, nevertheless, in some places, such as Little Mecatina and the adjoining coasts, and in fact it sometimes enters the straits of Belle Isle. It also appears not unfrequently at Shell-Drake, Lower Moisie, and the Bay of Seven Islands, but not in large shoals, nor at such fixed and certain periods as to enable our fishermen to adopt this fishery as a special branch of their calling. And, generally speaking, it is only when they are engaged in other fisheries that they are fortunate enough to take, with seines, a few hundred barrels of this fine fish. This year, this fishery has yielded but 350 barrels.

#### HERRING FISHERY.

This fishery has been carried on with varied and, generally speaking, very limited success this year, in those places which the herring are in the habit of visiting at the close of the summer and the beginning of autumn, between Shicataga and Blancs Sablons Bay.

A certain quantity was also taken in the vicinity of Pigon and even on the north coast of the island of Anticosti, particularly at Belle-Bay.

The united yield was.....	2,050	barrels.
In 1863, it was.....	2,943	"
In 1862 ".....	636	"
In 1861 ".....	2,371	"

#### FALL SEAL-FISHERY.

I stated above, when speaking of the spring seal-fishery, that this marine mammifer after providing for the re-production of its species in the Gulf, passes out into the deep water of the sea.

In the Autumn, on the contrary, they return to the Gulf, chiefly by the straits of

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Belle Isle, and their appearance in these waters is the signal for the commencement of an active fishery, which is carried on during the last two weeks of the month of December.

This fishery was formerly highly productive, and I might mention stations where as many as 3600 of these amphibious animals have been captured. But its importance and the value of its products have greatly declined within the last fifteen years, for reasons which I have already given in several of my reports.

The principal cause seems to be the excessive number of establishments now in operation on the coast.

The noise made, the coming and going of fishing boats, and even the smoke from the chimnies of the houses, have rendered the seals so timid, that they are now greatly afraid to approach the coast very closely, as they did forty years ago. Now in order to the success of the net seal-fishery, it is absolutely necessary that the shoals of this amphibious animal should pass quite close to the shore.

In accordance with a general law of nature, all animals, both great and small, which man has not succeeded in domesticating or bringing into submission so as to render them available for his use, invariably fly at his approach, and seek refuge in regions where they trust to find an impenetrable asylum and shelter from his attacks.

Striking examples of this are afforded in the Gulf.

The porpoise, an amphibious animal now of great value for its skin, which is almost an inch in thickness, and the abundance of oil it yields, and which was to be found in vast numbers in many parts of the Gulf when these latitudes were first visited by Europeans, has completely disappeared within a period of less than 250 years. It has taken refuge in the polar seas and the unfrequented coasts of Hudson's Bay.

The Greenland whale, that valuable cetacea, so gentle by nature, which, owing to its timidity and the slowness of its movements, the seaman was enabled to pursue with success, is now no longer to be seen in the Gulf or even on the Atlantic Coasts in the vicinity of that inland sea.

And yet it was the large profits resulting from this fishery on the coast of Newfoundland, in the straits of Belle Isle and in certain parts of the Gulf, that attracted to the coasts of America the first European vessel manned by the Biscayan those renowned seamen of former days, who were the inventors of the whale fishery.

Have not the sperm whales nearly all disappeared from the Atlantic, and are not those who now pursue them compelled to penetrate the fields of polar ice, in order to find the remnants of the numerous families of these giants of the watery waste that swarmed in every part of this sea at the time of the discovery of America.

I could mention many more cases, but I must curtail my remarks.

The seals have already abandoned a portion of our coast.

At the period of the first settlement of Canada, they ascended the river St. Lawrence as far as Quebec; and in many parts of it this fishery was carried on, as is clearly proved by the remains of the furnaces used in melting the oil, which are found in many places on the shores. I do not think, however, that we need fear that these mammifers will abandon the coast altogether, for the points they still frequent will never be much more thickly settled than they are at present.

But what I apprehend is that they may gradually pass at an increased distance from our coast in their periodical migrations, and that a portion of our fishermen may thus be deprived of the resources they derive from this fishing.

I cannot give the yield of this fishery for this Fall (1864), until next year. The Fall yield for 1863 was less than half that of the previous year, but slightly in excess of that of 1861, as the following figures will shew.

Fall fishing 1863,	818	Seals.
" 1862,	2115	"
" 1861,	696	"
" 1852,		"

#### SALMON FISHERY.

The yield of the Salmon fishery this year, on the coast with which I am now engaged, has been on the whole, the least abundant I have ever known. And the oldest fishermen do not remember a year in which this fishery was so unproductive.

I refer more particularly to that part of the coast which extends from Blancs Sablons Bay to the river Natashquan.

This scarcity of salmon was not confined to our coasts alone. The coast of Labrador under the jurisdiction of the Government of Newfoundland, as far as Cape Chudleigh, suffered in the same way; that is to say, salmon was there extremely scarce and appeared only at a very advanced period of the season. I received this information from Captain Dixon, of Halifax, who has for a very long period been in the habit of visiting this coast for the salmon fishery, his operations extending more than three hundred miles beyond Cape Charles.

It was also remarked, at several points on the eastern parts of the coast of this division, and more particularly in the vicinity of Five Leagues, that the only time when the salmon appeared in any numbers was in the month of August, while in the western part nothing extraordinary had been noticed in the habits of this fish. The quantity was, however, somewhat less than last year.

This deplorable state of things is generally attributed to the extraordinary quantity of ice with which the waters of the Atlantic coast of Labrador and the straits of Belle Isle were covered up to a very advanced period of the season, and to the rigor and coldness of the summer in these latitudes.

Captain Dickson also stated that, on his way to his usual fishing grounds, he had been ice bound up to the 26th July, and that on the 28th of that month snow had fallen on the part of the coast where he happened to be, to the depth of three feet.

Special causes may also have affected the development of the young salmon in many of the rivers of the coast, causes which we are not in a position to examine, for the facts which it would be necessary to note in order to arrive at a correct conclusion occur in very remote localities totally uninhabited and therefore difficult of access.

The following comparative table of the yield of the salmon fishery will show with what success this fishery has been carried on since the year 1860:—

Yield for year 1860.....	1689½	Barrels of Salmon
“ “ 1861.....	1831	“ “
“ “ 1862.....	1819	“ “
“ “ 1863.....	1992½	“ “
“ “ 1864.....	1169½	“ “

The yield for the Island of Anticosti is as follows:—

In 1861.....	85	Barrels of Salmon.
1862.....	28½	“ “
1863.....	79	“ “
1864.....		

**TROUT FISHING.**

This fishing is carried on the North Shore with the line, with the fly and with nets. The yield is about eighty barrels, the greater part of which is consumed fresh.

**RECAPITULATION.**

**YIELD OF THE SEVERAL FISHERIES OF THE THIRD DIVISION.**

<i>Spring seal-fishing with nets.</i>		
2,080 seals @ \$6 per seal.....		\$12,480.00
<i>Seal hunt on ice by schooners..</i>		
5,154 seals @ \$6.....		30,934.00
<i>Seal hunt on the ice by inhabitants of coast.</i>		
1,221 seals @ \$3.....		3,633.00
<i>Cod Fishery.</i>		
35,360 quintals of cod @ \$3.60 per quintal.....		126,296.00
<i>Cod-liver Oil.</i>		
21,524 gallons @ 55 cents.....		11,838.20

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*Mackerel Fishery.*

350 barrels of mackerel @ \$10..... 3,500.00

*Herring Fishery.*

2,050 barrels herring @ \$5..... 10,250.00

*Autumn Seal Fishery.*

818 seals @ \$6..... 4,908.00

*Salmon Fishery.*

1179½ barrels of salmon @ \$12..... 14,157.00

*Trout Fishery.*

80 barrels of trout @ \$10..... 800.000

*Seal hunt with guns by Whites and Indians.*

150 seals @ \$3..... 4,500.00

Total value of yield, fisheries of third division..... \$223,326.20

## GENERAL RECAPITULATION.

*Total value of the products of the fisheries of all the coasts of Canada, in the gulf and lower St. Lawrence.*

First division..... \$ 86,590 05

Second division..... 520,450 00

Third division..... 223,326 20

Total..... \$ 830,366 25

*Total value of maritime or great fisheries on our coasts of the gulf and lower St. Lawrence.*

Seal fishery..... \$ 84,283 00

Herring fishery..... 55,022 00

Sardine fishery..... 584 00

Mackerel fishery..... 28,485 00

Tunny fishery..... 50 00

Cod fishery..... 621,122 40

Halibut fishery..... 1,325 00

Whale fishery..... 17,761 80

\$808,333 20

*Total value of the river or small fisheries on our coast.*

Salmon fishery..... \$ 20,313 00

Trout fishery..... 1,400 00

\$21,713 00

Difference in favor of maritime fishery..... \$776,620 00

In addition to the products above mentioned, which have been used for human food, 1,560 barrels of herrings, 1450 barrels of caplin, and 2,100 barrels of plaice have been used as manure in the county of Bonaventure.

In the county of Rimouski over 400 barrels of herrings have been used for the same purpose.

I may also state that the greater part of the offal and waste of the cod taken on the Gaspé coast, is spread over the fields, which it fertilizes in the highest degree. The great fishery is thus of the highest service to agriculture.

*Number of vessels engaged in the Canadian fisheries.*

170 vessels; 12,326 tons; 1243 seamen.

*Number of fishing boats.*

2987, manned by 5946 fishermen.

Number of flats; 2207.

Number of graviers,

Or men employed in the preparation of the cod, 3178.

Total number of men employed in the Canadian fisheries.

Seamen .....	1243
Fishermen .....	5946
(Graviers.) .....	3178
	10367

Number of nets used in the Canadian fisheries.

Herring nets; 4743; mackerel nets, 555.

Number of seines used in the Canadian fisheries.

Sand-eel seines, 41; caplin seines, 298; herring seines, 109; mackerel seines, 13; cod seines, 14.

List of Vessels cleared from the Port of Paspébiac during the season of 1864, with cargoes of Dried Cod, for the Markets of Brazil, Italy, Spain, &c., belonging to Charles Robin & Co. and Le Boutillier & Brothers.

Vessels belonging to Robin & Co. *Barque "Olivier Blanchard." Captain A. Le Moignan.*

Sailed from the port of Gaspé the 17th June, with 3000 barrels dry cod for Rio Janeiro; thence to New York with freight, and arrived here on the 23rd October. Sailed again on 26th November for Rio Janeiro, with 3,200 barrels dry cod.

*Brigantine "85." Captain William Rowe.*

Left Paspébiac on 23rd of June for New York, with 1700 barrels pickled herrings. Returned and loaded cargo of cod for Naples. Sailed 11th November.

*Brigantine "Ranger." Captain Nicholas Le Dain.*

Captain Le Dain left Paspébiac on the 18th July for Naples, with cargo of dry cod. From Naples went to Trapani, and from Trapani to this place, with cargo of salt. Sailed again for Jersey on 28th November, with a cargo of dry cod, and was afterwards to be sent to the Islands.

*Barque "C. R. C." Captain John Ahier.*

The "C. R. C." left the road of Paspébiac on the 18th August, with a cargo of dried cod for Naples.

*Schooner "Onésime." Captain John McKeown.*

This vessel left Paspébiac on the 18th September, with a cargo of cod for Civita Vecchia.

*Brigantine "Zebia." Captain Vincent.*

Left this port for Naples on the 18th October, with a cargo of dried cod.

*Schooner "Hémétope." Captain Philip Carrel.*

Made, this summer, two voyages to Boston, with two cargoes of pickled salmon. Touched at Sydney on the last voyage, and returned here with cargo of coal. Shipped another cargo of cod, and sailed for Naples on the 26th October.

*Bark "C. Columbus." Captain P. Marett.*

Left Paspébiac on the 24th October, with dry cod for the Naples market.

*Brigantine "Reaper," a new Vessel, launched this year from the Yard of the House of Robin, at Paspébiac.*

The "Reaper" sailed on the 24th November, with a cargo of large dried cod for Oporto.

*Brig "Homely."*

This vessel, with a cargo of dry codfish in barrels, sailed from the Port of Paspébiac on the 10th November for Rio Janeiro.

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*Barque "Markwell."*

This barque left this port on 28th November for Jersey, with a cargo of fish and oil.

*Schooner "Dit-on."*

This vessel left this port on 16th November for Bristol with a load of 60 tons of cod liver oil.—26 tons were also sent by the "*C. T. Sutton*," a ship belonging to the firm of LeBoutillier Brothers.

Codfish exported by the Robin firm in 1864, 41,007 cwt. 126 tons of cod liver oil, 2,200 barrels of pickled herrings. Codfish in store to be exported in 1865, 10,000 cwt. or quintals.

*Vessels belonging to the firm of Le Boutillier & Frères of Paspébiac.**Schooner "Tickler," Captain P. Vibert, 8 men.*

Arrived at Paspébiac on the 12th May from Bristol with a general cargo; then loaded with dry codfish, and sailed for Naples on the 31st July with 2,218 cwt.

*Brigantine "G. D. T." Captain Edouard Le Brun, 9 men.*

Left Jersey early in the spring with a general cargo, and arrived at Paspébiac on the 12th May, then sailed for the Labrador Coast consigned to L'Ile à Bois with the fishermen and passengers who were to pass the summer in that locality. Then returned to Paspébiac with the passengers and the codfish caught at L'Ile à Bois, completed its load, and sailed again from Paspébiac for Naples on the 28th October with 2,800 quintals of dry codfish.

*Brig "C. T. Sutton," Captain Peter Soyer, 10 men.*

Arrived at Paspébiac, from Jersey, on the 12th May with a general cargo. Left Paspébiac on the 12th July for England with a cargo of timber, returned in October and took in a cargo of lumber and cod liver oil for Jersey. Passengers were taken for Jersey on this trip.

*Schooner "Quiz," Captain James Vincent, 8 men.*

Arrived at Paspébiac on the 16th May from Cadiz with a cargo of salt. Left Paspébiac for the Labrador coast in the beginning of June with fishermen and others for the establishments of Ile au Bois and Forteau. Left Ile à Bois on the 26th September for Naples with 2,600 quintals of dried codfish.

*Schooner "Marie Georgiana," Captain L. Le Brun, 8 men.*

Arrived at the port of Paspébiac on the 18th May from Jersey, with a general cargo. This vessel left Paspébiac for Naples, on the 9th September, with 2,260 quintals of dry codfish.

*Schooner "Pandora," Captain John Hubert, 8 men.*

This vessel arrived at Paspébiac from Jersey, on the 31st May, with a cargo of salt. From Paspébiac Capt. Hubert sailed for Rivière au Tonnerre, where he took in a cargo of dried codfish. He returned to Paspébiac and sailed for Naples on the 19th September, with 2,200 quintals of codfish.

*Brig "Teaser," Capt. Frs. De Gruchy, 10 men.*

Brought a cargo of salt from Jersey this spring. Left Paspébiac, the 23rd of June with a cargo composed of codfish, oats, salt herrings, shingles, &c., &c., for Barbadoes. Returned to Paspébiac from Barbadoes, 22nd September, bringing a cargo of sugar and molasses, &c., then took in a cargo of 1800 barrels of dried codfish, and sailed for the Brazils on the 11th October.

*Schooner "Adelina," Capt. J. Lefebvre, 7 men.*

This vessel left Jersey, early in the spring with a general cargo, consigned to the establishments owned by Le Boutillier Brothers, on the coast of Labrador; waited at Forteau until the codfish season had passed, and sailed 22nd September for Bristol with 60 tons of oil, herrings and seal skins.

*Brig "Diana" Capt. Philip Arthur, 11 men.*

Arrived at Paspébiac from Cadiz, 15th October, with 335 tons of salt. Left Paspé-

biac again, 10th November, with 2950 barrels of dried codfish, and a small quantity of wet codfish for Bahia.

*Voyages of Vessels from the Port of Gaspé and surrounding places, also of Vessels chartered by Merchants of these localities during the season of 1864.*

*Vessels belonging to J. & E. Collas, Merchants, established at Pointe St. Pierre and Gaspé. Schooner "Boadicea," 106, Captain J. F. Laforge.*

Arrived from Jersey, 3rd May, with a general cargo. Left again on 21st June for Barbadoes, with produce of different kinds, addressed to merchants of that place, as follows:—

407 quintals dried codfish, 18 barrels salmon.—J. & E. Collas.

224 quintals dried codfish, 4 barrels salmon, 107 boxes smoked herrings.—Charles Robin & Co.

249 quintals dried codfish.—De La Penelle & Frère.

135 do do do John Fauvels.

34 do do do G. McBeth.

94 do do do Edw. Hyman.

The "Boadicea" returned from Barbadoes on 22nd August, with a cargo of sugar, &c. Took in another cargo for different merchants, and sailed 6th October for Civita Vecchia, with the following quantities of codfish:—

494 quintals dried codfish.—J. & E. Collas.

350 do do do Wm. Lindsay.

482 do do do A. Le Couteur.

658 do do do C. Veit.

*Schooner "Cygnet," 70, J. R. Summers. A Chartered Vessel.*

Arrived at Liverpool 15th July, with a cargo of salt. Left Gaspé Basin, 4th August, for Cadiz, with 1480 quintals of dried codfish.

*Schooner "True Blue," 96. Captain Le Gros. A Chartered Vessel.*

Arrived at Gaspé 10th September from Cadiz, with salt. Left Gaspé 12th October for Naples, with a cargo of 2,300 quintals of dried codfish for J. & E. Collas.

*Brig "Brothers," 173. Captain A. Le Huguet.*

Arrived at Gaspé 7th September, with salt from Cadiz. Sailed 23rd November (Captain J. Vibert) for Rio Janeiro, with 2,310 barrels of dried codfish for J. & Elias Collas.

*Schooner "Summer Fly," Chartered. Captain Foster. 69 tons.*

Arrived from Cadiz 8th September, with a cargo of salt, and left Gaspé Basin to return to Cadiz 25th October, with a cargo of 1,650 quintals of dried codfish for J. & Elias Collas.

*Brigantine "Chance," 134 tons. Captain Thomas Vibert.*

Arrived from New York 26th September, with an assorted cargo, and sailed again on the 23rd November for Jersey, with the following cargo:—

1749 quintals dried codfish, 32 casks cod liver oil, 24 barrels of salt codfish and sundry articles.—J. & E. Collas.

4 barrels cod liver oil.—J. Le Couteur.

1 barrel cod liver oil, 180 quintals dried codfish.—De La Perrelle & Frères.

*Schooner "Warrior," a new vessel, launched this fall from Messrs. Collas' shipyard at Pointe St. Pierre, 94 tons, Captain A. Le Huguet.*

This vessel sailed for Viana, Portugal, 23rd November, with

250 quintals dried codfish for J. & E. Collas.

1600 do do do Thomas Savage.

195 do do do Charles Veit.

191 do do do William Lindsay.

128 do do do J. Le Couteur.

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Gaspé Basin  
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*Vessels chartered by Wm. Hyman (Grande Grève).*

*Schooner "Belus," 88, C. Lemaitre, Capt.*

Arrived from Jersey with a general cargo, 4th May, and left Gaspé Basin 15th June for Cadiz with the following cargo:—

1030	quintals	dried	codfish.	—William Hyman.
50	do	do	do	De la Perrelle & Bros.
312	do	do	do	J. & E. Collas.

returned from Cadiz 13th August with salt, and sailed again 25th November, for Civita Vecchia with 2010 quintals dried codfish for Wm. Hyman.

*Schooner "Richard," 89, Capt. J. Luce,*

From Newfoundland. Left Gaspé Basin 23rd September, for Cadiz, with 1995 quintals dried codfish for Wm. Hyman.

*Schooner "Queen of the Isles," 77, Capt. J. James.*

Arrived 20th August from Cadiz, with a cargo of salt. Sailed for Cadiz, 7th October, with 1734 quintals of dried codfish for Wm. Hyman.

*Schooner "Azalea," 64, Capt. C. Makeham.*

Arrived 29th August with a cargo of salt from Cadiz, discharged cargo, and sailed from Gaspé Basin for Cadiz, 29th October, with 1558 quintals of dried codfish for Wm. Hyman.

*Vessels belonging to, and chartered by John Fauvel, merchant, of Point St. Pierre.*

*Brigantine "Aura," 90, Capt. John Ahier.*

Arrived 23rd May, bringing a general cargo from Jersey. Took in cargo and left Gaspé for Cadiz, 22nd June, with:—

1007	quintals	dried	codfish	for John Fauvel.
900	do	do	do	John Le Boutillier.

Returned in ballast, and left Gaspé again on the 12th November for Naples, with:—

1307	quintals	dried	codfish	for John Fauvel,
664	do	do	do	F. & M. L'Espérance.

*Brigantine "Jeffery," 70, Capt. W. J. Renny, (Chartered vessel.)*

Arrived at Gaspé on the 11th July, in ballast from Newfoundland, and sailed from Gaspé Basin on the 24th August, for Cadiz, with:—

600	quintals	dried	codfish	for John Fauvel.
1000	do	do	do	F. & M. L'Espérance.

*Vessels belonging to and chartered by John LeBoutillier.*

*Brigantine "St. Anne," 150, Capt. John Vibert.*

Arrived in Gaspé Basin on the 27th May, with a cargo from New York. Sailed again on the 28th June, for Rio Janeiro, with:—

1819	barrels	dried	codfish	for J. LeBoutillier.
89	do	flour	for	do.

Arrived at Gaspé on the 14th October, in ballast from Bahia, took in another cargo and sailed for Jersey on the 26th November, with:—

1948	quintals	dried	codfish	for John LeBoutillier.
40	casks	whale	oil,	do.
121	barrels	do	do.	do.
131	casks	cod	liver	oil,
39	barrels	do	do.	do.
5	boxes	whalebone,	do.	do.
		(old	copper,	do.

*Schooner "Alice," 68, Capt. J. F. Huelin, (Chartered vessel.)*

Arrived at Gaspé on the 18th August, from Swansea, with a general cargo, and sailed again for Naples, on the 26th September, with 1606 quintals dried codfish for John LeBoutillier.

*Brigantine "Why Not," 101, Capt. J. Pollot, (Chartered vessel.)*

Arrived in Gaspé Basin on the 15th August, from Jersey, with a general cargo, composed of articles required for the fisheries, and sailed 1st November for Ancona, with 2348 quintals codfish for John LeBoutillier.

*Schooner "Comet," 72, Capt. J. F. Cost, (Chartered vessel.)*

Arrived in Gaspé Basin on the 29th August, from Cadiz, with salt, and left Gaspé on the 21st of October for Naples, with 1650 quintals of dried codfish—John LeBoutillier.

*Brig "Canada," 156, Captain P. Harman, (Chartered vessel.)*

Arrived at Gaspé Basin 4th October, with a cargo of salt from Cadiz. Sailed again for Bahia with 2,599 barrels of dried codfish for John Le Boutillier.

*Voyages of vessels belonging to or chartered by the House of Fruing & Co., of Gaspé, during the season of 1864.*

*Barque "Alice Jane," Captain Thos. N. LeGros.*

This vessel arrived at Gaspé Basin on the 17th May with a general cargo, and sailed again for Jersey (in ballast) on the 4th June—returned from Jersey the 18th October with salt, and sailed again for Jersey 28th November with 1,366 quintals of dried codfish for Wm. Fruing & Co.

95 casks cod liver oil, 4 barrels cod-sounds, old copper, 60 tons timber (pine).—Messrs. Fruing & Co.

6 boxes whalebone.—Lowndes Brothers.

Old Copper.—Wm. Hyman.

28 quintals dried codfish—Lowndes Brothers.

101 do do Alexandre & LeGresley.

350 do do Abraham LeBrun.

281 do do do do.

4 casks cod liver oil, 17 barrels cod liver oil, 10 casks dregs, pitch and tar, 6 barrels dregs, pitch and tar, 533 seal skins, 35 barrels mackerel.—Thos. LeGros.

*Brigantine "Griffin" 98, Captain P. LeBoutillier.*

Arrived at Gaspé from Liverpool 13th June, with a cargo of salt, and sailed 28th June for Rio Janeiro with:

1149 barrels dried codfish.—Wm. Fruing & Co.

340 do do Thos. Savage.

103 do do Alexandre & LeGresley.

From Rio Janeiro, sailed for New York, with a cargo, and from New York to Gaspé, arriving at the latter place 21st November, took in a cargo and sailed for Naples 29th November, with 2,400 quintals of dried codfish for Wm. Fruing & Co.

*Schooner "Favorite," 63, Captain E. Hulin.*

Arrived at Gaspé 28th June, from Falmouth, with a general cargo, and sailed 8th July for Cadiz, with 1,642 quintals dried codfish for Wm. Fruing & Co.

*Schooner "H. R. S.," 59, Capt. T. Hacquoit.*

Reached Gaspé Basin from Swansea with a cargo 1st July, and sailed from Gaspé for Barbadoes, 14th July with:—

421 quintals dried codfish, Wm. Fruing & Co.

41 do do Thomas Savagé.

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115 Barrels salt herrings, Thomas Sayage.

Returned to Gaspé 21st Sept. with a cargo of sugar, molasses, &c. In October this vessel was wrecked at Rivière au Renard.

*Schooner "Wave", 83, Capt. A. Allary. (Chartered vessel.)*

Reached Gaspé Basin 25th July with a cargo of salt for the firm of Fruing & Co., was wrecked at Percé in October.

*Schooner "Queen", 119, Capt. H. Hodge. (Chartered vessel.)*

This vessel brought a cargo of salt from Cadiz and reached Gaspé 6th August, then sailed from Gaspé Basin 8th Sept., for Naples with :—  
2949 quintals dried codfish, Wm. Fruing and Co.

*Schooner "Kate", 99, Capt. C. Russell. (Chartered vessel.)*

Came from Cadiz to Gaspé with a cargo of salt, arriving at the latter port 8th August. Took in a cargo, and sailed for Naples, 10th Sept. with :—

1393 quintals dried codfish, Wm. Fruing & Co.  
1108 do do Alexandre & LeGresley.

*Schooner "Cambria", 108, Capt. H. Strike.*

Came from Cadiz to Gaspé with salt. Arrived at the latter port 20th August. Sailed for Naples 1st October with :—

2674 quintals dried codfish, Wm. Fruing & Co.

*Schooner "Gazelle", 81, Capt. John Lewis. (Chartered vessel.)*

Arrived from Cadiz 7th Sept. with salt, and sailed from Gaspé Basin 10th October, for Civita Vecchia with :—

1906 quintals dried codfish, Wm. Fruing & Co.

*Schooner "Azorean Lass", 105, Capt. J. S. Stone, (Chartered vessel.)*

Arrived at Gaspé from Cadiz 10th Sept., and sailed from Gaspé Basin for Naples 4th November with :—

2850 Quintals Dried Codfish for Wm. Fruing & Co.

*Schooner "Fox", 95, Capt. John Hulin.*

This vessel brought a cargo of salt from Cadiz to Gaspé, reaching the latter port 5th October, and sailed 24th November from Gaspé Basin for Naples with :—

2316 quintals dried codfish, Wm. Fruing & Co.

*Brigantine "Shamrock", 131, Ab. Hacquoit, Capt.*

Brought a cargo of salt from Cadiz, and reached Gaspé 13th October. Left Gaspé Basin, 17th November, with :

1292 quintals dried codfish.—Wm. Fruing & Co.  
1734 do do Thomas LeGros.

*Brigantine "Hibernica", 165, Capt. Alexandre.*

Came from London in ballast, and reached Gaspé, 19th Oct. Sailed from Gaspé for Bahia, 21st Nov., with :

2022 quintals dried codfish.—Wm. Fruing & Co.  
181 do do F. LeBrun.  
530 do do Thos. LeGros.

*Voyages of vessels belonging to or Chartered by De La Perrelle et frères, Merchants of Newport and Natashquan.*

*Brigantine "Francis & Ann", 93, Capt. Ed. Vibert.*

Left Jersey with a general cargo, and reached Gaspé Basin, 6th June. Sailed again for Cadiz, 16th Sept., with :

2215 quintals dried codfish.—De La Perrelle et Frères.  
This firm also shipped codfish by the "Boadicea," "Chance," "Belus," and "Ariel,"  
as above detailed.

*Vessels chartered by Thomas Savage, merchant, at L'Anse du Cap.*

*Schooner "Inez," 108, (Chartered vessel).*

This vessel came from Cadiz with a cargo of salt, and reached Gaspé Basin 4th July.  
Sailed from Gaspé, 9th August, for Naples, with 2570 quintals dried codfish and 101 barrels  
of Herrings for Thomas Savage.

*Brig "Agnes," 177, Capt. Thomas Hodge, (Chartered vessel).*

Came from Newfoundland in ballast, and reached Gaspé, 4th November. Sailed again  
for Bahia, 12th November, with 2730 barrels dried codfish for Thomas Savage. Mr.  
Savage also exported codfish by the "Warrior," "Griffin," and "H. R. S."

*Vessels chartered by F. & M. L'Espérance, merchants, at Grand Etang and at Rivière au  
Bouleau.*

*Brig "Harmony," 187, Capt. R. Bertrand.*

Reached Gaspé from Newfoundland, in ballast, 23rd September, and sailed from Gaspé  
Basin, 15th November, for Cadiz, with,—

1000 quintals dried codfish for F. & M. L'Espérance.

1142 do do do J. LeBoutillier.

1140 do do do Lowndes, Brothers.

F. & M. L'Espérance also exported codfish by the *Aura* and the *Jeffrey*.

*Vessels chartered by N. Dumaresq, merchant, at La Grande Grève.*

*Schooner "Bee," 51, Cap. P. Briard.*

This vessel left Gaspé 4th October, for Civita Vecchia with :—

550 quintals dried codfish.—N. Dumaresq.

600 do do A. Payn.

*Schooner "Ariel," 104, Capt. Thos. Vibon.*

Reached Gaspé Basin 9th September, from Cadiz, with a cargo of salt, and sailed  
from Gaspé for Spain, with :—

400 quintals dried codfish.—N. Dumaresq.

400 do do F. Fauvel.

650 do do A. Payn.

838 do do De LaPerrelle & Frères.

*Voyages of vessels belonging to F. Painchaud, merchant, at the Magdalen Islands.*

*Schooner "Marie Alva," Capt. C. Bourque.*

Reached Amherst Island from Montreal, with salt and provisions, 15th May. Was  
occupied during the summer months in the cod fishery. Left the port of Amherst 6th  
October, with 3000 gallons of cod oil, large codfish and mackerel for Halifax.

*Schooner "A. Painchaud" Capt. P. Gaudier.*

Arrived at Amherst 1st May, from Montreal with provisions worth £1000. Sailed

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from Amherst 10th June, for Montreal, with 6000 gallons seal oil, and returned to Amherst 15th July, with provisions. Sailed again for Halifax, 10th September, with 2000 sealskins, and 600 quintals of dried codfish.—Returned to the Magdalen Islands 8th October, and was to leave in a short time for Caraqueette, to take in a cargo of Oysters for Montreal.

*Schooner "Cutter."*

Was engaged during the summer months in the cod fishery on the Labrador Coast, and round the Magdalen Islands. Was to leave in October for Halifax, with 600 quintals codfish.

*Schooner "Loup Marin."*

Was to leave 20th October, for Halifax with 500 quintals dried codfish.

*Schooner "President," Capt. Martinet.*

Was engaged during the summer in the cod fishery, and was to leave on the 20th October, for Halifax, with 500 quintals codfish.

*Schooner "Fleet Wing," Captain J. Lacombe.*

Was to leave for Montreal in the month of October with 500 barrels wet codfish, mackerel, oil, &c., &c.

Mr. William Johnson, merchant, residing at *House Harbor*, exported in five or six schooners about 2000 quintals of codfish to Halifax, also about 9000 gallons seal oil, 1200 gallons cod liver oil, as well as several thousand seal skins, herrings and mackerel.

Mr. Clarence Hamilton, merchant of New Carlisle, in La Baie des Chaleurs, who has two fishing establishments on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence, one at Long Point, and the other at the River Moisie, exported this year to Spain in his vessel the *Mingan*, about 2000 quintals of dried codfish.

CONTINUATION OF THE LIST OF FISHES FOUND IN THE GULF OF  
AND RIVER ST. LAWRENCE.

LUCIO-PERCA AMERICANA.

*French*—Le *Sandre d'Amérique*, vulgar appellation in Canada. "Doré."

*English*—*American Sandre*, *American Pike-Perch*, *Yellow Pike-Perch*, vulgar name, "Dory."

Of the order of *Acanthopterygians* of the family of *Percoides*, of the genus *Sandres* or *Lucio-perca*.

It can only be by analogy that in Canada the vulgar name has been given to the kind of fish now claiming my attention, because the fish known under the French name of "La Dorée" (and sometimes "Poisson de St. Pierre") and in England as the "John Dory" is quite a different fish from the "Sandre." The Dorée is a *Scomberoide*, the *Zeus of Faber*, with a short body, compressed at the dorsal fin, with long spinous rays filiform. The sides shew metallic shades and are covered with yellowish stripes.

Nor can it be on account of its likeness to the "Dorado" or "Cyprinean Doré" of China. The latter is a red fish belonging to the family of "Cyprinus" and consequently has only one dorsal fin composed of soft rays. I rather think that it is owing to the lustrous and golden shades found in the American Serran, that it is called "Doré, the name under which it is universally known in Canada. Whatever name may be given to it, it is one of the best fish found either in our own or in neighbouring fresh waters. Its flesh is firm and delicious, but it is always in the best condition during the spring and fall. Its average length is fifteen inches, but it sometimes reaches even two feet and more. Its colour is olive on the back, paler on the sides, which sometimes bear spots of a brownish black colour with golden shades, and silvery white under the belly. On the head we find small

spots of greenish brown and grey colour, with black spots on the first dorsal fin. The following is the form of the rays of the fins in several specimens caught at Montreal, Quebec and in the Lower St. Lawrence, which I examined with very great care.

- 1st D. 13.1.20; P. 15; V. 1.5; A. 1.12; C. 17 $\frac{3}{8}$ .
- 2nd D. 12.1.20; P. 15; V. 1.5; A. 1.12; C. do.
- 3rd D. 13.1.20; P. 15; V. 1.5; A. 1.13; C. do.
- 4th D. 15.1.21; P. 15; V. 1.5; A. 1.14; C. do.

The mouth of this fish is large and has strong teeth, making it a dangerous enemy to other fish. In the rear part of each jaw are two long pointed teeth which serve as "canines" and give the fish quite a dangerous appearance. With such means of attack, with its well known strength and agility, it is an easy matter for it to become voracious. It is believed that in common with the Pike which it in some respects resembles, the Sandre destroys a large number of small fish of which they make their daily food. The Doré is caught both with line and net, particularly in the neighborhood of Sorel.

It spawns in the spring near the shore in still water. The ovaries of the females contain a large number of eggs.

LUCIO-PERCA CANADENSIS—SMITH.

French—*Sandre du Canada*.  
English—*Canadian Sandre—Green Pickerel*.

This variety of the Sandre, smaller than the preceding kind, has been found in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; and if we can believe the authors, it is found only in Canada. Its distinguishing feature is, that the posterior side of the operculum is armed with five spinous fins, which distinctly differ; while in the American species, the posterior part of the same section is uniform. Moreover, the greenish olive colour of its back, and the darker shades of all the other parts of its body would be sufficient, with its small size, to establish it as a separate variety of the species, if the distinctive mark did not exist.

According to Richardson and Smith, the rays of its fins are as follows:—

- D. 12, 1, 17; P. 12; V. 1, 15; A. 12; C. 17.

I think that this fish is scarce in the River St. Lawrence, although it is a Canadian species. Its flesh is the same as the species previously described, and there is no doubt that its habits are also the same. There is a third species of the Doré, the "*Lucio-Perca Grisea*." It is said that it can be classed with the "*Lucio-Perca Americana*." As its name indicates, its colour is grey; it is a small fish, but quite as good to eat as the kinds previously described.

CENTRARCHUS AENEUS—CUVIER.

French—*Centrarque bronzé*. In Canada, *Achigan Vert*.  
English—*Rock Bass, Fresh Water Bass*.

Of the order of *Acanthopterygians*, of the family of *Percoides*, of the genus *Centrar- chus*.

This fish is quite common in the fresh waters of Canada, particularly in the River St. Lawrence. It takes natural and artificial bait easily. Fishing for this kind of bass is amusing, and furnishes sport for gentlemen who cannot indulge in the luxury of fishing for trout or salmon. Its flesh is frequently seen on our tables, as it is firm, wholesome, and well liked. Its form resembles that of the "*Pomotis*," for which it may sometimes be mistaken, but it is generally larger than the latter fish. Its colour is generally bronze, mixed with green. On the posterior part of the appendix to the operculum, there is a remarkable black spot. The lateral line is quite prominent, and follows the line of the back. Under this line, there are ten or twelve parallel lines, with small black spots of square form on a grey basis, which give to this part of the fish a striped appearance. The eye is large, with a white pupil; the iris is yellow. The ordinary length of this Bass is from 8 to 9 inches. The specimen which I examined most attentively, was:—

- In length.....7 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches
- In width.....3 "
- In thickness.....1 $\frac{1}{4}$  "

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The rays of the fins were as follows :

D. 10.11 ; P. 14 ; V. 1.5 ; V. 6.11 ; C. 18.

The anterior rays of the dorsal, and anal as well as the ventral are strongly spinous and are, no doubt, used as means of defence by this species of "percoïdes." The mouth of this fish, which is of a kind peculiar to America, is of middling size. It is armed at the jaws, the palatine bones and pharyngeans, with a number of teeth, small, conical and bent inwards.

POMOTIS VULGARIS—OUVIER.

French—*Le Pomotis Commun*. En Canada *Crapais*.

English—*Sun-fish, Pond-fish*.

Of the order of *Acanthopterygians* of the family of *Percoïdes* of the genus *Pomotis*.

This pretty little fish, which, like the last described, is peculiar to the fresh waters of America, is found in abundance in all the rivers of Canada, where it is well known under the popular name of "*Crapais*." Its flesh is firm during the whole year and very good eating. It is always very small. Its compressed form, its brilliant colours, and above all, the black spot with vermilion border, to be found on the posterior part of the operculum, distinguish it from congenerous species. The principal dimensions of a specimen which I procured in Montreal were as follows :—

Length in full	6½ inches.
Breadth	3 " and 7 lines.
Thickness	1 " and 1 line.
D.	10 spinous rays..... 10 soft.
P.	12 " " " " " "
V.	1 " " " " " "
A.	3 " " " " " "
C.	16 3/8 " " " " " "

The two middle rays of the caudal fin are at a greater distance from each other than other species. The colour is an olive brown on the back and sides, yellowish on the belly, with small yellow spots on the sides. This fish prefers tranquil water particularly where aquatic plants grow. It is easily taken with both line and seine-net.

ASPIDOPHORUS, LACEPÈDE.—AGONUS, BLOCK—PHALANGISTA, PALLAS—COTTUS, CATAPHRACTUS—LINNEUS.

French—*Aspidophore*.

English—"Armed Bull-Head," Pogge.

Of the order of *Acanthopterygians*, of the family of *Mailed Checks*, of the genus *Aspidophorus*.

The specimen from which I furnish the following description was given to me by Mr. Elias Collas, of Pointe St. Pierre, on the shores of Gaspé. It was caught in a net in that neighborhood.

Total length.....	7½ inches.
Length of the head.....	1½ " " "
Length of body.....	5½ " " "
Length of caudal fin.....	¼ of an inch.

This fish whose head is strongly mailed with scales, surmounted by spinous rays in the same way as all the members of this family, and whose body is covered over its whole length with strong pointed scales ; presents the appearance of an elongated pyramid. The head is larger than the body. The eyes are large, slightly raised upwards, and the iris is yellow. The mouth is of average size with sharp fine teeth, both in the upper and lower jaws. There are no teeth in the vomer. The nose ends in a horny protuberance, hollow in the upper part, with a short spinous ridge bending backwards. At the commissure of the lips on each side there are four barbels, one above, with three others (the upper one being the longest), on the same line as the lower jaw, and a little further than half the length of the same jaw, there is also, on each side, a bifurcated barbel one quarter of an inch in length. The others are half an inch in length. The form of the body of this

fish, from the head to the beginning of the tail-third is octagonal. This is owing to the eight rows of strong scaly plates which cover it. Further on, the two back rows join with those of the belly in one row, and from that point to the tail, the form is hexagonal. There are two dorsal fins: the first is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  lines from the head. It is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lines in width at its base and has 7 rays. The second is five lines in rear of the first, and is also composed of seven rays.

The pectorals are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length and are composed of 15 rays. They are susceptible of great dilatation.

The ventrals are under the pectorals and are composed of 8 rays, the first of which is short and spinous.

The anal is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch in length at its base, has 8 rays and is situate a little in front of the second dorsal fin. The caudal fin has 11 rays.

D. 7. 7; P. 15; V. 1. 2; A. 8; C. 11;

This fish is common in the sea waters of Europe and America, but it is found principally on the north coasts of Labrador, Greenland and Norway.

#### GASTEROSTEUS PUNGITIUS.

French—*Epinocbe à dix épines.*

English—*Ten spined Stickle-back.*

Of the order of *Acanthopterygians*, of the family of *Mailed Cheeks*, of the genus *Gasterosteus*

This fish, one of the smallest in Canada, is found both in fresh and salt water. Its average length is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The lower jaw is longer than the upper and the mouth is directed upwards. The body is as it were naked; in other words, it is not covered with scaly bands, as are those with three spines of the species described in my Report of last year. The tail is crenated and covered with scales on each side. The lateral line is clearly marked, colour brown on the back, and olive on the sides that are marked with small black spots, also silvery under the belly.

From the lateral line to the back, there are very distinct diagonal lines.

The ova of the females are yellowish in color, and measure one half line in diameter.

The distinctive character of this species is, that on the back between the head and dorsal fin there are 10 spinous rays of about one line in length that go alternately from right to left. These spinous rays are stationary, and can be brought to the level of the back according to the will of the fish.

The rays of the fins are distributed, as follows:—

D. 9; P. 10; V. 1; A. 10; C. 12.

The ventral is composed of a strong spinous ray which attaches itself to a bone of which this fish makes use as a powerful means of defence when so inclined. In a state of quietude, this spinous ray rests upon a scaly band of the fish. I found a number of specimens of this variety in the stream called, "*Ruisseau de la Pointe aux Esquimaux*." There is no doubt that it is also found in other parts of Canada. Some are found with nine spinous rays on the back instead of ten. In its general features, this fish more clearly resembles the ten-spined *Gasterosteus* of Europe than the western *Gasterosteus* of Cuvier, and it is for this reason that I have given to it the name of *Pungitius*. I found in the same stream, *Pointe aux Esquimaux* several specimens of a kind of Stickle-Back with 4 spinous rays on the two first large and the two latter smaller by half, and nearer to each other. In their general appearance, these sticklebacks are similar to those with three spinous rays. They have the scaly bands on each side of the body that distinguish the *Gasterosteus Aculeatus*. The fins are as follows:—

D. 9; P. 9; V. 1; A. 1.8; C. 9 or 10.

This variety, if it belong to the species, cannot be the *Gasterosteus Quadraeus* of Mitchell and much less the *Gasterosteus Apoltes* of Cuvier. Perhaps the fourth spinous ray is an anomaly in this fish.

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PREPILUS CRYPTOSUS—CUVIER—RHOMBUS CRYPTOSUS—CUVIER ET VALENCIENNES—  
RHOMBUS TREVIANTHUS—DE KAY.

French.—*Le Rhombe à Fossettes*—Cuvier.

English.—*The three Spined Prepilus*—Storer; *the Short finned Harvest-fish*—De Kay.

I give a description of this fish which is rarely found on our coast according to a specimen taken at La Pointe St. Pierre, also procured for me by Mr. Elias Collins.

Length of the body of the fish	.....	4½ inches.
“ tail	“	1½ “
Total length	“	5½ “
Width of the body	“	2 “
Thickness of “	“	1½ “

Length from the front of the fore part of the head to the rear part of the gills 1½ inches. Length of the pectoral fin, 1½ inches.

The body of this fish is of elliptical form and compressed. The line of contour of the abdomen is more rounded than that of the back. The nose is pugged. The scales are small and scarcely visible. The lateral line runs parallel to the contour line of the back, but is raised a little higher and is scaly. There are also two other lines on the sides of this fish, one straight and deep that runs from the tail to the beginning of the lateral line above the pre-operculum, the other lower and less distinct, also deep, commencing at the lower part of the dorsal fin, and running parallel with the contour line of the abdomen to the tail. On the back of this fish on each side, beginning at the front part of the dorsal fin and extending backwards, I found on the right side four, and on the left side twenty-four small apertures that appear to be the orifices of the mucous glands, and over each of these apertures there is a small dimple that rises in the direction of the dorsal fins. The eyes are large, the pupil is bluish and the iris yellow. Double nostrils, small teeth, very small in the upper and lower jaws, and also in the pharynx. The tongue is small and moves easily. The dorsal fin extends from the extremity of the forepart of the back to the tail; it is composed of three spinous rays, and forty-five soft rays. The foremost rays are longer than the others. In the pectoral fin, there are twenty-five soft rays, those in the middle being the longest. There is no ventral fin. In the anal fin, there are three short spinous rays, the first and third bending backwards, and the second forward; there are also thirty-nine soft rays. The caudal fin is sloping, and is composed of 19 + ½ soft rays. We find on each side of this fish, and particularly in the posterior part, small scaly plates raised up, of a round shape, they are visible, and of metallic tint. The general colour of the Rhombus, is a silvery white on the belly and sides, darker on the back.

ZOARCUS LABRASUS—CUVIER.

French.—*Zoarcés à grosses lèvres*; erroneously called in Canada *Chat de Mer*, *Congre*.

English.—*Large-lipped Bleung*, *Eel-shaped Bleung*, *Thick-lipped Eel-Pout*.

Of the order of *Acanthopterygians*, of the family of *Gobioides*, of the genus *Zoarcus*. This fish which is exclusively found in sea water, is found in all parts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Our fishermen frequently catch them in fishing for cod. It is however of no service to them, as the flesh although wholesome and good is but rarely eaten in Canada.

The names of *Chat de Mer* and *Congre* given to it by our fishermen are not correct. The first of these names is better suited to the *Anarrhichas Lupus*; and the real *Conger Vulgaris* has never yet been caught in the water of the Gulf. The following are the dimensions of the *Zoarcus* as found in our waters:

Length 24 inches, width 3½ inches.

The fins are as follows:

D.	95 rays	17 inches long.
P.	17 “	3 “
V.	4 “	¼ inch.
A.	76 “	14½ inches.
C.	68 “	

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Between the dorsal and the caudal, there are 7 or 9 spinous rays, that is to say that these two fins are as it were joined one to the other by short spinous rays. The mouth is large, and the lips are thick and hanging. The two jaws are armed with three rows of strong conical teeth. There are also teeth on the pharyngeal bones. The colour is as follows:—head, blackish; body, olive brown with brownish spots; the dorsal, olive brown with blackish spots on several rays; the caudal, olive brown, and each ray is spotted lightly with black. There is also an anal tubercle.

CTENOLABRUS UNINOTATUS.

French—*Ctenolabre Mouché*.

English—*Spotted Bergall*.

Of the order of *Acanthopterygians*, of the family of *Labridæ*, of the genus *Ctenilabrus*. In October last, I procured a specimen of this kind of "*Ctenilabrus*" in Gaspé Basin. It was two and one-half inches in length, and four lines and one-half in width. Its colour is olive, its scales small and well defined; the mouth is large, and the eyes black. The fins in the specimen I procured were as follows:

D. 17.10; P. 14; V. 1.5; A. 3.10; C. 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The front rays of the dorsal, ventral and anal were spinous, as in the description of which I gave a detailed account last year. The peculiarity however that distinguishes this kind, and to which its name can be attributed, is a blueish spot of oval form of about one line in diameter on the three first soft rays of the dorsal fin. Several naturalists assert that this fish is nothing more than the young of the *Ctenilabrus Chayset* which at the age of maturity loses the spot peculiar to the *Ctenolabre mouché*; while others maintain, that it is a distinct fish that never reaches a large size. I am inclined to agree with those who offer the latter opinion, because *Cuvier's* views are in my favour, and such an authority is very valuable. Moreover, the habits of this little fish and the kind of water it frequents, are the same as those of the *Chayset*.

HYODON TERGISUS.

French—*Hyodon*. In Canada, *Laquaiche*. The "voyageurs" of the North call them *Nacaiche*.

English—*Hyodon*. *River Moon-eye*, *Moon-eye herring*.

Of the order of *Abdominal Malacopterygians*, of the family of *Clupeidæ*, of the genus *Hyodon-Cuvier*.

This fish of which probably there are several varieties in Canada, is peculiar to the fresh waters of America. The kind taken in the river St. Lawrence so much resembles that described by Le Sueur under the title of *hyodon tergisus*, that I thought it prudent to describe it under the name. In the colour, and in the number of fins, there may however be some difference. This fish might also be classed with Richardson's *Hyodon Chrysopsis*, which is by him described as frequenting the fresh waters of the northern parts of this continent, were it not that there is a difference in the number of spinous rays in the dorsal fin and in the size of the fish, which is greater than that of the *Hyodon* of the St. Lawrence. Our *loquaiche* might be a kind of fish not yet described, and what leads me to be of that opinion is, that neither De Kay nor Storer have alluded to the longitudinal bands with which this fish is marked on the sides. They may perhaps have composed their description according to a stuffed specimen in which the true colours of the fish are scarcely seen. In my case, I can assert that I studied the form of a specimen just taken out of the water.

The following is a brief description of the "*loquaiche*" of the River St. Lawrence: Length, 11 to 13 inches; width, 3 inches; thickness, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

Small head, very large eyes, blackish back, with five narrow longitudinal bands of whitish colour above the lateral line, which is straight and well defined. Sides and belly of a silvery color, with eight parallel whitish bands, but less defined than in the upper part of the fish. One row of conical teeth in the upper, and two rows in the lower jaw. The extremity of the tongue is furnished with strong teeth, the outside ones being longer than the others. The body is compressed. Large brilliant scales cover the whole body, and

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even the root of the tail, which is bifurcated. The following is the form of the rays of the fins in the two specimens that I studied with care.

1st specimen, D. 13 ; P. 12 ; V. 7 ; A. 32 ; C. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

2nd " D. 14 ; P. 14 ; V. 7 ; A. 31 ; C. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The first ray of the dorsal fin is the shortest ; the second is the longest, and they go on diminishing to the last. In the pectoral fin, the two first rays are very strong and the longest. The rays of the ventral fin are very distinct, and are all ramified. In the anal fin, the 4th, 5th 6th, and 7th rays are the longest ; those following shorten gradually to the 19th, and from this one to the last, they are of equal length. The flesh of the *Lepisosteus* is wholesome and furnishes very good food, but it is not one of our best fish.

It is caught at the fishing stations of Beaumont, and in the vicinity of Quebec. In these places, it is generally caught of small size. At Sorel, it is found in the largest quantities, and of the largest size.

LEPISOSTEUS OSSEUS, LINNÆUS. LEPISOSTEUS LONGIROSTRIS—CUVIER.

French—*Lepisosté Vulgaire*, *Lépistosté à long museau*, *Caïmon*—*En Canada*, *Poisson Armé*.

English—*Common Garfish* ; *Buffalo Bony Pike* ; *Alligator Gar* ; *Common Bill-fish*.

Of the order *Abdominal Malacopterygians* of the family of *Clupidae* of the genus *Lepisosteus*.

The elongated form of this fish, its long jaws provided with strong and sharp teeth, give to it an appearance of boldness and ferocity that might permit of its being taken for the shark of our fresh waters ; but happily, the large stony scales which cover its body and the small extension of its fins compel it to move slowly, and it is, therefore, less an enemy than might at first have been supposed. There are three kinds of the *Lepisosteus* to be found in America ; the one I have described is found in the River St. Lawrence, in some of our large lakes, and in all the fresh waters of the United States both north and west. It is also found in the northern regions. Its ordinary length is from 2 to 4 and even 5 feet.

In the River St. Lawrence, it does not attain the size which makes it a redoubtable adversary in the large lakes, and the specimen I now have before me is one of the largest size taken :

Total length.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet.
Width.....	3 inches.
Length of the head.....	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
Length of the snout.....	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ do

The whole body of this fish is covered with large stony scales which when dry are of the hardness of ivory. There are 64 rows of these from the head to the root of the tail, and each row is composed of eighteen to twenty scales of rhomboidal form, which go in an oblique direction from the back to the belly. The lateral line is easily traced, and runs parallel to the line of the back. There is a streak in the middle of the back that extends from the head to the dorsal fin. The head is small, and flattened on the upper part. The eyes are large ; the jaws very narrow and elongated, with 25 to 30 conical sharp teeth in each, from one to two lines in length between which can be seen a large number of small sharp teeth on the exterior part of the jaws. I counted 180 of these teeth in the upper and at least 120 in the lower jaw. These numbers are of course subject to variation. The upper jaw is the longest, and is furnished at the end with five or six long pointed teeth. The nostrils are double, and are at the extreme end of the snout. The interior of the jaws is furnished with a large number of small soft or velvety teeth that give to this portion of the fish the appearance of a rasp. With such a formidable engine of attack, it is certainly difficult for any fish seized by the *Lepisosteus* to escape, and this fish must be a great enemy to all those that live in the same waters. Happily, reproduction of this species is not very fruitful, because in these waters it is not abundantly found, even where it would seem to thrive best.

In the River St. Lawrence, this fish is caught in stake nets, below Quebec particularly, and in seines in Lake St. Peter and in the vicinity of Sorel. It is found in other

places but rarely. The fins have the following number of rays according to my specimen D. 7; P. 12; V. 6; A. 9; C. 12.

The dorsal fin is two and a half feet in rear of the head, and near the caudal-fin, while the ventral is at an equal distance from both the pectoral and the anal, the latter being placed under the dorsal. The two extreme rays of the caudal and the first rays of the other fins are covered with bifid scales, that give them a rugged appearance, which has even induced more naturalists to assert that there are two distinct rays in each of the first.

The color of the *Lepisosteus* is a dirty yellow, but darker in the fore part of the body. This fish is good to eat, but I am not aware that it has yet been adopted as an article of food in Canada. On the contrary, it is rejected with disgust as if it were unfit to eat or unwholesome. This is certainly not the case.

PLATASSA PLANA.—MITCHELL.

French—*Plie*.

English—*Flatfish, Flounder*.

Of the order of *Malacopterygians* of the family of *Pleuronectes*, of the genus *Platessa*. This variety of the family of *Pleuronectes* appears to be one of the most common in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. I found it on the coast of Gaspé, in La Baie des Chaleurs, and on the coast of Labrador. It is an excellent fish for eating purposes, although unfortunately it is not generally used as food in Canada.

It is generally used, however, as manure. For my part, I have always found it to be wholesome food and as delicate in taste, in my opinion, as the Sole of Europe. The fish found on rocky or sandy bottoms are always preferable to those caught on muddy bottoms, the latter contracting a flavour when they have remained there for some time.

The small specimen that I examined shewed the following dimensions:—

Total length.....	3 inches.
Length of body.....	2½ "
Width.....	1½ "

D. 57; P. 11; V. 6; A. 40; C. 15½.

In front of the caudal fin, there is a spinous ray nearly hidden which is directed forwards. It must be remarked that this fish has only two sides of the body symmetrical, in the same way as all the family to which it belongs, and its eyes are on the right side of the body. Its colour on the right side, or on the back as it is generally called, is a greenish brown small dark spots, but in many individual cases, these spots are not visible. Moreover, the colour of the *Platessa* varies according to age, and according to the nature of the bottoms it frequents. The left side or the belly is white. The average length of this kind of *Platessa* is from 10 to 15 inches. It spawns in the spring near the shore.

ACIPENSER BREVIROSTRIS.

French—*L'Esturgeon à museau court, Le Grand Esturgeon*.

English—*Short nosed Sturgeon*.

This kind of Sturgeon is undoubtedly the largest fish in the River St. Lawrence or tributaries, and we might even say, of all the fresh waters of the interior. It frequently reaches an enormous size, and some have been caught measuring from 9 to 10 feet in length, but its ordinary size is from 5 to 6 feet. It appears to have been clearly established that this variety of the Sturgeon, studied by Lesueur the Naturalist, is peculiar to North America, although an attempt has been made to class it with the European variety known as the *Common Sturgeon (Acipenser Sturio)*. It cannot be classified with or mistaken for the *Grand Esturgeon (Acipenser Fluvo of Linnæus)* which is found in the Volga, the Don, and some other rivers that fall into the Caspian Sea. The latter has a different kind of snout, and rather shorter, perhaps, than our species; but it is much larger, because they have been known to reach 15 feet in length and to weigh as much as 2,000 lbs. The Caviar, which is a delicate food much sought for in the East, of which a large trade is carried on in Russia, Turkey, and even Italy, is nothing else but the eggs of this fish, pickled by a peculiar process. And *Ichthyocolle (Isinglass)* the preparation of which is

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glass may, however, also be made from other cartilaginous fish as the Ray and Squalus.

It is to be regretted that as yet, we have not thought in Canada, of attempting the  
manufacture of this article of commerce as well as common fish glue, as we have two kinds  
of Sturgeon in our large and small rivers, and a smaller kind, it is stated, in our lakes.  
The squalus and ray are also found on our coasts. Let us hope that a branch of industry,  
which could furnish us with articles of daily consumption, now imported from foreign  
countries, will soon be introduced among us. It can only assist in the development of our  
fisheries.

The "the short nosed sturgeon," so well described by Lesueur, is elongated in the  
body, and covered with horny tubercles, the number of which vary according to the age of  
the fish. It is found in all parts of the River St. Lawrence. It is caught in both stake  
and seine nets. The fishermen of Quebec have given it the name of *Coureur*. Its flesh  
although wholesome is not so agreeable to the taste as that of the short nosed sturgeon  
above described. As a general rule it is not much used as food.





Caplin  
Mackerel  
Squid

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Beginning  
10th July.  
28th “

COUNTY OF RIMOUSKI.

LOCALITIES.	No. of boats.	No. of fishermen.	No. of spitters.	No. of herring nets.	No. of caplin seines.	No. of brush fisheries.	Cod. — Quintals.	Herring. — Barrels.	Sardines. — Barrels.	Cod Liver Oil. — Gallons.	Halibut. — Barrels.	Salmon. — Barrels.
Little Capucins.....	10	30	4	4	.....	1	300	8	.....	180	5	.....
Great Capucins.....	20	40	8	12	.....	.....	800	24	.....	480	8	.....
Great Méchins.....	4	8	1	4	.....	.....	150	8	.....	90	2	.....
Little Méchins.....	3	6	1	6	.....	.....	145	12	.....	87	1	.....
Méchins Islands.....	8	16	3	8	.....	.....	365	16	4	183	2	.....
Gros Crapauds.....	11	22	4	8	.....	.....	600	16	.....	360	6	.....
Jacques Hugues Creek.....	10	20	4	10	.....	.....	650	24	.....	390	4	.....
Anse à la Croix.....	40	80	15	40	.....	6	1800	100	20	1080	15	.....
Little Matane.....	60	120	20	50	2	27	2000	200	40	1200	25	.....
Great Matane and Grande Anse.....	30	60	9	30	.....	20	700	150	40	430	10	.....
River Blanche.....	20	40	8	20	.....	15	200	80	10	120	5	.....
Tardige.....	25	50	6	25	.....	12	650	110	10	390	6	.....
Township of McNider.....	36	72	8	24	.....	6	325	78	2	195	8	.....
Métis.....	12	24	3	10	.....	8	210	220	20	126	5	.....
St. Flavie.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	300	18	.....	.....	.....
St. Luce.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	600	20	.....	.....	.....
Rimouski.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	.....	4000	40	.....	.....	29
	289	578	94	249	2	143	8835	5942	224	5401	92	30

## COUNTY OF

## GASPÉ.

LOCALITIES.	No. of boats.	No. of fishermen.	No. of splitters.	No. of flat boats.	Herring nets.				Cod.		Haddock.		Hake.	Quintals.	Salmon.	Barrel.	Trout.	
					Herring nets.	Mackerel nets.	Herring seines.	Caplin seines.	Quintals.	Quintals.	Quintals.	Quintals.						
Newport	63	126	70	63	94			14	3800	40			30					
Great and Little Pabos	69	138	75	69	140	4		12	3880	50			18					
Great River and Little River West	109	218	120	109	218	8		16	6990	100			15		94			
Anse du Cap and Little River East	82	164	90	82	160	6		20	6230	80			25					
Anse au Beau-Fils	38	76	40	38	114	8			3115	45			19					
Perce	142	284	200	142	426	30	2	2	5780	135			75		2			
Bonaventure Island	60	120	80	60	180	15			400	25			15					
Canne de Roche, Barachois and Coin du Banc	14	28	20	14	28				985	5						16		
Belle Anse and Malbaie	52	104	65	52	104		2	1	3268	10						18		
Point St. Pierre	63	126	80	63	126			2	5355	10								
Chien Blanc and Ned Head	12	24	15	12	24				1100	12								
Bois Brûlé, Anse Brillant and Seal Cove	16	32	20	16	29	6			900	30								
Douglstown	22	44	30	22	40	16			1220	20						17		
South Shore of Gaspé Bay	15	30	18	30	20	15			103	10			25		84			
North Shore of Gaspé Bay	17	34	20	17	34	20		2	1020	15			20		50			
Grande Grave	38	76	55	30	76	25		10	2660	25			15					
Middle Cove and St. George's Bay	14	28	20	14	30	14		5	980	10			15					
Indian Cove & Ship Head	34	68	40	34	68	15		3	2380	20			25					
Cap Des Rosiers	34	68	36	34	60			5	2040									
Anse à la Louise	15	30	18	15	23	8			990									
Jersey Cove	12	24	14	12	24				720									
Anse aux Griffons	37	74	45	37	111	10	1	4	2405									
Anse à Fougère	7	14	10	7	14	4			455									
Great Fox River	65	130	80	65	130		2	7	3685									
Little de	17	34	19	17	34				1105									
Petit Cap and P'te Jeanne	9	18	10	9	18		1		540									
Anse à Valléau	12	24	15	10	25				720									
Grand Etang	22	44	30	10	44		1	1	2300									
Pointe St. Pierre	16	32	15	16	32		1	1	1280									
Little and Great Chéri-donne	24	48	30	24	50	10	1	2	1680									
Petite Vallée	5	10	6	5	11	4		1	350									
Grande Vallée	41	82	50	35	85	15	2	6	3230									
Cap à l'Ours and Magdalen River	13	26	5	25	20	10	1	2	780							10		
Anse Pieuseuse and Gros Malé	4	8	5	4	4				260									
Montlouis Bay	27	54	30	25	60	10	2	2	1890									
Rivière à la Pierre and Rivière Glacée	16	32	15	16	18				960									
Rivière Marsouin and Rivière à la Marte	5	10	4	5	8	2			325							10		
Ste. Anne des Monts	85	170	60	80	85	10	1	1	3800									
Cap de Chatte	50	100	30	35	40	5	1	1	1990									
Magdalen Islands.	Awahert Island	60	100	75	65	500	200	1	2	3000	100							
		*20	60	20					3	1000								
	Grindstone Island	42	84	47	30	10		1		1700	300							
		*12	36	10					2	480								
	Allright Island	25	50	35	26	15		1	16	950	50							
		*24	48	20					4	720								
	Entry Island	6	12	7	6	4				90	25							
	Coffin Island	2	4	2	3	2				1400								
Groose Isle	10	20	11	9	10	15		1	300	15								
Bryon Island	3			2					15									
<b>Total</b>	<b>1580</b>	<b>3146</b>	<b>1822</b>	<b>1494</b>	<b>3345</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>101686</b>	<b>1632</b>		<b>297</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>24</b>		

## COUNTY OF

## GASPÉ.

Cod. Quintals.	Headstock. Quintals.	Hake. Quintals.	Salmon. Barrels.	Trout. Barrels.	Herring. Barrels.	Mackerel. Barrels.	Halibut. Barrels.	Cod Liver Oil. Gallons.	Whale Oil. Gallons.	Tongues and Sounds of Cod. Barrels.	Commencement of the codfishing.	Conclusion of the codfishing.	Remarks.
3800	40	80	3	.....	50	.....	2	2350	.....	4	May 15	Oct. 31	Cod.
3880	50	18	22	2	100	15	6	2360	.....	5	"	"	The cod appeared on the coast from Newport to Cap Chatte Bay on the 25th April.
6990	100	15	9½	1	150	20	5	4260	.....	10	"	"	From Gaspé Bay to Cap Chatte on the 26th May.
6230	80	25	.....	.....	150	25	6	3780	.....	6	"	"	From Cap Chatte to Matane between the 1st and 18th June.
3115	45	19	.....	.....	70	15	4	1830	.....	3	May 1	"	Herring.
5780	135	75	2	.....	.....	50	.....	7743	.....	40	Apr 1 25	"	This fish appeared on the coast from Newport to Gaspé Bay on the 20th April.
400	25	15	.....	.....	.....	25	.....	3264	.....	15	"	"	From Gaspé Bay to Cap Chatte on the 25th April.
985	5	.....	16	2	20	.....	.....	603	.....	4	May 1	"	From Cap Chatte to Rimouski between the 1st and 15th May.
3268	10	.....	18	2	17	.....	.....	1989	.....	15	"	"	Caplin.
5355	10	.....	.....	.....	47	.....	.....	3219	.....	21	"	"	Caplin were taken from Newport to Gaspé Bay about the 5th June.
1100	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	607	.....	4	"	"	From Gaspé Bay to Cap Chatte between the 5th and 16th June.
900	30	.....	.....	.....	29	4	.....	558	.....	5	"	"	No caplin at St. Anne des Monts.
1220	20	.....	17	3	14	7	.....	900	.....	6	"	"	From Cap Chatte to Matane about the 16th June. At Matane no Caplin this year.
103	10	.....	25	84	6	.....	54½	67	25014	.....	"	"	Squid.
1020	15	.....	20	59½	6	.....	.....	621	.....	.....	"	"	Appeared on the 25th July from Newport to Gaspé Bay. From Gaspé Bay to Cap Chatte from the 1st to the 15 August.
2660	25	.....	15	.....	.....	20	.....	1371	.....	10	"	"	Mackerel.
980	10	.....	15	.....	.....	16	.....	595	.....	4	"	"	From Newport to Gaspé Cape on the 10th July.
2380	20	.....	26	.....	.....	20	.....	1440	.....	19	"	"	From Gaspé Cape to Cap Chatte between the 15th and 20th July.
2040	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	.....	.....	1224	.....	10	May 15	"	Magdalen Islands.
900	.....	.....	.....	.....	150	10	4	540	.....	5	"	"	Herring appeared on the 1st May; cod on the 16th; smelts on the 18th;
720	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	432	.....	4	"	"	mackerel on the 4th June and squidon the 20th Aug.
2405	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	5	10	1443	.....	12	"	"	*These 56 boats were used by the crews of the schooners from the Magdalen Islands which were engaged in the fishery on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
455	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	2	8	273	.....	2	"	"	†400 quintals of cod taken by schooners engaged in the fishery on the banks.
3685	.....	.....	.....	.....	300	50	50	2211	.....	20	"	"	
1105	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	.....	10	663	.....	5	"	"	
540	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	4	270	.....	3	"	"	
720	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	.....	6	420	.....	4	"	"	
2200	.....	.....	.....	.....	150	25	15	1200	.....	7	"	"	
1280	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	780	.....	5	"	"	
1680	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	9	900	.....	8	"	"	
850	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	6	.....	180	.....	2	"	"	
3280	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	25	9	1920	.....	13	"	"	
780	.....	.....	10	1½	48	48	10	420	.....	8	"	"	
260	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	2	.....	156	.....	.....	"	"	
1890	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1134	.....	8	"	"	
960	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	576	.....	5	"	"	
325	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	195	.....	.....	"	"	
3800	.....	.....	10½	1½	.....	.....	.....	2200	.....	.....	"	"	
1990	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1140	.....	.....	"	"	
3000	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2100	.....	.....	"	"	
1000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	600	.....	.....	"	"	
1700	300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1245	.....	.....	"	"	
480	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	360	.....	.....	"	"	
950	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	600	360	.....	"	"	
720	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	432	.....	.....	"	"	
90	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	99	.....	.....	"	"	
1400	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	"	"	
40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	180	.....	.....	"	"	
300	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	"	"	
15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	"	"	
101680	1033	297	252½	26	4045	2744½	158	61526	26374	283			

COUNTY OF SAGUENA

LOCALITIES.	Number of boats.	Nc. of fishermen.	Number of splitters.	Number of flat boats.	Herring Nets.	Mackerel Nets.	Herring Seins.	Caplin Seines.	Mackerel Seines.	Sand Hal Seines.	Cod Seines.	Cod.	Quintals.	Salmon.	Barrels.	Trout.	Barrels.	Mackarel.	Barrel.
Blancs Sablons, Wood & Green Islands	57	114	90	15			5	4		6	2	1900							
Long Point (Labrador)	19	38	25	7			2	3	2	3	1	225			4				
Anse des Dunes and Bradore Bay	4	8	5	2				1				40			2				
Belles Amours	3	6	3	2				1				30							
Five Leagues, Middle Bay and Salmon Bay	10	20	9	10			3	2		1		260			22				
Bonne Espérance and River St. Paul.	8	16	7	8			1	1				180			18				
Burnt Island, Old Fort, Dogs Islands, Pêche à Lizotte, Baie des Rochers and Malouin Cove	13	26	10	13			1	1		1		160			18				
River Napiitippi, Shicataca, Canso Harbour and Anse du Portage	4	8	5	3			1	1				10			8				
St. Augustin	10	20	9	9			1	1	1			15			37				
Whale Head, Pacnehoc	3	6	4	2			1	1				18			5				
Pointe Rouge and Kikapoi	2	4	3	2				1				10			2				
La Tabatière and Mutton Bay	5	10	6	5			1	1	1		1	60			1			60	
Great Meocatina River, Grosse Ile of Meocatina and Whale Head of Meocatina	5	10	6	5			1	1	1			272			19				
Little Meocatina, Havre aux Bateaux, Havre à la Croix and Ile aux Goifands	8	16	7	7			1		2			190						70	
Nétagamu River, Pointe à Dumourier, Etamamu River, Manisuachi and Coacocho	9	18	8	9								15			13				
River Olomanoshebo	2	4	1	1								5			5				
Washee-cootal River	1	2	1	1								5			6				
Musquano	2	4	2	2				1				30			14				
Kégaska Bay and River	6	12	8	6	6		1	2		1		480			8				
Natashquan River (and in the Bay)	1	2	12	6								70							
Village and harbor of Natashquan	52	104	60	15	25		2	6		2	2	1300							
Aguanus River and Nabisippi River	5	10	6	3	2			1				100			19				
Watshewho, Piashter Bay and Cornelle River	3	6	2	4								30			13				
Esquimaux Point	33	66	44	33	10		1	9				1625							
River Romaine and Mingan	2	2	2	4											25				
Long Point, Mingan	36	72	69	20	10		1	4		3		2504			4				
River St. Jean	45	90	53	25	10		2	4		2	1	2313			114				
Maggie Bay and River	22	44	23	22	20	10		4		3		1640			86				
Rambler's Cove	31	62	33	30	30	15		6		4		2581							
Ennis Cove	4	8	2	2	4			1				166							
Ridge Point	13	26	13	13	10			4		1		927							
Anse aux Coques	7	14	10	7	5			2				446							
Indian Harbour	7	14	9	7	5			3				446							
Thunder Head	7	14	8	7	6			2				380							
Thunder River	31	62	58	15	5	2	1	3		2	1	1640			24				
Duck Creek	9	18	9	2	2	1		1				450							
Anse à la Moigniac	4	8	5	3	2			1				210							
Little Shell-Drake	14	28	13	4	10			3		1		754							
Shell-Drake Head	7	14	5	2	5			1		1		341			34				
Shell-Drake Bank	29	58	28	10	6			8		1	4	1150			5				
LeGros Bay	31	62	42	5	5			2		1	1	2163							
Gibraltar Bay	8	16	12	2	2			2		2	1	500							
Chaloupe River	11	22	8	3				1				500						6	
Manitou River	4	8	2	2				1	1			50						50	
Bouleau River	18	36	19	6				2				950						7	
Pigon	23	46	26	7	5			3	1	2		1176						127	

## COUNTY OF

## SAGUENAY.

Mackerel Seines.	Sand Eel Seines.	Cod Seines.	Cod.	Quintals.	Salmon.	Trout.	Mackarel.	Herring.	Halibut.	Cod Liver Oil.	Gallons.	Commencement of Cod fishing.	Conclusion of Cod fishing.	REMARKS.
					Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.				
	6	2	1900											
2	2	1	225					200	10	1116	June 20.	Aug. 15.	Caplin.	
			40			4		100	5	135	"	"		Caplin made its appearance on the Coast of Labrador and on the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, from Blancs Sablons to Mingan, about the 10th and 15th June.
			36			2½		400		24	"	"		From Mingan to St. Nicholas Harbor about the 1st June.
			260					40		18	"	"		
	1		180			22		300		156	July 1st.	"		
						18		140		128	"	"		
	1		160			18		150		60	"	"		Sand Eel.
			10			8				6	"	"		The Sand Eel came at the same time as the Herring; that is, from Blancs Sablons to Mingan, about the 10th June, and from the latter place to St. Nicholas Harbor on the 1st June.
1			15			37½				9	"	"		
			18			5½				10	July 4.	"		
			10			2½				8	"	"		
1		1	60			1½		60		36	July 6.	"		Cod.
														This fish appeared on the 13th June in Blancs Sablons Bay, and at about the same time as far as Mingan. But between Blancs Sablons and Mingan it was at a few points only that the Cod approached the shore this summer, among which may be mentioned Mutton Bay, where the Cod remained nearly a fortnight, Whale Head of Mecatina, and Natashquan, and, moreover, but very little was taken on these latter fishing grounds, as may be seen by the table.
1			272			19				163	July 15.	"		From Mingan to St. Nicholas the Cod did not appear before the 21st and 24th June.
2			190					70		114	"	"		Seven barrels of Sturgeon were taken in the Ourtarde River.
			15			1½				9	July 20.	"		Of the 6 barrels of Salmon taken in the Bersimis River, 1 was taken with nets and 5 were speared. It must be borne in mind that the Salmon Fisheries of the Bersimis River have been given to the Indians at Bersimis, and that they have a right to take the Salmon in any manner whatever, for their own use, but during the fishing season only.
			5			5				3	"	"		
			5			6		20		3	"	"		
			30			1½				18	"	"		
	1		480			8		300		288	June 20.	Sept. 1st.		
						70				780	"	Sept. 15.		
	2	2	1300					30	10	60	June 10.	"		
			100			19				60	June 15.	"		
			30			13				18	June 20.	"		
			1625							1075	June 25.	Oct. 15.		
						25½					"	"		
	3		2504			4			10	1502	June 27.	"		
	2	1	2813			114			9	1387	June 25.	"		
	3		1640			86		25	10	984	"	"		
	4		2581					40	17	1548	"	"		
			166						1	99	"	"		
	1		927					5	5	556	"	"		
			446						4	267	"	"		
			446						3	267	"	"		
			380						3	228	"	"		
	2	1	1640			2½			8	984	"	"		
			450						2	270	"	"		
			210							126	"	"		
	1		754						4	452	"	"		
	1		341			3½			4	204	"	"		
	1	4	1150			5			10	690	"	"		
	1	1	2168						9	1300	"	"		
	2	1	500						5	300	"	"		
			500					6	2	350	"	"		
			50					50		30	"	"		
	1		950					7		400	"	"		
	1	2	1174					127		745	"	"		

## COUNTY OF

## SAGUENAY

LOCALITIES.	Number of boats.	Nc. of fishermen.	Nc. of splitters.	Nc. of flat-boats.	Herring Nets.	Mackerel Nets.	Herring Seines.	Caplin Seines.	Mackerel Seines.	Sand Hal Seines.	Cod Seines.	Cod. Quintals.	Salmon. Barrels.	Trout. Barrels.	Mackerel.
Trout River .....	1	2	1	1									14		
Moisie River .....	107	214	151	50			3	6	1	5		2403	530		21
Seven Islands Bay .....	4	8	4	3				2				50			
Ste. Marguerite River and Cawee .....	8	16	6	4				4				200	5		
Ragged Islands, Pentecost River and English Bay .....	36	72	31	16			3	8	2			730	12		
Caribou Islands, Trinity River (and Bay) and Point des Monts .....	4	8	2	4								5	604		
Godbout .....	2	4	1	3								10	18	8	
St. Nicolas .....	15	30	14	4			1	4	1			200			
Manicouagan and Bersimis .....	3	6		2									6	1	
Island of Anticosti :—															
Second Bay to the west of Cape Observation .....	8	16	9	4	3		1					880			
Bear River Bay .....	6	12	7	3	3		1					600			
Salmon River .....	2	4	3	1	1		1					120	10	2	
Belle Bay .....	20	40	21	10	25		2	1				2000			
Shallop River .....	1	2		1									10	2	
Dauphiné River .....	1	2		1									9	1	
Jupiter River .....	1	2		1									24	1	
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>1692</b>	<b>1032</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>55360</b>	<b>11792</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>340</b>

## COUNTY OF

## SAGUENAY.—Continued.

Mackerel Seines.	Sand Hal Seines.	Cod Seines.	Cod.	Quintals.	Salmon.	Trout.	Mackerel.	Herring.	Barrels.	Halibut.	Cod Liver Oil.	Commencement of the cod fishing.	Conclusion of the cod fishing.	REMARKS.
Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.		Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Gallons.			
1	5	2403			14							June 25.	Oct. 15.	
		50			530		20			14	1741	"	"	
		200									30	"	"	
										4	180	"	"	
2		730			12						420	June 23.	"	
		5			604						3	"	"	
		10			18	8					6	"	"	
1		200									120	"	Sept. 1st.	
					8	1						"	"	
														<i>Island of Anticosti.</i>
														Herring.
														Herring was taken at the Island of Anticosti about the 18th May.
		880					50		4	528	528	May 20.	Oct. 15.	Cod.
		800					50		5	360	360	"	"	Cod appeared at the Island of Anticosti about the 5th June.
		130			10	2				72	72	"	"	Caplin.
		2000					200		8	1200	1200	"	"	This fish was taken at Bear River only.
					10	2						"	"	It has not appeared at Belle Bay for three years.
					9	1						"	"	The cod fishery was good at the Island of Anticosti this year. This encouraged new fishermen, who have just established themselves on the Island, to return thither.
					24	1						"	"	
13	41	14	38360		11792	144	340	2050	166	21524				

Seals taken in nets in the sedentary fisheries, or in ground nets or killed on the ice, on the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and at the Magdalen Islands, in 1864.

Names of Fishermen.	Stations.	Fathoms of Nets.	Autumn Fishery in 1863.	Spring Fishery in 1864.	Seals killed on the ice in the Spring of 1864.	Value of Seals.
LeBoutillier, Brothers.....	Blancs Sablons.....	200		160		\$ etc. 960 00
Narcisse Dumas .....	do .....	188		330		1980 00
Charles Dicker .....	Long Point (Labrador) .....	100		69		414 00
John Bodman.....	do .....	140		27		162 00
Baptiste Dumas.....	do .....	140		48		288 00
André Tanguay .....	do .....	140		7		42 00
Guillaume Labadie .....	Anse des Dunes.....	180		112		672 90
William Labadie.....	Point à la Barque.....	140		30		180 00
William Jones.....	Bradore Pay.....	600		260		1560 00
Louis Jones.....	do .....	100		53		318 00
J. Buckle.....	Belles Amours .....	100		30		180 00
Harriet Griffith.....	Five Leagues .....	140		71		420 00
Andrew Duke.....	do .....	100		25		150 00
Peter Hatwood.....	Middle Bay.....	20		1		6 00
Harry Sampson.....	Little Fishery.....	60		63		378 00
J. Buckle.....	Bonne Espérance.....	300		80		480 00
Léger Lévesque.....	Burnt Island.....	400		6		36 00
Daniel Robin.....	Old Fort.....	150		30		180 00
Thomas Rule.....	Dog Island.....	200		90		540 00
Michel Allan.....	Malouin Cove.....	20	4			24 00
Thomas Morris.....	Canso Harbour.....	80	5	9		84 00
Captain Fale.....	Anse du Portage.....	400	44	257		1800 00
Andrew Kennedy.....	St. Augustin.....	300	17			102 00
Jean Legouvé.....	Whale Head (Paccachos).....	300	12			72 00
André Roi.....	Feilleteau Foundry.....				40	120 00
Jacques McKennon.....	Kikapos.....	250	20			120 00
Joseph Gallichon.....	Lac Salé.....	350	51		50	456 00
T. Ménard.....	Ha! Ha! Bay.....				40	120 00
William Buckle.....	La Tabatière.....	600	289		100	2034 00
Samuel Robertson.....	do .....	500	51		200	906 00
Xavier Gallibois.....	Rouge Bay.....	150	5		100	330 00
Narcisse Guillemette.....	do .....				100	300 00
François Lévêque.....	Great Meccatina Island.....	350	35		150	660 00
William Ross.....	do .....	100	1		100	306 00
Louis Guillemette.....	do .....				100	300 00
François Michel.....	Great Meccatina Harbor.....	125	5			30 00
Joseph Hébert.....	Mutton Bay.....	75	5			30 00
Charles Bilodeau.....	Whale Head of Meccatina.....	500	187		130	1512 00
Michel Kenty.....	do .....	500	57		15	387 00
Nasaire Mercier.....	Little Meccatina.....				14	42 00
James Maujer.....	do .....	100	28		10	198 00
Louis Coulombe.....	do .....	70	2			12 00
F. X. Bilodeau.....	Nétagamu River.....	75		30		90 00
J. B. Fortier.....	Natagaistic.....	150		100		300 00
André Gallibois.....	Dumourier Point.....	100		49	22	213 00
Michel Blais.....	Rivière Etamamu.....	40		7		42 00
Gilbert Jones.....	Manishuachi.....	40		10		30 00
Joseph Aubé.....	Conocho.....	40		8		24 00
George Mestivier.....	Olomanoshebe.....	100		15	50	195 00
Sylvestre Kennedy.....	Agwanau River.....	260		79		237 00
Olivier Rochette.....	Nabissipi River.....	75		9		27 00
Joseph Tanguay.....	Nutsheeshoo.....	90		15		45 00
Magdalen Islands.....					6000	18000 00
	Total.....	9138	818	2090	7221	38094 00

STATEMENT  
North  
with th  
quanti

Name of S

"Temperance"  
"Two Brothers"  
"Jenny Lind"  
"Zélie"  
"Flirt"  
"Onésime"  
"Dolphin"  
"Adeline"  
"Archangelo"  
"Mary Ann"  
"Annie"  
"Marie"  
"Zélie"  
"Grosnock"  
"Emma"  
"Breeze"

"Cutter"  
"Espérance"  
"Président"  
"Sarah"  
"Eugéni"  
"Flora"  
"Loup-Marin"  
"Lucie"  
"Triton"

"Iberville"  
"Alphonsine"  
"Amelia"  
"Wide Awake"  
"Eugénie"  
"Veselo"  
"Victoria"  
"Alisa"  
"Lady"  
"Alexandre"  
"Attempt"



STATEMENT shewing the number of Schooners from the Magdalen Islands, and the North Shore of the Gult of St. Lawrence, engaged in Seal hunting in 1864, with the name of the Captain, the tonnage, the number of sailors, and the quantity of Seals killed.

## Schooners from House Harbor.

Name of Schooner.	Name of Captain.	Tonnage.	Number of Sailors.	Seals killed.	Value of Seals.
					\$ cts.
"Tempérance".....	David Terriau.....	50	10	140	630 00
"Two Brothers".....	Richard Delaney.....	53	10	140	630 00
"Jenny Lind".....	Prosper Turbide.....	45	10	320	1440 00
"Zélie".....	Vital Cormier.....	36	10	320	1440 00
"Flirt".....	Laurent Bourque.....	65	10	48	216 00
"Onésime".....	Marcelin Richard.....	45	10	100	450 00
"Dolphin".....	Onésime Richard.....	82	10	100	450 00
"Adeline".....	Zéphirin Arseneau.....	54	10	15	67 50
"Archangèle".....	Nazaire Jonphe.....	50	10	15	67 50
"Mary Ann".....	Théophile Arseneau.....	50	10	12	54 00
"Annie".....	William Terriau.....	30	10	14	63 00
"Marie".....	Nestor Arseneau.....	45	10	7	31 50
"Zélie".....	Hippolyte Richard.....	30	10	20	90 00
"Gresnock".....	F. Terriau.....	40	10	12	54 00
"Emma".....	Désiré Loiseau.....	48	10	Totally lost	}
"Breeze".....	P. Bertrand.....	32	10	with all hands	
Total.....		755	160	1263	5683 50

## Schooners from Amherst Harbor.

"Cutter".....	J. Vigneault.....	27	10	66	297 00
"Espérance".....	J. Chiasson.....	51	10	110	495 00
"Président".....	Onésime Bourque.....	36	10	69	310 50
"Sarah".....	H. Boudreau.....	23	10	60	270 00
"Engédi".....	G. Cormier.....	30	10		
"Flora".....	Louis Boudreau.....	34	10	30	135 00
"Loup-Marin".....	Eug. Bourgeois.....	37	10	40	180 00
"Lucie".....	H. Renaud.....	27	10	10	45 00
"Triton".....	Clément Turbide.....	28	10	5	22 50
Total.....		295	90	390	1755 00

## Schooners from Esquimaux Point.

"Iberville".....	N. Boudreau.....	36	10	500	2250 00
"Alphonsine".....	Prosper Cyr.....	23	10	200	900 00
"Amelia".....	X. Cormier.....	47	10	725	3262 50
"Wide Awake".....	V. Vigneault.....	42	10	300	1350 00
"Eugénie".....	Amédée Vigneault.....	51	10	200	900 00
"Venelo".....	Placide Doyle.....	33	10	200	900 00
"Victoria".....	G. Cormier.....	52	10	200	900 00
"Ailsa".....	F. Cumming.....	40	10	14	63 00
"Lady".....	J. Muldoon.....	30	10	12	54 00
"Alexandre".....	J. Kennedy.....	40	10	Wro'd on Il'd of Anticosti.	
"Attempt".....	J. Le Marquand.....	20	10	208	936 00
Total.....		414	110	2559	11515 50

killed on the  
the Magdalen

Seals killed on the  
ice in the Spring  
of 1864.

Value of Seals.

\$ cts.

960 00

1980 00

414 00

162 00

288 00

42 00

672 90

160 00

1560 00

318 00

180 00

420 00

150 00

6 00

378 00

480 00

36 00

180 00

540 00

24 00

84 00

1800 00

102 00

72 00

40

120 00

120 00

50

456 00

40

120 00

100

2034 00

200

906 00

100

330 00

100

300 00

150

660 00

100

306 00

100

300 00

30 00

30 00

130

1512 00

15

387 00

14

42 00

10

198 00

12 00

90 00

300 00

22

213 00

42 00

30 00

24 00

50

195 00

237 00

27 00

45 00

6000

18000 00

7221

38094 00

STATEMENT shewing the number of Schooners from the Magdalen Islands, and the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, &c.—Continued.

Schooners from Natashquan.

Name of Schooner.	Name of Captain.	Tonnage.	Number of Sailors.	Seals killed.	Value of Seals.
"Tiber" .....	Paul Vigneault.....	22	10	930	\$ cts. 4185 00
"Espérance" .....	Théophile Boudreau.....	25	10	400	1800 00
"Marie Louise" .....	Vital Chevery .....	24	10	100	450 00
"Marie Marguerite" .....	Jean Vigneault .....	22	10	100	450 00
Total.....		93	40	1530	6885 50

Schooners from Kégasca.

"Victoria" .....	Samuel Bruneau .....	65	10	300	1350 00
"Marie-Julie" .....	S. Bourque .....	26	10	740	3330 00
"Hirondelle" .....	Jules Poirrier.....	27	10	25	112 50
Total.....		118	30	1065	4792 50

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Schooners .....	43	Number of Sailors .....	430
Tons .....	1673	Number of Seals killed .....	6807
		Value of Seals.....	\$30,631 50

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