

140
Aug. 13"

FIRED TWENTY SHOTS

Canadian Revenue Cutter Badly Damages American Steamer.

WONDER NO ONE WAS KILLED.

Yankee Boat Saved by Her Plucky Captain.

Erie, Pa., Aug. 13.—The Silver Spray, a fishing boat owned here, came into port in a badly shattered condition, due to an encounter in mid-lake with the Canadian revenue cutter Petrel.

The Canadian authorities have had trouble with American fishermen for years who were poaching on their side of the lake and the Petrel is kept constantly on the lookout for them. About noon yesterday she came upon the Silver Spray on the Canadian side of the lake and at once ordered Captain Chris Chau to stop. The Petrel is a strong steel craft, and, it is said, attempted to ram the American boat before she could comply with the order.

Captain Chau, remembering the fate of several other boats from this side, which had been captured and confiscated, two from Erie only last season, decided to try to escape, and started ahead at full speed. The captain of the Petrel, when he saw that the Silver Spray was trying to get away, opened fire with all the guns he had on board, and before he ceased firing some 20 shots had struck her. One passed through the smokestack into the pilot house, in which Chau stood at the wheel, and two more struck the pilot house, one of which came within a few inches of him, scattering splinters around his head.

That no one was killed was a wonder, as two shots entered the water closet, two the cabin, two the roof, three the after hurricane deck and others in various parts of the boat.

The chase was kept up for some time, and Captain Chau was nearly in despair, as his cold water pump refused to work, and he was also afraid that his boat might be struck below the water line and sink. He succeeded, however, in getting across the dividing line and the Petrel gave up the pursuit.

The Silver Spray is a double-decker and was for 12 years in service at Buffalo as a pleasure steamer.

Captain Chau will report the affair to the state department at Washington, as he says he was only looking for some of his nets which had drifted from this side toward the Canadian shore.

A large number of American fishing tugs have been confiscated by the Canadian government, one, however, belonging at Dunkirk, being a few weeks ago returned to the owners.

The only man injured on the Silver Spray was Frederick Culver, who was hit in the leg by a shot. He is now in the hospital. The fishermen say the Petrel used her small deck cannon.

THE YARMOUTH FISHERIES.

Great Business of English Port Almost a Thing of the Past.

Placid Yarmouth seems destined to remain associated with the fishing of yesterday, and to give evidence of its gradual decline in importance as a factor in this particular industry. It is a thriving centre in many other respects, but the day when its mere name was redolent of the hook and the net is rapidly passing. With the canal-like Yare flowing through its main streets, bordered by green trees and overlooked by charming old houses, it is for all the world like its over-sea neighbor, Holland. The wind-mills, the barges scudding over green meadows where the Broads mix land and sea indiscriminately, the queer gabled fronts of many houses, and the flaxen-haired red-cheeked people who pass need only wooden sabots and a foreign tongue to be fit subject of Queen Wilhelmina.

To a stranger unacquainted with their dialect, I am not so sure but that the foreign tongue is there. Yet great ships in the docks, changing electric tramways, and a sea-front as gorgeous in pavilions and piers as any in the kingdom, cannot take away the tragedy of its dirty fish market and its decreasing population to those who cast nets upon the waters.

If one asks the cause of this decline, many answers are given. First of all, it is said that the great companies have decided against its harbors, and its uses as a distributing centre; that fish from the big steam trawlers go elsewhere, either to Lowestoft or more southern centres, or, more often than all, direct to London by water. Therefore, only in the flush of the autumn fishing season does the Yarmouth market present anything like its former appearance, and this because there is opportunity in the great herring shoals for the work of the small fishermen in his simply handled smack.

At other times of the year, as now, the season when the markets are teeming with constantly increasing tons of fish, the Yarmouth fishing deck shows only a meagre dozen or so of boats against the hundreds which used to crowd its waters.

After the manner of the conquered the Yarmouth fisherman shakes his head and makes doleful predictions as to the future of steam-fishing. Even in the presence of many boats in his own harbor only awaiting the installation of engines, which cannot be made fast enough, he tells you that steam-fishing is rapidly ruining those who have invested in it. The uncertainty of the result of any voyage cannot, in the long run he says, pay for the upkeep of these expensive craft. The percentage of gain is less and the chance of loss is greater than in the days when a skipper, with but few men, could afford to wait upon the uncertainty of sea fortunes, could afford to come in shore with a small haul in place of the expected hold-full.—Mr. Chalmers Roberts in "The World's Work."

GOOD MACKEREL FARES.

Sch. Edith M. Prior Has 9000 Fresh Ones.

Caught Three Schools Off Here This Forenoon.

Sch. Edith M. Prior, Capt. Ralph Webber, arrived here this afternoon with a fine fare, 9000 fresh mackerel, taken off here this forenoon. The fare sold to W. E. Dennett at 12 cents each.

SQUID AT CANSO.

Fifty Vessels Were Baited at That Port Yesterday.

A despatch from Canso, N. S., says that the first squid of the season have struck in, and that 50 vessels baited there yesterday.

This is good news, as a large fleet of vessels have been waiting a long time for squid to put in an appearance.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Constellation, Boon Island, 100 bbls. fresh mackerel.
Sch. S. F. Maker, Bay of Fundy, 20 bbls. salt mackerel.
Sch. Mary E. Harty, Bay of Fundy, 39 bbls. salt mackerel.
Sch. Marguerite Haskins, Bay of Fundy, 80 bbls. salt mackerel.
Sch. Avalon, South Shoal lightship, 118 bbls. salt mackerel.
Sch. Nourmahal, Bay of Fundy, 138 bbls. salt mackerel.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Oregon, halibuting.
Sch. Gossip, shacking.
Sch. Evelyn L. Smith, shore.
Sch. Valentina, swordfishing.
Sch. Yakima, haddocking.
Sch. Grayling, seining.
Sch. Maud M. Story, Georges.
Sch. Alice S. Hawkes, seining.
Sch. Diana, seining.

Today's Market.

Board of trade prices: Large handline Georges cod, \$4.00 per cwt. medium do., \$3.00; large trawl Georges, \$3.00; medium do., \$2.75; handline cod from deck, caught east of Cape Sable, \$3.75; medium do., \$2.75; large trawl bank cod, \$3.00; medium do., \$2.50; large dory handline cod, \$3.25; medium do., \$2.75.

Board of Trade splitting prices on fresh fish—All cod caught on Le Have Bank and to the westward, large \$2.00; medium, \$1.50; all cod caught to the eastward of Le Have Bank, large, \$2.00; medium, \$1.50; snapper cod fish, 10 cts.; cusk, \$1.30; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 80 cts.; pollock, 50 cts.

Outside sales, salt bank cod, \$3.50 per hundred weight for large, \$3 for medium.

Ipswich Bay pollock, 45 cts. per cwt.

Rips cod, \$4.00 per cwt. for large and \$3.40 for medium.

Bank halibut, 6 cts. per lb. for white and 4 cts. for gray.

Swordfish, 6 cts. per lb.

Salt mackerel, Bay of Fundy, \$15.00 per bbl.; Georges, \$18.00; South Shoal lightship, \$19.25; Race Point, \$17.

Fresh mackerel, 12 cts. apiece.

Boston.

Sch. Laura Enos, 500 cod, 800 pollock.
Sch. Marion, 1000 cod, 2 swordfish.
Sch. Lena May, 1000 cod, 2500 pollock.
Sch. Esther Gray, 2000 cod.
Sch. Katherine and Ellen, 15,000 haddock, 21,000 cod, 10,000 hake.
Sch. Olivia Domingoes, 21,000 haddock, 15,000 cod.

Sch. Annie and Jennie, 1500 cod, 1500 pollock.

Sch. Mary E. Stone, 2000 cod, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Philip P. Manta, 10,000 haddock, 4000 cod.

Sch. George H. Lube, 37 swordfish.

Cod and haddock, \$2 to \$3.50; hake, \$1 to \$1.50; pollock, \$1.50 to \$2; swordfish, 7 cents per lb.; mackerel, 14 cents each.

Mackerel Notes.

The fresh mackerel fare which sch. Edith M. Prior landed here yesterday afternoon were taken off Boon Island. About nine or ten sail were there and schs. Constellation, A. C. Newhall, Angielena and Smuggler got fish. The mackerel were mixed in big schools of "blue backs," and Capt. Webber picked his fare of 9000 fish out of a whole seine full of these bait fish. After landing her fare, the Prior hustled right out. Capt. Webber is a promising seining skipper who has done fairly this season. He works hard and deserves all his success.

Sch. Constellation, Capt. Thaddeus Morgan, arrived last night at midnight, from Boon Island with 100 barrels of fresh mackerel.

John Nagle & Co. quickly bought the fare, hustled it out, and the Constellation sailed immediately for the fishing ground. Capt. Morgan has been doing well lately and has