

March 7.

QUEER FISH.

Found in a Barrel of Irish Mackerel at Davis Bros. Wharf.

In unpacking a barrel of Irish mackerel a few days ago, the men on Davis Bros. wharf came across a fish, which was not a mackerel by any means. It was about the size of a small mackerel, the flesh being very white. The fish was split the same way as a mackerel, the skin being a sort of light gray, which looked as though it might be very bright and shiny when the fish was alive. The tail was deeply grooved and the fins at the gills were noticeably long and slender. The head was rather blunt and from the mouth to the tail, the back is a perfect ellipse in shape. The other side, from the under jaw to the tail, is quite straight. Nobody has been able to name the fish, but it is thought that it is some fish that frequents the Irish coast and is found in proximity to mackerel schools as porgies and others are here.

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Newfoundland Frozen Herring Are High.

Bait is scarce and high at present and at Boston the shore boats are paying \$4.50 per hundred pounds for Newfoundland frozen herring.

Sch. T. M. Nicholson, now taking out at T wharf, Boston, is shipping considerable to Philadelphia and other places.

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BIG ICE FLOES.

Encountered on Grand Bank by Steamer Cheronea.

The Thompson line steamer Cheronea, bound from Calais, France, for New York, which was reported as passing cape Race in damaged condition March 4, has arrived at Valentia, N. F.

Capt. Liswell stated yesterday that the steamer came in contact with huge ice floes off the Grand banks. Some of her plates were indented, and a slight leak was started in her forward compartment.

March 7.

BUZZARDS BAY HEARING.

Delegation of Master Mariners at State House Today.

A delegation of the Master Mariners Association is at the state house today to appear before the committee on fisheries and game at the adjourned hearing on the bill to allow the use of nets and seines in the waters of Buzzards Bay. The Master Mariners will appear in favor of the bill.

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DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Vessels Sailed.

Today's Fish Market.

Board of Trade fresh fish prices: large western cod, \$2.50; medium do., \$1.62 1-2; large eastern cod, \$2.25; medium do., \$1.50; snapper do., 80c; cusk, \$1.62 1-2; snapper do., 50c; haddock, \$1.10; hake, \$1.10; pollock, \$1.

Board of Trade salt fish prices: Large Georges handline cod, \$4.75; medium do., \$3.75; salt haddock, \$2; salt pollock, \$2; salt hake, \$2; salt cusk, \$2.50.

Bank halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 9 cts. for gray.

Georges handliner halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 10 cts. for gray.

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Boston.

Sch. Olga, 38,000 haddock, 8000 cod, 7000 cusk, 1000 halibut.

Sch. Shepherd King, 9500 haddock, 500 cod, 2000 hake.

Sch. Catherine & Ellen, 50,000 haddock, 15,000 cod.

Sch. Tartar, 50,000 haddock, 14,000 cod.

Sch. Clara G. Silva, 3800 haddock, 300 cod, 200 hake.

Sch. Pontiac, 12,000 haddock, 500 cod, 1800 hake.

Sch. Matchless, 35,000 haddock, 20,000 cod.

Sch. Annie Perry, 10,000 haddock, 2000 cod.

Haddock, \$2.50 to \$4.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$4.50; hake, \$3.50 to \$8; pollock, \$5.50.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Capt. Daniel McColish will now fit sch. Blanche for salt bank codfishing.

Capt. Alex McEachern is fitting sch. Maggie and May for salt banking.

Sch. Georgie Campbell will fit for salt banking under command of Capt. Robert Wilson.

Capt. John Glynn will fit sch. Judique for salt banking.

Capt. Charles Forbes is fitting sch. Pauline for Georges handline codfishing.

Sch. Jessie Costa of Provincetown has fitted and sailed on a fresh halibut trip.

March 8.

SEND IN YOUR CLAIMS.

Congressman Gardner Calls Attention to an Important Matter.

Many Small Owners and Captains Not Heard From.

The following letter from Congressman A. P. Gardner calling the attention of having all claims against Great Britain or any of her dependencies in his hands on March 11, is of much importance, especially in this city, where there are claims of firms, vessel owners and skippers amounting to many thousands of dollars.

All who have these claims should hasten and get them in Capt. Gardner's hands as quickly as possible. The letter reads as follows:

Washington, D. C., March 6, 1907.

To the Editors Gloucester Daily Times, Gloucester, Mass.

Dear Sirs:—Will you kindly call the attention of your readers to the fact that now is the time for them to send me their fishery claims against Great Britain or any of her dependencies.

For the most part the claims of the large firms against Newfoundland are all in, but few of the small owners or captains have not yet communicated with me. Not many Canadian claims are at hand, either from large or small owners.

Claims should be made out in the form of a memorandum, accompanied by vouchers and a written statement of explanation.

Nothing may come of this effort, perhaps; but it will cost nothing except the trouble.

All claims should be at hand on March 11 at the latest.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) A. P. Gardner.

March 8.

CAPT. ROBBINS HOME.

Reports a Good Red Snapper Season at Pensacola.

Capt. Parker Robbins of this city has returned from his annual winter red snapper fishing out of Pensacola, Florida. He reports that the fish have tended on the shore this season and that since the first of the year he smacks from Pensacola and near by ports have done extra well.

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GREAT SMELT FISHING.

Essex River Lined with Sportsmen Seeking Elusive Beauties.

Fish Remarkably Large and Many Good Catches.

It is safe to say that smelt fishing in Essex river will be an established pursuit at Essex next winter. The strike of Warden Nixon of the Massachusetts Fish and Game Commission this week, has fairly set the fishermen of the town into state of excitement. Ever since the day when the warden located the fish, the river in the locality of the strike has been fairly alive with men and boys, all fishing. Some of them fished all day and many fished well into the night, by lantern light. The smelt are an extra big run and fully half of them are by far the largest ever taken in this vicinity, easily running from 10 to 13 inches in length.

Warden Nixon was convinced that there were smelt in the river, and that if he could locate them, he could open up a source of income for many people, as fresh, home caught and unfrozen smelts command a very fancy price in the Boston market.

In speaking of this strike, he said that he wished he could have made it earlier in the season as it would surely have been a source of considerable revenue for many people. As it is now, some will make something out of it, and besides there will be many people who will have smelt in abundance on their tables.

The close season on catching smelt comes on at midnight, March 14, thus giving the fish a chance to spawn unmolested. It is safe to say that every day up to that time will find the river black with men and boys, all eagerly fishing. Many have gone up from here, and beside enjoying the sport, have brought home good catches.

Warden Nixon has given all the fishermen who care for it the benefit of his knowledge

and experience as to the best way to catch them and the proper kind of bait and gear to use, for fishing for smelt through two and three feet of ice is far different than fishing for them in the open water of the docks in the fall of the year. Many have followed his advice and have made big hauls. Mr. Nixon is certainly to be complimented for his work of locating the fish and using his best efforts in showing the fishermen how to fish for them to the best advantage.

Local smelters as well as Essex men have got the fever in earnest, although many of them had given up the sport, since last November until next July. Yesterday several of the local crack smelters, including A. W. Flye, Charles W. Rich, Albert Casey, Fred Reynolds, Hiram Nickerson, Osman Babson and others, left on the early afternoon car and fished until dark through the ice on the river.

Fully 50 anglers were on the river during the afternoon in the vicinity of Story's shipyard. Of course everyone was first obliged to cut his own hole, which required from 15 to 25 minutes according to the thickness of the ice.

But the successful fisherman was the fellow who had the real bait. Minnows and shrimp at this time of the year are out of question so each had to use what they could get. The best fishing was done by those having frogs leg dipped in carimue. The fish would bite quickly, and owing to their tender mouth it would be necessary to land them quickly, or they frequently shake loose from the hook.

Although it probably appeared cold sport to the many spectators, the fishermen nevertheless enjoyed themselves. Some of the smelters fish with as many as three lines, heavily leaded, owing to the strong undertow.

Among the successful fishermen the past few days has been the small boy. He has no fancy gear, but gets there just the same. With an axe and chisel he cuts his hole and with a bit of cord and sinker rigged to home made traps, and with no other bait than blood worms, he manages to get a fair catch. He has nothing to sit on but is content to squat on the ice and wait for a nibble.

This forenoon the smelt men were out early endeavoring to break through creeks in hope of securing a supply of minnows while others sought frogs for afternoon fishing.

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The records for 1906 show **LOSSES** that during that year 82 sailing **AT SEA** vessels and 39 steamships were lost. Of the sailing vessels 25 were American, and 19 were English. Only one American steamship was lost. Six sailing vessels went forth from port and were never spoken or heard of.

Forty-three sailing craft were lost through going ashore when they ought to have stayed out in deep water. Eighteen steamships were stranded, three lost through collision, four burned, four foundered and 10 were broken up for the scrapheap, a junkman buying some of them to be remelted into steel plates. Twenty-three sailing vessels were condemned or made over into barges.

Collision was the principal cause of accident. No less than 121 steamships were in collision. Fifty-five vessels have been wrecked or damaged since February 14.

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SOUTHERN SEINERS.

Advance Guard Will Make Early Start This Season.

FLEET LESS THAN LAST YEAR.

Sch. A. M. Nicholson Will Get Away Early Next Week.

The mackerel season of 1907 can be said to have opened, for today sch. A. M. Nicholson, Capt. Solomon Jacobs, will haul on Parkhurst's ways to fix up for the southern trip. For the past two days Capt. Jacobs and his crew have been at work getting things ready and stowed on board, and he expects to be all ready to sail the first of next week, being, as usual, the first to get away. He intends to go as far south as Cape Hatteras and should he fall in with an early school, would run to Fortress Munroe, there to land his catch and have it shipped to market from that point.

Sch. Arthur James, Capt. Archibald Devine, will not be far behind Capt. Jacobs in making an early start. Early next week she will fit out and go on the ways and will sail by the last of the week, making the second of the southern mackerel hunters to get away before the snow is off the ground.

The latter part of March and first of April will witness the getting ready of the bulk of the early fleet, most of them figuring on the fish not showing much before the 3th or 10th of April and therefore being on the grounds in plenty of time to be in the game from the start. Last year this early southern seining fleet numbered 65 sail, or a little better. This year it will not be as large, the prospect at this date being that what is commonly called the early southern fleet will number a little less, about 55 sail or possibly a few over being the estimate.

Of course by the time the fish are up off No Mans Land, the fleet will be greatly increased, so that by Cape Shore time it would not be at all surprising if the mackerel seiners numbered between 80 and 90 sail. Especially would the fleet be materially enlarged if the southern fleet should have a good season.

As near as can be ascertained at this early date, the early southern mackerel seining fleet will be made up about as follows:

Gloucester.

Sch. A. M. Nicholson, Capt. Solomon Jacobs.

Sch. Arthur James, Capt. Archibald Devine.

Sch. Priscilla Smith, Capt. William J. Corkum.

Sch. Lucania, Capt. Martin L. Welch.

Sch. Cynthia, Capt. Geoffery Thomas.

Sch. Arabia, Capt. John Matheson.

Sch. Mary E. Harty, Capt. Reuben Cameron.

Sch. Grayling, Capt. Joseph Smith.

Sch. Constellation, Capt. Thaddeus Moran.

Sch. Avalon, Capt. Christopher Carrigan.

Sch. Lottie G. Merchant.

Sch. Esperanto, Capt. Charles Maguire.

Sch. Marguerite Haskins, Capt. Ralph Webbar.

Sch. Dauntless.

Sch. Ralph L. Hall, Capt. Frank H. Hall.

Sch. Corsair, Capt. John Morash.

Sch. Colonial, Capt. Lemuel Firth.

Sch. Helen G. Wells, Capt. Edward McLean.

Sch. Pinta, Capt. John F. Vautier.

Sch. Diana, Capt. James McLean.

Sch. Patrician, Capt. C. Wesley Farmer.

Sch. Romance, Capt. William Corkum.

Sch. Speculator.

Sch. Lena and Maud, Capt. Fred. E. Carritt.

Sch. Annie Greenlaw, Capt. George G. Hamor.

Sch. Victor, Capt. John W. McFarland.

Sch. Veda M. McKown, Capt. Norman A. Ross.

Sch. Norma, Capt. Charles Doucette.

Sch. Saladin, Capt. Flar McKown.

Sch. Corona, Capt. Benjamin McGray.

Sch. Elizabeth Silsbee, Capt. John A. McKinnon.

Sch. Hattie M. Graham, Capt. Gilbert Gallant.

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Sch. Effie M. Prior, Capt. Elroy Prior.
Sch. Good Luck, Capt. G. Melvin McClain.

Sch. ——— Capt. Alex. McCloud.
Sch. Fannie E. Prescott, Capt. Lewis Carritt.

Sch. Lizzie M. Stanley, Capt. Joshua W. Stanley.
Boston.

Sch. Nellie Dixon, Capt. James Ellis.
Sch. Shenandoah, Capt. James C. Gannon.

Sch. ———, Capt. John Perry.
Sch. Arthur Binney, Capt. Rufus McKay.
Provincetown.

Sch. ———, Capt. Samuel T. Hatch.
Boothbay Harbor.

Sch. Natalie B. Nickerson, Capt. John S. Seavey.
New York.

Sch. Mary P. Mosquita.
Sch. Nourmahal, Capt. Jerry Cook.
Sch. Roulette.

Sch. Ruth E. Pember.
Sch. Bertha and Pearl.
Sch. Faustina.

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DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Fish Market.

Board of Trade fresh fish prices: large western cod, \$2.50; medium do., \$1.62 1-2; large eastern cod, \$2.25; medium do., \$1.50; snapper do., 60c; cusk, \$1.62 1-2; snapper do., 50c; haddock, \$1.10; hake, \$1.10; pollock, \$1.

Board of Trade salt fish prices: Large Georges handline cod, \$4.75; medium do., \$3.75; salt haddock, \$2; salt pollock, \$2; salt hake, \$2; salt cusk, \$2.50.

Bank halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 9 cts. for gray.

Georges handliner halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 10 cts. for gray.

Boston.

Sch. Helen B. Thomas, 6500 haddock, 100 cod, 1000 hake, 200 cusk, 100 pollock.

Sch. Regina, 45,000 haddock, 4000 cod.

Haddock, \$4.50 per cwt.; cod, \$5; hake, \$4 to \$6; pollock, \$3.50; cusk, \$3.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Capt. William Iarkin is fitting sch. Sceptre for salt bank codfishing.

Sch. Lillian was at Portland yesterday.

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WANT NO COMPROMISE.

Cape Cod Fishermen Heard at the Buzzard's Bay Hearing.

"The only real sharks which the fishermen are afraid of are the sharks of the American Fisheries Company," said Rev. E. E. Phillips, a minister from Bourne, at the hearing before the committee on fisheries and game yesterday on the legislation, which proposes to open Buzzard's bay to trap and seine fishing.

The fishermen from the Cape turned out at the hearing in large number to voice their disapproval of the compromise offered some days ago in which it was proposed to open the lower half of the bay.

Others who opposed the legislation were James W. Hurley of Wareham, Horace B. Tobey, James F. Monahan, Russell and James W. Hurley.

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NEWFOUNDLAND STORMBOUND.

St. Johns, March 9.—A heavy blizzard has raged throughout Newfoundland, blockading railway lines and damaging shipping. An unknown fishing vessel foundered on the south coast of the island and seven men were lost. The high gale drove three schooners seaward, and the crews were obliged to abandon the craft to save their lives. Business in many places is at a standstill.

LABRADOR'S ICEBERGS.

An Almost Endless Procession of All Shapes and Sizes.

It is the icebergs that make Labrador fascinating. They greet you when you steam out of the strait of Belle Isle, the northern gateway of the gulf of St. Lawrence, and head northward up the coast of Labrador. They come floating from the north, an endless procession, all shapes, fantastic, colossal, statuesque, even grotesque—a magnificent assemblage of crystal domes and turrets and marble fortresses. Your steamer picks its way carefully among them lest they be jealous of her intrusion and fall over upon her. And in the midst of this glorious company you come to Battle Harbor.

The settlement is on an island perhaps 200 yards in diameter, which is the outpost of a larger island, and plows the waves of the ocean like the prow of some gigantic ocean liner. In storms the spray leaps almost across its ledgy surface. A cove hides behind the bluff sea wall, and on its rim nestles a tiny village of whitewashed cottages. You climb the hill to the lookout. Away to the north and south spreads out the vast procession of the icebergs. They come out of the north, the fog surrounding their tops and streaming like smoke from their pinnacles. They move slowly southward, perhaps three or four miles a day. Some go directly south down the Newfoundland coast; some turn west as they approach the straits and are swept by the tide into the gulf of St. Lawrence.

Day by day from the hilltop you note their slow progress. Each day sees new forms emerging on the northern horizon, while old familiar bulks are lost to view in the south. Each month's icebergs are natives of a more northern region; hence the bergs of the late summer, though fewer in number, are individually larger than those of the earlier part of the season, because they have been longer in the making, coming from farther north.

June's icebergs are Labrador's own product and have broken off from the ice field that has filled the bays and extended far into the ocean in the previous winter. July's bergs come from Baffin Land, while the huge bulks of August are natives of Kane bay and the far northern rim of Greenland, where man has never been.—Boston Transcript.