

May 3.

152^a

EARLY COD AND HALIBUT FISHERY ON GEORGES.

First Trip in Sch. Nautilus, March 5, 1830—Sch. Romeo Makes the Second Trip—Narrow Escape of Benjamin Marble—Style of Living on the Vessels in Those Days—First Codfishing Trips to Georges and Bay of St. Lawrence—The Business Becomes Permanent in 1835 and '36—In 1848 Halibut Catch Overstocked the Market—Suspension of the Gloucester Halibut Company—Some Large Georges Trips—The Greenland Halibut Fishery.

It is claimed by a large majority of those interested in the fisheries that the schooner Nautilus of this port, was the first vessel which ever ventured to Georges on a halibut trip. There are others who assert that the schooner Romeo is entitled to the claim of being the pioneer vessel in this branch of the fisheries. Several years ago, I made the most careful inquiries and from one of the crew of the Nautilus, obtained the date of her sailing, and several interesting particulars of the trip. I could not obtain any date of the sailing of the Romeo, although one of the crew was interviewed. He felt confident that there were not many days' difference in their time of sailing, and was rather inclined to the opinion that the Nautilus was the first. My informant was positive that he was correct in his dates, and he was a man of undoubted veracity, and in the absence of any contradictory statements, I publish this narrative. The vessel was commanded by Capt. John Fletcher Wonson, of East Gloucester, one of the most able and careful skippers among those of the olden time, and for many years was the senior member of the fish firm of J. F. Wonson & Co.

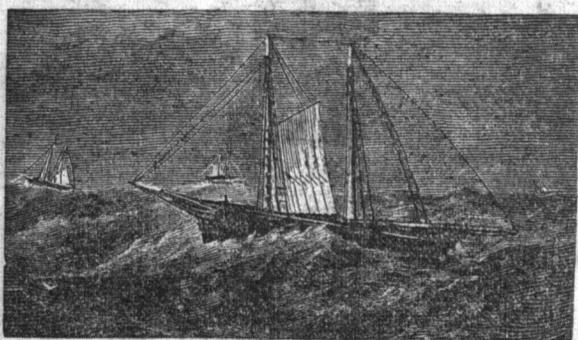
In 1828, while coming home in the schooner Nautilus from Wilmington, N. C., Capt. Wonson noticed on the chart used on board the vessel, a picture of a halibut, under which was printed the words, "Good halibut grounds here." This he remembered, and two years afterward, concluded to give halibut catching a trial. On the fifth of March 1830, the vessel sailed out of the harbor on her trip for halibut, with the following persons: John Fletcher Wonson, master, Nathan F. Wonson,

sel, drifting with the current, was soon some distance off. This was thought nothing of in the excitement attending fishing, until one of the crew remarked that Marble was about out of sight, and he thought it queer that he didn't row for the vessel, especially as night was coming on, and there were indications of a storm. All hands then began to talk it over, and thought that something must have happened to him. A man was sent aloft to keep the dory in sight, and a little breeze springing up, the vessel was got underway, and they succeeded in reaching him just before the darkness and the storm came on.

It seems that in the hurry of launching the dory, he forgot the oars, and that accounted for his not attempting to regain the vessel. There lay the oars on the vessel's deck, and no one on board had observed them. If they had, the mystery of Marble's not attempting to regain the vessel would soon have been solved. Soon after he had been picked up, the storm came on in all its fury, a regular Georges' blow, with all of its accompaniments, which gave the little schooner all she wanted to weather, and would have proved certain death to anyone exposed to its fury in a dory, especially without oars.

Style of Living on Board.

There was quite a difference in the style of living on board the vessels of those days in comparison with that of later years. Fish formed 75 per cent. of their food. Twenty-eight pounds of flour was the allowance for a trip and 25 pounds of beef and pork with plenty of hard bread. A favorite dish was the "Dundee pudding," made of hard bread, pounded up and



ON GEORGES WITH STORM COMING ON.

John W. Wonson, Samuel G. Wonson, Daniel Douglass and Benjamin Marchant. The result of this trip was 20 halibut, which were landed, but met with a dull sale.

The schooner Romeo, Capt. Henry Pew, sailed soon after, and brought in a trip of upwards of 3000 pounds, which were sold for three cents per pound. Other vessels soon followed, but the business did not amount to much until it had been prosecuted five or six years, when it began to assume considerable importance, and became established as a regular branch of the fisheries.

Adrift on Georges—Narrow Escape.

The first trip of the Nautilus came very near being the last to one of her crew. Benjamin Marble, and gave a little foretaste of other dangers accompanying the vocation. The vessel was lying to, the crew having succeeded in finding some halibut, when Mr. Marble launched the dory, and throwing over his anchor, commenced fishing by himself. It was quite moderate, and the ves-

sweetened with molasses, with some flour stirred in to give it a little of the adhesive quality. It proved a very palatable dish when properly concocted. Hard bread fried in pork fat was another standing dish on the bill of fare, as well as hasty pudding. What would the fishermen of today think of this style of living, and how would they like to return to the days of 1830 when the first Georgesman passed out by Eastern Point and laid the foundation for the large fleet and catches of cod and halibut which the succeeding years have witnessed.

First Trip to Georges and Bay St. Lawrence.

During the month of July, 1821, Capts. Simeon Burnham, in the sch. President, Capt. George Friend in the Columbus, Capt. Elisha Brown in the Independence, and Capt. Samuel W. Brown in the Volant, sailed for the Bay of St. Lawrence, on the first codfishing voyage to that locality from this port, arriving home on the third of July with full fares. At that time nothing was known of keeping fish

salted in butts through the summer, and the facilities for curing were very poor, consequently they were badly burned in drying, and did not bring in the New York market hardly \$2 a quintal.

During the month of June while the four above mentioned were in the Bay of St. Lawrence for codfish, and there being a scarcity of fish in Boston Bay, three of the other vessels, viz.: Capt. Samuel Wonson of the Three Sisters, Capt. Elisha M. Oakes of the Eight Brothers, and Capt. Robert Marston, of the Two Friends held a consultation and resolved to run the risk of making a trip to Georges for codfish. At this time, (1821), it is

related as a positive fact, that if vessels anchored on Georges, the current would certainly run them under. The three vessels sailed, keeping close company. They did not dare to anchor at first, but drifted about and caught a few fish. Finally one of the skippers proposed to run the risk and anchored one of the vessels. This, after some discussion on the part of all hands, was agreed upon, and two extra men were put on board the vessel, as a reinforcement, to assist in getting the anchor quickly in case of any difficulty. All preparations being completed, the anchor was let go, and shortly catches the bottom, then spin goes the cable around the windlass. "Now, check her a little," was the order. Soon it got a good hold, and the vessel started in apparent motion through the water, at about three knots an hour. In the meantime the other two vessels, having taken the current, are fast leaving the anchored craft and those on board began to get alarmed. The order to heave up anchor was soon given, and after an hour-and-a-half's work, this feat was accomplished. Before dark a little breeze sprung up, and the vessels met again and started for home. This ended the first codfishing trip to Georges. These facts were obtained from parties who heard the men tell their story on their arrival home, and may be relied upon as a correct account of the first codfishing trip to Georges by Gloucester vessels. As I fail to find that any other vessels were there previous for this purpose these three must have the credit of being the pioneers of the business.

Became a Permanent Business.

The Georges halibut and codfishery became a permanent business enterprise in the years of 1835 and '36, although vessels commenced going there for halibut some five years previously, in 1830. In the first years of the business the catch was almost entirely of halibut. In a full fare there would not be more than from six to ten quintals of codfish caught. Halibut were so plentiful in these early years of the Georges fishery, and for some years after, that trips were got without anchoring the vessel at all. Several went with their chain cables only. These trips of halibut were marketed mostly in Boston. In 1848 this school of halibut culminated. This also was the season of the Gloucester Halibut Company. The wonderful catch that spring overstocked the market; so much so, that under the stated price agreed upon, the company could not continue through the month of April, and had to stop fulfilling their contracts and wind up. As an evidence of the abundance of these fish this season, I have only to mention that at one time in April nearly half a million pounds of halibut were afloat in this harbor.

About this time codfish were first sold fresh after being dressed from the vessel, thus commencing the marketing of all kinds of fresh fish on their arrival in port. Heretofore fish were landed and salted and put into the shoresmen's hands for drying, the allowance to him being one-fourteenth part of the net proceeds for his services, to be deducted from the gross stock, the balance to be divided between the owners and crew.

During the month of September, 1819, as the boat Madison was at anchor on Middle bank, codfishing, a large school of halibut was struck. One hundred and forty were caught and the boat was immediately got underway for Boston, where the halibut were sold for one dollar each. The boat was owned and commanded by Capt. George Wonson. He had with him as crew, Moses Parsons and Benjamin Robinson.

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Over.

1526

May 3

In the year 1840, the schooner Nautilus, (spoken of above as making the first trip to Georges for halibut), Frederick Gerring, master, and the schooner Phoenix, William H. Rowe, master, made a trip to Georges, bringing in full fares, and were absent but 72 hours! I fail to learn of any quicker time than this, and think it would be very difficult to beat it. They had good runs both ways and began catching halibut as soon as their anchors were down.

In another article I propose to give an account of one of the most terrible gales on Georges which ever befel the Gloucester fleet, February 24, 1862, as related by one who encountered the terrors of that gale and escaped to tell the tale of woe and disaster which followed, viz: The loss of one hundred and seventy men and fifteen vessels.

Where Georges Is Located.

For the benefit of many who will peruse this article and not know as to the locality of Georges bank, I will state that it is about 190 miles east-southeast from Cape Ann, and about a 20 hours' run in a good breeze for one of our fishermen. There is shoal fishing and deep water fishing—the latter requiring from 100 to 150 fathoms of line.

LaHave bank is 100 miles east of Georges.

Some Big Georges Trips.

Herewith are given some big trips of the Georges fleet which will show that the Cape Ann fishermen were up and doing:

In 1865 schooner Everett Steele, Capt. Cash, brought in 75,769 pounds of codfish and stocked \$2,824.55, the largest stock ever made up to that time in a single trip to Georges. The cook realize \$184.04 as his share. A pretty good fortnight's work. Average share of crew \$130. The following year, under command of Capt. James Lunderkin, she brought in 99,338 pounds of fish and stocked \$2,738.95; and in 1869, under command of Capt. Joseph Goslin, weighed off 102,075 (the largest amount ever landed in one Georges trip) and stocked \$2,760.69, the cook realizing \$160 as his share. The several trips averaged about two weeks each. Vessel owned by George Steele.

Schooner Madame Roland, Capt. Lunderkin, in 1865, stocked \$2,217.76

on her first trip to Georges, and \$2,833.29 on her second trip, a total of \$5,050.75 on the two trips. Owned by George Steele.

The same year, schooner Abby M. Heath, Capt. Lee, stocked \$2,625 on a Georges trip and schooner Witchcraft, \$2,535, George H. Wixon, steward of the latter receiving \$243.32 as his share of the trip, the largest amount ever realized by one man in a single trip. Owned by the master and others.

Sch. Morning Star, Capt. Hiltz, in 1866 stocked \$2400 on a Georges trip and schooner William J. Raymond, Capt. Getchell, in 1873, stocked \$2,347.12. Owned by Dennis & Ayer.

Schooner William J. Dale, Capt. David A. Osier, in 1868, brought in 99,740 pounds of codfish, and 2,512 pounds of halibut, her net stock amounting to \$2,073, fish being low at that time. Owned by Dodd, Tarr & Co.

The largest season's stock in the Georges fishery of which I have record was made by schooner Laughing Water, Capt. Joseph Goslin, in 1865, her net stock in eleven trips amounting to \$14,843.84. She also made one trip to the Bay the same season, her net stock for the year amounting to \$17,954.30. The highline made \$1,105.37, and the cook's share was \$1,402.93. Owned by John Pew & Son.

The Greenland Halibut Fishery.

In 1870 an experimental trip was made to the coast of Greenland for halibut, with results which gave promise of a successful pursuit of this distant fishery. During the next two years half a dozen vessels made halibut trips to Greenland, but it did not prove remunerative, and the distance of the fishing grounds, the high cost of its prosecution and the danger from storms and icebergs led to its abandonment.

The pioneer in this fishery, however, Capt. John S. McQuinn, was still possessed with the purpose of finding new fishing grounds and on the 22d of May, 1873, with a crew numbering 20 men, set sail in the staunch schooner Membrino Chief, for the fishing grounds on the Icelandic coast, where fishermen of France and northern Europe had long pursued profitable ven-

tures. It is probable that this voyage was made at an untoward season, since it proved a failure. Last year, however, there was one trip made from here which proved quite successful and this fishery may be again taken up by the more venturesome skippers, who are ever ready to do and to dare, provided there is a promising chance that success would crown their efforts.

May 3

GOOD PRICES FOR HADDOCK.

BUT OTHER FISH BROUGHT NEAR SPLITTING PRICES BY T WHARF DEALERS.

Off-shore fish continues to be dull and go slow at T Wharf, but this morning finds shore stock in good demand, and, while cod, hake, cusk and pollock are bringing little or no better than splitting prices, haddock are quoted at from \$2 to \$4 per hundred weight, and schs. Matchless, Victor and Ethan, Yankee and Priscilla, which have nice bunches of this kind of fish will come out pretty well.

Two of the pollock seining fleet, schs. Georgia and Alert evidently struck fish somewhere, probably the Rips, are in this morning, the former with 50,000 pounds, the biggest haul of the year thus far, and the latter with 25,000 pounds. The latter sold at \$1.30 per hundred weight, but Capt. Forbes of the Georgia is bringing his trip to this port for splitting purposes.

Sch. Jorgina was in yesterday afternoon with a big load, 125,000 pounds of mixed fish and sailed for Gloucester without taking out any. Schs. Washakie and Elizabeth W. Nunan have hake and cusk fares, while schs. Flavilla and Juniata, from fresh drifting, bring small lots of cod.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:

Sch. Flavilla, 13,000 cod.

Sch. Dixie, 3500 cod.

Sch. Mary J. Ward, 1500 haddock,

2000 cod, 1500 hake, 1500 cusk.

Sch. Elizabeth W. Nunan, 9000 cod,

30,000 hake, 7000 cusk.

Sch. Matchless, 20,000 haddock,

5000 cod.

Sch. Victor and Ethan, 21,000 had-

dock, 46,000 cod, 8000 hake, 3000 cusk.

Sch. Yankee, 15,000 haddock, 4000

cod.

Sch. Priscilla 7000 haddock, 4000

cod.

Sch. Juniata, 14,000 cod.

Sch. Georgia, 50,000 pollock.

Sch. Alert, 25,000 pollock.

Sch. Jorgina 75,000 haddock, 40,000

cod, 5000 cusk, 2000 pollock, 1200 hal-

ibut.

Sch. Washakie 4500 cod, 43,000

hake, 14000 cusk.

Shore haddock, \$2 to \$4 per cwt.;

shore large cod, \$2 to \$3.25; shore

market cod, \$2 to \$2.50; hake, \$1.20

to \$1.50; cusk, \$1 to \$2; pollock, \$1.30;

Market is dull on off-shore fish.

ADVANCE ON FRESH COD.

Fare of Sch. Elk Sold at \$2.45 for Large and \$1.85 for Medium.

The fresh codfish of sch Elk sold this morning to the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company at \$2.45 per hundred weight for large and \$1.85 for medium. This is an advance of 10 cents on both large and mediums over last sales. The same firm also secured the salt cod in the same trip at \$5 per hundred weight for large and \$4.50 for mediums, the fish being scraped naps.

Live shore boat cod brought \$2.50 per hundred weight for large and \$1.85 for mediums this morning, these figures being paid by F. P. Smith & Co. for the 20,000 pounds fare of sch. Emily Sears.

Some Recent Stocks.

Sch. Yakima, Capt. Robert Wharton, stocked \$1800 on her recent quick halibut trip, the crew sharing \$39 clear.

Sch. Athena, Capt. Edward Forbes, stocked \$1150 on her good sized trip landed at Boston Monday.

Sch. Matthew S. Greer, Capt. Matthew S. Greer, stocked \$1600 on her big trip at Boston on Monday.

Portland Fish Notes.

The fish situation at Portland just now is decidedly dull, there being practically nothing doing with the exception of the market fish brought in by the small boats, which operate in all kinds of weather. Outside of the boat fishermen the only fare landed Monday was from the fishing steamer Quoddy commonly known as the "Gold Brick," which brought in about 13,000 pounds of mixed fish. The pollock seiners are still complaining of hard luck, the skippers reporting very small schools, and none too plentiful at that. That warmer weather is needed to bring the fish to the surface was proved by the catch landed at Portland on Saturday, three of the steamers coming in that day with about 30,000 pounds of pollock, but nothing has been done since then. Small catches were also made off Thacher's island on Saturday by some of the Portsmouth and Gloucester pollockers. Prices for the fish rule low, however, in spite of the poor catches made thus far, and but few of the vessels that have for the past two months been chasing pollock have made enough to pay their grub bills.

Steamer Carrie & Mildred was hauled out on the flats at South Portland Monday to clean her wheel of a lot of old bagging and iron hoops which had got badly twisted around it while she was going into Central wharf on Sunday. Considerable patience and a lot of hard work was required in removing the encumbrance.

Fulton Market Notes.

The bottom fell out of the fresh fish market this week. There were about 4000 packages of fish, and in nearly all cases it was necessary either to sell it at any price or throw it away. Fish is not reaching the market in a condition in which it would be profitable to send to the freezer.

There was only a fair amount of business during the early part of the week. Thursday trade was active, while on Friday it was almost dead. All varieties of fish took a tumble in price, owing to the heavy arrivals and the many kinds that were represented in the salt water fish market.

Flounders were a drug on the market. On Thursday they brought \$2 to \$3 per barrel and were hard to sell, even at that price. Friday the quotation was \$1 per barrel.

All varieties of ground fish were cheap, for there was an ample supply of every kind and no demand. Steak codfish, which opened a week ago Saturday at four and five cents per pound, closed at the same figures Friday. During the week the fish sold as high as seven cents, though a great deal of it was not taken at that price.

Haddock opened and closed at three and four cents. During the week it was one cent per pound higher.

Pollock was quoted at three and four cents during the entire week.

There was an abundance of hake in the market, the first that has been here for some time. It sold at three to four cents.

Herring in Casco Bay.

Herring are running in Casco bay, but they are not running very fast, according to the reports. E. W. Brown & Co., canners of South Portland are taking care of all that are being caught in Casco Bay. The herring are being landed in the traps along the Falmouth and Cumberland shores and at Chebeague island. Up to the present time, for the past two weeks, the fish have been landed at the rate of not over 50 bushels a day. All the herring are declared to be small. Some are too small, even for canning, and are being used for oil. Up to the present time, herring have not been running as heavily as it was hoped and the packers are not up to their usual output. It is expected that with the coming of real warm weather, the fish will be landed in large quantities.

May 3

New Market Fishing Vessel.

It is reported that two new market fishing vessels are to be soon added to the local fleet and that at least one of the crafts will be built here. One of the crafts will be for Capt. Joseph Silva, who formerly went in sch. Ida M. Silva before she was sold south and who made a fine record last winter in sch. Belbina P. Domingoes.

BOSTON MARKET OVERSTOCKED.

MOST OF THE FISH AT T WHARF TODAY WILL GO TO THE SPLITTERS.

According to the T wharf report this morning, it looks as though there would be quite a parade of vessels, bound down here this afternoon with their fresh fish fares to split. There is no sale for off-shore fish today, and even some of the drifters reported yesterday with right alive codfish, had not sold up to this morning, and the chances were much against them marketing their trips.

Of the fares at the fish wharf this morning, which have arrived since last report, some 18 in all, the dealers are not even looking in the direction of the vessels from off-shore and several of the drifters have also been given the go-by. The market boats only have a handful altogether, but they have enough for the dealers and even the little sch. Emily Sears, with 20,000 pounds of nice live cod, will have to bring her trip here to split.

For what shore stock the dealers are taking, they are paying from \$1.50 to \$2.30 for haddock, \$2.30 to \$2.80 for large cod and \$1.80 to \$2 for market cod. There was no sale for hake, cusk or pollock.

There were several big fares at the wharf, the schooners having them being the Jeanette, Josie and Phebe, Mary Edith, John J. Fallon, Sadie M. Numan, Alice M. Guthrie, Robert and Arthur and Harriett.

On the Yarmouth steamer yesterday morning was the first shipment of trap salmon from Nova Scotia this year. There was one barrel of the trap salmon, but 13 boxes of other salmon came also, making in all some 70 fish. The prices of the eastern salmon have gone down, and the fish are now within reach of the ordinary buyers.

New York quoted today fresh caught butterfish and weakfish or sea trout. The fish are in the market for the first time in sufficient numbers to be quoted. Whiting and the first tautog have been taken at the cape within the last few days, and sent to Boston.

The Italian dory fishermen at Boston are reaping a harvest now, and bring in from each trip to the fishing grounds just outside the harbor large catches of black back flounders and shore haddock and cod, for which they find a ready sale in wholesale houses.

For the week ending Friday night, there arrived at T Wharf, 71 trips of fresh fish aggregating 1,732,200 pounds against 68 arrivals with 1,716,100 pounds for the corresponding week last year.

Boston Arrivals.
The fares and prices in detail are:
Sch. Fannie E. Prescott, 1500 haddock, 20,000 cod, 600 pollock.
Sch. Jeanette, 50,000 haddock, 30,000 cod, 6000 cusk, 4000 pollock, 2000 halibut.

Sch. Francis V. Sylvia, 20,000 haddock, 18,000 cod.
Sch. Josie and Phebe, 28,000 haddock, 34,000 cod, 2000 cusk, 1700 halibut.

Sch. Mary Edith, 5000 cod, 35,000 hake, 12,000 cusk.
Sch. John J. Fallon, 30,000 haddock, 30,000 cod, 4000 cusk, 2000 halibut.

Sch. Actor, 11,000 haddock, 900 cod.
Sch. Emily Sears, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Morning Star, 3500 cod.
Sch. E. C. Hussey, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Good Luck, 14,000 cod.
Sch. Eva Avina, 2500 cod.
Sch. Olivia Sears, 3000 cod.
Sch. Ignatius Enos, 2500 cod.
Sch. Sadie M. Numan, 10,000 cod, 10,000 hake, 17,000 cusk.

Sch. Alice M. Guthrie, 40,000 haddock, 33,000 cod, 4000 hake, 20,000 cusk, 1200 halibut.
Sch. Dixie, 3000 cod.
Sch. Robert and Arthur, 11,000 cod, 35,000 hake, 20,000 cusk.
Sch. Harriett, 50,000 haddock, 18,000 cod, 1500 halibut.

Shore haddock \$1.50 to \$2.30 per cwt.; shore large cod, \$2.30 to \$2.80; shore markets, \$1.80 to \$2; market is very dull; off shore fish and some shore and drift trips will go to split.

Halibut Sales.
The fare of halibut of sch. Moow... sold to the New England Fish Company and that of sch. Tacoma to the American Halibut Company. Sales were at 9 1-2 cents for white and 7 cents for gray.

SECURED PLACES AT THE MAGDALENS

GLOUCESTER MEN WILL HAVE CHARGE OF INAUGURATING FISH BUSINESS.

John Bentley and Otis Parsons of this city have gone to the Magdalen Islands, having accepted responsible positions there with the Eastern Canadian Fisheries Company, a big corporation recently formed and in which considerable local capital has been invested.

Both Mr. Bentley and Mr. Parsons have been connected with fish firms in this city in responsible positions for many years, of late years being with William F. Moore & Company. They are to take charge of the work of inaugurating the business of the new plant there in respect to taking in the fish and preparing them for market and instructing the corps of workmen they will have under them.

The new concern is capitalized for a very considerable amount and in event of reciprocity, would figure largely in the fish business, not only of Canada, but also of New England. The concern has bought, from another concern which held the property practically all of the Magdalen Islands, in fact some 65,000 acres, which is all of the group, excepting 16,000 acres which is reserved to the church. With the land naturally goes the rights to the very valuable in-shore fishing privileges.

MACKEREL NETTER AT NEW YORK.

Sch. Massasoit Landed 39 Large Fish at Fulton Market.

Sch. Massasoit, Capt. Frank Nolan, arrived at Fulton Market dock, New York, yesterday, with the first mackerel netting trip of the season, bringing in 39 large fresh mackerel in count. The fish sold at the going price.

This morning there are 600 large fresh mackerel at Fulton Market from the traps at Chincoteague, selling at 60 cents each.

Last season the first netting fares of fresh mackerel came on April 25. On that day there were four trips in, one at New York, two at Delaware breakwater and one at Chincoteague. At New York was the netter Bernie and Bessie, Capt. McIntire, with 100 fresh mackerel, while at Chincoteague was the New York netter Clifton with 250 fish. Schs. Lafayette and Mabel Bryson were at

the breakwater with two or three barrels each.
Catch of Sch. Victor Taken Off Cape Henlopen.

A telegram to the Times this morning confirms the former report of a haul of 450 mackerel being made by sch. Victor and landed at Delaware breakwater, and shipped to Chesbro Brothers at Fulton Market, and also states that Capt. McFarland reported taking the catch on Saturday night 70 miles southeast of Cape Henlopen. This would seem to indicate that the body of the fish is still unusually well to the southward for so late in the season.

Capt. McFarland also states that when he made the haul he saw a few small schools, but they were very wild.

Capt. Almon D. Malloch will fit sch. Indiana for south mackerel seining as soon as she comes off the railroads.

SPLITTERS GET SEVERAL FARES.

SOME BIG TRIPS LANDED HERE YESTERDAY FOR THE CURERS

Several trips came down here yesterday afternoon for the splitters. Sch. Olympia brought down 14,000 pounds of cod, and sch. Jeanette followed with 90,000 pounds mixed fish. Sch. Jorgina brought down her whole big catch of 125,000 pounds of fresh fish, which was caught in short order, as she was here only 12 days ago, with another big fare. Sch. Emily Sears brought down a 20,000 pounds lot of prime codfish, and sch. Mary Edith came along with 50,000 pounds of mixed fish.

Sch. Elk, which took out 20,000 pounds of halibut at Portland yesterday, got here during the night, bringing 20,000 pounds of salt cod and 15,000 pounds of fresh cod.

The pollockers brought no fish yesterday afternoon or this morning.

Sch. Harriett, which came down from Boston yesterday, and was reported as bringing down a big bunch of fish, did not bring any, as she took her fare all out in Boston.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Jeanette, via Boston, 90,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Olympia, via Boston, 14,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Jorgina, via Boston, 125,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Emily Sears, via Boston, 20,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Mary Edith, via Boston, 50,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Elk, via Portland, 15,000 lbs. fresh fish, 20,000 lbs. salt cod.
Steamer Mindora, shore, 4000 lbs. fresh fish.

Steamer Eagle, shore, 4500 lbs. fresh fish.
Steamer Prince Olaf, shore, 2500 lbs. fresh fish.
Steamer Weazel, shore, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Frances V. Sylvia, via Boston.
Steamer Geisha, pollock seining.
Sch. Esther Gray, shore.

Vessels Sailed.
Sch. Catherine and Ellen, Boston.
Sch. Ramona, Georges handling.
Sch. Independence, IL, south mackerel seining.

Sch. Speculator, Rips.
Sch. Norma, Rips.
Sch. Olympia, Rips.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, haddocking.
Sch. Annie and Jennie, shore.
Sch. Edith Silveira, haddocking.
Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, haddocking.

Sch. Margaret, Halibuting.

TODAY'S FISH MARKET.

Salt Fish.

Trawl bank codfish, large, \$4.50; mediums, \$4.
Handline Georges codfish, large, \$5; medium, \$4.75; snappers, \$3.

Trawl, Georges codfish, large, \$4.75; medium, \$4.25.
Eastern halibut codfish, large, \$4.50; medium, \$4.

Haddock, \$1.25.
Pollock, \$2.
Cusk, large, \$2.50; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.50.

Hake, \$1.75.
All codfish with napes picked bring 25c over the above prices.

Fresh Fish.

Haddock, \$1.25.
Large cod, \$2.45; mediums, \$1.85; snappers, 75c.

Peak fresh codfish, \$2.25 per cwt. for large and \$1.75 for mediums.
Cusk, large, \$1.75.
Hake, \$1.25.

Dressed pollock, \$1.25; round, \$1.15.
Halibut 9 1/2c per lb., for white and 7c for gray.
Shore cod, split, \$2.50 for large; \$1.85 for medium.

May 3.

Fishing Out of Noank, Conn.

Capt. Allison, owner of the steam fishing craft Nomad, which operates from this port, and who occupies the Lantz wharf, where that craft and part of the lake boat fleet off land their fares, is now fishing off Long Island and vicinity in his big steamer, the James M. Gifford, out of Noank, Conn. Capt. Allison commands his big craft himself and carries three floating traps as the fishing equipment. He has just started in and yesterday made a small haul of scup, about the first of the season of these fish.

Changed Voyages.

Several of the lake boat fleet have sort of shifted voyages. Steamer Quoddy, which has been landing here daily, has been fishing to the eastward of late and landed her last trip at Portland, having 13,000 pounds of fresh fish. Steamer Nomad has left her nets ashore and shifted over to pollock seining. Steamer Eagle is also pollock seining and others of the fleet are also taking an occasional shy at the pollock schools when the fishing looks good.

Change of Steam Trawler Skippers.

Yesterday morning, Capt. Herbert Green sailed for his first trip in the steam trawler Ripple, which his brother, Michael, has commanded since she went into commission. The latter at the same time took charge of the Crest, the last steam trawler built and took her to East Boston, where she will take on her nets and other gear. Capt. Michael Green expects to sail on his first trip in the new steamer today or Thursday.

Halifax Cold Storage Facilities Help Lunenburg Fishermen.

The cold storage facilities at Halifax have been a great help to the Lunenburg fishing fleet this season. So far about 40 vessels have taken bait and there are still 20 more which have made contracts, but have not yet got ready for sea, says the Maritime Merchant. Talking with Mr. Boutilier of the Halifax Cold Storage Co., last week we got some interesting information as to the value of baiting facilities at this port this season. A Lunenburg skipper arrived in port last week from a three weeks' trip to the banks. He had between \$2000 and \$2500 worth of fresh and salted fish. His bait, which he had purchased here just before sailing, cost him \$130, surely a very satisfactory investment when coupled with the labor of himself and his crew for the short period of three weeks. "It is a very fortunate thing," said Mr. Boutilier, "that the fishermen are able to get frozen bait this year, for if they had to do as in the old times, namely, wait until the Gulf was clear enough for them to reach the Magdalen Islands, and secure fresh bait, there would be but a short fishing season for the average Lunenburg vessel this year." Mr. Boutilier says that all the vessels so far reported here have done very well, and as prices for the next few months at the least are likely to be good, there is a reasonable expectation that, although the season is late, the spring trip of the Lunenburg vessels will be very satisfactory indeed.

Seined 28 Large Codfish.

Capt. Frank Mountfort, of Orrs Island, Me., according to the story being told on the Portland wharves yesterday, is one of the luckiest fishermen in the business. Saturday he was out in the Nellie G., which he sails, looking for pollock. He saw what he took to be a school of them, set his seine around the rough water and then hauled away. What was his surprise to find that he had landed a small gathering of codfish, but the cod were by no means small themselves. There were 28 of them, but for all of that, their aggregate weight was a thousand pounds.

Capt. Mountfort took his fish to S. J. Prince of Orrs Island and sold them for \$2 a hundred. It was a nice little yield of \$20 for him and it was earned in a very few hours.

Wrecked Crew Sent Home.

Penniless and hungry, the clothing on their backs comprising all their earthly belongings, the 16 men who made up the crew of the schooner Etta M. Story, which was wrecked on Block Island Sunday, arrived at Newport by steamer Monday. They applied to the city authorities for money to pay their way to their homes in New Bedford and Fairhaven and this being supplied by the charity department they left at once. The men reported the Story a total wreck.

Will Go to Cape North.

Sch. C. Clarence Malone will fit sch. Lillian for a Cape North cod shacking trip.

May 3.

SCH. GOV. FOSS WAS LAUNCHED.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF STATE WAS UNABLE TO BE PRESENT YESTERDAY.

Expecting that Gov. Foss would be at the launching of the handsome fishing vessel which bears his name, the Essex High school scholars were dismissed from school early yesterday in order that they might see the chief executive of the state and possibly shake hands with him. The governor did not put in an appearance, but the craft was launched just the same and the scholars, together with a large number from this city and Essex, enjoyed the handsome sight as the craft slid down the ways into the water.

The launch was an exceptionally pretty one, being made without the slightest hitch, the party of 300 assembled giving the craft a hearty cheer as she struck the water and floated gracefully awaiting the tug to come alongside.

While the craft has been building at the Tarr & James yard, she has attracted an unusual amount of attention, both because she was to bear the name of the governor of the commonwealth and also because she is the "last word" in fishing vessel architecture and much is expected of her. In short she is expected to be the ideal fishing vessel.

The schooner is the property of Capt. Fred Thompson and Capt. Lemuel Spinney of this city, who rank among the leading halibut catchers.

She is 120 feet long, 24 feet, 3 inches wide, 10 feet and 10 inches deep. Her tonnage is 129. She has a large cabin which is neatly finished containing hard pine floors. The craft will carry a crew of 22 men.

Some little time before the launching Capt. Spinney, in company with Mrs. Spinney, Mrs. Fred Thompson, Russell Spinney, son of Capt. and Mrs. Spinney, and Fred Thompson, Jr., son of Capt. and Mrs. Thompson, arrived at the yard in their auto, and, as the craft went into the water, viewed it from their automobile. There was no sponsor.

Capt. Thompson is in command of sch. John Hays Hammond and, being on a trip, was unable to be present at the launching.

Tug Eveleth brought the craft to this port to be rigged and fitted.

May 3.

Alewives at Edgartown.

There was a big haul of alewives at Edgartown Monday, fully 100,000 of these fine bait fish being taken. Schs. Vanessa, Elsie and Raymah took big baitings and sailed that day.

Porgy Steamer Here.

The steamer Alaska, one of the southern porgy fleet, was here recently, took some fittings and sailed southward to engage in fishing.

Fitted for Rips Fishing.

Sch. Speculator has fitted for Rips fishing under command of Capt. Joseph Corkum.

May 4.

IMMENSE CATCHES OF SHAD.

Work of Bureau of Fisheries in Recent Years Bringing Good Results.

Those that claim that shad is the most palatable of all fish need have no fear that the day is near when they will not be able to please their palates with it. Immense catches of shad along the Atlantic coast this year are attributed by Commissioner Bowers of the bureau of fisheries to the fact that during the past few years the bureau has planted between 100,000,000 and 125,000,000 shad yearly in the coast waters. Ten years ago the shad had been so depleted, he said, that it was feared there never again would be any catches like those of the "old days."

NORTHWESTER BOTHERS BOATS.

KEPT THE SMALL SHORE BOATS IN ALL DAY YESTERDAY AND TODAY.

The northwester still continues to blow and this morning finds most of the little shore boats in port. There were no arrivals from off-shore during the night. Yesterday afternoon sch. Georgia came down from Boston with 50,000 pounds of fresh pollock to split and sch. Frances V. Sylvia brought down 50,000 pounds of fresh fish also for the splitters.

Yesterday afternoon, also, the sch. Washakie came down from Boston with 60,000 pounds of fresh fish and this forenoon sch. Tacoma, which has been on a long trip, arrived with a small fare of halibut.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Georgia, via Boston, 50,000 lbs. fresh pollock.
Sch. Francis V. Sylvia, via Boston, 50,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Washakie, via Boston, 60,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Steamer Quoddy, shore.
Sch. Senator, halibuting, 8000 lbs. halibut, 4000 lbs. flitched halibut, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Thomas Brundage, shore.
Sch. Valentina, shore.
Sch. Mabelle E. Leavitt, shore.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Nellie Dixon, south mackerel seining.
Sch. Harriett, haddocking.
Sch. Jeannette, haddocking.
Sch. Mary B. Greer, haddocking.
Sch. Monitor, halibuting.
Sch. Corona, halibuting.
Sch. Mooween, halibuting.
Sch. Emily Sears, shore.
Sch. Nokomis, shore.
Sch. Georgia, pollock seining.
Sch. Oregon, flitched halibuting.
Sch. Maxine Elliott, flitched halibuting.
Sch. Lillian, shacking.
Sch. Muriel, shacking.
Sch. Elmer E. Gray, shacking.

TODAY'S FISH MARKET.

Salt Fish.

Trawl bank codfish, large, \$4.50; mediums, \$4.
Handline Georges codfish, large, \$5; medium, \$4.75; snappers, \$3.
Trawl, Georges codfish, large, \$4.75; medium, \$4.25.
Eastern halibut codfish, large, \$4.50; medium, \$4.
Haddock, \$1.25.
Pollock, \$2.
Cusk, large, \$2.50; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.50.
Hake, \$1.75.

All codfish with napes picked bring 25c over the above prices.

Fresh Fish.

Haddock, \$1.25.
Large cod, \$2.45; mediums, \$1.85; snappers, 75c.
Peak fresh codfish, \$2.25 per cwt. for large and \$1.75 for mediums.
Cusk, large, \$1.75.
Hake, \$1.25.
Dressed pollock, \$1.35; round, \$1.15.
Halibut 8-1-2 cts. per lb. for white and 6 cts. for gray.
Shore cod, to split, \$2.50 for large; \$1.85 for medium.

PORT OF GLOUCESTER.

Coastwise Arrivals.

Sch. Reporter, Ipswich for Boston.
Sch. T. W. Allen, Dennysville for New York.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

The three-masted sch. Benjamin Russel, from Lubec, Me., bound for the Magdalen Islands for a cargo of salt herring, arrived at Port Hawkesbury, C. B., Monday.

Schs. Vanessa, Elsie and Raymah sailed from Edgartown Tuesday, having baited there Monday.

Fourteen Lunenburg, N. S., bankers cleared from Halifax for the banks, Monday.

Schs. Jennie W. Parker and Grayling were at Liverpool, N. S., Monday and cleared.

Sch. Senator Gardner was at Canso, N. S., Monday.

Sch. Lucinda I. Lowell was at Canso, N. S., Monday.

Schs. Centennial and Tempest from Eastport, Me., were at Yarmouth, N. S., Monday and cleared for the Magdalen Islands for cargoes of salt herring.

Seven Nova Scotia bankers sailed from Canso, N. S., Monday for the Magdalen Islands for herring baitings.

May 4
Ten of the Lunenburg, N. S., bankers sailed from their home port for the banks on Monday.

Five of the Nova Scotia bankers put in at Whitehead, N. S., Monday, seeking bait.

Sch. Gossip was at Halifax, N. S., Saturday and cleared.

May 4.

FISH BRING GOOD PRICES.

NORTHWEST GALE KEEPS T WHARF FLEET FROM MAKING PORT.

What a difference a few hours make! Yesterday and the day before the T wharf dealers were far from fish hungry and much of the off shore fish in went to split. Today there is but little fish in the dock, there has been two days of a fierce northwester and it is still blowing and this morning the buyers started off-shore haddock at \$3.25 and off-shore large cod at \$3. Whole trips will not be taken out at these figures, but the new fish will bring these prices readily.

For shore stock \$5 is being paid for haddock. Pollock sold at \$2 and hake at \$1.75.

Yesterday, after the morning report, three crafts arrived, two with fine shore fares and the other with hake and cusk, and all sold. This morning schs. Walter P. Goulart, Mary A. Gleason and Jessie Costa are the only crafts in, the former with a big catch of 90,000 pounds, 70,000 pounds of which are haddock, the rest cod, while sch. Mary A. Gleason has 20,000 pounds of Rips cod and sch. Jessie Costa 16,000 pounds of shore haddock and cod. All three crafts will make good stocks for this season of the year.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:
Sch. Walter P. Goulart, 70,000 haddock, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Jessie Costa, 9000 haddock, 5000 cod, 2000 hake.
Sch. Mary C. Santos, 15,000 haddock, 13,000 cod, 3000 hake.
Sch. Mary A. Gleason, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Josephine DeCosta, 12,000 haddock, 6000 cod, 1000 pollock.
Sch. Aspinet, 7000 haddock, 15,000 cod, 10,000 hake, 10,000 cusk, 3000 halibut.

Haddock, \$3.25 to \$5 per cwt.; large cod, \$3; market cod, \$2.10; hake, \$1.75; pollock, \$2; halibut, 10 cts. for white and 6 cts. for gray.

Incoming Fishermen Had Hard Day at Sea.

Tuesday was a hard day for the fishermen out at sea, and nearly every vessel that came in at T wharf Tuesday evening to Wednesday morning bore some mark of the ravages of the wind.

Sch. Juniata, while coming across the bay Tuesday night, had her jibstay and balloonstay carried away by the wind. Sch. Aspinet had her foretopmast snapped. Sch. Mary A. Gleason was also a sufferer from the wind, and came in with her jumbostay gone and the foremast steadied by a rope attached to the anchor chain and the foremast head.

Joseph DeCosta arrived at T wharf minus her main boom, which snapped while off Chatham, Tuesday.

Cape North Codfishing Fleet Fitting.

Sch. Avalon is fitting for a Cape North cod shacking trip under command of Capt. Peter Tobin.

Sch. Terra Nova, Capt. John Hickey, is here fixing up and getting ready for a Cape North codfishing trip.

Capt. Elroy Prior is fitting sch. Effie M. Prior for a Cape North codfishing trip.

The little sch. Esther Gray, Capt. Thomas Frost, is fitting out for fresh halibuting on the Cape Shore and Seal Island grounds.

Provincetown Bankers Fitting at This Port.

The whole Provincetown bank codfishing fleet are at this port fitting for their annual dory handline trips. P. O. Whorff, the owner of the fleet, is also here superintending the work of fitting out. The vessels are sch. Lottie Brynes, Monitor, Gladstone and American, the three latter being former fishing craft from this port.

The Flitched Halibut Fleet.

Sch. Maxine Elliott sailed last Monday on a flitched halibut trip to the far north in command of Capt. Fred Upshall.

Sch. Oregon, Capt. Albert Flygore, sailed this morning on a flitched halibut trip.

Capt. Joseph V. Bonia will now fit for a flitched halibut trip.

It is probable that most of the flitching fleet this year will do their first fishing on the Anticosti grounds in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and later go to the Funks, Bacallien Bank and still farther to the northward up as far as Cape Chidley if the ice will permit.

Lunenburg, N. S. Fishing Notes.

Schs. Henry L. Montague, Capt. Cook, and Carrie L. Hirtle, Capt. James Hirtle, are taking in salt for fishing trips to the Banks.

Sch. Uda A. Saunders, Capt. Corkum, arrived here Friday from the banks with 400 quintals of codfish.

The Vogler's Cove schooner, Agudilla, Capt. Allison Conrad, is at the wharf of the Zwicker and Company, Limited, fitting for a trip to the banks.

Sch. Alice Gertrude, Capt. Scott Knickle, is preparing for a trip to the banks.

French Fishing Schooners Damaged.

A St. Pierre, Miquelon, dispatch of Wednesday says that fully a score of French fishing schooners, which were damaged while on Grand Banks during the April storm, which swept the North Atlantic coast, have put into that port for repairs. The damages amounted to \$20,000. The crew of the French fishing schooner Valkyrie IV., formerly of the Gloucester fishing fleet, report that their vessel, which went ashore in the gut off Canso, will probably be a total loss.

Port Hawkesbury Arrivals.

At Port Hawkesbury, C. B., Monday, were the Lunenburg salt bankers Watauga, Ambition, Marion Mosher, Mattawa, Golden Rod, William C. Smith, Gladys B. Smith, Ronald G. Smith, from Lunenburg, bound north for bait. Some of them have been out since March and have considerable fish aboard.

Lobsters from Halifax.

Advance notice from Halifax said that the Halifax steamer, due at Boston today, would have 406 crates of live lobsters. Although no word has been received from the Yarmouth steamer, due also today, those in the business say she will probably have upward of 1200 crates of live lobsters for Boston.

Rise in Fresh Pollock Price.

Fresh pollock took a raise yesterday, when the big fare of sch. Georgia sold to Cunningham & Thompson Company at 1.25 per hundred weight. The fare was caught on the Rips and the fish were dressed. The price paid is a 10 cents advance over last previous sales.

Fish Must Be Gilled.

A notice, important to fishermen, was posted at T wharf, Boston, yesterday morning, notifying them that all ground fish must be gilled before they are brought to market, between May 1 and November 1.

No Bait at Provincetown.

It blew so hard yesterday that the traps at Provincetown were not hauled yesterday, consequently there was no fresh bait there. It is still blowing today, but the trap men will make an effort to lift their twine.

First Kennebec Shad.

The first shad from the Kennebec river were received in Boston yesterday morning. Last year the first shad came on April 26. There were only two fish, a buck and a roe shad.

May 4.

Portland Fish Notes.

The sch. Watauga a rived Tuesday from a three weeks' cruise on the Cape Shore, N. S., with a fare of 7000 pounds of halibut and a small amount of salt cod. Rough weather was encountered on the trip and some gear was lost.

Sch. Ella G. King Has Full Trip.

Sch. Ella G. King, which sailed from here early in the season, has secured a fare of salt codfish on the treaty coast fishing grounds off Rose Blanche, N. F., and is expected to be on the way home by this time with a full trip.