

June 26.

LANDED 79 SWORDFISH.

CREW OF SCH. DORCAS WILL SHARE ABOUT \$200 FOR TWO WEEKS' WORK.

The little auxiliary sch. Dorcas, Capt. Richard Nunan, of Cape Porpoise, Me., is at T wharf this morning with 76 swordfish, which means that every man of the crew will be good for a check in the vicinity of \$200 each for their two weeks' work out around Block island. The fare represents lots of hard work and also several exciting incidents marked the taking of some of the big fish.

One fish, after he had been hit, turned on the dory containing George Nunan and Thomas O'Rourke, putting his sword right through it and the shock hurled both men into the water. Fortunately they were handy to the vessel and were quickly hauled out by Capt. Nunan and others of the crew.

The biggest fish of the trip was struck by Engineer Louis Griffin. It weighed 500 pounds dressed and Griffin had a long tussle with him before he got him on deck.

June 27

BUCKED THE ICE OF BELLE ISLE STRAITS

The Hard Trip Up North of the S. P. Willard, Capt. Carl O. Adams.

While the Newfoundland and Nova Scotia papers have been telling how the straits of Belle Isle are so packed with ice as to be impassible and that a steamer arriving at Quebec on June 16 had the distinction of being the first craft through there this season, they evidently were unaware that a trim Gloucester fishing vessel had successfully negotiated that frozen passage almost a month before, meeting a heavy gale right in the middle of the narrow passage where the tossing, churning ice floes threatened destruction to craft and all on board.

The craft which bucked her way through so long ahead of even the steamers was sch. S. P. Willard, Capt. Carl O. Adams, of this port, one of the flitted halibut fleet. Capt. Adams has been many seasons to the northern fishing grounds, and also to Greenland and Iceland so the ice fields of the straits were no barrier to him and the Willard when they started to go through.

Capt. Adams, since leaving here, has kept in letter communication with the Cunningham & Thompson Company, owners of the vessel and he writes most interestingly of the ice conditions as well as the details of the desperate, early passage through the straits in the teeth of a fierce gale.

One of his letters was dated May 12 at the Magdalen Islands and the next one was written May 21, at Niger Sound, Labrador. In it Capt. Adams tells of his trip through the strait. He says:

"When we left the Magdalens I figured it would be a long while before I would have a chance to write again, but circumstances alter cases. In coming through the straits of Belle Isle night before last we ran in among a lot of ice. It was blowing a smart breeze from the westward and when about in the middle of the strait we hove to about 2 o'clock in the morning. When daylight did come we could see nothing but a big field of ice to leeward, and all the while it kept breezing up.

"We stood it as long as we could and then took in mainsail, jib and jumbo and hove to under the foresail. By noon it was blowing a gale and we ran in toward the Labrador shore, where the ice wasn't quite so heavy, and got through. When we got on the other side of the ice field I

thought we were all clear, so we kept on running before it until three in the afternoon when we again made ice a plenty, and when a gale is going and you are running you don't want to meet much ice. At different times we tried laying to but it was no use for the ice was heavy and it was very rough indeed.

"I did not know exactly what to do at first. I figured our best show was to run her in close under the land and try and get in somewhere so we wouldn't be stove to pieces. Anyway we run her close in as we dared and about 6 o'clock we rounded Camp Island into one of the finest harbors I have ever been into.

"Of course, you can see, it was hard to tell what would have happened if we hadn't been able to made in somewhere and had to stay out there and take it. It was as bad a scrape as I have ever been in, but anyhow the vessel never got a scratch. It continued to blow and kept it up all night and today, with the glass awful low.

"What ice we saw yesterday extended from Cape Norman right across to Belle Isle and I do not know how far to the eastward. We have been up to Anticosti, spoke the Grayling and she had struck no fish. Next day it came on the northeaster so we run her for the straits and here we are."

Capt. Adams' next letter was dated June 1, at St. Anthony, Labrador, and in it he said:

"When I wrote you from Niger Sound I did not know the ice was so plentiful as we have since found it. We went out from there, expecting to go right out to the fishing ground. We got about 35 miles off Belle Isle and there found nothing but a solid field of ice. We sailed along that inner edge of it, to the northward and I could not find an opening anywhere. We did give it a try but it was no use. We got in between two fields and had a hard job to get out of it and get back to this place.

"I am in hopes to get through somewhere. If the wind would keep on from the westward I think the ice wall would clear itself away, at any rate that's what the people here think. They also say this has been the hardest winter for many years. We intend leaving here tomorrow and work south toward Funk Island and get around that way. Nobody knows how far this ice wall extends to the northward but I think it is a solid mass for 200 miles."

June 27.

POLLOCK AND CODFISH HIGH.

LITTLE DEMAND FOR OTHER GROUND FISH AT T WHARF TODAY.

T wharf dealers are paying well for pollock and codfish today. Other ground fish are a drug on the market. Haddock are very dull and as the 10 trips in since last report have brought mostly these fish, there are no large stocks in sight today.

Yesterday afternoon, sch. Victor arrived from the South Shoal grounds with 9000 fresh mackerel, which sold at the fine price of 17 cents each, the mediums in the lot going for 12 cents each.

Sch. Catherine and Ellen with 71,000 pounds, mostly haddock and hake, has the largest fare in the dock. A few haddock sold at \$1.75 and \$2, while large cod climbed to \$5 and \$5.50. Pollock soared to \$3.60 and \$3.75, hake went slow, a few large ones bringing \$1.25 to \$2. A small lot of shoal halibut sold for 10 cents per pound.

Boston Arrivals.

The receipts and prices in detail are:

- Sch. Leo, 22,000 haddock, 1000 cod.
 - Sch. Catherine and Ellen, 25,000 haddock, 9000 cod, 35,000 hake, 2000 cusk, 300 pollock.
 - Sch. Washakie, 42,000 haddock, 2000 cod.
 - Sch. Josephine DeCosta, 15,000 haddock, 13,000 cod.
 - Sch. Rose Cabral, 6000 haddock, 7500 cod, 2000 hake.
 - Sch. Viking, 1000 haddock, 8000 cod.
 - Sch. Emily Sears, 1000 haddock, 4000 cod, 5000 pollock.
 - Sch. Frances V. Sylvia, 30,000 haddock, 13,000 cod, 1600 halibut.
 - Sch. Natalie J. Nelson, 4000 haddock, 11,000 cod, 10,000 hake.
 - Sch. Victor.
 - Sch. Alice M. Guthrie, 35,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 1000 hake.
- Haddock, \$1.75 to \$2 per cwt.; large cod, \$5 to \$5.50; market cod, \$2 to \$4; hake, \$1.25 to \$2; pollock, \$3.60 to \$3.75; halibut, 10 cts. per lb.; fresh mackerel, 17 cts. for large and 12 cts. for mediums.

Will Take Command of New Craft.

Capt. Albert Larkin of sch. Valerie will remain ashore for a week or 10 days, until his new craft, now almost ready for launching at the yard of Tarr & James at Essex, is put into the water. He will then attend to the rigging and ballasting of the new craft and fit her right away for fresh and salt shacking.

Capt. George Nelson will now command sch. Valerie in the fresh and salt shack fishery.

Captured 300 Pound Halibut on Hand Line.

A. D'Entremont, one of the crew of sch. Jeanette was handling from the side of the vessel, off Sankaty head one day the last of the week, when he felt an extra strong bite. He hauled up his line and discovered a 300-pound halibut on the end. The fish was struggling, but D'Entremont stunned it with a belaying pin and so got it aboard. He will be several dollars the richer for his catch.

Fortune Bay Bankers Doing Well.

According to reports at St. John's, N. F., all the Fortune Bay bankers have gone on their second trips. On their last voyage the catches of each banker for four dories ranged from 700 to 1100 quintals. There is hardly any fish being taken with trawls, whills, there is a great scarcity of caplin, for which a number of the bankers are now looking.

Germany Has Fisheries Schools.

Germany has 20 fishery schools, ten on the Baltic Sea and ten on the North Sea Coast. The number of pupils vary from 11 to 80 and the total attendance at present is 481. Wireless telegraphy and its use in the fishery industry is featured. Other subjects taught are the use of motors in fishing boats, the use of the compasses, charts and navigation.

To Develop Korean Fisheries.

A Japanese fisheries company has been organized to develop the fisheries of Korea. Their speciality is Chusan. The capital is \$1,000,000. They have established two hundred fishing stations besides opening a number of fish markets. Refrigerating steamers will be employed, and everything else necessary to make a success of the enterprise.

June 27.

Fulton Market Notes.

It was impossible to coax buyers to take fish last week, says the Fishing Gazette. There was plenty of stock and in most cases prices were low, still it was hard to find anyone to take it away, even at alluring prices.

Cod—Both steak and market cod were high in price up to Thursday, the former bringing 8 to 10 cents and the latter 5 to 6 cents. Friday steak cod sold at 5 cents and market fish at 3 cents.

There was no change in prices of eels.

Haddock brought 4 to 5 cents all the week until Friday, when it sold at 3 cents.

Hake was a trifle higher in price than haddock until Friday, when it was sold at the same price. Pollock brought the same price as hake.

Halibut—Western white fish was cheap this week, being quoted at 5 1/2 to 7 cents until Friday, when it was one cent higher than the top figure of the earlier part of the week. There was plenty of fine eastern halibut to be had at 8 to 10 cents per pound until Friday when the market was bare.

Green Fish Bring High Price.

The sum of \$7 (talqual) is being paid for green fish on the West Coast by American buyers and by some local people who are finding it necessary to give the same figure in order to be able to get any of the catch from the fishermen. At this price there is big money in it for those who catch the fish, and it is to be hoped that all the dealers who are handling it are securing enough to justify this outlay. With the present shortage of fish generally and the backward season militating against more generous returns in the near future it looks as if the present year would see the highest prices ever obtained for fish in this colony and this is a consummation that the fishermen will welcome very heartily.—St. John's, N. F., Chronicle.

French Vessels Report Fishing Poor on Quero.

A cable received at North Sydney, C. D., from Pierre, Miquelon, by French Consul Lacroix states that fishing on Quero Banks during the past week has been very poor. At St. Peter's Bank, however, the catch was slightly better, while at the Grand Banks the fleet is faring with success. The French vessels hail with an average catch of one thousand quintals, and as the price at St. Pierre is from \$4.25 to \$4.50 per quintal, the fishermen will fare off pretty well. Caplin are plentiful at St. Pierre, but as bad weather prevailed for several days, the dories could not reach shore.

Built Vessel in Quick Time.

The new schooner, being built for Capt. Charles Ernst by J. Ernst & Son at LaHave, N. S., for the fishing business was launched on Saturday. Builder Burgoyne is making a record for himself and men, as the keel of this craft was only laid April 27.

Swordfish at New Bedford.

At New Bedford yesterday morning the small boats landed 150 swordfish, which were shipped to the Boston market.

June 27.

MACKEREL ARE NOW COMING SLOWLY

Fleet of 28 Sail Awaiting Their Appearance at Round Shoal.

Mackerel are now coming in slowly. Yesterday afternoon sch. Victor, Capt. John W. McFarland, showed up at T wharf, Boston, with 9000 fresh ones, which he sold at the fine price of 17 cents for the large and 12 cents for mediums. The captain reported getting his fish at the South Shoal.

Two of the sailing fleet, schs. Effie M. Prior and Evelyn M. Thompson, are at this port this morning from the southward, with no mackerel. The Thompson brings three swordfish.

Capt. Thompson reports leaving 28 sail of the fleet at the Round Shoal, so it looks though some of them are expecting the fish to show on the Rips before long.

The little shore seiners operating off here did not strike the mackerel yesterday, steamer Jeffery, which brought in 250 small ones, being the only one to score.

Sch. Marguerite Haskins Stocked \$3915

Sch. Marguerite Haskins, Capt. Jerry E. Cook, stocked \$3915 as the result of her recent mackerel trip to the

southward, the crew sharing \$92.20.

Mackerel at European Points.

Judging from all accounts, some very fine mackerel is being cured at European points. Not much is being sent here as yet, however, on account of the weather here. News from Norway reports the catch for the week ending June 7 at eleven places to aggregate 982,200 fish. Sales were at from 1 1/2 to 2c. each. Some were cured for the American market. At one place 250 barrels were cured.

Dingle, Ireland, report, dated June 10, says there were about 30,000 mackerel landed there last week; of these about 10,000 were cured. The cured fish count about 360 to the packed barrel.

Irish mackerel landed on the Irish coast during May, 1911, amounted to 21,700 barrels, of the value of \$42,000; same month in 1910, 25,400 barrels, value \$55,500. These figures include the mackerel sold for consumption fresh. The total shipments of autumn mackerel up to June 17 were 45,610 barrels. Total shipments of spring mackerel to date were 502 barrels.—New York Fishing Gazette.

SMALL SEINERS GOT BLUEBACKS.

FOUR OTHER ARRIVALS OF FISH AT THIS PORT THIS MORNING.

Eight of the little shore seiners took about 500 barrels of bluebacks off here yesterday, two of them going to Boston with their loads. Only one of the boats found any shad, bringing in 15 barrels and only one got mackerel.

Yesterday afternoon sch. *Metamora* which was recently dismasted on the Cape Shore and towed to Boston was towed to this port with the 75,000 pound trip for the splitters and sch. *Elk* of the Georges halibut fleet came in with a fair catch.

This morning schs. *Jeanette*, *Sadie M. Numan* and *Belbina P. Domingoes* are down from Boston with fish to split, the *Domingoes* and *Jeanette* having haddock and *Numan* hake. Schs. *Effie M. Prior* and *Evelyn L. Thompson* of the southern seining fleet are home, the latter bringing three swordfish.

This forenoon schs. *Elizabeth W. Numan* and *Richard J. Numan* came down from Boston with from 35,000 to 40,000 pounds each of fresh hake to split and sch. *Jubilee*, from Georges, drifting arrived about noon.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

- Sch. *Elk*, Georges, 15,000 lbs. halibut, 6000 lbs. salt cod, 15,000 lbs. fresh hake.
- Sch. *Metamora*, Brown's Bank, 75,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. *Belbina P. Domingoes*, via Boston, 50,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. *Jeanette*, via Boston, 40,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. *Evelyn L. Thompson*, seining, 3 swordfish.
- Sch. *Effie M. Prior*, seining.
- Steamer *Reliance*, shore, 103 bbls. bluebacks.
- Steamer *Mystery*, shore, 15 bbls. shad, 15 bbls. bluebacks.
- Steamer *Bessie A.*, 50 bbls. bluebacks.
- Steamer *Pet*, shore, 50 bbls. bluebacks.
- Steamer *Herbert and Emma*, shore, 30 bbls. bluebacks.
- Steamer *Jeffery*, shore 80 bbls. bluebacks, 250 small fresh mackerel.
- Steamer *Joppaite*, shore, 50 bbls. bluebacks., (went to Boston.)
- Steamer *Geisha*, shore, 70 bbls. bluebacks., (went to Boston.)
- Sch. *Sadie M. Numan*, via Boston, 60,000 lbs. fresh hake.
- Sch. *Richard J. Numan*, via Boston, 40,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. *Elizabeth W. Numan*, via Boston, 35,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. *Olive F. Hutchins*, seining.
- Sch. *Fitz A. Oakes*, netting.
- Sch. *Freedom*, netting.
- Sch. *Jubilee*, Georges, drifting.

Vessels Sailed.

- Sch. *Catherine D. Enos*, swordfishing.
- Sch. *Nokomis*, swordfishing.
- Sch. *Blanche F. Irving*, swordfishing.
- Sch. *Pythian*, Georges, drifting.
- Sch. *Priscilla Smith*, seining.
- Sch. *Lena and Maude*, seining.
- Sch. *Jennie B. Hodgdon*, seining.
- Sch. *Veda M. McKown*, seining.

TODAY'S FISH MARKET.

- Salt Fish.**
- Salt Cape Shore mackerel \$13 per bbl.
 - Trawl bank codfish, large, \$4; medium, \$3.50.
 - Handline Georges codfish, large \$4.87½, medium \$4.37½, snappers \$3.
 - Salt "Drift" codfish, large, \$4.62½, medium \$4.25.
 - Eastern halibut codfish, large, \$4.12½, medium \$3.62½.
 - Haddock, \$2.00.
 - Pollock, \$1.75.
 - Cusk, large, \$2.50; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.50.
 - Hake, \$1.75.
 - Eastern shack trip cod, \$4.12½ for large and \$3.62½ for medium.
 - All codfish with napes picked bring 25c over the above prices.

- Fresh Fish.**
- Haddock, \$1.15 per cwt.
 - Large cod, \$2.40 per cwt.; medium, \$1.85 per cwt.
 - Peak and Western bank fresh codfish, \$2.20 per cwt. for large and \$1.75 for mediums.
 - Cusk, large, \$1.75; mediums, \$1.25; Hake, \$1.
 - Dressed pollock, 90 cts., round, 80 cts.
 - Bank halibut, 10c per lb., for white, and 8c for gray.
 - Fresh "drift" codfish, large, \$2.60 per cwt.; mediums, \$2.05.
 - Cape North cod, \$2.20 for large and \$1.75 for mediums.
 - Fresh large mackerel 15c and 17c each; small, 4c each.

GET AFTER THE DOGFISH. U. S. Consul at Yarmouth Says Something Must Be Done.

If something is not done to destroy dogfish, says Alfred J. Fleming, United States Consul at Yarmouth, N. S., a few years will see the ending of fishing as a means of livelihood so far as the south shore fishing grounds along the Nova Scotia coast are concerned. The Yarmouth fleet in past years would go out 20 to 40 miles and with three or four days' good fishing weather would return with \$500 and \$600 worth of good fish. This season they feel grateful for half that amount. They report that day after day the trawls are taken in loaded with little else than dogfish. This

takes the bait, which is expensive, in addition to taking the fishermen's time and constantly decreasing the fishing results.

The dogfish-rendering works at Clark's Harbor has been operating double shift, night and day forces, and yet is unable to consume all the dogfish that the three or four chartered vessels bring in. Thousands of pounds of these fish have been reduced to oil and fertilizer substances, and yet the pests show no decrease, but rather a constantly increasing supply.

No remedy other than the rendering works has been suggested. Fishermen would hail with joy someone who would come forward with a practical method of doing away with these pests.

THERE IS ANOTHER GLOUCESTER.

It Is Down in Virginia and Does Quite a Little in the Fish Line.

The Product Differs Widely From That of This City, However.

Probably all of the Times readers are aware that Gloucester, Massachusetts, this place in which we live, is not the only burg of that name on the map, but how many of them know that one of the big fish places in the South bears the same name as does our "Grimsby of the New World?" For there is another "fish" Gloucester and it is located down in Virginia. For this reason the following very interesting story recently published in the Fishing Gazette will be good reading here:

The Gazette says: "The unusually good hauls of fish which have been made by the Gloucester, Va., fishermen this season—the largest for 20 years—recall the interesting story recently told in 'The Times-Dispatch' in which Virginia is represented as having run Massachusetts a close second in the fishing industry. This comparison holds good between Gloucester, Va., and Gloucester, Mass. Before writing of the Gloucester fisheries, the scene of which lies mostly in Mobjack bay, though it extends far into the Chesapeake, it may be well to tell the great unlearned something about these waters. In the first place, Mockjack, not Mobjack, was its name in colonial days, so called because of an echo which the sailors said mocked Jack, Jane Blackburn Lee tells us in the 'Times-Dispatch.' The Mobjack is a bay within a bay; that is to say, it is a part of the Chesapeake, overshadowed by it as quality often is by quantity. The very cream of all the good things which come out of the Chesapeake are really gotten from the Mobjack and its five estuaries, three of which make up into the delectable lands of Gloucester, the queen of the Tidewater counties.

The Mobjack is an interesting sight at this time of the year, dotted over as it is with fish pounds. These pounds are made of net, enclosing four sides; also a net floor, the latter secured to the bottom of the bay by means of ropes attached to stakes, with pulleys at top and bottom. There are long net wings, projecting from the pounds, which entice the school of fish into a large opening in the net, and leading to a smaller one, which they enter, finding themselves in a sort of maze, from which few ever escape. When the pound is full, the fisherman enters into the large opening in a boat and by means of the ropes and pulley, gradually draws the net up until the fish are in a deep pocket. Then he dips out the shad and herring with a dip net, the sturgeon and bonito having first been harpooned to prevent the net from being broken. The shad and herring are speedily packed in ice for the New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and Richmond markets.

The Fish Season Is a Busy Time in Gloucester.

Numbers of telegrams are coming in and a larger steamer has been put on the line between Gloucester and Old Point. The fish are shipped from Severn and New Point piers. These pierheads are built on piles in Mobjack bay. The steamer passing in the morning leaves the ice, and on its return trip from the Gloucester and Matthews wharves takes up the barrels of fish.

There are 25 fish firms in Gloucester, each operating a number of pounds. Each pound has a capacity of over 1400 shad. The largest sturgeon ever caught in Mobjack bay was 10 feet long and brought its owner \$105. The roe from the sturgeon is made into caviar in Gloucester and shipped to market. The largest bonito ever caught in these waters was five feet long—time was when Tidewater alone could dine on the toothsome bonito. The rest of the world could only know of it in song and story, because it would not stand transportation. The days of cold storage and rapid transit, however have changed all that. Herring are becoming more and more valuable. They are not only shipped as fresh fish, but the roe is canned in increasing quantities. Large plants have been established in different portions of Tidewater for handling the roe, which is considered more delicate in flavor than that of the shad. The refuse of the herring is made into a fertilizer.

The adage, "It is an ill wind which blows no one any good," is verified in the waters of the Mobjack, for when the southeast wind blows, the fish all swim into the Gloucester pounds, and when the southwest blows, they are forced into the Matthews pounds. After the season is over the refuse of the last catch is spread over the trucking land, which, in consequence, blossoms like the rose, if it does not suggest that flower in other respects.

The fyke, which is made of net is used by small fish firms. The net is stretched on a succession of hoops of varying size, and can be operated by only two men.

They Are in the Water Almost All the Year Round.

After the pounds are taken up the scene changes from the Mobjack and Chesapeake bays to their estuaries, five of which "make up"—observe the term—into Gloucester, the North, the Ware and the Severn from the Mobjack; the York and the Piankatank from the Chesapeake. Of the Piankatank the poet sings:

"Way down on the Piankatank The bullfrogs jump from bank to bank."

This, however, is a poetic license, as the Piankatank is a good wide river.

The hook and line now, together with the aforesaid fyke, come into requisition, and such good fish as the trout, spot, star, tailor, rock and the delicious sheephead are caught. The last has to be cooked in Gloucester and served enveloped in a warm linen napkin to be had at its very best. It is sad to relate that sheephead are getting very scarce. Later comes the flounder, which is rather flat, after the sheephead; then come the old wives (ale-wives), which are rather tough.

At the time of the harvest moon come the jumper, so named by reason of the manner of its catching, which is in this wise: A fisherman goes out in his boat at night, and having securely fastened a lighted lantern in the bow, he sits idle in the stern, while rocked gently by the lapping waves, with the stars winking at his duplicity. He watches the jumper jump into the boat, lured by his undoing by the rays of the (jack-o') lantern. There are other ways of catching the jumper, but none so romantic or popular.

I have only mentioned a few of the fish which live in the bays and their estuaries. Time would fail to tell of all of them and the crustaceans, such as soft and hard crabs, clams, butterfish, the latter unknown, I believe, outside of Tidewater Virginia, and the oyster. But the latter is a story which should be told all to itself. For the misguided appetite of those who prefer fresh water fish, the beautiful millponds, which are plentiful in Gloucester, have been stocked with chub, bass and such like, which at least afford good sport for the angler.

Dogfish Drove Pollock Ashore at Salisbury Beach.

Large schools of dogfish appeared off Plum Island and Salisbury beach Sunday and drove pollock and small fish so close inshore that they were left high and dry by the receding tide. The cottagers picked up hundreds of the fish.

No Bait at Provincetown.

A dispatch from Provincetown says that there is no bait to be had. The mackerel druggers running there are taking an average of 300 fish a night apiece. Schs. *Jessie De Costa* and *Philip P. Manta* have put in there for bait.

Caplin at St. Pierre, Miq.

Caplin are now reported at St. Pierre, Miquelon, according to advices sent from there to North Sydney, C. B.

Sch. Juno Spoken.

Capt. John G. Stream of sch. *Juno* reports speaking sch. *Waldo L. Stream* on Georges recently