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BOATS STRUCK HERRING AGAIN

Sch. Smuggler, another of the Cape Northers, arrived this forenoon, having 50,000 pounds salt cod and 60,000 pounds fresh cod. The Smuggler has been absent since April 9.

The only other vessel fares are those of schs. Leonora Silveria, Priscilla Smith and Volant down from Boston. The Rex brought over her salt cod fare from Portland.

Sch. Annie L. Sanborn from Maine ports brings a cargo of cured fish for P. J. O'Brien & Company.

The "smoke" boats struck the herring again last evening, the fares going to the freezer, salt and for bait.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Leonora Silveria, via Boston, 40,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Str. Water Witch, seining, 5000 fresh tinker mackerel.

Italian boat, seining, 2000 fresh tinker mackerel.

Sch. Rex, via Portland, 5000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Priscilla Smith, via Boston, 80,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Volant, via Boston, 23,000 lbs. fresh fish, 4000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Annie L. Sanborn, Maine ports, cured fish.

Sch. Smuggler, Cape North, 60,000 lbs. fresh cod, 50,000 lbs. salt cod.

Str. Doris, seining, 70 bbls. fresh herring (went to Boston).

Str. Naomi Bruce, seining, 30 bbls. fresh herring.

Str. Unknown, seining, 30 bbls. fresh herring.

Str. Anna T., seining, 50 bbls. fresh herring.

Str. Joppiate, seining, 85 bbls. fresh herring.

Italian boat, seining, 50 bbls. fresh herring, 2500 fresh tinker mackerel.

Italian boat, seining, 50 bbls. fresh herring, 2500 fresh tinker mackerel.

Str. Ethel, seining, 2500 fresh tinker mackerel.

TODAY'S FISH MARKET.

Salt Fish.

Handline Georges codfish, large $5 per cwt.; medium, $4.25; snappers, $3.00.

Georges halibut, codfish, large, $5; medium, $4.25.

Eastern halibut codfish, large, $4.50; medium, $4; snappers, $3.

Drift cod, large, $4.50; medium, $4.

Salt trawl bank codfish, large, $4.25; medium, $3.75.

Cusk, large, $2.50; medium, $2; snappers, $1.50.

Haddock, $2.50.

Hake, $1.80.

Pollock, $1.75.

Flitched halibut, 8 1-2c, 6c and 3c per lb.

Cape Shore salt mackerel, $9 per bbl.

Salt tinker mackerel. $9 per bbl.

Fresh Fish.

Splitting prices:

Haddock, $1.10 per cwt.

Western cod, large, $2.40; medium, $2; snappers, 75c.

Eastern cod, large, $2.25; medium, $1.80; snappers, 75c.

All codfish, not gilled, 10c per 100 pounds less than above.

Hake, $1.30.

Cusk, large, $1.65; medium, $1.20; snappers, 50c.

Pollock, $1.10.

Small pollock, 75c per bbl.

Fresh halibut, 8c per lb. for white 4c for small gray and 3c for large gray.

Large shore herring, $3 per bbl. for bait; $2 to freezer; $1.75 to salt.

Fresh mackerel 13c each for large, 6c for medium, 2 1-2c per lb. for tinkers.

Whiting, 60c per bbl.

"LEM" SPINNEY SCORES AS USUAL

Premier Fish Killer at Boston With Fine "Vacation" Trip.

Sch. Natalie Hammond ,with Capt. Lemuel E. Spinney at the helm arrived at Boston this morning with a dandy halibut fare, his hail being for 30,000 pounds, besides 40,000 pounds fresh shack. Capt. Spinney took the craft out this trip in the absence of Capt. Charles Colson, who remained ashore on account of illness.

There were six other sailing vessels in with groundfish, but the market was dull, with light sales reported.

Wholesale quotations were $3.50 a hundred for haddock, $3 to $4.50 for large and $1.75 to $2 for market cod, $1.50 to $2.25 for hake, and $1 for pollock.

Boston Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Str. Macey, 6000 fresh tinker mackerel, 25 bbls. fresh herring.

Str. Philomena, 125 bbls. fresh tinker mackerel.

Str. Sawyer, 9000 fresh tinker mackerel.

Str. Joanna, 27,000 fresh tinker mackerel.

Sch. Stranger, 60 swordfish.

Sch. Natalie Hammond, 35,000 hake, 4000 cusk, 30,000 halibut.

Sch. Mary C. Santos, 11,000 haddock, 50,000 cod, 9000 pollock.

Sch. Helen B. Thomas, 15,000 haddock, 39,000 cod, 7000 pollock.

Sch. Hattie A. Heckman, 1500 haddock, 46,000 cod, 3500 pollock.

Sch. Ralph Brown, 3000 haddock, 65,000 cod, 20,000 cusk, 4000 pollock, 5000 halibut.

Sch. Eleanora DeCosta, 12,000 haddock, 29,000 cod, 6000 pollock.

Sch. Robert and Arthur, 2000 cod, 40,000 hake, 1000 cusk.

Haddock, $3.50 per cwt.; large cod, $3 to $4.50; market cod, $1.75 to $2; hake, $1.50 to $2.25; pollock, $1 to $1.50; swordfish, 10 1-2 cents per lb.; fresh tinker mackerel, 2 cents and 2 1-2 cents per lb.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Catherine Burke, from the banks, arrived at Canso Saturday with 4000 pounds of cod and 3000 pounds of halibut.

MORE CRAFTS FOR LABRADOR TRIP

Speaking of the Labrador fishing and its future, this season, the St. John's, N. F., Trade Review says.

We are informed on reliable authority that, at least, 25 per cent. more in the number of fishermen will prosecute the Labrador fishery, the coming season, than has been the case for the past five or six years. This may be attributed to the good prices given for the fish, and the many facilities which have been placed at the disposal of our fishermen for conducting operations. Ten or fifteen years ago, the great bulk of our fishermen (stationers) were compelled to proceed to the coast in schooners, and it often happened that when delayed by ice or unfavorable weather they arrived late on the coast and missed the golden opportunity of securing good voyages.

Better Facilities.

This year particularly, every provision was made for their accommodation, and hundreds of our people proceeded to the Straits and Labrador by steamers, and being provided with all the necessary fishing appliances, are enabled to be ready to secure the fish as soon as they strike the shore, as well as having everything in shipshape condition for the remainder of their crew who go to the coast in their schooners. It is true that the Straits fishery is very backward so far, and a large number of schooners, which in other years have gone to that part of the coast, have been prevented from doing so by the adverse winds, and the large quantity of ice along the shores, and will thus miss the opportunity of adding to the voyage by the trip to that direction, previous to starting for the far North.

The Croakers.

Still it is not too late for the stationers and floater to make up for lost time, notwithstanding the gloomy outlook some of the prophets prognosticate to the contrary. We have little faith in those human wet-blankets, who are always ready to croak out disaster over any enterprise. They are not worthy of being taken seriously, not even the best of them, and we venture to assert, that even the gentleman who sends forth the forecaste from Toronto, very seldom goes forth without his umbrella. It is not the first time that our people have been prevented from getting down to Labrador, owing to prevalence of head winds ,and yet we have known that the result of the voyage was most prosperous. For instance, such occurred in 1873, and many other years previous, and subsequent to that date.

To our mind, never in the history of the country have greater inducements been held out, and greater facilities placed at the disposal of the fishermen for prosecuting the chief industry of our country. The price of fish is good, provisions are reasonable, and, owing to the duties having been taken off fishing appliances ,the expense is not much above one-half of what it was 20 years ago. The fishermen have now every inducement held out to them, and they can feel fully confident of disposing of every cod's tail to advantage It was not so 15 or 20 years ago. We remember to have seen about five hundred quintals of fish sold for one dollar and fifty cents p[er] quintal. It was a matter of take [it] or leave it, with regard to price.

Packet Fish.

But now no such thing exist. T[he] fisherman can make his own barga[in] and the merchants are only too plea[s]ed to see that justice will be done [in] all cases. Of course, this may be a[t]tributed to the great demand for o[ur] fish in the foreign markets, as well [as] to the manner in which it is put [up] and shipped to the various centres re[-]quiring our product. Large quanti[ties] of fish shipped to England and else[-]where in casks, are opened up, place[d] in fancy packages ,etc., and sent to various cities and towns, which re[-]quire the article in small quantities. [It] is to be regretted that more of o[ur] great staple is not put up in th[e] small packages, with fancy labels, e[tc.] on the boneless fish method ;as we [see] from exchanges that there is a gr[eat] demand for such in Western Cana[da] as well as the United States. In f[act] they are crying out for more fish [in] those countries ,and will never [be] happy till they get it.

When Fish Eating Was Compulso[ry]

Fish eating, which has found [a] a strong advocate in Sir James Cri[ch]ton-Browne was at one time comp[ul]sory by law on at least two days every week. In 1693 Queen Elizabet[h's] Privy Council issued a mandate [or]daining that it should "not be law[ful] for any person within that realm [to] eat any flesh upon any days observ[ed] as fish days, upon pain of forfeit [of] $15 (equal to about $150 at the pres[ent] time), for every time he offend[s]" and, further, that "no innholder, [or] house keeper, or common table ke[ep]er, shall offer or put on sale upo[n a] fish day any kind of flesh victuals [up]on pain of forfeiture of $25."—[Ex]change.

The Portland Express and Adv[er]tiser says: This was in England, N[ow] if we can get some such law pas[sed] in this country, making it compuls[ory] on certain days for all restaura[nts,] hotels, etc. ,to serve, not only fis[h in] general, but dogfish in particular, [then] will the government not have so[lved] the dogfish menace which is thr[eat]ening destruction to the fisheries?

Launch at Shelburne.

The third new vessel to be c[om]pleted this season at the Joseph [M.] Gill shipyard, Shelburne, was succ[ess]fully launched Saturday morning. [She] was named Wilfred Marcus, and is 1[..] ft. over all; 25 ft., 6 ins. beam, 1[..] hold; and registers 153 tons. She [was] built for George A. Buffett and [oth]ers, of Grand Bank, N. F., and [is] designed for the fish carrying [trade] between Newfoundland and Medite[rra]nean ports. This business requir[es a] style of craft both speedy and s[afe] and a good carrier, and the Wil[fred] Marcus promises to combine all th[ese] good qualities. She will be rigge[d as] a tern schooner, and in mate[rial,] workmanship and outfit is thorou[ghly] first class. She will sail in a few [days] for her home port, under comm[and] of Capt. Grandy, who is also [part] owner.

The building blocks just vacate[d by] the Wilfred Marcus will be at [once] occupied by a 90-ton fishing scho[oner] for parties at Burin, N. F.

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MANY LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

Recent Times Article by Capt. Sylvanus Smith Widely Noticed.

Seldom has an article dealing with past and present fisheries methods, the causes which have led up to a scarcity of several species of fish, and a suggestion for inter-national legislation as a remedy wherewith to preserve and increase the food fish supply in the waters of the North Atlantic, attracted as much attention as that which recently appeared in the Times from the pen of Capt. Sylvanus Smith.

From all over the country the captain has been receiving letters complimenting him on his statements and his stand in the matter. The article has also come to the direct attention of several senators and representatives in Washington and has been favorably commented on in some quarters.

Regarding the Times article, the local correspondent of the Boston Globe had the following to say in his Sunday letter:

One of the most valuable of a notable series of articles recently written by Hon. Sylvanus Smith, on his reminiscences of the fisheries and the outlook for their future, is that relating to the conservation of the fish food supply.

Capt. Smith reiterates the well-nigh universal opinion on this side of the water that stringent restrictive measures must be taken against the use of the beam trawl if the deep-sea fisheries of the North Atlantic are to be preserved. He also includes within his proscribed list the purse seine and the mackerel and gill net as well.

These opinions of Capt. Smith are reinforced by nearly all the fishing interests, although exceptions are taken to some of his statements by those who are interested in netting. This shows that a marked change of opinion regarding fish preservation has taken place within the past 25 years. A quarter of a century ago Capt. John Collins, in a series of articles given the press, raised his voice in warning as to what would happen if the indiscriminate slaughter of mackerel, especially before July 1, was not checked. Capt. Collins was a man of wide experience, a close observer and deep thinker. He was generally regarded as inclined to conjure up an evil which would never come to pass.

Capt. J. W. Collins, a former Gloucester fishing master, who arose to a commanding position in the United States Fish Commission under Prof. Baird, rather threw cold water on Capt. John (the men being no relation) in making the statement for publication that the efforts of man could make no perceptible effect on the fish food supply of any species.

Time vindicated Capt. John Collins, and the mackerel fishery in the past 25 years has dwindled almost to zero. This year it is apparently coming back to its old form.

Capt. Smith indorses all that Capt. Collins ever wrote. He shows conclusively that the efforts of man have made a big difference in the fisheries of all kinds. He cites the case of halibut. Fifty years ago these were so plentiful off Eastern Point that they were made no account of. Today the fish are hunted as far north as the Arctic Circle, and have become a scarce article, aside from a spasmodic catch on Georges this side of Cape Sable.

Every one is familiar with the case of mackerel. In the old hooking days a 250,000 barrel catch annually was by no means unusual, but since seining came into vogue they have been almost wiped out of existence.

Capt. Smith has a remedy. In the first place he would absolutely prohibit the use of the beam trawl, restricting the fisheries on the coast of North America by fishermen of all countries to the hook, which includes the hook or French trawl. He would restrict the catching of mackerel before July 1, when the spawning period is over, allowing the use of the purse seine after that period, but barring the catching of tinkers or immature fish under a certain size.

He would bar the use of mackerel nets and gill nets, the latter in the spawning season. Regarding the use of gill nets, some take issue with him. They agree with him that the catching of mackerel by any agency should be prohibited before July 1 or June 25 at the earliest, but that a mackerel net, which is virtually a selective catching apparatus, regulated by the size of the mesh, small fish passing through in safety, should be permitted, and the same is true of cod or gill netting in seasons other than the spring.

Practically three-fourths of the fishing interest incline to these views of Capt. Smith. The younger men who have come forward in the business and have permanent interests at stake realize that in intelligent conservation lies the hope of the fisheries. A law prohibiting the catch of mackerel prior to June 25, similar to the 5-year close season law of 1890, would meet with little opposition. Restrictive measures as regards gill netting in certain seasons would also have support not only along the New England seaboard but even more so along the Nova Scotia coast, where the sentiment in favor of fish conservation is even stronger.

This spirit has even permeated the lobster catchers. Years ago anyone who attempted to interfere with the sale of "shorts" or berried lobsters was looked upon as an enemy to this hard working class. This week the Lobstermen's Union of Cape Ann has come forward with a demand for even more restrictive legislation than now governs the taking of fish and some of these fishermen have been enrolled as deputies of the fish and game commission that they may assist effectually in the detection of violators of the law.

Prospects Good in the North Bay.

Tinker mackerel are schooling off here and some small sized fares were brought in at the Fort yesterday afternoon and this morning.

Str. Water Witch, Capt. Charles Sadler took 5000 tinkers yesterday off the Salvages, Rockport, while steamer Ethel seined 2500 on Middle Bank. Two of the Italian boats had about 2500 fresh tinkers apiece, taken among herring off the Isle of Shoals.

Capt. George Turner of sch. Blanche F. Irving, which recently landed 18,000 fresh mackerel at Portland says the outlook in North Bay is most promising.

After returning from the south, Capt. Turner took his craft to the bay and off Malpeque found mackerel in abundance. He set his nets and took a large fare that completely filled the little craft. The crew were all day picking the nets and Capt. Turner reckons that as many fish were lost as were got aboard.

The water was alive with mackerel and no boats there to take them. Many of the natives have abandoned fishing and gone in to fox farming and fishing has been abandoned. With a larger craft, the captain is confident that he could have taken 400 to 500 barrels of fish.

Mackerel struck there June 9 last year, but it was June 17 before the fish showed this year.

Sch. Smuggler arriving from Cape North this morning reports sighting lots of mackerel schooling off Little Hope, N. S.

The Story and Hanson traps at Rockport took a few barrels of fresh tinkers at Rockport yesterday.

Steamers Herbert and Emma landed 19 barrels and the Bessie A., three barrels at Rockport yesterday.

Tinkers at Boston.

At Boston this morning, four steamers from the southward are in with tinker fares. Fresh tinkers brought two and two and one-half cents a pound.

Big Mackerel.

One of the largest mackerel ever seen at Yarmouth was taken in the Cranberry Head Trap on Wednesday. It measured 25 1-2 inches in length and weighed 5 1-2 pounds.

The mackerel traps at Yarmouth have been doing very little lately, but few fish running.

STILL TALKING LOW PRICES

Concerning the salt fish trade, the Fishing Gazette says:

The market summary in salt fish for the week was pithily put by the executive head of one of the representative houses of the trade in New York handling that commodity. He said:

"Trade continues very dull. The demand for salt fish in the tropics is exceedingly light. Conditions are adverse to live business in the immediate future.

"In the meantime the spring catch of bank fish is being prepared for market, which is showing a decided downward tendency that, under the circumstances, should be encouraged as anxious buyers have entirely satisfied their wants for the time being.

"Dry and pickled fish cannot hold at the present famine prices that have prevailed of late, for they must necessarily remain the food of the poor man, and in order to cover that requirement must undergo a readjustment of values nearer the true figure that should obtain for this class of goods; thus would the trade be the better all around through such adjustment."

The invasion of English houses has begun to be noticed in the salt fish market. The concerns from the British Isles export products from their own fisheries and are becoming a vital factor in the markets of the West Indies, as well as in this country.

The anxiety among the holders of salt fish to sell is asserting itself in numerous telegrams which disclose some fluctuation in market prices.

JULY 2.

Bluefish Swarm Nantucket Shores

Not for 25 years has Nantucket witnessed such bluefishing. The "run" began last Friday, when two Nantucket fishermen pulled the big fellows ashore one after the other until they had a cartfull. When one fish would fall off as the wagon jolted over the streets the men ignored the mishap, knowing full well that someone would pick up the fish, and they passed the good word along.

Last night the fish were biting so that many persons who had never handled a line before brought ashore a big fellow—usually weighing between 1 and 15 pounds—and among the successful novices were George Cobb Rule bookkeeper in the Pacific National Bank; John Lynch, one of the island barbers, and Leon Royal, a lad of 16. The "old-timers" who flocked to the South Shore, however, landed as high as 35 to a man, and just about dusk the fish were biting so rapidly that Irving Sandsbury, a telephone lineman, pulled in 21 fish in as many throws with the drail.

At daylight Tuesday morning, the shore was lined with fishermen—many Summer visitors arising at 2 and 3 o'clock to enjoy the sport. By 8 o'clock the successful ones began to stroll into town. Those who had captured only two or three fish proudly marched in with their prizes. Those who had been more fortunate, however, telephoned for wagons and brought their catches in by the load. Many a line was snapped off by the eager fish and drail after drail was lost.

So plentiful are bluefish in town that the price has dropped steadily from 18 cents a pound to 25 cents for a 1½ pound fish.

Everybody is praying that the seiners will keep away, for past experience has shown that the minute the sweep of a seine is made in back of the breakers away the bluefish go, and the sport ends.