

THE SCOTCH HERRING FISHERIES IN 1882.*

[From *Fiskeri Tidende*, No. 1, January, 1882.]

As the annual yield of the Scotch fisheries is not published till some months after the close of the year in question, a few data respecting last year's fisheries, gathered from the most reliable sources, may prove of interest. The weather, all during the fishing season, was unusually changeable, and the loss of life and apparatus was above the average. Whenever the weather permitted the boats to approach the fishing-stations, the fisheries, with hardly an exception, proved successful, and large quantities of herring were caught at the fishing-stations nearest the coast, where for a number of years but few fish had been caught.

As a general rule the quality of last year's herring was very good, and, as they were salted under very favorable circumstances, the salters did a very good business and could prepare a superior article. The number of barrels bearing the government mark was, in proportion to the number of fish caught, much larger than in 1880, as they amounted to 500,000 out of a total catch of 643,000 crans, whilst last year they numbered 689,286 out of a total catch of 835,807 crans.

The following table shows the number of boats engaged in the fisheries and the number of crans caught on the east coast of Scotland, from Berwick to the Shetland Islands, during the last ten years :

Year.	Boats.	Crans.
1871.....	4, 557	516, 722
1872.....	4, 369	524, 787
1873.....	4, 081	641, 277
1874.....	4, 153	663, 864
1875.....	4, 092	615, 706
1876.....	4, 034	393, 740
1877.....	4, 087	487, 199
1878.....	4, 144	567, 927
1879.....	4, 267	456, 406
1880.....	4, 486	335, 807
1881.....	4, 579	634, 000

The average catch per boat this year was, therefore, 138 crans against 186 in 1880, and 107 in 1879. The earnings of the fishermen may be estimated at £650,000, the value of their boats at £450,000, and of their nets about £500,000. The number of fishermen exceeded 28,000, whilst the number of persons engaged in preparing fish, or in some other way employed in this great national industry, far exceeds that number. A peculiar phenomenon is the constant decrease in the number of herring exported to Ireland from the east coast of Scotland. Not many years ago Ireland was the principal market for Scotch herring, but dur-

* *Det Skotske Sildefiske i 1881*.—Translated from the Danish by HERMAN JACOBSON.

ing the last few years only a few ship-loads of herring from the northern stations have gone to Ireland, whilst by far larger numbers are exported to Germany. Even the Eyemouth district, which in former years found a ready market for its fish in England, has, in 1881, exported a very considerable quantity of herring to Germany, whilst Aberdeenshire and Moray Firth send all their prepared herring to the Continent.

**LIST OF FOOD-FISHES BROUGHT FROM KEY WEST, FLA., INTO
THE MARKETS OF HAVANA.**

By FELIPE POEY.

[The following is a translation of a portion of a letter received from Professor Poey, in response to a request from me for information as to the species of fishes sent by Key West fishermen to the Havana market.—D. S. JORDAN.]

I have received from an old fisherman (now dealing in fishes in the Havana market) the following list of fishes which are received in Havana from Key West, either living or preserved in ice:

1. CHERNA = *Epinephelus morio* (C. & V.).
2. PARGO GUACHINANGO = *Lutjanus campechianus* Poey.
3. PEZ PERRO = *Lachnolæmus suillus* C. & V.
4. AGUAJI. The name of Aguaji is given to two species, both of which grow to a large size, viz: *Trisotropis brunneus* Poey and *Trisotropis aguaji* Poey. The species here meant I believe to be the former.
5. JALLAO = *Hæmulon album* C. & V.
6. BAJONADO = *Calamus bajonado* (Bloch).
7. RABIRRUBA = *Ocyurus chrysurus* (Bloch).
8. BIAJAIBA = *Lutjanus synagris* L. (*uninotatus* C. & V.)
9. CABALLEROTE = *Lutjanus caballerote* Poey (vide Poey, Enumeratio, in Anal. Soc. Esp. de Hist. Nat. IV, 100).
10. CABRILLA. The name of *Cabra* (*Cabra mora*) is given to *Epinephelus punctatus* Bloch (Syn. *maculatus*, *atlanticus*, *nigriculus*, *pixanga*, *impetiginosus*: vide Poey Anal. Soc. Esp. Hist. Nat. IV, 91). There is also a *Cabrilla* (diminutive of *Cabra*), *Epinephelus lunulatus* (Syn. *catus* Val). I do not know which of these two may be meant.
11. SIERRA = *Cybium caballa* C. & V.
12. SARGO. There are several Sargos. I believe that the one here intended is *Sargus caribaus* Poey.

Besides these, I have myself observed the following:

13. *Promicrops guasa* Poey.
14. *Trisotropis falcatus* Poey.
15. *Trisotropis petrosus* Poey.

HAVANA, CUBA, March 9, 1882.