

208 NOTES ON THE SCOTCH HERRING FISHERIES.**By T. F. ROBERTSON CARR.**

[From a letter to Capt. J. W. Collins.]

The herring fishing is now in full swing; there never before were known such takes. Fancy 4,000 crans of herrings thrown into Frazerburg bay. The prices were very low this last week, in fact will not pay the wear and tear of gear. One thing that is operating very imperiously against the fishing is that a great many fishermen in the north use a very small meshed net. They go 35 to 50 miles off to meet the shoals, and in most cases tow in. This is at the beginning of the season. The fish are then too oily, not fit to cure for the continental market, and, in short, they are perfect rubbish. The English markets have been packed with this stuff, selling at 12 for a penny. Now, when the fine, large, matured herring go into the market, the buyers object to giving a decent price for them. They have got up a cholera scare, so, for these two reasons, fishermen and all concerned in the herring business are having a hard time of it.

BERWICK-ON-TWEED, ENGLAND, *August 11, 1884.***209.—PORPOISE-FISHING AT CAPE MAY, NEW JERSEY.****By FREDERICK W. TRUE.***Curator of Mammals, U. S. National Museum.*

Having received an invitation from the officers of the Cape May Porpoise Oil and Fishing Company to inspect their operations, I visited the locality in middle of the present month. My assistant and myself received all possible courtesy during our visit, and I would here renew the thanks which I offered verbally to the president of the above-named company.

The species of porpoise captured is known to science as *Tursiops tursio*, and although, so far as I could ascertain, our fishermen have no common name for it, it may, at least for the present, be designated in English as the Bottle-nose dolphin. It reaches a length of 10 or 11 feet when full-grown. The color of the back and pectoral and dorsal fins is a gray of greatest or less depth, while the belly is pure white. The beak is rather short and stout, and there are forty-four or forty-six teeth in each jaw. The species is one of the commonest in the North Atlantic, occurring both on our coasts and those of Europe in great abundance.

The company was organized early in the present year principally by gentlemen of Cape May City. Although the capital invested is con-