

Receipts of fish at Gloucester, Mass., in October, 1885.

From—	Fares.	Mackerel.	Herring.	Codfish.	Pollock.	Haddock.
		<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>
New England shore.....	130	25,062				
Gulf of Saint Lawrence	13	5,293				
George's Bank	90			1,964,000		
Brown's Bank	5			143,000		
La Have.....	7					
Nova Scotia, Cape Shore.....	11			581,667		86,667
Nova Scotia, Cape Shore*.....	1			40,000		
Grand Banks	27			1,930,000		
Grand Banks*.....	1			40,000		
Greenland, Flemish Cap	1			60,000		
New England shore, trawl.....	88			235,135	32,000	87,667
New England shore, hand-line	85			800	842,000	
New England shore, gill-nets	201			112,770	2,768,790	
New England shore, nets			4,821			
Total	500	80,915	4,821	5,107,872	8,142,790	74,834

From—	Hake.	Halibut.	Cusk.	Swordfish.	Fresh mackerel.
	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>
George's Bank		68,170		1,131	
Brown's Bank		1,700			
La Have		100,000		488	
Grand Banks		532,800			
Greenland, Flemish Cap		40,000			
New England shore, trawl	282,002		4,500	2,860	250
Total	282,002	742,170	4,500	4,479	250

* British vessels; fish paid duty.

Other receipts: dry fish, from Maine, 4,975 quintals hake, 1,070 quintals cod, 300 quintals haddock, 11,000 boxes smoked herring, 450 barrels pickled herring; fresh fish landed from market vessels and small boats, 70,000 pounds hake, 47,000 pounds cod, 15,000 pounds cusk.

11.—NEW ENGLAND FISHERIES IN NOVEMBER, 1885.

By W. A. WILCOX.

November brings in most of the fishing fleets that have been at work during the season. The mackerel, Grand Banks cod-fishery, shore herring, and eastern or Maine shore fisheries are over. From this until spring few ports except Gloucester will have any vessels on the fishing grounds.

Fish have been fairly abundant, and the catch, mackerel excepted, will show a gain of most varieties over that of 1884.

During the entire season the demand has been very moderate; competition, sharp; foreign importations, notwithstanding the duty, quite large. Prices so low that the season has been one of disappointment, with small if any profit.

The late or fall catch of mackerel was very light; at times quite a body of fish was found in Barnstable Bay and off Cape Cod, but high winds held the fleet in port much of the brief time while the fish remained, and only a small amount was added to the catch. The middle of the month found the catch given up by all except four vessels that were off the Nova Scotia shore; the latter all arrived during the month without a

barrel of fish, having been in provincial waters six weeks. On November 21, the last one of the mackerel fleet, the schooner Spencer F. Baird, arrived from a six weeks' cruise in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and along the Nova Scotia shore, her trip being an entire failure, not taking a single mackerel; they reported much rough weather and the only mackerel seen were a few taken in nets by the Nova Scotia shore fishermen. The late fall catch off the Nova Scotia shore was almost an entire failure to the native fishermen as well as to American seiners. The full returns have not been received; enough are at hand, as reported on arrival, to show a decrease of about 85,000 barrels from that of the New England fleet in 1884.

Shore herring remained from the last of September to November 8; the catch was the largest for years; with full preparations, more than double the amount taken could have been secured. The catch about Cape Ann was as follows:

Location.	Boats.	Men.	Nets.	Herring.
				<i>Barrels.</i>
Gloucester.....	17	34	104	3,876
Rockport.....	75	125	150	1,500
Pigeon Cove.....	46	75	175	1,600
Lanesville.....	45	45	150	2,800
Total.....	183	279	579	9,776

Boats from Gloucester were larger and carried more nets than others mentioned.

Pollock were nearly all taken by gill-nets; aggregate 1,923,500 pounds, against 965,000 pounds the corresponding month last year; gain during November of nearly one million pounds.

Much of the time the past month fresh bait has been scarce, resulting in a decrease in the George's Bank and shore catch; squid have been abundant on La Have and Brown's banks; fish plentiful; good fares secured, the aggregate receipts of codfish at Gloucester being 2,978,424 pounds, against 2,223,000 in November, 1884.

Halibut receipts show a large gain. November, 1885, 658,100 pounds, against November, 1884, 108,400 pounds.

Mackerel landed at Gloucester in November, 1885, 6,564 barrels; while in November, 1884, it was 13,306 barrels.

Fortune Bay herring fleet will not be so large as last season, numbering then 22 sail. Schooner Commonwealth, of Gloucester, the first and only one to sail this month, left on November 21. The first to sail in 1884 was on November 24.

The most severe and longest storm for many years, extending the entire length of the coast, began in this section on Saturday p. m., November 21, and continued until Thursday night, November 26. Although much of the time the wind blew a gale, very little damage to the fishing vessels or other shipping has been reported. Vessels from

Grand, La Have, and George's Banks arrive in good order, and report rough weather, but not severe or anything like what it was near land.

The gill-net fishermen were severe sufferers by the storm, and it is the first time since the introduction of the gill-nets that they have met with any serious loss. Twelve sail report a loss of 132 nets, with anchors, buoys, &c., of the aggregate value of \$2,658. Most of the nets lost were off Half-way Rock, on rocky bottom, in 24 fathoms; in Ipswich Bay a few were lost, on smooth bottom, in 15 fathoms; others in 30 fathoms were not damaged.

Receipts of fish at Gloucester, Mass., in November, 1885.

From—	Fares.	Mack- erel.	Codfish.	Halibut.	Pollock.	Hake.	Haddock.	Cusk.
		<i>Bbls.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>
Massachusetts shore, gill-nets	432	.....	836,624	.....	1,923,500	.....	.....	.....
George's Bank	43	.....	1,015,000	11,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand Banks	18	.....	200,000	541,800	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand Banks, British *	1	.....	.....	52,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Have Bank	18	.....	677,000	47,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cape shore	1	.....	30,000	.....	.....	.....	10,000	.....
Brown's Bank	21	.....	674,000	6,300	.....	.....	.....	.....
New England shore	23	.....	12,000	.....	.....	113,000	83,000	18,500
Do	42	4,999	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gulf of Saint Lawrence	10	1,565	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Small boats	.....	.....	83,800	.....	18,000	50,000	.....	8,000
Total	609	6,564	2,978,424	658,100	1,941,500	163,000	43,000	26,500

* Free of duty.

Other receipts: From Maine, 110 barrels of herring, 2,374 quintals of hake, 230 quintals of haddock; from Rhode Island, 900 barrels fish oil. Imports from the provinces: 1,950 quintals hake, 24 quintals pollock, 2,000 boxes smoked herring.

12.—NEW ENGLAND FISHERIES IN DECEMBER, 1885.

By W. A. WILCOX.

During most of the month the weather was unfavorable for fishing, there being high wind and sea and a succession of gales. The small amount of fishing that was attempted on George's Bank and off the New England coast was accompanied with severe and many losses to nearly all engaged. The gill-net fishermen have not been able to fish one-half of the time, and have suffered severely in the loss of nets. Receipts of the month have mostly been from La Have Bank, where codfish of fine size and quality have been abundant; and vessels from there were mostly outside of the severe gales, suffered but little, and arrived with good fares. Squid were found in great abundance on La Have Bank, furnishing plenty of the best of bait. This was very fortunate, as most of the weirs were damaged by storms or taken up, and little bait could be procured along the coast.

On December 7 a severe gale badly damaged weirs, nets, and all fishing property that was exposed. From December 25 to 27 the most severe gale for many years extended the entire length of our Atlantic