

in winter or rising above  $82^{\circ}$  in summer. Fogs are prevalent around the coast, but seldom penetrate far inland. The island generally is said to be very healthy.

367. The principal fisheries are those of the cod, seal, herring, lobster and salmon. The codfishery, which is the most extensive of the kind in the world, is carried on upon the "Banks," the shores of the island and the Atlantic coast of Labrador. The average export of dried codfish is from a million to a million and a quarter of quintals, the value of which ranges from four to five millions of dollars. The total annual value of the codfishery, including cod oil and refined codliver oil, and the quantity of cod required for home consumption, is about \$6,000,000. About a third of the whole export of codfish is taken on the coast of Labrador. In 1891 the export of codfish was 1,244,834 quintals, valued at \$4,864,525. Owing to the destruction of documents in the great fire of July, 1892, the returns for that year are imperfect. In the "Banks" codfishery of 1893 one hundred vessels were engaged, their tonnage being 6,270 tons and the number of men employed 1,392. The catch was 90,467 quintals, or 65 quintals per man.

The seal fishery is carried on amidst the ice fields, from 50 to 200 miles off the north-east coast of the island, and mainly in large steamers. The annual value of this fishery ranges from a quarter to half a million dollars. In 1892, 348,624 seals were taken, but in 1893, one of the worst seasons on record, only 129,061 seals were taken. Twenty-two steamers were employed in the seal fishery that year, with crews numbering 496. The average value of each seal is about \$2. The seals are harps and hoods, not fur-seals.

The lobster fishery is carried on in nearly all the bays of the island. In 1893 there were about 300 lobster factories in operation. The export of lobsters in 1892 (the latest returns) was 32,506 cases, value \$260,048, but that of 1893 was about 25 per cent larger.

The herring fishery is carried on upon the Labrador coast, Placentia, Fortune and St. George's Bay and Bay of Islands. Of late years the herrings have been deserting the Labrador coast, and in 1893 very few were taken there. The cause is not known. The export of herring in 1892 was 64,448 barrels; average value, \$3 per barrel.

The export of salmon in 1892 was 1,951 tierces; value, \$36,525. The salmon rivers have suffered greatly by "barring" and other destructive methods of fishing. These injurious prac-