

RETURN

(IN PART)

To an Address of the Senate, dated 23rd March, 1868; for Copies of the Annual Report of the Stipendiary Magistrate in charge of the Government Schooner for the protection of the Fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; also for Copies of any Reports made under the direction of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, on the Fisheries of the Dominion; together with Copies of any Special Reports made under the same direction, on the subject of the Failure of the Fisheries and the Distress existing among the Fishermen of Nova Scotia and parts of the coast of Labrador.

By Command.

HECTOR L. LANGEVIN,
Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
Ottawa, 31st March, 1868.

FISHERIES BRANCH,
Ottawa, 28th March, 1868.

SIR,—I have the honor to enclose a partial Return to an Address of the Senate, dated 23rd instant, for reports relative to the fisheries and distress existing among the fishermen of Nova Scotia and parts of the coast of Labrador.

P. Fortin's Report, 1867.

T. Tetu's Report, 1867.

W. H. Venning's Report.

P. Miller's Report.

W. H. Johnston's General Report.

W. H. Johnston's Special Report.

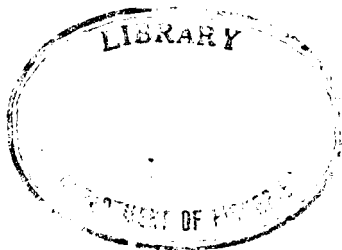
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. MITCHELL,

Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

The Honorable the Secretary of State,
Ottawa.



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APPENDIX.

MR. W. H. VENNING'S REPORT.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., 10th October, 1867.

To the Honorable the

Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit a Report, the result of my labours in the duty assigned me. I regret that it is not more full and comprehensive, and I particularly regret the paucity of statistical information it presents. The time to which I was limited by your letter of instructions precluded me from obtaining this more fully, as is explained in the Report.

Begging your leniency to all imperfections which may be apparent,

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

W. H. VENNING.

R E P O R T

To the Honorable the

Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

SIR,—In obedience to your letter of instructions of the 9th August, ordering me to examine into and report upon the present condition of the Fisheries of the Bay of Fundy, and of the rivers emptying into it, and to your oral instructions of the 21st August, directing me to include in that examination the South-west Branch of the River Miramichi,

I have the honor to report, that after having had an interview in Saint John, with W. F. Whitcher, Esq., of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, and having received from him some additional instructions and suggestions as to the points upon which information was most desirable, I proceeded at once to the upper waters of the South-west Miramichi, in order to see, before the fishing season closed, the actual state of things on that much abused river.

The highest points to which migratory fish ascend to deposit their spawn, are about fourteen miles above the Forks, in the County of Carleton. The river here divides into two streams, called the North and South Forks, up both of which, but especially in the vicinity of their confluence, salmon resort in great numbers, whenever they can escape the toils that beset their upward progress.

From the mouth of the Shiktahawk, a tributary of the Saint John, a short distance above Florenceville, in the County of Carleton, there is a road through Glassville to the South Fork, the distance being about 15 miles. Over this road, for some years, it has been the practice of various parties to take canoes, and all the implements of illegal fishing, such as sweepnets, spears, torches, &c., and literally to sweep the streams of every fish that

has succeeded in running the gauntlet of all the obstructions existing in the lower part of the river. Three years ago one man took 80 salmon in one night, and other parties also took large numbers during the same season. As these were all breeding fish, and were most probably the greater part of all that succeeded in reaching this high spawning ground, the consequences of this destruction are now apparent in the fact that last year the party took but five fish, and this year but three, while in the whole upper waters, from Boiestown to the Forks, salmon were never known to be so scarce, in consequence of which scarcity the settlers have resorted to all possible means of taking them. Scarce a stream or brook in the whole distance from Boiestown to Burnt Hill, but gave evidence of nets having been set at its mouth, while spearing by torchlight is pursued more perseveringly than ever.

While in Boiestown, and on the upper waters of the river, I heard loud complaints against a Mr. Fletcher, of New Hampshire, who last season visited the stream for the purpose of obtaining spawn to re-stock the Merrimack River, whose head waters are in that State. I made the most particular inquiries respecting the cause of these complaints from persons aware of the facts, among whom were William Wilson, Esq., a Magistrate, and George Palmer, the Warden of the District at the time Mr. Fletcher pursued his operations. As Mr. Fletcher exhibited a letter, signed by the late Mr. Fulton, of the Provincial Secretary's Office, requesting the Wardens to aid and assist him in his object, no obstacle was placed in his way; but it is matter of regret that his letter of permission was not more explicitly worded, as it gave him liberty to pursue his object without any regard to the interests of the river. He appeared to be ignorant of the proper mode of conducting his operations, and consequently destroyed, unnecessarily, a large number of breeding fish. I was informed that after spearing many, both male and female, and obtaining a large quantity of spawn, he placed it in kegs of water, which he corked up, and on his arrival at Boiestown, he found it, as he ought to have known he would, decomposed and useless. This necessitated a further slaughter, and altogether he destroyed over 200 fish. The second lot of spawn he obtained, he was instructed to place in wet moss, and of this he succeeded in hatching, as I was since informed, about 90 per cent. I found that Mr. Fletcher's proceedings had caused great dissatisfaction along the whole course of the river; the settlers thinking it hard that a stranger should come armed with permission to do that which the law strictly prohibited them from doing. It is matter of great regret that so many fish were unnecessarily destroyed. Had Mr. Fletcher made use of the net instead of the spear, he could have attained his object without killing a single one. The number of male fish killed before the requisite number of females could be secured, was very large, and the use of the net would have obviated the necessity of this destruction. A full-grown salmon matures about 10,000 ova, and consequently, half-a-dozen females and three or four males ought to furnish a sufficient supply of ova and milt for all practical purposes of re-stocking a river. In any future permission granted for this purpose, I would respectfully suggest that the applicant be limited to a certain number of fish, and strictly prohibited from using the spear. The most adroit spearer often fails in transfixing a fish, but he seldom fails in striking it, consequently, in addition to the fish killed, a larger number are wounded, and either die a lingering death or are incapacitated from performing the functions of propagation. The use of the spear, being the most destructive mode of fishing, should be entirely prohibited under all circumstances. I would further suggest that for six years, at least, no permission to take spawn from the Miramichi be granted. For the last few years the number of fish that have succeeded in reaching the spawning grounds in this river has been very limited, owing to the almost insurmountable obstacles that beset them in every mile, and the few that have got up have been so persistently swept out of the pools by nets, and harrassed by spears, that it is really wonderful the river has not been entirely depopulated.

Gaspereau formerly ascended the South-west in vast numbers to Miramichi Lake, a famous spawning place of this fish; of late years their numbers are much decreased, owing to illegal fishing, by stretching nets entirely across the river, and by allowing them to remain set during the downward passage of the fish, by which large numbers of spent and useless fish are destroyed. Gaspereau enter this river about the first week in May, ascend to their spawning grounds, and return to sea about the last of June, consequently gaspereau nets should not remain set later than the 20th of that month, as, in addition to destroying

vast numbers of poor and useless fish on their downward passage, numbers of large trout and young salmon, which about this time ascend the river, are frequently taken in them.

Below Boiestown the facilities for net fishing are greater than they are above, and consequently nets are more numerous; in most cases they are illegally set, and no attention is paid to the weekly *close time* which the law requires. At Price's Island, about six miles below Boiestown, stakes were set entirely across the stream, and although the net was not on when I passed, there is no doubt that it had been extended from shore to shore, while the regulations for this part of the river provide that no net shall extend across more than one-third part of the channel. At this place there are a number of islands dividing the river into narrow channels, and there were evidences that nets had been set completely across these, in direct violation of the law. In most cases the nets had been taken up, and there were no means of identifying the offenders. From some of these islands stakes were set on both sides, so that the nets must have completely barred the ascent of fish. Whether the nets were up in consequence of the owners having heard of my object in visiting the river, I am unable to say; but as the time for legal fishing had not expired by some days, I am inclined to think this was the cause, as in all cases where nets were legally set I found them extended on the stakes.

There are two other points where the facilities for illegal fishing are very great; one at Arbo's, near the mouth of Cain's River, the other at Astle's, not far from the head of the tide. At both these places nets are stretched entirely across the stream at every favorable opportunity, and I was informed that sometimes the fish were driven into them by men in canoes.

There is another practice pursued to a considerable extent on the river below Boiestown, which is very destructive and should be entirely prohibited. I allude to the use of gaspereau nets for making salmon ponds, by which means large numbers of grilse and trout are taken. All nets of less than five inches in the mesh should be prohibited after the 25th June.

From Price's Island to the mouth of Bartholomew's River, the same indications of illegal netting were observed. There being but one Warden between Boiestown and Indiantown, there is every facility for pursuing this with impunity. This part of the river is comparatively free from spearing, the character of the water not favoring this destructive pursuit.

From Bartholomew's River to Indiantown, I observed large quantities of slabs, edgings, sawdust and other mill rubbish, in some places forming bars and islands in the river, and accumulating at every turn of the stream. These came from a mill owned by Mr. McLaggan, and were in direct violation of sec. 17 of the law. There is no fish-way in the dam on this river, and fish are unable to ascend it. I was informed that salmon formerly frequented it in large numbers.

At the mouth of Renous River, drift nets are in general use, and spearing is pursued to a considerable extent; while further up that stream spearing is a common practice. This river, and the Dunganven, which empties into it about six miles from the mouth, are both resorted to by large numbers of salmon for the purpose of spawning. Spearing is not practised on the Dunganven, but numbers of breeding fish are every season swept out of the pools by nets. At the time of my visit the water was too low to admit the passage of a canoe, consequently I had to rely principally upon information gathered from parties who had lumbered on them. From this information I am of opinion that these streams are admirable nurseries for fish, and their protection is so much to be desired, that I think it would be advisable to prohibit fishing entirely on these waters, and preserve them as nurseries, for but few fish can reach the spawning grounds on the main river, and of these still fewer get a chance to deposit their spawn.

At Indiantown I had an interview with Christopher Parker, Esq., Fishery Warden for the district, a very intelligent gentleman, fully alive to the importance of protecting the river, aware of the evils that exist, and most anxious for their removal. In the course of conversation with him, I learned that a former Warden had allowed ten days' additional fishing, after the 31st August, that this had become a custom on the upper part of the river, and that he had not, in consequence, been able to enforce the law. The Magistrates were reluctant to act with the requisite vigor, and although he had often given information of illegal fishing, and had done all in his power to obtain convictions, he could not recall

a single instance in which the full penalty was exacted. This, he thought, arose from a vague opinion entertained by them that the law was defective. I could not learn the origin of this opinion, which, however, Mr. Parker did not share. He considered the law amply sufficient to meet the cases reported, and he blamed the Magistrates for not doing their duty in enforcing its provisions. This indisposition on the part of the Magistrates, I found to be common wherever I went, and I imagine it arises from the laxity which has hitherto prevailed throughout the whole Province on the subject of the protection of the Fisheries, and until this protection is assumed by Government, there is little hope of the regulations being enforced, as, from local causes, neither Wardens nor Magistrates are willing to act with vigor. Mr. Parker's district is so extended that he finds it extremely difficult to detect nets illegally set, for as soon as he starts on a tour of inspection, word is passed from neighbor to neighbor, and the illegally set nets are all taken up before his arrival at their localities. The district from Indiantown is much too extended for a single Warden, and as there is so much illegal fishing in its whole extent, there ought to be at least two more officers to protect it.

Between Indiantown and Beaubair's Island there were evidences of a number of nets having been set, but as they were all up at the time, I am unable to say whether they infringed the Regulations.

At Chatham I had an interview with Peter Miller, Esq., who, having entered upon the duty assigned him, had already visited the North-west Branch, and had proceeded thence to the mouth of the river, which obviated the necessity of any further examination of it on my part.

From all with whom I conversed, and from every one to whom I pointed out the consequences of illegal fishing, I met with the greatest civility. All admitted the evils which existed on the river, and most all expressed a strong wish to see them removed. In one instance I met a man and a youth going up the river with all the implements of spearing. On questioning him he admitted that he intended to spear that night. I cautioned him against this breach of the law, but he said that laws were of no use if those who made them were the first to break them. He complained bitterly of Mr. Fletcher, who had, he asserted, destroyed more fish in one season than he himself had in five years; and he thought it too bad that he should be deprived of taking a fish that his family needed, while a stranger might kill hundreds uselessly and unnecessarily. He said they might prosecute him if they chose, but he would spear notwithstanding. I explained to him the object that Mr. Fletcher had, and that if he had done wrongly, care should be taken that no repetition of his practice should be permitted. The man seemed appeased, to my great satisfaction he did not spear that night, although I have little doubt he did so as soon as I left that part of the river. The settlers all regretted the yearly decrease in the number of fish, and seemed anxious that measures should be taken to restore the river to its former state. Every one I met expressed his readiness to comply with the laws, if his neighbor would do so too. Those who resided on the upper part of the river, threw all the blame upon those below, for not allowing the fish to get up, while those below attributed the falling off to the destruction of fish on the spawning grounds. The truth is, that while all pretend to regret illegal fishing, all persist in practising it, and are doing everything in their power to perpetuate the very evils they deplore, and if the Fishery Laws are not vigorously enforced, it will be necessary, in order to prevent the total depopulation of the river, to prohibit fishing on it entirely.

In view of the present state of this river, and of the rapid rate at which salmon are decreasing, I think that fishing should cease on all parts of the river on the 15th August. At present, above Beaubear's Island, on both branches, netting is legal till the 31st, and in consequence of some improper permission given by a former Warden, it is permitted till the 10th of September, in manifest violation of the law, and to the great injury of the river.

I regret that I found it utterly impossible to get any reliable statistical information. There appeared a manifest disinclination on the part of all to state the number of fish they had taken during the season, and in several cases I have reason to believe that I was purposely misinformed; the number taken being largely in excess of the number stated, but all accounts agreed in the great decrease of fish during the last ten years.

Being anxious to reach the upper waters of the Saint John before the pickets were removed, so that I could form some definite idea of the manner in which net fishing is actually pursued on that river, I proceeded to the Grand Falls by stage, and arrived there on the morning of the 5th September. I engaged a man and his canoe to take me down the river, and proceeded at once to collect information respecting its fisheries.

Salmon ascend to the Grand Falls, about 240 miles from the sea, and all the important tributaries which are not obstructed by impassable dams. Both shad and gaspereau frequently ascend to the Falls, and all are taken by drift nets in their immediate vicinity, as well as in the whole course of the river.

Salmon River, which enters the St. John on the east side, a few miles below the Falls, was formerly the resort of immense numbers of salmon; but of late years drifting and spearing at its mouth have greatly reduced them. Although fishing by drift nets is entirely prohibited in the Saint John, still, owing to the negligence of the proper authorities, it is openly pursued wherever the water is favorable. But few nets are set between the Falls and the Aroostook, drifting being the ordinary mode of fishing.

The Aroostook is a very considerable tributary of the Saint John, flowing into it from the westward, up which salmon ascend to the foot of an impassable Fall, about four miles from its mouth. As all the fish that enter this river are confined in this short distance, great havoc is committed among them in all the modes that dishonest ingenuity can invent. In the basin below the Falls, large numbers are swept out with nets, and spearing is practised throughout its whole length, from the Falls to its mouth. John Russell occupies the land at the Falls, and claims a monopoly in this illegal work.

The Tobique is a large river entering the Saint John on its eastern side, and as there is at present no artificial obstruction in its course, it is a favorite spawning place for salmon, which resort to it in large numbers. There is an Indian Village at its mouth, the head-quarters of all the Indians on the Saint John and its branches. These Indians not only spear openly in the vicinity of the mouth of the river, but pursue the fish to its head waters, and take them at all times, and in all modes, without the slightest regard to the laws. There is a Warden here, Mr. John Giberson, whose district extends to the mouth of the St. Francis, many miles above the Grand Falls. As no migratory fish can pass the Falls, there is little need of a Warden above, and if this officer were directed to concentrate his attention to the waters of the Tobique and the Aroostook, and would do his duty fearlessly and faithfully, this wholesale destruction of breeding fish in both these rivers might be prevented. I passed the Tobique about 8 o'clock in the evening, and counted no fewer than six canoes, each with two Indians pursuing their unlawful work. Mr. Giberson informed me that salmon were more plentiful this year than they had been in the Tobique for many previous years.

River de Chute on the west, and the *Munquart* and *Shiktahauk* on the east, are small and inconsiderable streams, up which no migratory fish ascend.

Big and Little Presqu'ile, two considerable streams flowing in on the west side, are both frequented by salmon, and as usual, spearing is practised on both.

The Beequimic, a considerable stream entering from the east, was formerly frequented by salmon, but a mill-dam, without a fish-way at its mouth, now prevents their passage. The presence of a net set below, being the first I had seen since leaving the Grand Falls, leads me to think they still endeavor to ascend it.

At Upper Woodstock I had an interview with Hugh Harrison, Esq., Warden of the district, from Eel River to River de Chute, a distance of 57 miles. I found him a very intelligent gentleman, and extremely anxious to do all in his power to enforce the laws and protect the river, and in consequence his district is free from illegal practices than any other on the whole course of the river. Mr. Harrison informed me that it was impossible for him to exercise as strict a supervision as he wished over so extended a district, but he did the best he could, and he found the people generally willing to obey his instructions, which proves that Wardens can do their duty if they choose. Mr. Harrison had been

obliged to prosecute several offenders, and he complained of the disinclination of the Magistrates to do their duty with vigor, and enforce the full penalties of the law. He found the 5th section of the General Regulations defective, because no penalty is attached to its infringement; in the only case in which he had tested it he was unable to obtain a conviction, and although he had seized the offending nets, he was obliged to restore them. Since my interview with Mr. Harrison, I have received the following letter from him:—

“WOODSTOCK, CARLETON, 10th September, 1867.

“SIR,—I proceeded yesterday morning to Eel River, the lower end of my district, and did not find things entirely satisfactory. I would recommend that fixed nets be entirely done away with from Fredericton upward, or else a tax of \$10 on every net set, as I am convinced that fixed nets are more destructive to salmon than either drifting or spearing.

“I would further recommend that there should be one Warden from Eel River to Little Presqu'ile, which would include the Parishes of Woodstock and Wakefield on the west, and Northampton and Brighton on the east. For the Parishes of Simonds and Wicklow, Peel and Kent, one or two as the Government may determine.

“I may add that I have always been much interested in the protection of the Fisheries, and have endeavored as far as possible to carry out the laws regarding them.

“I am, Sir, yours sincerely,

“HUGH HARRISON,
“Fishery Warden.

“W. H. Venning, Esq.”

Although Mr. Harrison is the most intelligent Fishery Warden I have conversed with during my tour of inspection, and his opinions are worthy of respect, yet I cannot agree with him in his estimate of the comparative destructiveness of spears and picket nets. I consider spearing the most destructive and reprehensible mode in which salmon can be taken, as by the spear as many salmon are wounded as are taken, and as the clear shallow waters of the spawning grounds offer the greatest facilities for this mode of fishing, it is impossible to over-estimate the damage that is done; though, I agree with him that picket nets are more destructive than drifting in such a river as the St. John, still, I am not prepared to endorse his opinion as to the propriety of doing away with the former entirely; it would no doubt tend to the preservation of the fish, because fewer would be taken, as there are comparatively few places where drifting could be followed to advantage, so that it would be manifestly unjust to that great majority of settlers whose fronts would not admit the use of drift nets. These latter are very properly prohibited by law, because, if nets are set from each shore, and drifting is allowed in the middle of the river, no fish can escape; therefore I think it wise to prohibit drifting entirely, and to enforce the regulations more strictly with respect to picket and killock nets, which should both be made to observe the weekly *close time*; but, I fully agree with him as to the justice and expediency of imposing a tax on *all* nets legally used, as those who derive the benefit of the Fisheries should contribute to their protection; at present not one of the owners of the 150 nets which I counted on the St. John, nor of the 110 on the south-west Miramichi, contributed a cent to protect these rivers, which they expect the public to do for their sole benefit.

The *Meduxnakik*, at Woodstock, was formerly one of the best, if not the very best, of all the rivers that flow into the St. John, for salmon, shad and gaspereau, but in consequence of the neglect to place a fish-way in the dam at its mouth it is now nearly deserted by all these fish. Mr. Harrison informed me that he had, several times, notified the owners of this dam, that they had promised to comply with the law, but that nothing effectual had been done. He said a hole had been cut in the bottom of the dam through which an occasional fish might find its way, when not choked up with rubbish, but that it was wholly useless for the purpose intended. He said the lumbering interest was too strong on the St. John—it had swallowed up all other interests—and large mill-owners were privileged characters, with whom it was not safe to interfere. I regret to say that many facts of my

own observation compel me to corroborate Mr. Harrison's assertions, and the total absence of fish-ways in all the mill-dams in the Province fully verifies it.

I called and examined this dam, and had some conversation with Mr. Smith, one of the owners, who admitted that the apology for a fish-way was quite useless. It was generally choked up with mill rubbish, and even when clear of this it is quite inadequate to meet the requirements of the law. I told him of the necessity of complying with the Regulations for the protection of the Fisheries; he admitted their justice and promised to do his share towards rectifying the evil. I did not succeed in finding Mr. Davis, the owner of the grist mill on the same dam, and was obliged to defer seeing him on the subject. It is a matter of great regret that this fine stream has been so long closed to no fewer than three species of valuable fish; and this fact is the less excusable, because the dam is very low, and offers every facility for the erection of a fish-ladder at a very trifling outlay, without the least detriment to the mills.

Eel River is a fine large stream flowing in from the west, with a dam and grist mill a few hundred yards from its mouth. There was no fish-way, although there was waste water enough to supply several. On enquiry I was informed by Mr. Moore, an old resident of the place, that previous to the erection of this dam large numbers of salmon and shad were caught at the mouth and up the river, but of late years they have all been very scarce. He said they still came every season to the foot of the dam and made abortive efforts to get over. This dam is very low, and a small sum would place a sufficient dam in it. I called at the house of Mr. Dow, the owner of the mill, but as he was then in Fredericton I regret that I had to leave without seeing him.

At the mouth of the *Shogamoc*, a small and unimportant stream not resorted to by migratory fish, there is a large saw-mill, and quantities of saw-dust and mill rubbish have accumulated in the neighborhood to the great injury of the river.

The *Meductic*, the *Pokiok* and the *Narkawikak* are small streams not frequented by fish. Below the mouth of the latter I found a net set, although the time for legal netting had expired eight days previously. I called at the nearest house and enquired for the owner. I was told that he lived four miles further up the river. I asked him if he was aware that the time for legal fishing had expired. He pretended total ignorance of any law on the subject, and said that he had never heard of any Warden on that part of the river; he said, however, that he would send word to the owner and have it taken up before noon. This man gave his name as George Thornton, and I am convinced he was himself the owner of the net, and knew perfectly well that he was acting contrary to laws he well understood. I met several instances of this denial of ownership and pretended ignorance, and I think the rule requiring all nets to be legibly marked with the owner's name, as required in the General Regulations, should be rigidly enforced.

From Woodstock to this part of the river (about 30 miles above Fredericton), I found pickets set at every turn of the stream, and at every place at all favorable for the purpose. At this particular place there were pickets extending from several islands and bars which, from the length of their line, I feel quite certain stretched beyond the legal limits of one-third of the width of the channel. I think the Northumberland Regulations, which prohibit nets from being set from islands or bars, could be beneficially applied to the St. John.

The *Nashwaak*, which flows into the River St. John from the eastward, was formerly considered the best of all its tributaries as a salmon river, and was also frequented by large numbers of shad. It is now and has been for many years all but closed to them by a dam about three miles from its mouth. That a few fish have, from year to year, been able to accomplish the passage over this dam is happily evidenced by the fact that some still ascend to the dam and are often seen to leap over it. As the salmon returns only to its native stream to spawn, there is no doubt this remnant would soon restock the river if a free passage were provided. But this is another instance in which the lumbering interest has been allowed to override all others. For years attempts have been made to get a pass in this dam, and our late Governor, the Hon. A. H. Gordon, made a special effort to accomplish this much desired result, but, strange to say, without success. I cannot clearly understand how the owner, Mr. Gibson, has so long succeeded in evading the law on this

subject, but that he has done so is a fact much to be lamented. I was informed by Marshall Richey, Esq., of Fredericton, and his information was corroborated by Henry Rutter, Esq., of the same place, that this season several salmon have been taken below the dam, and that one was seen during the last week in August to get up the sluice-way into the river. It is really lamentable to know that fish have been waiting so long in vain to have a passage provided for them, and that an admirable and important nursery for salmon and shad is entirely destroyed by the refusal of one man to comply with the laws of the Province. What makes this matter more strange is the fact that there are no peculiar difficulties in the case; a fish-way can be constructed at no great cost, and without the least detriment to the interests of the mill. I consider the construction of a sufficient fish-pass in this dam of the highest importance, and would strongly recommend that immediate compliance with the law be enforced. The moral effect on other mill-owners will be most salutary, and would deprive them of what is at present a strong excuse for their own neglect. "Why don't you make Gibson do it?" is a question I have been asked a score of times, and I must confess I have never been able to give it a sufficient answer. There is a vast quantity of slabs, edgings, saw-dust and other mill rubbish thrown into the stream, and compliance with the law in this respect is much to be desired. Other mill owners are obliged to burn their saw-dust, and I see no reason why this should be an exceptional case, especially as it is very prejudicial to the river.

The *Oromocto* is a considerable river, entering from the westward. It is navigable for small vessels and steamers for a distance of about twenty miles, when it separates into two branches, both flowing from large lakes. There are two dams on the North Branch, one owned by the Hon. Wm. Todd, of St. Stephen, the other by Jeremiah Tracy, Esq., who resides in the neighborhood. Previous to the erection of these dams shad and gaspereau ascended to the lake, which was a famous spawning place for these fish, while the whole length of both streams was the spawning ground of salmon. As there are no fish-ways in the dams the stream above is depopulated, but numbers of each species are still caught below. Suitable fish-ways in the dams would effectually restore this river to its former state, and the necessity of their speedy erection is urgent. There is much mill rubbish in the river, and the abatement of this nuisance is much needed. There is not much netting in this river, but, as usual, the deadly spear makes sad havoc among the fish that still ascend.

After visiting this river I had an interview with Charles Burpee, Esq., the Member elect for the County of Sunbury, to the Parliament of the Dominion, formerly Warden for this District. With regard to the dams on this river and the Nashwaak, he informed me that the disposition on the part of Members of Government to favor large mill-owners, and the lumbering interest generally, rendered it almost impossible to get the law enforced. He had repeatedly notified the owners, but no attention was paid to the matter. He stated that the 18th section of the Act regulating the Fisheries, which provides that no salmon shall be taken after the 31st August, was evaded in his district. The law does not say that *nets shall be taken up*, consequently they remained set, under the excuse that they were intended to take *bass*. The exception in this section, in favor of *killock nets*, is taken advantage of, and almost all nets remained set on Sundays as well as week days, consequently there is no *close time* observed. As this is a matter of great importance, the section should be so amended that all nets *be taken up* at the appointed time, and the weekly close time, from Saturday night to Monday morning should be made obligatory on *all* nets, whether *killock* or picket nets. He found the same difficulty that Mr. Harrison experienced in enforcing section 5 of the General Regulations, because there was no penalty attached to its infraction. Mr. Burpee was of opinion that the whole subject required revision, and a more stringent enforcement of the laws and regulations.

A narrow and deep channel, called the *Jemseg*, connects the Grand Lake with the Saint John, into which it flows from the eastward about three miles above Gagetown. Salmon, shad and gaspereau pass through Grand Lake to Salmon and Gaspereau Rivers at its head. There is a dam at the mouth of the latter, which prevents the ascent of fish; but the passage up the former is unobstructed, and large numbers of salmon, shad and gaspereau ascend it a long distance; they are often taken as far up as the Richibucto Portage. As is the case on all our rivers, the fish are here destroyed in every

mode and at all times. Salmon have been more numerous in the river this year than for many previous years. Connecting with the Grand Lake are the Maquapit and French Lakes and several smaller ones. In these, as well as in Grand Lake, are numerous low flats, which are great resorts for spawning gaspereau, and on these flats fish are taken in large quantities in the very act of depositing their spawn. The warden has not been able to put a stop to this destructive practice, because these places are neither "Rivers, Bays nor Harbours," and the 11th section of the General Regulations cannot be enforced. The protection of these spawning places is much to be desired, and the law should be so amended as to be operative in protecting them.

Washademoak Lake connects with the Saint John on the east side. At its head the New Canaan River flows into it. As this river is unobstructed it is resorted to by salmon, shad and gaspereau in large numbers. At the mouth of the river there is a great deal of illegal fishing, and nets are often stretched entirely across. Spearing is not practised to much extent, and if the river were fairly fished there is nothing to prevent an unlimited increase; but the settlers on the upper waters complain that they now get but few fish. Connecting with the Washademoak are the Ocnabog and other small lakes, in which, as well as in the main lake, the flats are favorite spawning grounds of the gaspereau, and the law is here evaded in the same manner as in Grand Lake and those connecting with it. The same remarks as were made respecting Grand Lake are applicable to this.

The *Nerepis*, a considerable stream flowing swiftly over a rocky bed, enters from the westward. There are no mills on this stream, and I am glad to be able to say, for the first time, that there is no spearing practised on it. The only difficulty that this river has to contend against is over-netting near its mouth. For years many salmon have been netted in the neighborhood of Brittain's Point, as late as the month of November. Last year a very large number were taken, which, I understand, were shipped to Boston in ice. It is very much to be desired that this illegal and destructive work should cease.

The *Kennebecasis* is a very large river flowing in from the eastward, just above the Narrows. At Darling's Lake, the *Hammond River*, a very considerable stream, flows into it. Salmon ascend the main river, which is unobstructed, as far as the head of Sussex Vale, and also the Hammond River, to the foot of a dam owned by Mr. Titus, by which their further progress is barred. Before this obstruction was built, they ascended many miles up this stream, which is peculiarly adapted to their habits, and offers splendid spawning ground. The state of things existing on these rivers in 1851, is described by the late M. H. Perley, Esq., and has continued to exist up to the present time. I cannot better describe their present condition than by quoting Mr. Perley's words, the only difference being that there are not nearly so many salmon to hunt:—"From Darling's Lake to Titus' Mill-dam, on the Hammond River, and from Hampton Ferry to the head of Sussex Vale, on the main stream, the salmon are hunted and destroyed in every possible way by nets, with torch and spear, in season and out of season. The inhabitants appear to be actuated by an insane desire to destroy every salmon which appears in these waters; and no sooner is it reported that salmon have been seen in any particular pool, than the whole neighborhood is in commotion with preparations for their destruction; the fish are pursued with untiring devotion, until all are captured, except a very few, which perhaps escape to some place of shelter and safety." This description is not at all exaggerated, and it is really wonderful that the fish frequenting these rivers have not long since been exterminated. A few, however, still ascend both streams, but the number left is now so small that it is rare to see one. I would strongly recommend that all fishing on these rivers be strictly prohibited. Nothing short of this will restore the river, which is so admirably adapted to the habits of salmon, and so well calculated as a nursery for this fish, that it is well worthy of careful preservation.

In Darling's Lake, at Rothsay Station, large numbers of the silver hake (*merluccius albinus*) are taken in the winter through the ice with hook and bait; this is a salt-water fish, and its presence in this locality in winter would appear to be an exceptional case, not well understood, unless they resort there to feed upon young gaspereau.

The *Harbour of St. John*.—By a special clause in the Royal Charter incorporating

the City of St. John, dated the 18th May, 1785, the fisheries within the harbour are secured in perpetuity to the citizens, and are therefore under the control of the Corporation, subject, however, I presume, to such Legislative enactments as are made for the protection of the fisheries of the whole Province, although section 30 of the Act passed 20th April, 1863, would seem to except the Harbour of St. John from its provisions, in the following words:—"Nothing in this Act contained shall in any wise apply to or interfere with the fisheries of the Harbour of the City of St. John, or with the rights, powers, duties, authorities or privileges of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of St. John." From the date of the Charter up to the 23rd April, 1862, the fisheries within the harbour were set off in lots, annually drawn for by lottery, and fishermen purchased from the winners all the lots that were worth fishing. By Acts 25 Victoria, caps. 50 and 51, passed at the time above mentioned, this lottery was abolished, and the lots on both sides of the harbour were ordered to be sold by auction on the first Tuesday in January of each year. Of the yearly proceeds of those on the western side of the harbour, a portion was applied, under certain conditions, to erect a Public Hall in Carleton, and the remainder to the payment of the interest on the Carleton Water Debentures. The yearly proceeds of those on the eastern side were applied, in like manner, to build a City Hall on the said side, and to pay the interest on the debentures issued for that purpose. The Common Council has power to appoint directors of the Fisheries within the limits of the city, and to regulate them generally, and although there is a law for that purpose, its provisions are never enforced; the same general laxity which prevails everywhere else throughout the Province reigns supreme here, and illegal fishing within the jurisdiction of the corporation is practiced to as great an extent as beyond it.

The law of the Common Council, passed 19th November, 1862, provides, by section 13, that "If any person shall, between the hours of twelve of the clock on Saturday night, and twelve of the clock on Sunday night, within the limits of the City of Saint John, fish the fisheries, or set, use, occupy or employ any net, seine, or other instrument or implement for taking fish, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of four dollars." Notwithstanding this, all the weirs in the harbour are "fished" at all times, and drifting is pursued openly.

The Provincial Law regulating the coast and river fisheries, passed 20th April, 1863, provides, by section 21, that no drift-nets or sweeping nets shall be used for catching salmon, in any river, stream or harbour, under a penalty of twenty dollars. Whether the Harbour of Saint John is exempted from the effect of this section, I am not prepared to say, but the preamble to the first fishery law passed by the Common Council, would seem to indicate that the council did not contemplate exemption from the provisions of the General Law of the Province, for it says:—"Whereas, the regulating the fisheries within the City of Saint John, so far as may be consistent with, and conformable to the provisions of the Acts of Assembly made for that purpose, is of great importance to the inhabitants of the said City * * * * " Be this as it may, the City Law of 1862 provides, in section 7, that "the Mayor of the said city shall issue licences to such persons as, in his discretion, he may think fit to use drift nets in the Harbour of Saint John, in such places and under such restrictions and regulations as may be by him for that purpose appointed and made," so that drifting is pursued to a greater extent in this harbour than in any other water in the Province, and it is really surprising that a single fish succeeds in passing through the labyrinth of nets that extends from Partridge Island to the Suspension Bridge, during the months of April, May, June and July. Salmon, shad and gaspereau are the principal fish taken in the harbour, and of these vast quantities are caught. Gaspereau generally make their appearance between the 1st and 10th April, and they are taken till the middle of June. About the middle of May shad enter the harbour, and salmon about the 1st to the 10th June; the latter are taken as late as the last of August. In consequence of the great increase in the number of drifting nets of late years employed outside of Partridge Island, the fisheries in the harbour have been less productive than they formerly were, and this year the catch in the harbour has been comparatively small, but outside in the bay it has been prodigious. The fishermen now drift their nets long distances down the bay, and to such an extent that vessels are frequently obliged to sail through them. If the nets that I have this season seen drifting at one time in the bay, had been stretched in a line, they would have extended to Digby. I am credibly informed

that over 1,500 salmon, in one tide, have been taken between Musquash Harbour and the Beacon. In the opinion of many old fishermen, with whom I have conversed, it is desirable that this drifting should be regulated in some way, either by shortening the time of its continuance, or by prohibiting its practice within a certain distance of the land, so that the fish may have a chance to enter the river.

The shad caught in the spring are very inferior to those taken up the bay in autumn. They are full of spawn in a mature state for depositing, and as they are of little value as food, it is matter of regret that they are taken at all. The destruction of so many spawning fish, year after year, must eventually destroy the valuable shad fisheries of the upper part of the bay, which should be protected with the utmost care. The fishermen of Saint John have long been clamorous in their complaints of the illegal practices pursued in the upper parts of the river, and in all the tributaries to which fish resort to spawn, and while it must be admitted that there is only too much ground for these complaints, they are themselves as much to blame; they should correct the abuses that exist in their own limits, conduct their fishing in a fair and legal manner, use all their influence to protect the fisheries by a due observance of existing laws, and if these are insufficient, exert themselves to procure the passage of more effective ones. They derive the greatest benefit from these fisheries, and they should exhibit more solicitude for their protection.

The same short-sighted selfishness that appears to me to characterize fishermen everywhere is exhibited by those of St. John, who ought to be, from their superior intelligence, actuated by higher motives. I consulted with the leading men engaged in the business on both sides of the harbour, and a meeting was called at the house of Isaac Noble, Esq., of Carleton. An endeavour was made to get a unanimous expression of opinion on several points affecting the preservation of the river and harbour fisheries, but the selfishness of some who at present derive a profit from the illegal and injurious practices that prevail, prevented unanimity. These were ready enough to agree in anything that had reference to the upper parts of the river, and they would have recommended any measure, even to the extent of prohibiting all fishing in the river, that would not affect themselves, but as soon as their own profits were likely to be affected, the interests of the river and harbour were matters of secondary consideration. All admitted that the fisheries should be protected, but they wanted this protection applied in such a way that they themselves should not be affected. I must in justice state that John Littlehale and Isaac Noble, Esquires, were honorable exceptions to this narrow feeling, and were very anxious that the evils should be abated in a manner that would be fair and equitable to all parties.

I am indebted to Mr. Clawson, of the Controller's Office, for the following statement of the value of the fish shipped this season from the Port of St. John, up to the end of September, 1867:—

Fresh Fish.....	\$37,737 00
Smoked "	20,847 00
Preserved Fish	3,732 00
Dry salted "	3,840 00
Wet " "	43,333 00
Lobsters.....	2,350 00
	\$111,839 00

The *St. Croix River* is the boundary between this Province and the State of Maine, the middle of the channel forming the limit of the jurisdiction of each. It is a very large river, separating into branches about 18 miles above St. Stephen. Each of these branches flows from an immense chain of lakes into which empty many smaller tributaries, and these streams, as well as the main branches, are admirably adapted to the propagation of fish. Previous to the year 1825 the dams that then existed on the river were provided with fish-ways, and both branches of the river literally teemed with salmon, shad and gaspereau. The accounts given by the older inhabitants of Calais and St. Stephen, as to the number of fish that frequented the river, are almost incredible. In 1825 the Union Dam was built, and as no provision was made to secure a passage for fish they have continued to diminish until only a remnant is left. The only difficulty in restoring this river lies in getting fish-ways in the dams, and in restraining the various mills from depositing their rubbish and

saw-dust in the river. This last practice should be prevented by the most stringent means, as the enormous quantities that have accumulated in the river bid fair to obstruct navigation entirely for some distance below St. Stephen.

In the grant from the Crown of the premises upon which the Union Dam is built, there is a special clause with reference to the maintenance of a sufficient fish-way, and a failure to comply with this condition forfeits the grant, which shall, in such case, revert to the Crown. In direct violation of this clause, and in violation of Section 16 of the Fishery Law, the dam is still without a pass, and its proprietors are wholly chargeable with the destruction of the once valuable fisheries of the river. This is another instance of the manner in which large mill owners have been allowed to violate the law with impunity, and in the face of so glaring a case as this, how can it be possible or fair to enforce the law in the case of smaller offenders. It is much to be desired that stringent measures be at once taken to enforce compliance with the conditions of this grant, and with the requirements of the Fishery Act, as in addition to the restoration of the river which will assuredly follow, the moral effect upon other mill owners, whose dams are without fishways, will be inestimable.

The people of the State of Maine, who have been as blind to the importance of their river fisheries as our people are now, have of late opened their eyes to the state of their rivers, and are taking active measures to protect the streams to which fish still resort, and to restock those which have been deserted. The Government of that State has appointed two Commissioners to examine and report upon the state of the river fisheries, and these gentlemen have had the St. Croix under consideration, and are extremely anxious that the existing evils shall be removed. I was invited to confer with them with a view to co-operation in this most desirable work, and hoped to have met them there, but at the time of my visit they were in New Hampshire on business connected with the commission, and consequently I was unable to meet them.

N. W. Foster, Esq., one of the Commissioners, writes to me under date October 11th: "I have surveyed all the dams, and have selected the best sites for fish-ways, with the least inconvenience to mill owners. I found our Fishery Law was not what it should be, and I shall be happy to meet you in Calais and confer with you on a uniform law to be recommended to our respective Governments for this river. Please let me know when it will suit you to attend." I have arranged for a meeting with them in November, and I anticipate the best results from the conference.

From St. Croix I proceeded to the Parish of West Isles, which includes Deer Island, Indian Island and all the small islands east of the boundary line between this Province and the State of Maine, which is the middle channel of the Quoddy River and the passage between Lubec and Campobello. All the inhabitants of these islands are engaged in fishing for cod, pollack, haddock, hake and herrings, and a large number of boats and vessels are owned by them, employing over 750 men. There are a large number of weirs on the islands which also give employment to many more. As the best fishing grounds are on the British side of the boundary, the boats of American fishermen resort there and fish as freely as British subjects. While the Reciprocity Treaty was in force this gave no cause of offence or complaint, as the British boats took their fish into Eastport free of duty, and good feelings mutually prevailed, but since the abrogation of this treaty and the imposition of a high duty upon our fish, the inhabitants very reasonably complain that the Americans enjoy a free participation in their best fisheries, while a heavy duty is imposed on the fish caught by our fishermen in the same waters.

Campobello.—From Indian Island I proceeded to Campobello, where the fisheries are prosecuted with great vigor. The common herring is taken in large quantities in brush weirs, and are cured by smoking. In the best establishments, where care is taken, the herrings put up are scarce inferior to the celebrated Digby herrings. A larger species of this fish, very fat and of fine flavor, called "Quoddy Herrings" are taken in drift nets in autumn; these are salted and packed in barrels, and when well cured they are esteemed by many as superior to the Labrador and celebrated Lochfine herrings. Cod, pollack, haddock and hake are taken by line-fishing and generally dried. There are several vessels engaged in the fisheries owned in this island; in the summer they go to Grand Manan and

the Nova Scotia Shore for herring, cod and mackerel, to St. George's Bay in winter for herrings, and sometimes to the Tusquets, the Magdalen Islands and even to Newfoundland.

While there I had an interview with Captain J. J. Robinson, R.N., and John Farmer, Esq., Deputy Treasurer, whose information on the subject of the fisheries is extensive. They are of opinion that some regulations should be made respecting weirs, as disputes often arise in consequence of building weirs in front of those already built, by which the original weirs are rendered useless. They are strongly of opinion that fishing with the "bull-tow" or set line, as practised by American fishermen, was very destructive and should be rigidly prohibited. They informed me that the catch of fish this season would not exceed one-third of the quantity usually taken. I am indebted to the courtesy of John Farmer, Esq., for the following Statement, which he was at considerable pains to procure and compile:—

The following Statement shews the number of men, boys, and boats employed in shore fisheries of Quoddy Bay, belonging to the inhabitants of Campobello, in the year 1867:—

Number of Men.	Number of Boys.	BOATS.			Total.	Boxes Smoked Herring.	Barrels Pickled Fish.	Barrels Pickled Herring.	Quintals Dry Pollack.	Quintals Dry Cod.	Gallons Oil.
		20 to 24 feet.	18 to 20 feet.	14 to 18 feet.							
192	63	32	28	61	121	85,230	875	1,565	2,601	210	4406

VALUES.

Smoked Herring.....	@ \$0 20 per box.....	\$16,046 00
Barrelled Herring.....	@ 4 00 per barrel.....	6,260 00
Pickled Fish.....	@ 2 50 per barrel.....	2,187 00
Dried Pollack.....	@ 2 00 per quintal.....	5,264 00
Dried Cod.....	@ 4 00 per quintal.....	840 00
Oil.....	@ 0 60 per gallon.....	2,644 00
		<u>\$33,241 00</u>

The following vessels are owned or chartered in Campobello, and employed in the Newfoundland Herring Fishery, in the year 1867:—

Owner or Charterer.	Name of Vessel.	Tonnage	Men.	Barrels Herring.	Value.
Lorenzo Wilson	Cordelia	138	12	1,700	
Do	Hebe	92	9	2,100	
Do	Ann Leonard.....	90	8	1,100	
Do	Z. A. Paine	100	9	1,400	
		420	38	6,300...	@ \$4 per barrel, \$25,200.

Total value of Boat Fishery.....	\$33,241 00
Do Vessel do	25,200 00
Total	<u>\$58,441 00</u>

J. FARMER,
Deputy Treasurer.

Grand Manan.—I visited this island on the 1st October, inspected several of the principal fishing stations and curing establishments, and conversed with a number of the principal inhabitants engaged in the several modes of fishing. Cod, pollack and hake, are taken with hook and line, and herrings in brush weirs, of which there are 32 on the island. Within the last two years a process of extracting oil from herrings by pressure has been introduced, and has been carried on to a greater or lesser extent during that time, in all the islands I visited. The process is as follows:—The herrings are first salted in huge vats, they are then boiled in large boilers, and the oil is pressed from the mass by the application of powerful screws. It is worth about 60 cts. per gallon. The refuse, after all the oil is extracted, is called pumice, and makes a fertilizing manure, not inferior to the best Peruvian Guano. When fresh this pumice is destitute of smell, but after lying in a mass for a short time, chemical action commences, and large volumes of ammoniacal gasses are evolved; the smell is then somewhat offensive, and the atmosphere in the neighborhood of these establishments is by no means pleasant. Upham J. Treat, Esq., of Eastport, was the introducer of this process. He has a large fishing establishment on Treat's Island, between Eastport and Lubec, in connection with which are extensive arrangements for preparation of this fish-guano. Mr. Treat purchases most of the raw pumice produced in the various fishing establishments of Grand Manan, Indian and Deer Islands and Campobello, for which he pays about \$5 a ton. He mixes with it a proportion of ground gypsum, which fixes the gases; it is then dried and ground in a mill, when it is ready for application as a manure. It is extensively used in the agricultural districts of the New England States, and Mr. Treat ships large quantities of it to various places. I had an interview with Lorenzo Drake, Esq., the Warden for the district, who is of opinion that the weirs have a most injurious effect on the fisheries, by taking immense quantities of small herrings from three to four inches long; these are pressed for the oil, and since the introduction of this process, the fisheries generally had fallen off seriously. The line fishing for cod, pollack and hake, was injured by lessening the supply of food, which attracts them to our shores, and the net fishing was ruined by the weirs taking all the small fish before they had time to mature. Previous to the pressing of oil, the weirs had to open their gates, and allow the small fish to escape, but now fish of all sizes, down to the size of the thumb, are taken and consigned to the pot. Mr. Drake was of opinion that a tax of \$75 or \$100 on each weir would have the effect of lessening their number, as none but those in the most favorable positions would be continued, and these could well afford to pay the tax; the improved line-fishing would soon give ample employment to those thrown out of work, and the tendency would be beneficial to all. Mr. John Hartt, a very intelligent trader, formerly, but not now, concerned in the fisheries of the island, stated that the herring fishing, as now pursued, and the extraction of oil, was more profitable than under the old system, and he thought a tax on the weirs would have a tendency to depress enterprise. New localities were constantly being tried at large expense, and frequently weirs were built and abandoned, without returning the cost of their construction. He was of opinion that a rigid protection of the spawning grounds at Southern Head, and the enforcement of the regulations regarding "gurry" were all that was requisite.

Mr. Drake stated that formerly, when "driving" and net-fishing were the means employed in the herring fishery, the take of fish was much larger, and the line fishers had no difficulty in procuring bait, but now they had to depend in a great measure on the weirs, which charged 40 to 50 cts. a bushel for bait. On the other hand it was contended that "driving" destroyed, comparatively with the catch, as many small herrings as the weirs, and that instead of these being an injury they were a convenience to the line fishers, and provided them with bait, more cheaply than they could procure it otherwise. It was stated that between two and three thousand dollars had been paid, this season, for bait by the Cape Ann fishermen.

I conversed with Mr. Bencraft, an intelligent weir owner at Bencraft's Point; with J. Wilford Fisher, Esquire, who owns a large establishment at High Duck Island; with Mr. Hamilton, who owns several weirs on Whitehead Island; and with a number of practical fishermen engaged in both weir and line-fishing, and almost every one of them expressed different and conflicting opinions. The only point upon which they agreed was in throwing blame from one to the other. The line fishers charged the weirs with ruining the

fisheries, and the weir fishers retorted the charge by asserting that the practice of throwing "gurry" or offal on the fishing grounds, not only destroyed the line-fishing but drove the herrings out of the coves and harbours.

This throwing over of "gurry," as the heads, bones, and intestines of fish are technically called, was the subject of loud complaint among all. Mr. Drake said he found it utterly impossible, by the utmost vigilance, to put an effectual stop to this violation of the law. The facilities for throwing over "gurry" in the night were so great, that he could not detect the offenders, and while he admitted the destructive effects of the practice, he could only deplore his want of power to control it. The consequences are, without doubt, highly detrimental to the fisheries, and these are the more to be deplored, as the greatest offenders are American fishermen, who not only encroach on our fisheries, but are most active in destroying them, by "bull-tow" fishing and throwing over their "gurry" indiscriminately. The effect of the practice seems to be this—the back bones are gorged by codfish, haddock and hake, and either kill them or render them totally valueless as food, and not worth the salt to cure them. The intestines and heads sink to the bottom, become decomposed, and give off an oil which is so offensive to the herrings that they will not approach the shores thus contaminated. Intelligent Americans stated to me that the most active cause of the destruction of the coast fisheries of the New England States, was this practice of throwing over "gurry" indiscriminately, and there is not the least doubt that persistence in it will be followed by the same result on our shores. If a regulation could be passed, making it imperative on fishing vessels to deliver their "gurry" on shore, to persons who would receive it for making guano, or for composting, this evil might be checked to a great extent. Mr. Drake stated that he would willingly receive and take charge of all that was brought to him, and would even pay a small price for it for these purposes, and no doubt others, in different localities would do the same. Saint Andrew's Bay was once frequented by large quantities of herring, cod, pollack, haddock and hake, but in consequence of the vast quantities of small herrings that used to be left in the weirs to die, and were then sent floating off on the ebb tide, combined with the practice of American fishermen of throwing over their "gurry" and, when camping on shore to clean and cure their fish, of leaving it on shore at low tide, the bay has been almost entirely deserted by fish of all kinds; the herrings were driven off by the effect of the "gurry," and the larger fish finding their food gone followed them to other localities. I was informed that during the last year or two they are returning to this once favorite haunt. If this be true, it is to be hoped that these illegal practices will not be resumed, and the utmost care should be taken to secure its prevention.

There was but one opinion expressed by all with whom I conversed on the subject of the spawning ground at the Southern Head of Grand Manan; all agreed that this was the great nursery of the Herring Fishery in the Bay, and upon its protection depended the very existence of fish of all kinds in the Bay. The herrings resorted to this place to spawn, and fish of other kinds are attracted by the abundance of food furnished by the young herrings.

I had an interview with Mr. Robert Stevens, the officer sent to protect the Southern Head, and he corroborated the information I had already received from other sources, that when he first entered upon that duty he met with all kinds of opposition from the poachers who frequented the place; his boats had been broken and sunk, and the house in which he boarded had been burnt to the ground in the attempt to drive him from his duty. He had found it impossible to induce any one residing near the place to board and lodge him, for fear of a like result, and he had been obliged to take up his residence at the northern part of the Island in the only house that would consent to accommodate him. From this place he went in an open boat, and the duty was an unpleasant and arduous one, necessitating great exposure and much hardship. He had two men as assistants, and by dint of great firmness and fearlessness in the performance of his duty to the best of his ability, he had been partially successful in the object of his mission, but he found it utterly impossible with the limited means at his command to do this as effectually as the interests of the fisheries required. In moderate weather only, could he visit the place, and during the close season it requires constant attention. A comfortable vessel of suitable size, sufficiently manned, in which the officer and his men could live in all kinds of weather, and in which he could cruise about among the islands and fishing grounds, and enforce the

law respecting the *close time* at the Southern Head, and the regulations respecting the deposition of "Gurry," and the use of "set lines," is absolutely necessary to the effectual protection of these Fisheries. This vessel could also enforce the law respecting the encroachment of foreigners, and could be usefully employed in the Light-house service of the Bay, which at present involves considerable expense. It could also enforce any regulations which may be made respecting drifting for salmon outside Partridge Island and down the bay, which I consider it absolutely necessary to regulate in some manner. The encroachments of American fishing vessels on our coast, and on our best fishing grounds, was a subject of loud complaint in all the places I visited; and the utter disregard of all the regulations of the Province manifested by them was the cause of great injury to the fishing grounds and of growing discontent among our fishermen. The employment of such a vessel as I have recommended is absolutely required to abate this evil. In Grand Manan, as well as in most other places that I visited, the South-west Branch of the Miramichi and the upper waters of the St. John especially, the Magistrates are too few and too far apart to enable the Wardens to act promptly. Before application can be made for a warrant to arrest offenders they are out of reach, or the evidence of their offence is removed. I think it would be advisable to give greater power to the Fishery Wardens to enable them to act in a more summary and effective manner. In most cases, perhaps in all, they should be invested with the authority of a Justice of the Peace. The Officer in charge of the vessel in particular should have this power, to enable him to act efficiently.

I am indebted to Mr. Stevens for the following statement, which he believes to be a close approximation to the quantity and value of the catch in Grand Manan this season:—

300,000 Boxes Smoked Herrings, @	\$0 25 per box.....	\$75,000 00
2,700 Barrels Pickled Herrings, @	2 50 per barrel.....	6,875 00
35,000 Quintals Dry Fish..... @	2 00 per quintal.....	70,000 00
130,000 Gallons Oil..... @	50 per gallon.....	65,000 00
800 Tons Pumice..... @	5 00 per ton.....	4,000 00

\$220,875 00

The produce of West Isles is generally reckoned at about three-fourths of that of Grand Manan, which will be..... 165,657 00

If to this be added the take at Campobello, up to the 1st October, 1867, which is not more than two-thirds of the usual catch..... 58,441 00

The total will be..... \$444,973 00

Between Le Tête and Point Lepreau there are numerous bays and inlets, of which L'Étang, Beaver and Lepreau Harbours are the principal. In all these fishing is pursued in connection with farming, most of the fishermen owning or occupying farms. Cod, pollack, hake and herring are caught in them all, hake being the most abundant, although in winter herrings enter some of them in vast numbers, and are taken in set nets. Cod are taken in the spring and autumn, pollack during the summer, hake from July till November, and herrings more or less all the year. The principal fishing station is at L'Étang Island, where there are a number of weirs.

From Lepreau to the Harbour of St. John, the coast is rugged and rocky, and the inhabitants few in number. There are a number of harbours and inlets, the principal of which are Dipper, Chance and Musquash Harbours. There are no regular fishing establishments, but the settlers combine fishing with farming. The principal market for the fish caught being the Harbour of St. John, to which they are generally brought fresh. Cod, haddeck and herrings, are those principally caught. The fishermen from St. John fish all the way down the coast for cod and herring, and during the summer drift for salmon, of which they take vast numbers. The principal part of the fall shad are taken by drifting along this coast later in the season, when the fish are on their way to the feeding grounds at the head of the bay. This part of the coast, far above Lepreau, is also frequented by American fishermen, and the "bull-tow" or set-line is used by them far inside the treaty limits.

The *Petitcodiac*.—From St. John I proceeded to Salisbury and inspected this river with a view of ascertaining whether any salmon yet frequented it. The lower part of the river is muddy, but above the flow of the tide the water is very clear, and flows swiftly over a rocky and gravelly bed, forming a succession of alternate quiet pools and dancing rapids. Formerly large numbers of salmon resorted to the head waters to spawn, and also ascended the Pollet River, one of its tributaries. I ascertained that for many years but few salmon have been seen in the river, and these have been pursued and killed with persistent zeal. The same destructive propensity which characterizes the dwellers on the Kennebecasis and Hammond Rivers seems to animate the people in this neighborhood. I saw several salmon that had been speared in the river, just below the residence of Alex. Wright, Esq., and that gentleman informed me that more or less are killed every season. There is a dam owned by Hugh Davidson, Esq., over the Pollet River, in which there is no fish-way. Salmon are yet taken below the dam, and as this stream is admirably adapted for breeding, and is very sparsely settled, the fish would have a fair chance to multiply if they could ascend above the dam. As this is the only river at the head of the bay now frequented by salmon, I think it well worthy of some vigorous efforts to restore it, and to that end I would recommend that *all* fishing be prohibited for a number of years, and that to kill a salmon in any manner be deemed a penal offence. Nothing short of this extreme measure will save from utter extermination the few fish that still resort to this river, and all hope of restoring the only salmon stream in this section of the Province will be lost.

From Salisbury I proceeded to Dorchester and Hopewell, to get some information respecting the valuable shad fisheries of the head of the Bay. The shad caught there are, perhaps, the fattest and best in the world. They appear to resort thither to feed upon a peculiar worm or slug very abundant in the extensive mud flats and banks that abound in the upper part of the Bay. That they do not go there to spawn, would appear from the fact that it is unusual to find any spawn in the shad caught there. They appear about the middle of June, and are taken till September; the latest fish are the largest, fattest and best. Many intelligent men there are of opinion that after depositing their spawn in the various rivers of our coast, they betake themselves to the mud flats to feed and recruit. Mr. Black, an old shad fisher who resides at Dorchester, informed me that when spring shad in St. John Harbour were plentiful the catch in Dorchester Bay in autumn is always large. Mr. George Buck was also quite certain that the autumn shad of Dorchester Bay were fish that had spawned in the St. John, or some other river lower down the coast, and had come to the mud flats to feed and recruit. The fish first taken are not so fat as those taken later, and the longer they are on the flats the larger and fatter they become.

This fishery commences above Cape Enragé, and is pursued with more or less vigor from that point to Stony Creek on the *Petitcodiac* River, and to the extreme head of Cumberland Basin. From Stony Creek to Shepody River shad are principally taken by drifting, with nets of 4½ to 5 inches mesh, by which means the largest sized fish are caught. Between these points there are not many weirs, although I saw quite a number in Shepody Bay. The shad taken in the weirs are generally of a smaller size than those taken in the nets, and such large numbers of very small ones are destroyed in the weirs that many intelligent men are of opinion that these should be abolished. The fishing season was over at the time of my visit, and all the weirs I saw were partially broken down, consequently I could not, by personal inspection, form an accurate opinion on this subject, but as I was informed that no provision is made in any of them for the release of small and worthless fish, it is a question for grave consideration whether they should not be prohibited and the shad-fishing confined to nets of a suitable sized mesh.

From the mouth of Memramcook River to Cape Maranguin, brush weirs and stake-nets are the modes employed to take shad, as there is not good shelter on that side for the boats necessary in drifting. From Maranguin to the head of Cumberland Basin both stake and drift-nets are employed on the New Brunswick side, and I was informed that on the Nova Scotia shore the whole of the extensive mud flats was covered with picket-nets.

There was no mode of getting any reliable statistics except by going round among the various fishermen and ascertaining the catch of each, and as my time was very limited and this would have occupied several days, I was reluctantly compelled to abandon the

attempt. I learned, however, that there had been no apparent falling off in the numbers of fish for many years. In 1850 the value of the shad caught and cured in the upper part of the Bay of Fundy was ascertained to be \$22,548, and this was believed to be under rather than over the actual value, as it did not include the desultory fishing, nor that below Cape Enragé. These figures would show that the fishery is of great importance and well worthy of preservation by judicious regulations. I regret much that the shortness of the time allowed me to complete the duty assigned, precluded the possibility of a more thorough enquiry by means of personal interviews with the principal fishermen, to ascertain whether the weirs and picket-nets are as destructive to the fish as some respectable persons alleged.

From Hopewell Cape I went to Upper Salmon River, which empties into Enragé Bay. This is a considerable stream, and as there is no obstruction at its mouth nor any on the river that salmon cannot surmount, it is still frequented by large numbers. They are netted and speared on the spawning grounds to a large extent, consequently are rapidly becoming less numerous. I was credibly informed that not fewer than 1,000 salmon were this season taken by nets and spears in the upper reaches of the river; if this is allowed to continue the stock must soon die out. There is every facility for netting at the mouth of the river, and the fish that succeed in getting into the stream should be allowed to spawn unmolested. Fishing above the bridge should be strictly prohibited, as the stream is small, and should be considered rather a nursery for fish than a place for catching them. If this were the case the number taken at the mouth would soon far exceed all that are now taken in the whole course of the stream.

There is quite a large shad fishery at the mouth of this river by means of a brush weir, which is built by the settlers in the neighborhood as a joint concern. There are fourteen shares, and each share is entitled to a tide, which is taken in rotation, and each share gets from six to eight barrels of shad in the season.

I had an interview with John Alcorn, Esq., J.P., and Warden for the Parish of Alma, I found him an intelligent man, with very enlightened ideas on the subject of the fisheries. He had not received any instructions since his appointment to the office, consequently he did not feel in a position to act. As Mr. Alcorn resides very near Salmon River, and takes a real interest in its preservation, I anticipate the very best results from his appointment.

Point Wolf River was next visited. This is a considerable river, and formerly was the best salmon stream on this part of the coast, but a mill-dam, a short distance from its mouth, has rendered their ascent all but impossible. At highest tides, during a freshet, a few fish may accomplish the leap, and the fact that they still ascend to the basin below the dam, is evidence that this has been the case. I called on Gideon Vernon, Esq., the owner of the mill, who was fortunately at the place, and conversed with him on the propriety of placing a fish-way in the dam. He admitted the necessity of this, and expressed his willingness to comply. As there is no difficulty in erecting a pass at a trifling cost, and without injury to the mill, it is to be hoped that next season will not pass without its being provided.

Goose River is some miles below Point Wolf. At its mouth there is a harbour into which small vessels can enter and lie in safety. Salmon used to ascend this river, but cannot now pass a dam owned by Allan Otty, Esq. They still frequent the basin, and a fish way, which could very easily be put in, would enable them to ascend and restock the river. There is another considerable stream emptying into the basin, which is also barred by a dam. If a fish-way were supplied here, there is no doubt that salmon would still ascend.

Goose Creek, a few miles below, has a dam without a fish-way, and from all I could learn the stream is totally deserted. The mill is owned by the Messrs. Prescott, and the want of a pass has, I fear, effectually depopulated this stream, although salmon formerly ascended it in large numbers.

Little Salmon River is a considerable stream. There is a dam over this river near its mouth which bars the passage of salmon that formerly ascended it. This stream is also deserted, no salmon having been seen for some years.

Long Beach, between Little and Great Salmon Rivers, is a long gravel bar which runs out into the bay and is bare at low tide. Within the bar herrings are sometimes abundant, and there is good line-fishing some distance from the shore, but neither fishery is pursued to any extent, although there is no doubt a remunerative business might be done if properly followed.

Great Salmon River, some miles above Quaco, is a large stream running swiftly between precipitous banks which rise to a great height. At the mouth there is a dam on which are two large mills, and another some distance above. Both are without fish-ways, consequently this river which took its name from the abundance of salmon that frequented it is, I fear, nearly depopulated. Some fish still ascend to the dam, and if an immediate passage is provided the river may be saved from total destruction. There is every facility for the erection of sufficient passes without injury to the mills, and their immediate provision is the only hope of the river; another season may be too late. The mills are owned by William Davidson, Esq., of St. John.

At *Quaco* fishing is not pursued to any great extent, although off the heads cod, pollack and haddock are plentiful and would be remunerative. Herrings are taken in shore in nets and weirs, but not much attention is paid to fishing by the inhabitants; and the want of shelter from severe gales prevents fishing vessels from frequenting the roadstead. The want of a breakwater during south-easterly gales is much felt, and its erection would render this a safe and welcome harbour of refuge for all vessels navigating the upper part of the bay. If ever this is erected I have no doubt that fishing establishments will spring up. There can be no question they would prove remunerative, as cod, pollack, haddock, halibut, herrings and lobsters are abundant all along the shore from Quaco to Cape Spencer.

Teignmouth, commonly called Ten Mile Creek, is a considerable stream. The entrance to the harbour is very narrow, and although there are from 16 to 18 feet of water at high tide, at low water the harbour is dry. There are two dams over this stream, one about a mile from the mouth, the second about a mile and a half. Salmon sometimes get over the first dam, but the second forbids their further ascent. They still ascend to the first dam, and would soon restock the stream, if a passage were provided in the dams. The mills are owned by J. F. Parker, Esq.

Gardner's Creek, some distance below Teignmouth, is a small stream, but one very prolific of salmon. As usual a dam without a pass now prevents their ascent to their old spawning places, and unless it be speedily provided, the salmon in this stream will become extinct. Herrings, cod and haddock are taken near the mouth, the latter being very numerous during summer. Mackerel are sometimes taken in the herring nets, and lobsters abound in vast numbers.

Emerson's Creek is but a short distance below the above, and the same description applies to it, not omitting the invariable dam without a fish-way.

Black River is a considerable stream, some miles above Cape Spencer. It was formerly a fine salmon stream, but is now entirely deserted, the cause being the want of a fish-way in the dam, lately owned by the firm of Power & Hawkes, near its mouth. The lumber on this stream has been almost exhausted, and in a few years this mill will be idle for want of logs. Had there been a fish-way in the dam, as there should have been at its first erection, the progeny of the salmon that are now extinct would have been a source of wealth for all time to come, and the property of every man in its whole length would have been more valuable in consequence. It is matter of regret that the selfishness of one or two individuals has been permitted to affect the interests of so many, and it is still more to be regretted that the same cause, which is fast producing the same result, is permitted to exist in so many other instances as this Report has pointed out.

Mispeck River, which drains Lock Lomond and the lakes connected with that large body of water, is the first considerable stream that flows into the Bay of Fundy to the eastward of St. John. It empties into Port Simonds, a short distance below Cape Spencer.

This stream is admirably adapted to the habits and instincts of the salmon, which, previous to the erection of the dam at its mouth, spawned in the whole course of the stream, and even ascended into the lake, and made its way up several small streams which flow into it. Thomas Trafton, Esq., of St. John, an intelligent gentleman, who has ever taken much interest in the Fisheries, was the contractor for the erection of this dam, and he remembers when salmon were as plentiful in this stream as flies in summer. Now there is not one from its source to its mouth, nor have any, for several years, been seen below the dam. In 1851, when Mr. Perley made his Report, he stated that "some few salmon are yet caught in the port." These have since disappeared, and the last remnant is extinct. Had a pass been provided in that year, and a fair proportion of fish been allowed to propagate unmolested, the river would now be as populous as Mr. Trafton describes it to have been in his youth, and all these years since, it would have afforded a vast number of valuable fish, which it would continue to do for all time to come. Like Black River, this stream is now almost destitute of timber, and its supply of logs will soon fail. As a mere nursery of fish, this stream would have been worth more to the Province, during the years it has been closed by the dam, than the mill and all the deals it has ever produced, to say nothing of what it would produce in all future time. It is matter of great regret that our Province has been so blind to the value of its magnificent fisheries. This stream is well worth restocking by artificial means, and the sportsmen of St. John are ready to do it at their own proper cost, if Government will enforce the law for its protection afterwards. As an experiment, I would respectfully suggest that the sole right of angling in this stream be granted to the man who will restock it. It is now tenantless—as no one can now catch a salmon in it, no wrong can be done any one by granting such privilege, while the river will be a capital nursery. The few fish that can be taken with rod and line, will not sensibly affect the numbers it will produce, and the public will derive all the benefit of a highly interesting process, and when the stream is restored it will furnish spawn and milt to restock other streams which will soon require to be restored by this means. The Governments of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut are now engaged in restocking the rivers of those States, and as a preliminary measure, have passed laws for opening the dams on the Merrimack and Connecticut Rivers by having fish-ways placed in them, and also in the dams across all rivers which were once frequented by salmon, trout, shad, bass and gaspereau. Fishways are already erected on the Merrimack, and many thousands of salmon ova, obtained from our own much-abused Miramichi, have been placed in its upper waters, and I most respectfully commend the suggestion respecting the restocking of the Mispeck to your serious consideration.

As the time to which I was limited had now expired, I did not visit the Nova Scotia Shore of the Bay of Fundy, where there are extensive and valuable fisheries, upon the present state of which it is very desirable that reliable information be obtained.

I much regret the paucity of statistical information this Report presents, and in explanation would beg to state that I found it utterly impossible on the rivers to arrive at any reliable result without waiting on every fisherman and getting his catch. At the head of the Bay the fishermen are scattered over a large district, and to get any reliable data it would have been necessary to wait on each individual, and this I had not sufficient time to do. At West Isles my stay was very limited in consequence of the necessity of meeting the Packet for Grand Manan, which makes but one trip weekly.

SUMMARY, SUGGESTIONS AND GENERAL REMARKS.

1. From the foregoing Report, which is the result of personal inspection of every locality described, it will be seen to what an extent our Fisheries of all kinds have been neglected, and how necessary it is that our rivers and streams which are the nurseries of the most valuable species of fish should be opened to their ascent, and sufficiently protected to allow them to perform the functions upon which not only their increase but their very existence depends. At present I am not aware that a single dam in the Province, except one at the mouth of the Little River in Bathurst, owned by Honorable John Ferguson, is provided with a sufficient fish-pass, although the law requires that there shall be one in every dam where fish formerly ascended. As this is a matter of vital importance, involving the continuation of the species, I would respectfully suggest that an advertisement be immediately published in the *Royal Gazette*, and in one newspaper of every County of the

Province in which a newspaper is printed, calling upon every proprietor of a dam across any stream up which migratory fish formerly ascended, to have placed a sufficient fish-pass in such dam previous to the 1st of May next ensuing, under the extreme penalty imposed by law, and giving notice that after the above date the extreme penalty will be inflicted for throwing slabs, edgings, saw-dust or other mill-rubbish into any river or stream resorted to by migratory fish.

2. The mode that has hitherto obtained of appointing Fishery Wardens and Overseers of the Fisheries has been so loose and careless that in most instances these officers have been quite useless. Their appointment has been published in the *Royal Gazette*, and months have sometimes passed before they have received any instructions. They are never sworn to the faithful performance of their duties, and in most instances they are not only ignorant of these duties but also of the intent and meaning of the law under which they are expected to act. In but two instances in the whole course of my tour of inspection did I find Wardens in possession of a Copy of the Law. As upon the Warden depends, in a great measure, the protection of all streams to which fish resort to spawn, the selection of proper persons, their formal appointment and swearing in, and their sufficient instruction in the duties devolving upon them, are matters of the highest importance. At present they are wholly irresponsible persons, at liberty to do their duty or not at their own option, there is no one to call them to account for neglect of duty, in most cases a variety of local causes prevail to make them wink at open violations of the law, and at present scarce any of them act until complaints are made to them. As the deprecators have all a mutual interest, they are not apt to complain of one of their order, consequently the few complaints that are made generally spring from personal motives, private quarrels and petty jealousy; these, however, are the exception. Those Wardens who, alive to the importance of their functions, are sincerely anxious to enforce the law, find their hands tied by want of sufficient authority to act summarily. They have no power independent of the Magistrate; they cannot arrest an offender without summons issued by a Magistrate, and in many places they must go miles before they can reach one. Offenders are thus enabled to escape by the delay, and in many instances the Warden is subjected to much useless labour and sometimes to much personal expense. If the Wardens were invested with enlarged powers to enable them to act in a more summary manner, as is the case in Canada, they could enforce the law more effectually. In Canada they are, *ex-officio*, Justices of the Peace, and the system is found to work admirably.

3. The extent to which fishing is pursued in the Harbour of St. John and outside Partridge Island, and the persistent violation of the Fishery Laws, whether Civic or Provincial, is a matter deserving serious consideration. The fisheries dependent upon the River St. John are of such vast importance that too much care cannot be bestowed upon their protection. There can be no doubt that of late years these are visibly falling off, and in the opinion of old fishermen who can see the change that has occurred within their own recollection, they are decreasing at a rapid and rapidly accelerating rate. A rigid inquiry into this matter is loudly called for. Although drifting is very properly prohibited in the harbours and rivers of the Province, because, in consequence of the great number of nets set from the shores, the fish could not possibly ascend if both shores and channels were closed by nets, still, from the peculiarities of the Harbour of St. John, in which, during freshets in the river, the fish are confined by their inability to ascend past Split Rock, and in consequence play about the harbour until the water has fallen, I do not think it would be advisable to prohibit the practice entirely, as the effect of such prohibition would be to enable the weirs to take the greatest portion of them to the great injury of the poor fishermen who cannot buy a lot and erect a weir. Therefore, I am not prepared to advise the total prohibition of drifting, but I think it should cease on the fifth day of June for alewives or gaspereau, and on the fifteenth day of August for shad and salmon. On the river above the Falls no shad, salmon or bass should be taken or fished for in any manner after that date. The custom has prevailed so long that, whether legal or illegal, it has become as it were a right, and any radical change would no doubt be a cause of great dissatisfaction and hardship among a large class of poor and industrious men, whose livelihood depends upon this mode of fishing. When conducted within the limits above stated I do not think it would be injurious to the fisheries, as a sufficient number of

fish could ascend to their spawning grounds to keep up the stock, if the *weekly close time* is strictly enforced. This *weekly close time*, not only on the river and in the harbour but everywhere in the bay outside, should be rigidly enforced, and all drifting (if drifting be allowed at all) should cease from Saturday at sundown till Monday at sunrise, and *all* set nets and weirs should be left open during that time so that a sufficient number of fish can ascend the river to maintain the species. This *close time* has been found to be of the greatest importance in England, Scotland and Ireland, and its rigid observance has done more to protect the fisheries of these countries than any other measure the Commissioners have recommended. In this connection I would respectfully suggest that some regulations be enforced regarding the drifting outside the harbour and down the bay. If the present over fishing in the harbour is curtailed the fishermen will naturally extend their operations outside, and the evil will only be removed from one locality to another. I would therefore respectfully recommend that drifting be prohibited within two miles of the shore, from the Beacon to Point Lepreau.

4. In most all the lakes and streams of the Province great damage has been done by sweeping them with nets for speckled trout, and taking these in all modes and at all seasons. Many of the best streams and lakes are now almost deprived of this fish, and the evil is increasing to a great extent. I would respectfully suggest that the Canadian Law, both as to the mode and time of catching trout, be made applicable to this Province.

5. In view of the defective operation of Section 18 of the Fishery Act of this Province, and Section 5 of the General Regulations for the same, I would respectfully suggest that they be amended in such mode as to secure the object intended, *viz.*, that the taking of salmon, whether by accident or design, shall cease at the time fixed by law, to which end no net, either killock or picket net, must be allowed to remain set during the weekly close time, or after the legal time for catching salmon has expired, and that nothing shall be done to practically diminish the size of the mesh below five inches in extension, to which end a penalty must be attached to its infraction; in order to facilitate this all nets should be legally marked with the owner's name under pain of forfeiture.

6. The protection of the Fisheries being an object of such importance and the cost of effectually doing it being very considerable, it is a matter of some moment to inquire whence the funds are to be derived for this purpose. At present the persons who derive the immediate benefit of the River Fisheries expect the public to pay for their preservation. Those who enjoy the direct benefits of the Fisheries should contribute to their protection. There can be no doubt as to the fairness of the principle that those who are benefited by the protection should defray the cost incurred. While it is admitted that the public at large are interested in the protection of any article of food or commerce, and that they should contribute to that object, still those, who to the greatest extent and in the most direct manner derive the largest amount of benefit, should not expect to escape their fair share of the burthen. The assessment principle in England, Scotland and Ireland, of a rate upon the occupants of the fisheries and a tax upon all apparatus used in the capture of salmon, is found to work well and to give general satisfaction. I would respectfully suggest, in order to raise a fund to be applied exclusively to the protection of the River Fisheries, in addition to any grant or provision that Government may make for this purpose, that a tax of \$10 annually be levied upon all salmon weirs or other engines legally employed in their capture. All with whom I conversed upon this subject admitted the fairness of the principle, and expressed their readiness to pay a tax if the rivers could thereby be protected.

7. It is highly desirable that the once valuable Fisheries of the River St. Croix should be restored and protected, and in order to do this it is necessary that uniform regulations should be made by the State of Maine and the Government of the Dominion. I would respectfully suggest that measures be taken to secure such uniformity in the regulations that may be adopted for the restoration and protection of that river.

8. In view of the great importance of protecting the spawning ground at the southern head of Grand Manan, and in any other localities that may be discovered in the neighborhood, and of enforcing the regulations that exist or may be made respecting the deposition

of "Gurry," and of preventing the encroachments of foreign fishing vessels upon the best grounds in our waters, I would respectfully suggest that a suitable vessel, properly manned and equipped, be placed at the command of the Officer appointed for that purpose; and, that in addition to the performance of that important duty at Grand Manan, said Officer shall be required to supervise and protect the Fisheries in the whole of the Bay of Fundy, giving particular attention to the enforcement of any rules that may be made for the regulation of drifting outside of Partridge Island. It might be part of his duty also to see that navigation is not obstructed by weirs being built in such places as their presence would be likely to have that effect. This vessel could also be employed in Light-house Service of the Bay, by which considerable expense would be saved in the Marine Department.

9. The Shad Fishery at the Head of the Bay is of the greatest importance. As this is the only valuable fish that frequents these waters in numbers sufficient to make their pursuit an object, the regulation and protection of this fishery deserves careful attention. The difference of opinion between the net and weir fishers is so great, and the assertions of each are so conflicting that, with my present information, I am unable to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. Actual observation alone could justify me in giving a decided opinion, and this I could not bestow as the fishery season was over at the time of my visit to the principal localities. A full investigation of the matter next season, when the fisheries are in operation, is very desirable in order to enable me to form a reliable opinion, and recommend such measures as are best calculated to protect and perpetuate this source of Provincial wealth.

10. As the protection of the extreme upper waters of the Miramichi is of great importance in order to prevent the speedy depopulation of that river, with a view to put an immediate stop to the netting and spearing practised by parties from the St. John River, I would respectfully recommend that Mr. Hugh Miller, of Glassville, be appointed Warden for the district extending from Lewy's Falls to the head waters of the North and South Forks, and that he be clothed, *ex-officio*, with the power and authority of a Magistrate, with instructions to inflict the extreme penalty imposed by Section 2 of the General Regulations, on all parties who may render themselves liable, by persisting in pursuing their illegal practices.

11. In view of the abuses which prevail on all the rivers of the Province, and the limited number of fish that succeed in depositing their ova unmolested, I would respectfully recommend that no permission be granted to any person to take spawn, or milt, or breeding fish from any of them for some years, or until such time as they can afford to supply them without serious injury to the rivers. While the propagation of a valuable species of fish is worthy of all encouragement, as it is the direct production of wealth, still the Rivers of this Province cannot at present afford the supply of spawn and milt necessary for restoring a river. There are many streams in Lower Canada which can supply spawn and milt to a large extent without being injured, and I would respectfully suggest that applicants be sent to these rivers in preference to the rivers of this Province. I would, however, suggest that an exception be made in favor of any person who will offer to restock *Mispeck* River at his own expense, and in such case would recommend that he be allowed to procure the requisite quantity of impregnated eggs from the Upper Salmon River which flows into Enragé Bay, commonly called Salisbury Cove; and that such person be restricted to eight (8) female fish and five (5) male fish, and that these shall not be taken by the spear, or in any other manner that will destroy the fish so taken.

12. In view of the great destruction done on the spawning flats in Grand Lake, Maquapit Lake, French Lake, Ocnabog Lake and the other lakes connected with them, I would respectfully recommend that an additional section be added to the General Regulations, making it illegal to fish for gaspereau in these lakes after the 20th day of May.

13. With regard to the weirs on Grand Manan, and their effect on the Fisheries there and in the neighborhood of that island, I would speak with some degree of hesitation. The opinions expressed by those with whom I conversed were contradictory, and in most cases were so evidently dictated by interest that I was thrown back upon my own judgment

and I had to rely upon my own opinion. Notwithstanding all I heard to the contrary, I am clearly convinced that the weirs do great damage to the Fisheries generally by taking vast quantities of small fish, wholly useless for any purpose except to produce oil, and of this the very small ones must yield an inconsiderable quantity, wholly incommensurate in value with the vast destruction of fish, which, if allowed to mature, would be of greatly increased value, and would be almost certain to be taken at a subsequent season. As things are now conducted it is clear that the spawning grounds are protected almost solely for the benefit of the weirs, as these take them in the largest quantities and of all sizes, down to two and three inches in length. It may be true, that as now conducted, since the introduction of the oil pressing business, the weirs are more profitable than they were when they had to open their gates and allow the small fish to pass out; but this must evidently be at the expense of the general interests of the fisheries, because as the supply of food diminishes, so will the line fish, that are attracted by the vast shoals of young herrings. Now, the real question would seem to be—are the spawning grounds sufficiently prolific to keep up the supply in spite of the weirs, so that the line fish may not desert the locality for want of food? If not, then the weirs must do damage by destroying such vast quantities of small ones. There can be no doubt, that the continued drain, year after year, must diminish the supply; and it is simply a question of time, how long the contest between the powers of the fish to multiply, and the capacity of the weirs to take them, can be continued. The question is not a complicated one, but to arrive at a fair decision and suggest a remedy that will protect the fisheries, without needlessly interfering with private enterprise, requires more information than I could acquire in the short visit I was compelled to make. The matter is one of importance, and deserves careful consideration, as the protection of the fisheries is closely connected with it.

14. With regard to the applicability of the Fishery Act of Canada to this Province, I am strongly of opinion that it would be admirably adapted to the protection of our fisheries; but it would work a radical change in several matters, and practices which have long been the custom in New Brunswick. Its adoption would very materially curtail the time of legal fishing—in the case of salmon, to an extent that would virtually prevent their capture at the time when they are most abundant. Salmon seldom enter our streams earlier than the first of June, generally not earlier than the tenth or fifteenth. During the month of July, after the 31st of which taking salmon is prohibited by the Canadian Act, the great run of salmon enter the Harbour of St. John, and the adoption of the Canadian Act would seriously curtail the catch in the upper parts of the river. The Canadian Act also confines the use of nets and other apparatus for taking salmon to the tidal waters, and there can be no doubt of the wisdom of this, if the *protection* of the fish is considered of more importance than their capture after they have become deteriorated in quality, as they invariably do after a short residence in fresh water. A great change takes place in their condition consequent upon their preparation for the great function of procreation, and although they are not unfit for food until after this act has taken place still they are so much inferior, as an article of food, that their value is much lessened.

But the custom of using picket-nets on all the rivers of the Province has prevailed ever since its settlement, and has become so rooted that its abolition will be considered a great hardship by those who will be affected by its prohibition; still, as the protection of this fishery is of the utmost importance it is worthy of grave consideration whether this measure is not absolutely necessary to the very existence of these fisheries in the harbours and tidal waters. My own opinion based upon long observation and a knowledge of the great decrease in the numbers of fish that now succeed in reaching their spawning grounds, and the limited number that are allowed to deposit their ova unmolested, is that this measure if not now absolutely necessary, will assuredly become so in a very few years, and this opinion is shared by all who are acquainted with the facts upon which it is based. The rivers of the New England States have become depopulated by practices which all sensible men deplore, and we should take measures in time to prevent a similar result in our waters which, fortunately, are yet frequented by salmon, trout, shad, basse and gaspereau. When it is considered that the fish taken high up in the streams and rivers are very inferior to those caught in the tidal waters, and of much less value as food, and that they are about to perform the functions upon which the species depends, the question will resolve itself

into this,—Which is most preferable, that the inhabitants on the upper waters of our rivers should forego a custom which has come to be considered a right, or that the Province shall be deprived of the vast wealth that arises from our fisheries? In the event of my opinion being shared by yourself, and if, after mature consideration, it be deemed advisable to make the Canadian Act applicable to the other parts of the Dominion, there are one or two points in which special provision will have to be made to fit that law to these Provinces, but in its main features, the terseness of its sections, the simplicity of its verbiage, and the clear and perspicuous language in which its provisions are couched, making it almost impossible to evade them, I consider it admirably adapted to secure the object of its enactment—the *effective Protection of the Fisheries*.

15. In view of the general want of information that prevails regarding the state of our rivers and streams, and the laxity with which the laws, supposed to be necessary for their protection have been enforced, and in order to show the great necessity which exists for immediate and vigorous action, I would respectfully suggest that this Report, meagre and defective as it is, be printed, and 1000 copies circulated in this Province. This would, I venture to hope, call attention to the matter, and secure the co-operation of the public in any measures that may be devised for the effective protection of what all are interested in.

16. In conclusion I would respectfully impress upon your attention the vast importance of our fisheries, and the absolute necessity of their protection. The lumber of the Province, which has hitherto been our great staple, is fast decreasing, and its exhaustion is only a question of time. When this period arrives, the fisheries will be our principal resource, and fortunately the propagative powers of fish are so great that their increase, if properly preserved, is bounded only by their supply of food, and here Providence has been peculiarly beneficent—the supply of food is so vast in the depths of the ocean that there can be no fear of a scarcity. Fish are absolute wealth. They have an intrinsic value the moment they are lifted from the water, and yet their production and growth have cost man neither time nor labour. No other article of commerce is produced without the expenditure of both. The Bay of Fundy, south of our Province, and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, east of it, produces this wealth to an extent and in a variety surpassed by no other waters in the world. If our people have not hitherto availed themselves of their great advantages, it is only because their limited capital has been employed in the other great staple, lumber. This has ever been, and will always be, fluctuating and uncertain, and must, eventually be exhausted. How important, then, is it to protect our other great staple, which will then be our only one. If protected it will exist for all time, or at least until some great operation of nature changes the features of our coasts. This Report, though only a partial one, will serve to show the condition of some of the most important of our fisheries, and the need that exists to use immediate and vigorous measures for their preservation, and I most earnestly commend the whole subject to your serious attention.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK,
28th October, 1867.

NOTE.—Since the first sheet of this report was in type, I have had an interview with Alex. Gibson, Esq., the enterprising owner of the mills on the Nashwaak River. Mr. G. stated that his reason for not placing a fish-way in the dam was a conviction that fish had deserted the river long before he became proprietor of the premises. On being informed that there is a strong probability of the river being re-stocked if a passage is made, he expressed not only his willingness to provide a pass, but his earnest wish to lend all the assistance in his power to bring about so desirable a result.

APPENDIX A.

OTTAWA, 7th December, 1867.

To the Minister of Marine and Fisheries:

SIR,—While engaged in the duty assigned me in New Brunswick, I was repeatedly urged to call attention to the mode in which the Inspection Law in New Brunswick was carried out; but considering it foreign to the letter of my instructions, I did not think it right to allude to the matter in my general report.

My attention has been called to the Inspection Law of Nova Scotia, which has lapsed, and recalling the numerous applications made to me during my official tour, I immediately called Mr. Whitcher's attention to the absence of anything of that nature in the Canadian Law. To my great satisfaction he submitted to my inspection a Bill prepared by himself to meet the same difficulties in Canada. After a most careful examination, I cannot refrain from again expressing my admiration of the thorough practical knowledge displayed by that officer, of all matters connected with the Department of the Fisheries. I have already expressed to you the high opinion I entertain of the general provisions of the Canadian Fishery Law, and I have no hesitation in saying that it will be very difficult indeed to improve upon it, as a general law for the Dominion, after the introduction of the words necessary to fit the various clauses to the new order of things, and to the different latitude of our rivers. This inspection law I find to be just as comprehensive, and shows a most intimate acquaintance with the evils it is designed to remove.

Mature consideration has convinced me that this subject forms a legitimate branch of the Fishery Department, and ought to be under its control. I have considered how this can be done without exciting any jealousy that might arise among those who contend for the freedom of trade, and I find that Mr. Whitcher's admirable foresight has anticipated this. Being a matter affecting trade, and as those engaged in commerce are admittedly the best judges of fitness and qualifications, the Bill proposes to leave to the local Boards of Trade the examination of the chief officers, which will be a check upon inefficient appointments, without the special and necessary trade qualifications. Allow me to call your attention to the matter, and to ask your examination of Mr. Whitcher's Bill. A moment's consideration will show you its important bearing, and the mode I have suggested will concentrate the authority of the Department, and keep down the number of paid officials, which of course is an object of great importance.

With all submission I lay the following remarks on the subject before you, begging your consideration of the whole matter, and hoping that my views, according as they do with the more mature experience of Mr. Whitcher, will meet your approbation:—

Next in importance to the Protection of the Coast, Harbour and River Fisheries of the Dominion, is the character and quality of the fish exported. At present so little attention is paid to the proper curing and packing of the several kinds of fish, that their commercial value is greatly lessened. The fish caught on our coasts, and in our harbours and rivers are surpassed by none in the world as an article of food, but in consequence of carelessness in curing them, and of fraud in putting them up and branding them for exportation, both in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia their high character has suffered, and their former reputation has been lowered.

In New Brunswick there is an Inspection Law, but its wholesome provisions are not enforced. The Inspectors of Pickled Fish, and the Cullers of Dry Fish, are very remiss in the strict performance of their duties. They are responsible to no one, and many complaints are constantly made that fish, wholly unfit for food, receive the Inspector's brand. There was formerly an Inspection Law in Nova Scotia, but mistaken ideas of economy have allowed it to lapse. At the last Session of the Legislature of that Province, a Petition numerously signed by the leading merchants, for a return to the system of official inspection was rejected.

In consequence of these facts the character of our exported fish has greatly suffered, and it is much to be desired that steps should be taken to secure a proper inspection in both Provinces, and thus restore the high character to which our fish are justly entitled. This measure could not fail to be attended by the best results, and would foster and

stimulate the fisheries, by securing their products a ready sale at a higher price than they now command in the principal foreign markets.

The importance of this inspection will be seen from the Appendix to the Report of the British Commissioners, in which a number of memorials from leading continental merchants will be found, insisting on the continuance of the official brands upon Scotch herrings. Mr. Alexander Miller, of Leith, in a letter to Geo. Traill, Esq., M.P., remarks: "I consider that the abolition of the Fishery Boards, and of the official brands, would be a great calamity to Scotland, and I trust you will be able to find means of averting such a blow."

I would respectfully suggest that in order to remedy this serious defect in the present loose mode of inspection, a part of the duty of the Provincial Inspector of Fisheries should consist in the supervision of all Inspectors of Pickled Fish, and Cullers of Dried Fish; that they should be made responsible to the Fishery Department, through him, for the faithful performance of their duties; and that any complaints made against them should be immediately and thoroughly investigated, and a report, including the complaint made, and the result of the investigation transmitted to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries for action thereon.

By this means I am of opinion that a fruitful source of complaint will be removed, to the great advantage of the fishing interests of these Provinces. I believe such a law exists in Canada, and I am convinced that its enforcement in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will lead to the best results.

I also think that the local overseers, in districts where Inspectors of pickled, smoked, or dried fish were required, might combine the duties of both overseer and inspector with advantage, as they would, in most cases, be on the spot, would have some knowledge of the mode in which the fish to be inspected were cured, and would be in a position to judge of their quality, without the necessity, in every case, of repacking. This, I think, would secure a much-desired object in an economical manner, and without unnecessarily increasing the number of paid officials in connection with the Department.

That a rigid inspection must be secured in some manner, I am convinced, not only from my own observation, but from the numerous requisitions that have been made to me by men largely engaged in the trade, to call attention to the matter in my report.

The inspection of fish oils might also, with advantage, be included in any law that may be made on this subject. I would respectfully call your attention to the excellent Bill prepared by Mr. Whiteher, and read in the Canadian Parliament, on the 27th May, 1864, which I humbly think contains all that is needed on the subject, and which is just as applicable to the Lower Provinces as to Canada. This might be made the basis of a general law, applicable to the whole Dominion,—as a general law is very desirable.

APPENDIX B.

To the Honorable P. MITCHELL,

Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

SIR,—To shew you the great importance attached by the English Government to the preservation and management of the Fisheries of Great Britain, which certainly are inferior in importance to those of the Dominion, I may be excused for calling your attention to the following extracts from the Civil Service Estimates of Great Britain for the current year. I may remark that men of the first social standing, and of first class abilities do not consider the subject beneath their care. Dr. BUCKLAND has accepted the appointment of Joint Fishery Inspector for England and Wales, in the place of Mr. EDEN, whose impaired health forbade further labour on the field of his arduous official duties. Mr. SPENCER WALPOLE, son of the present Home Secretary, has accepted the place of Inspector lately rendered vacant by the death of Mr. W. J. FENNEL, whose attention to the duties of his office impaired his health, and hastened his death. A salary of \$4,374 per annum, with about \$600 more for travelling expenses, makes the situation attractive even to the son of a Cabinet Minister.

The estimates above referred to embrace the large sum of \$112,717 to support the Fisheries Department. The following is a list of the officers, with the scale of salaries:—

England: Two Inspectors at \$1,374 each; Secretary to ditto, \$1,944; travelling expenses, \$1,458; incidental expenses, \$364; First Commissioner, \$2,430; Second ditto, \$1,701; Third ditto (in addition to salary as a Commissioner for Ireland), \$1,701; Secretary to ditto, \$486; travelling expenses, \$3,888; incidental expenses, \$1,215.

Ireland: Two Commissioners at \$3,402, \$1,701 respectively; Secretary to ditto, \$2,430; Clerk to ditto, \$486; Messenger to ditto, \$252; travelling expenses, \$2,430; incidental expenses, \$1,215.

The Scotch estimates provide \$2,546 for the Secretary, \$1,215 for the General Inspector, and salaries varying from \$486 to \$874 per annum to twenty-six Inspecting Officers, with miscellaneous expenses amounting to \$26,730 for the year.

There is also a separate Commission to investigate the pollution of rivers. It consists of a chief at a salary of \$4,860, and two aids at \$3,888 each, with travelling expenses to the tune of \$6,804. Their total funds for the year amount to \$37,737.

In addition to these public expenditures, there are various private associations which expend some \$20,000 yearly; and as much more is raised from license fees and other sources towards protecting fish in the rivers of the United Kingdom.

The "Thames Angling Preservation Society" alone spends thousands of dollars in persevering endeavors to coax back into Father Thames the fishy natives which once inhabited his dirty waters. This plucky society has spent in piscicultural experiments and other similar ventures since 1862, a fabulous amount. Not less than 250,000 of the fry of fishes of different kinds have been placed in the obdurate old stream. Whether any of these frisky youngsters have ever returned in their adolescent or adult fishhood to delight the palates of their mundane propagators, does not appear. We hear nothing of them at the pleasant luncheons which liberal members of this association so regularly enjoy at the Red Lion Hotel.

The figures referred to are interesting. They contrast notably with the modest sums which foot up our Legislative grants to protect and develop the fisheries. Salaries of four or five thousand dollars downwards, make us ashamed almost to think that in Canada we too have toilsome men with scant assistance, wearing themselves out at rates of pay three-fourths less than joint Inspectors and duplicate Commissioners receive in Britain, with a host of efficient aids and voluntary auxiliaries to lighten their task, while in the Maritime Provinces \$400 a year is the maximum salary allowed to Fishery Officers. There can be no doubt of their great importance, nor of the necessity that exists for an immediate and vigorous superintendence of all relating to them. In the new Confederation it is to be hoped the fisheries will receive an increased share of Legislative and Executive attention.

To show you the interest taken in the subject by the British Government, I will call your attention to the following List of Parliamentary Inquiries into the subject of the Salmon Fishery alone. These reports, extending over a period of only 37 years, have cost not less than £50,000 stg. They have engaged the attention of men of intelligence and experience, and to their labours may be attributed the present improved and flourishing state of this branch of the Fisheries of Great Britain. The same causes will produce equally good effects in the Dominion, and fortunately with us the evils complained of have not yet brought our rivers to the same low state in which those of Scotland and Ireland were when the Commission of Inquiry was issued. Judicious legislation and vigorous enforcement of the regulations that may be adopted will prevent, in the Dominion, the state of things which is fast approaching, and which the British Commissioners so much deplored:—

Report on Salmon Fisheries of the United Kingdom, printed 30th March, 1825.

Second Report on the same, printed 3rd June, 1825.

Report on Salmon Fisheries of Scotland, printed 30th June, 1836.

Report on Salmon Fisheries of Ireland, printed 1836.

Report of Select Committee, Salmon Fisheries of Scotland, House of Lords, printed 1842.

Report of Select Committee on Irish Salmon Fisheries, printed 1849.

Report of Committee on Tweed Salmon Fisheries, 1857; Act passed, fixed engines abolished.

Report of Committee on Tweed Salmon Fisheries, 1859, abolition confirmed.

Report of Committee on Ness and Beaully Salmon Fisheries, 1860.

Report of Select Committee, House of Lords, printed, 1860.

Report of Commissioners of Salmon Fisheries, England and Wales, printed, 1861.

Report of Committee on Salmon Fisheries, Ireland, 1862.

From the above you will observe the uniformity with which the Protection of the Fisheries was recommended, and their suggestions adopted. To this judicious legislation may be attributed the great improvement which has followed in every river, without exception, in which the law was enforced. The increased number of fish taken and the increased value of the rented fisheries proves that the harbours and rivers may be likened to farms, the better they are cultivated the more profitable are the crops, while the more they are neglected, fences allowed to fall down, and all kinds of encroachments upon their fields permitted, the sooner they go to ruin. Just so is it with these great and valuable farms comprised in our harbours and rivers, cultivate (protect) them and they will yield a rich harvest; neglect them, suffer poachers to violate all rules for their protection, allow mill-dams to impede the passage of the fish, and spears to exterminate the farm stock on the spawning grounds, and the farms must speedily be unremunerative and, ere long, irretrievably destroyed.

The great marine and fluvial farms possess signal advantages over those on land. The former require no laborious preparation of the soil, no planting of seed, and anxious care of the growing crop. They require nothing but harvesting—the crop is planted, reared and matured by the hand of bounteous Nature; all she requires is the undisturbed fulfilment of her beneficent functions; unmolested in these, she plants, rears and feeds countless millions of fish which have an intrinsic value the moment they are captured. We have these farms to an extent and of a quality unsurpassed in the world,—they have not yet been properly cultivated, but every description of inventive ingenuity has been employed to devastate them.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. VENNING.

APPENDIX.

MR. MILLER'S REPORT.

To the Honorable PETER MITCHELL,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa

SIR,—In compliance with instructions received from you, I beg leave to lay before you the following report on the fisheries in the district you have been pleased to assign me, commencing at the Restigouche River, and tracing the coast southward to the Miramichi, In one respect I have been unable to comply fully with the spirit of your instructions, viz, in arriving at a correct estimate of the value of the different branches of the fisheries. Taking the Salmon Fishery as an instance, we find large quantities of that fish caught upon the shores of the Bay Chaleurs and Miramichi are preserved by the hermetically sealed process, and sent directly to the United States Market, by the Railroad from Shediac to St. John, and from thence in the steamboats to Boston. Now, in forwarding these fish to Shediac no record of their shipment appears on the Custom House returns in the different ports of entry along the northern coast of New Brunswick, and the consequence is, that any person seeking to arrive at a valuation of that fishery, has to collect his information from private sources, which greatly vary in their estimates of value.

Added to this, large quantities of "round" salmon, packed in ice or snow are sent to Shediac or the Canadian market in almost every steamboat leaving any of the above ports. As none of these fish are passed through the Custom House, it is impossible to arrive at any reliable means of ascertaining their value, although their aggregate during the fishing season must amount to a large sum. Other branches of the fish business stand in the same position, in respect to gaining statistics of the real value of the fisheries along the coast. But there is also another difficulty experienced by persons engaged in collecting statistics relating to the fisheries. There seems to be a feeling of distrust among fishermen, respecting all parties engaged in making inquiries about the business they are prosecuting. This feeling in a great measure arises from a desire to avoid opposition, but operates seriously against persons desirous of acquiring accurate information. I have therefore been compelled to rely upon the statement of parties who have different interests to serve in the mode of conducting the fisheries, and who of course were willing to screen from me anything connected with them, if it ministered to their interest. The figures that appear in this report, are, I am convinced, correct in the main. Trusting, however, that any deficiency that may exist in my report can be remedied by information from some other source, I proceed to the Restigouche River, which has three of its principal tributaries running into New Brunswick, viz:—The Upsalquitch, Quatam-Kedgewick (commonly called "Tom Kedgewick"), and the Mistouche or Patapedia. All these streams are favourite spawning grounds for salmon and abound with trout. From the sources of these branches, until you reach "Morris Rock," a short distance below Long Island, the Restigouche and its tributaries are under the superintendence of Mr. Alexander Chamberlin, who, acting in concert with Mr. John Mowat, the Warden, upon the Canadian side of the stream, has been enabled in a great measure to prevent poaching during the present year. Owing, however, to the extent of territory, over which he is Warden, it is almost impossible to protect the fisheries as they should be, from the spear and sweep net. Mr. Chamberlin informed me that last season, whilst he was on duty upon the Restigouche, he met a party of men from the County of Victoria. The party had crossed the country by

portage, and were fully prepared with all the appliances for taking salmon, being well provided with sweep nets, spears, &c. This one instance will illustrate the difficulties experienced by wardens in the exercise of their duty; for how is it possible to convince the poor settlers of the wrong they are perpetrating in spearing salmon, when they find the practice encouraged by men holding high positions in the Province, and who, perhaps, assisted in framing the laws, and were the first to engage in their violation. Another instance of spearing came under my notice, this season, when visiting the Restigouche; a party of English anglers, strangers in the country, actuated with a spirit of curiosity to witness spearing, engaged in it one night, with their Indians, only one or two salmon were taken, and the injury to the fishery was, therefore, of slight importance; but whilst the trespass upon the law arose from a simple motive, the result may be highly injurious to its proper observance in the future, as the moral support of such men in favour of the stringent law against spearing is altogether lost upon those who have assisted in its violation and acted under their instructions. Above the head of the tide, upon the Restigouche, I found very few sets of nets for salmon; in this respect it differs materially from the streams upon both branches of the Miramichi, which are fished as far as there are settlers. The reason assigned by the people settled along the river and its branches, for not fishing as in the County of Northumberland, is that the fish have no chance to reach them in sufficient quantities to warrant them in the expense of purchasing nets, on account of being caught among the islands, a short distance above Campbelltown, and I have every reason to believe that such is the case. The fact that five nets only are to be found above the islands, where the law permits them to be set is *prima facie* evidence that the fishery in that section of the river is non productive; particularly when we know, that in the Miramichi, where the same law exists, every stream is netted almost to its source for salmon. There seems to be a general complaint among the settlers, above the islands, that the river is overnetted in that locality; this complaint coupled with the assurances of different anglers who visited the various branches of the river during the present season, who complained of the scarcity of salmon, and ascribed that scarcity to the excessive netting upon the river, leads me to the conclusion that if the salmon nets between Gerrard's Island, and the lower part of Long Island were reduced to a fourth of their present number, one of the principal sources of injury to the Restigouche salmon fishery would be remedied.

I have endeavoured in a sketch marked A, to furnish you with a slight idea of the portion of the river alluded to, and show the position of the nets *paying taxes* in that district. The islands are in general small, and the entrances between them shallow and narrow, presenting peculiar temptations to the fisherman to stretch nets from the shore of one island to another, which I have every reason to believe is not an uncommon occurrence, and can be accomplished with security from fines, on account of the size of the district under the supervision of the warden. Were it not for the occasional freshets that will not allow nets to remain set, on account of floating lumber, I am convinced that but few salmon would find their way up the Restigouche during the fishing season.

At the head of the tide, a few miles above Campbelltown, stands Gordon's Mill; from this establishment the saw dust and mill rubbish are carried into the Restigouche. There is no "fish pass" upon the dam, nor does there seem any necessity for erecting one, as the testimony of parties, in no way interested in the property, leads me to conclude that the stream was never visited by salmon, even before the mill was erected.

An American Company under the superintendence of Mr. J. W. Jones, of Boston, Mass., is located at Campbelltown, which has preserved, during this season, upwards of 36,000 lbs of salmon in hermetically sealed cases.

During the present summer, such was the abundance of salmon, that all the fish preserving concerns upon the Restigouche were over supplied and the consequence was, that there has been more salmon salted than has been for some years past. One family by the name of Duncan, has salted over seventy barrels (weighing 12,000 lbs.) of salmon; after disposing of an equal quantity to the fishing firms.

Immediately below Campbelltown, upon what is called the mill stream, there is a saw mill owned by Mr. Doherty of that place. In this mill no provision is made for disposing of the saw dust, which is swept by the current into the Restigouche. No fish-way is required upon this dam, as no salmon have ever been found in its waters.

Between Campbelltown and Dalhousie, a distance of sixteen miles, only three sets of

salmon nets are to be found. Between those places the fish are usually to be found upon the North or Canadian side of the Restigouche, where the bottom is clearer.

Upon the "Point," at Dalhousie, there is a fishing concern, owned by Mr. J. W. Fraser of Quebec. In this establishment the round salmon are packed in boxes, containing snow, and are then dispatched to Quebec and other Canadian markets by the steamers leaving Dalhousie. On account of the irregularity of one of the lines of steamers during the present season, Mr. Fraser has not been as successful in getting his fish to market as he expected; he intends, however, to extend his business next season. His establishment packed during the season 60,000 lbs of salmon fresh, besides which, he has, I believe, a large quantity salted.

In Dalhousie there is another fishing concern, owned by Mr. George Haddow, who is engaged in preserving salmon in hermetically sealed tin cases. During this season he sold his preserved fish to Mr. Jones, at Campbelltown, who sent them with his own to St. John (*via* Shediac), from whence they were shipped to the American markets. Mr. Haddow cased during the season, upwards of 33,000 lbs., besides having on hand 66 barrels, salted, of an aggregate weight of 13,200 lbs.

Immediately in the town of Dalhousie, is an extensive saw-mill and premises, belonging to George Moffatt, Esq. The saw dust and mill rubbish made at this mill, are continually to be seen floating in the harbour opposite the town. Different parties have assured me, that since this mill has been erected the herring fishery has been gradually decreasing along the shore until it has become almost worthless. If it be true, that the saw dust litters upon the shores, where the herring resorted in former times to spawn, there is little reason to doubt that the effect upon the fishery is injurious. From all quarters I heard serious complaints of the injury done to the anchorage of the harbour, by the sunken edgings and slabs thrown out of this mill. An Act relating to the Coast and River Fisheries of New Brunswick, which says: "That no slabs, edgings or other mill "rubbish, shall be thrown, put, or be allowed to fall into any of the Rivers or Harbours," has never for some reason been enforced by the present Warden or his predecessor. There should be immediate action taken to reach cases like this, as the inhabitants of Dalhousie are universally arrayed against it, and it has become a special source of complaint among the fishermen.

After rounding the Bon Ami Rocks, until we reach the County line, separating Restigouche from Gloucester, we find a large number of persons engaged at salmon fishing.

At a distance of ten or twelve miles from Dalhousie, Mr. James Thomson has an establishment for preserving salmon by the hermetically sealing process. He is said to have cased upwards of 30,000 lbs. this season.

Along the Restigouche coast, the season for salmon fishing seldom commences earlier than the first of June, or extends later than the twelfth of July, although the law allows nets to remain set until the 31st day of that month. The greatest run of salmon is generally between the fifteenth and the twenty-ninth of June. From information derived from the fishermen, I feel convinced that each stand of nets between Dalhousie and the County line at Gloucester will average upwards of forty pounds this season. When we consider that a set of nets of 150 fathoms in length will cost only sixty-five pounds, and can be attended by one man, we can easily observe that few branches of domestic industry afford better returns than the salmon fishery.

The first river we meet after leaving Dalhousie, is the Charlo, which pours its waters into the Bay Chaleur. Across this stream a mill-dam has been erected, which presents an effectual barrier to the salmon when proceeding to their spawning grounds. During the freshet last spring the mill was swept away, but the dam still remains, and over it there should be built, as soon as possible, a fishway, to enable the salmon to proceed up the stream, as there are but few rivers along the coast where salmon are found in greater abundance, considering the size of the stream, which although small offers excellent sport to the angler, and occasionally affords good prizes to the spearer.

A few miles further along the coast we meet the River Benjamin; on this river, and almost at its entrance, there is a saw-mill belonging to Wm. Morton. The dam upon this stream prevents the salmon from ascending the river, and as the pitch of water at this place is not high, a fishway could be built upon it at a small expense. It should be erected without delay. The river is a small and rapid stream and would make a valuable nursery

for salmon. At the pool below the dam the salmon were collected in great numbers during the present season, and offered an easy prey to the spear of the Indian and the sweep net of the white man, both of which were freely used, if the evidence of parties who had no motive to distort the truth can be relied on. The Benjamin, in former years, was considered a first-class salmon stream, but unless a pass is immediately thrown over the dam, the fish will be destroyed, as their numbers are rapidly decreasing. All the saw dust and rubbish made at this mill, is carried into the bay.

Jacquet river, the largest and best salmon stream between the Restigouche and Bathurst harbour, is about fifty miles long, and is a favorite resort of the salmon during the spawning season. The Jacquet is connected by a small portage with the Upsalquitch, from which marauding parties of Indians and netters frequently cross, sweeping the pools before them as they proceed up the latter river, and on their downward course upon the Jacquet. This stream is annually encroached upon, and requires careful wardenship for a few years, as the pools lie at short distances from each other. During the spawning time the salmon are still abundant, although for years past they have been subjected to the incessant attacks of poachers. The protection of this river merits the attention of the Government for some years, as there is no doubt that in a short time it would prove one of the best fish producing streams along the coast, and become valuable as a station for anglers.

According to the provisions of the present law, no salmon or grilse are allowed "to be killed, caught or taken" in the Jacquet, above the bridge crossing the river upon the highway. In any future law the same provision should be introduced. For the effectual preservation of this stream one man should be stationed upon it, from the first of July to the last of October.

The Jacquet is the last river of any importance to the fisheries along the coast, within the limits of the County of Restigouche.

There are very few schooners and boats engaged in fishing, owned in Restigouche, and they are altogether employed in the Carraquette herring fishery. All the herring caught are usually disposed of in the local markets or sold at Carleton, C. E. From enquiry made at the Custom House at Dalhousie, I found that up to the month of September, there had only been one cargo of herring exported, belonging to the Hon. A. C. DesBrisay. This shipment consisted of 1,600 barrels herring, value, \$3,200, and was invoiced to Boston, U.S.

In a schedule, marked B, which accompanies this report, will be found the names of parties owning boats, &c., between Dalhousie and Bathurst. It appears that the herring fishery has not been prosecuted as largely as in former years. The decline in this branch of the fisheries, arises principally from the small price they command in the United States market, where they are usually disposed of. If a more perfect system of inspection could be introduced, and a better mode of curing our fish be adopted, I have little doubt that in a few years the character of the herring caught along the north shore would be raised, and their price proportionally increased in foreign markets. In former times so plentiful were the herring along portions of this coast in the spring season, that they were freely used as manure for the fields; of late years they have not approached the shores in such numbers.

Between the Rivers Charlo and Jacquet there is a fishing establishment, owned by some firm in Scotland; since it went into operation this spring, it has put up in hermetically sealed tin cases, upwards of 16,000 lbs. of salmon, besides salting upwards of 1,000 lbs. The business is under the control of Mr. Bain, who is preparing to greatly extend it next summer.

In general the fishermen along the Restigouche coast are fortunate in obtaining a large share of salmon, but owing to the demand for them the number of nets are increasing annually, so that in a few years it will be found necessary for the protection of the fishery to mark limits between nets, say a quarter of a mile between each stand.

In all the streams I visited in Restigouche, I found trout in great abundance, and in some places nets are set for the purpose of taking them, there being nothing in the present law to prevent it. I am strongly impressed with the idea that trout should not be allowed to be taken in nets. The present Canadian fishery law, which is a model of conciseness and wisdom, has a provision in it for the protection of the trout from netters. Many of

the salmon fishermen are possessed with an idea that the increase of salmon would be proportionally larger, if the trout could be exterminated. There is no doubt that the salmon ova, during the spawning season, are largely destroyed by trout, nor that they likewise prey upon the young salmon or "parrs;" but I am fully persuaded that placing trout nets in the small streams is more injurious to the salmon fishery than any injuries the trout may inflict upon it, as the destruction of trout (allowing them to possess the qualities ascribed to them) does not compensate for the loss of grilse taken in the nets used in capturing trout.

Lobsters are found at almost every part of the coast, but I have been unable to gain tidings of an oyster bed from the Restigouche to Carraquette.

During the present season the white porpoise have been very plentiful in the Bay Chaleur and River Restigouche. It is only eight or nine years ago since they made their first appearance in those waters. When they first arrived there were cries of lamentation and woe among the fishermen; as they supposed the porpoise would be certain destruction to the salmon fishery. Quite a different opinion now prevails, and more than one fisherman assured me, that in fine weather they seldom catch any salmon until the porpoises make their appearance in the river or bay, when the salmon seek the shallower water near the shore. On their first appearance in the Restigouche, large numbers of them were shot, but as the party shooting them seldom secured the carcass on account of its sinking when shot, and only floating when decomposition set in, they have been allowed to go unmolested during the last few years. A Company has been formed in Canada for the purpose of taking porpoises in the Bay Chaleur, during this season, but the fish are now so wary that although the fishermen are well equipped with nets and other contrivances, they have not been successful in capturing many.

The following are the names of persons fishing salmon on the New Brunswick side of the River Restigouche, from the upper sets until reaching below the island alluded to in this Report. I have numbered the different sets to correspond with the plan A enclosed.

No.	Name.	Set.	Fathoms.	Width of River.
1	Gideon Lefuargie.....	Jamies Hole.....	20	240 feet.
2	Phineas Wyres.....	Petapedia.....	20	280 "
3	John Diamond.....	Wyre's Farm.....	40	300 "
4	Duncan McDonald.....	Lancton Island.....	40	300 "
5	R. & E. Ferguson.....	Pritchard Island.....	40	300 " to Island.
6	Robert Gordon.....	.....	60	400 " "
7	Thomas Murray.....	Murray Farm.....	60	600 "
8	Thomas Murray.....	Shore Island.....	40	350 "
9	Peter Adams.....	Duff Island.....	50	600 "
10	Robert Duncan.....	Duncan Farm.....	60	500 "
11	Robert Gerrard.....	Gerrard's Island.....	40	450 "
12	John Gerrard.....	Farm.....	130	1½ mile to Canada side.
13	John Gerrard.....	Across Channel.....	100	1½ " " "
14	Joseph Pratt.....	Farm.....	150	1½ " " "
15	Robert Duncan.....	Middle ground, Glebe lot..	150	1½ " " "
16	John Ferguson.....	.....	150	1½ " " "
17	John Gordon.....	Gordon Island.....	40	250 feet.
18	Melville Adams.....	Tail of Gillies Island.....	70	500 "
19	Melville Adams.....	McGregor's Island.....	40	400 "

The following are a list of persons who own nets between the Islands, and the County Line at Gloucester, in the various sections:—

CAMPBELLTOWN TO RIVER CHARLO.

No.	Name.	Fathoms.
22	William Gerrard.....	150
23	Thomas McNash.....	150
24	Edward Minnis.....	50
25	Charles Stewart.....	70
26	D. Stewart.....	70
27	J. Potrie.....	200
28	Andrew Barberie.....	155
29	Wm. Caldwell.....	150
30	Chas. Allain, jun.....	150
31	Adam Ferguson.....	150
32	Peter Hamilton.....	150
33	Robert Conacher.....	140
34	James Thomson.....	140
35	D. Hogan.....	50
36	Fred. Polier, jun.....	55
38	Fred. Polier, sen.....	50
39	W. Warren.....	50
40	Francis Gereaux.....	50
41	Peter Gereaux.....	50
42	Allan McIntyre.....	150
43	Alex. Hamilton.....	150
44	Peter Hamilton.....	150

RIVER CHARLO to JACQUET.

45	J. McMillan.....	70
46	Prosper Lowie.....	70
47	Hugh Blain.....	50
48	Alex. Dickie.....	70
49	Alex. Dickie.....	50
50	Alfred Ward.....	70
51	D. Dickie.....	70
52	James Shae.....	70
53	P. & H. Hamilton.....	70
54	D. Dickie.....	70
55	A. Harvey.....	70
56	J. McIntosh.....	70
57	J. McMillan.....	70

RIVER JACQUET to COUNTY LINE.

58	J. McMillan.....	70
59	P. Doyle.....	130
60	S. Lachlan.....	50
61	J. Miller.....	70
62	Wm. Doyle.....	50
63	J. McDonald.....	50

During the present season, different parties at Dalhousie whose names have not appeared in this report, have shipped large quantities of salmon to Quebec. The fish are usually packed in ice, and have been sent off in quantities, varying from 500 to 9,000 lbs. Other individuals are engaged in the same trade with St. John, so that it is utterly impossible to arrive at any thing approaching a correct estimate of the value of the salmon caught in Restigouche. The aggregate quantity entered upon the books of the Deputy Treasurer at

Dalhousie, was so trivial, that I deemed it worthless for any practical benefit to allude to it in this report.

GLOUCESTER.

The County of Gloucester is divided into two fishing districts, under the supervision of Wardens, who receive for their services \$150 each. The one district extends from the county line at Restigouche, embracing the salmon fisheries along the coast, with the intervening rivers, viz.:—The Nicadeau, Teteagouche, Little, Middle and Main Nepisiguit, together with Bathurst Harbour. In this district there are several fine streams, which require the utmost vigilance on the part of the Warden. In the other district, which takes in the coast and streams, from the south side of Bathurst Harbour, until the boundary line at Northumberland is reached, the duties of a Warden are merely nominal, as no salmon streams are found in it of any importance.

Along the coast, from the County of Restigouche, until you reach Bathurst, the salmon and codfishing are prosecuted with a good deal of energy, particularly the former. The largest fishing stations for cod, are found at "Elm Tree" and Petite Roche. Between those places there are upwards of thirty boats engaged in this business, but I found it exceedingly difficult to obtain any satisfactory information relative to their catch during this season. I have, however, been able to obtain the names of the different parties owning boats which I have filled in the schedule B, accompanying this report.

Along this coast, at short intervals from each other, are to be found small streams, many of which run inland for a long distance. In almost all those streams trout can be found in abundance, but salmon do not now frequent their waters.

At Petite Roche, Messrs. Miller and Smith have an establishment where they put up 46,000 lbs of salmon, in hermetically sealed tin cases, during the fishing season. At Madisco Point, in the same district, there is another establishment, owned by Rufus C. Cole, Esq., of Madisco. The salmon preserved in this establishment are put up in tin cases, hermetically sealed, and weighed 20,000 lbs.

The following parties are engaged in the salmon fishery, between the County line of Restigouche and the north side of Bathurst Harbour:—

No.	Names.	Length of Nets.
1	Francis J. Boudreau.....	100 fathoms.
2	Joseph Obie.....	100 "
3	Nelson Obie.....	60 "
4	Joseph De Grasse.....	200 "
5	James Devereaux.....	150 "
6	Usul Boudreau.....	200 "
7	Xavier Doucette.....	100 "
8	Fabian Doucette.....	150 "
9	Joseph Fornea.....	100 "
10	Fabian Fornea.....	200 "
11	Lawrence Hache.....	60 "
12	Lama De Grasse.....	150 "
13	Mitchell and Charles Fornea.....	200 "
14	Antoine Blaze.....	180 "
15	Jeannot Commeau.....	100 "
16	Ambrose De Grassie.....	100 "
17	Alexis Forneau.....	120 "
18	Frederick Commeau.....	150 "
19	Francis Forneau.....	125 "
20	Denis Obie.....	100 "
21	Francis J. Boudreau.....	125 "
22	Thomas Boudreau.....	150 "
23	Isaiah and Henry Boudreau.....	120 "
24	Alfred Obie.....	120 "
25	Louis Hache.....	130 "
26	Peter Hache.....	100 "
27	Robert Armstrong (3 setts).....	900 "

From Mr. Armstrong's three stands of nets, situated at Youghall, he took 1,798 salmon, weighing 20,733 lbs., during the fishing season. Mr. Armstrong also employs a "trap" for the purpose of taking mackerel and herring, and in which he has taken ninety-one barrels of mackerel. For the privilege of using this trap he has paid to the Warden \$10. It was not in use during the salmon season; but the principle of allowing "traps" or "pounds" at all is wrong, as all sizes of fish are taken indiscriminately, the grilse, herring, trout and salmon, being sometimes taken at one time.

At the north side of the entrance to the Harbour of Bathurst, is Allston Point, upon which is erected an establishment owned by Mr. Piper, an American. At this station the salmon are frozen by chemical agencies, and packed in ice when intended to be shipped. The process, I believe, is patented by Mr. Piper, in the Province of New Brunswick, and has been used with great success for upwards of two years. The owner of the establishment seems to throw a shroud of mystery over the manipulations connected with his process, and strangers whose curiosity tempts them to visit it will find their reception a freezing one. Mr. Piper receives salmon from both sides of the harbour, and exported 63,000 lbs. to the American market during this season. As his fish are shipped directly to St. John (*via* Shediac), where they are placed on board the boat for Boston; the Deputy Treasurer of Bathurst had no account of them in his books. The figures above shown, I gained from a source that can be relied upon.

The first river we meet after rounding the Point in the Harbour of Bathurst, is called the Teteagouche, which pours its waters into the harbour, about three miles from the entrance. It takes its rise in the County of Restigouche. In old times, this stream was plentifully supplied with salmon, but the sweep net, the spear, and a mill-dam, situate a few miles from its mouth, had well nigh succeeded in completing their destruction, when the Honorable John Ferguson, of Bathurst, to whom the mill now belongs, erected a fish pass that enabled the salmon to reach their old spawning grounds above the dam. Since the erection of this pass a continual increase of salmon can be observed, but with that increase the old spirit of poaching has revived upon the river, and the sweep net and spear are again doing their work, as in former times, notwithstanding the utmost exertions of the Warden. Too much credit cannot be given to Mr. Ferguson, by every friend of the salmon fishery, for the deep interest he has ever manifested in the preservation of this source of our national wealth, and to him the credit is due of being the first and only mill-owner who has erected a fish-pass within the Counties of Restigouche, Gloucester or Northumberland. The Teteagouche only allows salmon to ascend about ten miles from its mouth, at that distance the "Falls" are to be found, which are about 20 feet in height, which presents an effectual barrier to their further progress.

Middle River, together with its tributary the Little River, discharges into the Harbour of Bathurst. This stream is sluggish in its course, and has never been a good salmon river. A few salmon are to be found up the river, at a distance of twenty miles from its mouth, engaged in spawning.

Little River is a small branch of the Middle River. This river also contains spawning grounds, at a distance of ten miles from the harbour, but the number of salmon is comparatively small. In it, however, in common with all other rivers along this coast, the angler can at any time, in the fishing season, count upon having good sport with trout.

The Main Nepisiguit, according to Charles Lanman, Esq., a well known authority upon piscatorial matters, is undoubtedly for anglers, the best salmon river in the Province, and is scarcely surpassed by any in the world. Other authors such as Norris and Roosevelt, bear testimony to the high character being deservedly bestowed, not only on account of the splendid facilities it presents to the angler in the pursuit of his favourite sport, but combining with them the most beautiful natural scenery. The pools lie at easy distances along the river, and are generally plentifully stocked with trout, grilse, and salmon, notwithstanding the fearful havoc that has been committed upon them by the *white* and Micmac Indians. After listening to the stories that are told of the wholesale butcheries committed among the salmon in former years, it excites our astonishment that the species is not long ago extinct in its waters. Not only were the settlers along its banks engaged with the Indians in destroying the salmon upon their spawning grounds, but banded with them were parties from the north-west branch of the Miramichi, who would make their periodical visits to it by the portage between the rivers, for the purpose of sweeping it with nets and

spearing. In these expeditions they were usually successful, and generally returned to their homes with heavy loads of spoil. Fortunately this state of affairs is now ended, and the main Nepisiguit is probably the best protected stream at the present time to be found in the three northern counties. This change is altogether due to the indefatigable exertions of the present Warden for the district, Mr. James Hickson, who seems to be imbued with a fish-preserving spirit that amounts almost to a passion, and the assistance furnished him by the Honorable John Ferguson, of Bathurst, and J. DeWolf Spurr, Esq., of St. John, N.B., who have for the past two years placed a man upon the river during the months of July and August, to act in concert with the Warden for the protection of the salmon. The best stations for angling, are still in the possession of the Province, and the Government of New Brunswick are now in the habit of disposing of their fishing rights in the stream. The Government claim, below the Pabineau Falls, was sold this season for \$105. It is said to have been purchased for the Honorable David Edward Price, of Canada. The stations above the Falls were disposed of to James De Wolf Spurr, Esq., of St. John, the purchase money, I believe, being \$50. Formerly the Government of New Brunswick, in granting lands, sold down to the margin of the water; of late they have reserved four rods along the sides of the river, from which there is every reason to suppose they will eventually derive a large income from sportsmen, besides securing private protection to the stream. Many excellent fishing stations upon the river are, however, in the possession of private individuals. During the past season, the Warden has made two or three seizures of nets, which he found illegally set. After a great deal of labour in carrying them to Bathurst, they were sold at auction at nominal prices to the owners, no person wishing to bid against them. He also lodged complaints before a magistrate against upwards of a dozen of Indians whom he detected in spearing, but complained that he could not get any persons to carry out the warrants against them. Mr. Hickson likewise brought under my notice a new instrument for the destruction of salmon or trout, which was used upon the Nepisiguit, this season, by some of the anglers who were fishing there. It is made by fastening three or four large mackerel hooks upon a piece of lead about three inches long, formed in an elliptical shape, its greatest diameter being about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch. This jigger, attached to the anglers line, is cast among the fish which lie in dark and motionless masses in the pools, and is then quickly drawn across the stream, and in an expert hand seldom fails to secure the fish. The warden assured me that he had seen it tried by a man who had been employed by the angler who he believes introduced it upon the river, and he rarely failed to grapple a salmon. Should this instrument get a general introduction among the Indians and settlers, there is but little doubt that it will prove more detrimental to the salmon fishery than the spear. It is said to be in general use among the poachers of Great Britain, by whom it is called the "stroke haul." There is an Indian Reserve upon the Nepisiguit, which contains 1,000 acres, it is situated about seven miles from Bathurst. Last spring there were upwards of twelve families residing upon it; finding, however, that they could not spear, as in former years, on account of the vigilance of the Warden, the greater number of the families moved to the sea-coast. At present we believe that not more than four families live upon it.

After leaving Bathurst, the first fishing establishment we meet, is one owned by Messrs. Miller and Smith, of Bathurst, who have their premises located at Salmon Beach, here they preserved 25,000 lbs. of salmon, in hermetically sealed tin cases this season. The salmon strike along the "beach" in great numbers. As a general rule the nets along this shore present a greater average of length than those found upon the northern side of the harbour.

At Carron Point, situated about a mile below the entrance of the harbour, the Basse River, a small stream, empties its waters into the Bay. I do not know from what cause this river received the name it bears, from all I could learn no bass are now to be found along this part of the coast, which is, however, the best station for catching herring in the county with the exception of Carraquette.

The salmon fishery does not extend along this coast beyond New Bandon. The fol-

lowing list contains the names of the parties engaged in this fishery, together with the length of the nets in use this season:—

No.	Names.	Fathoms.
1	Fabian Hache.....	150
2	Fabian Hache.....	140
3	Thomas Smith.....	62
4	Thomas Smith.....	120
5	Robert Donalds.....	130
6	Thomas J. Smith.....	200
7	E. Ellis.....	108
8	Robert Miller.....	60
9	Robert Miller.....	100
10	Benjamin White.....	150
11	Henry Buttmer.....	100
12	Robert Ellis.....	130
13	William Ellis.....	150
14	James Morrison.....	200
15	William Eddy.....	200
16	Alexander Morrison.....	100
17	Robert Donalds.....	180
18	Alexander Morrison.....	70

After leaving New Brandon, the next settlement we meet is Grand Ance, which is the first of the fishing stations along the coast exclusively devoted to the cod and herring fishery. The season for codfishing commences in the early part of the month of June, and is usually terminated in the first fortnight of October. From Grand Ance to Tracadie, the fishing season is a period of great activity. The boats employed in the fishery are usually between 24 and 28 feet keel, are built without decks, and rigged schooner fashion, carrying a mainsail, foresail and jib. They are excellent sea-boats, and perhaps no improvement could be made in their construction for the purposes they are intended. They are usually manned by two men and a boy. Early each Monday morning, during the fishing season, they leave the shore, and seldom return before Saturday afternoon. The fish taken during the week are salted down between bulkheads, fitted up in the boats, and the only fish brought ashore fresh are those caught during the last day before the return for home. The usual number of fish caught in a week is between one and two thousand, which represent on an average, when cured, from eight to sixteen quintals of fish. During the first part of the season, the fish taken are inferior to those captured later, being much thinner and smaller. At Grand Ance the different fishing houses along the coast have branch establishments where they receive and cure fish. Mr. Alexandre, of Shippegan, having the largest "room." This season, the codfishery of Grand Ance has not been as successful as in former years, if I can rely upon the accounts received from the fishermen. The herring sold here are principally taken upon the Carraquette Banks. Mackerel are said to be plentiful along this district, but few are taken except as bait for codfish. There is no doubt, however, that large quantities could be procured, if the people possessed the proper nets for capturing them.

After rounding Cape Mizzinette, from the north, we reach Carraquette Bay, which is without doubt, the best fishing station upon the coast for herring, boats and schooners from all quarters come into this bay to catch and purchase herring, and all return with full fares. At this place can be found vessels belonging to Restigouche, Richibucto, and the northern side of the Bay Chaleur, which make annual visits during the fishing season, as the herring caught upon the "bank" are superior to all others taken upon the coast. The supply at all times, however, seems equal to the demand. The herring, which are

taken through the night in nets, are brought to the shore in the morning to be cured, and generally suffer much deterioration when undergoing that process, from the careless manner in which they are treated, except at the large fishing houses, where every care is taken to secure them in good condition. If the herring caught here were properly attended to there is no doubt but they would command a much higher price than they do at present. A good and efficient system of inspection is absolutely required at this station, to restore confidence in the foreign markets, and obtain for the Carraquette herring the character that they are fairly entitled to receive. Nearly all the large fishing establishments at this place purchase herring, which they export to different destinations. The house of Charles Robin & Co., shipped to Quebec, Nova Scotia, P. E. Island and the United States, during the month of August, upwards of 2,300 barrels of herring, and gaspereaux, the proportion of the latter being trifling. The other houses, likewise, export herring, which are generally invoiced at \$4 per barrel.

The gaspereaux caught in Carraquette are a fine fat fish, well flavoured, and far superior to the same fish when taken in the rivers. From all the information elicited by my enquiries, I am led to believe, that this fish never enters the river pouring into this bay.

Mackerel are not found in great abundance in the Carraquette waters, but reasoning from the fact that the American fleet, in pursuit of that fish, are often to be seen outside; there is every reason to suppose that if the fishermen were conversant with the business, and able to enter it with good outfits, that Carraquette would be found to be an excellent station for the mackerel fishery.

But the business of Carraquette, is essentially the taking of codfish, other branches of fishing may be entered into by the fishing concerns, but they are looked upon as side strokes, which must in no way interfere with the codfishery, which stands pre-eminent.

At Carraquette, the principal establishment is that belonging to Chas. Robin & Co. Here fish are handled with the greatest care, and every attention that man can bestow is lavished upon them. The buildings at this establishment are models of neatness, and nothing necessary for their proper cure is wanting. Here ponderous piles of codfish of all classes and grades, the difference between them not being discernable to the eye of a novice, are ranged in immense warehouses, roomy and well ventilated. Large buildings are seen, filled with rows of whited casks, containing oil, all neatly labelled with the address of their future owners, and showing the number of gallons each cask contains. Fishing sheds, salt stores, smithies, cooperages and workshops of every description, are found upon the premises, forming in all a model establishment, combining every facility to save labor, with the utmost neatness, compactness, and cleanliness. Large quantities of the fish taken here are sent to Paspébiac on the Canadian shore of the Bay Chaleur for shipment, where the head of the establishment in America is located. The codfish at this "room" are divided into six classes, the difference between many of them not being in the least degree perceptible, even upon minute examination, to those unaccustomed to the business. For the first class fish, they usually pay twenty shillings per quintal. This quality is generally exported to Oporto or Naples, and consists of the largest and finest of the fish caught. The second class, which are disposed of in the Brazilian market, are a smaller fish, but, with the exception of size, in no way inferior to the preceding quality. From the very able report laid before the Governor General of British North America, in 1866, by the Commissioners appointed by the Governments of the various Provinces to enquire into the trade of the West Indies, Mexico and Brazil, we can learn in what estimation the fish cured in this establishment are held in the Brazilian market. The Report, page 29, says:—"While the Commissioners were in Rio de Janeiro, two cargoes of British North American fish arrived at that port, one from Halifax, the other from Jersey. They were sold at the very remunerative price of \$12.50 per Portuguese quintal of 128 lbs. English. The fish of the brand C. R. C., put up by the house of Chas. Robin & Co., always commands the highest price. The superiority of this fish is owing to the circumstance of its being more carefully selected and packed in better tubs than the fish of any other house in the trade, generally uniform in size, and very small, while the tubs in which it is packed are made with the greatest care." The other grades are sent to different parts of the world, the broken fish and most inferior kinds being sent to the Irish market.

Upon enquiry I learned that no "gurry grounds" have ever been laid out along this

coast, which must have been a source of real injury to the fishery. All experienced fishermen declare that a codfish after devouring the offal of other fish, particularly the back bone, never thrives afterwards. It is true, that many of the fishermen now bring the offal of the fish they catch ashore, and use it as manure; but others, through ignorance or stupidity, persist in casting it overboard, and from the number of years they have been permitted to do so with impunity, I am led to believe, that in the future it will require rigorous measures to compel the proper observance of the law respecting "gurry grounds."

At Carraquette Messrs. Alexandre, of Shippegan, have a very large and commodious "room." All the fish taken by them at this point, are sent to Shippegan for foreign exportation. The Hon. Robert Young and Brothers, have an establishment likewise at this station, together with two along the coast, and usually dispose of the fish taken by them to the house of C. Robin & Co.

The oyster beds at Carraquette, which furnishes an excellent oyster, will shortly require protection to prevent their complete destruction. During the period allowed for taking them the beds are dragged almost incessantly, and injurious as former seasons have been that of 1867 is still worse, as this season there will be a greater quantity of oysters shipped than there has been in any former year. When I visited Carraquette this month, two large schooners were waiting to receive cargoes, and upwards of 150 boats were busily engaged in raking oysters for them. I have every reason to believe that up to the middle of the month of October, 3,000 barrels had been shipped. A few more seasons, such as the present, will enable the Carraquette oyster fishery to be reckoned among the things that were. As Carraquette affords better anchorage and shelter for boats along its coast than either Grand Ance or New Bandon, it will probably always be the central seat of the fisheries. No salmon are to be found along its shore, and the river is never resorted to by them for the purpose of spawning.

Along the coast, from Carraquette to Shippegan, the people are engaged in fishing. At Shippegan the principal business pursued is the codfishery, although large quantities of herring are likewise exported. At this place Messrs. Alexandre have their principal establishment. Mr. Wm. Taylor and Mr. J. Doran are likewise engaged in the same branch of business. A very large business is done at this station, but I have been unable to gather any statistics that represent its actual trade. The fishermen living in Shippegan and Miscou, either deal directly with the houses at Shippegan, or at stations where men have been placed to receive their fish.

At "St. Simon's inlet," a spacious basin of water, found after rounding Pocksoudie Island, there is a small oyster bed, the oysters are, however, inferior in flavor and size to those taken in Carraquette.

After leaving Shippegan, the first river of any fishing importance we meet is the Pokemouche, a dull, slow stream, formerly salmon were to be found in its waters, but at present if any exist their existence is known only to the Indians. This river formerly abounded with gaspereaux, but extending nets across a river at narrow points is calculated to destroy even better fishing streams than the Pokemouche. In former years Messrs. Alexandre, of Shippegan, had an establishment at this station for curing gaspereaux, but we believe it is now deserted, on account of the quantities taken not being sufficient to make it remunerative. The law at present regulating the catch of gaspereaux in the Pokemouche, does not allow the nets to be set at an angle with the stream, but makes it compulsory that they follow the line of the river; and no seining is permitted. Both of these provisions, I would suggest, should be embraced in any future law, at least until the river is restored to its former state. Some years ago bass were abundant in this river, but like all other kinds of fish, they are rapidly being destroyed. A large proportion of the people in Pokemouche have boats and are engaged in the herring and codfishery.

The Tracadie rivers are reached at a short distance from the latter station. The salmon is still to be found in both rivers, though in small numbers. Trout, however, continue to be abundant, and large quantities of gaspereaux are still taken.

At Tracadie gully, John Young, Esq., has an establishment for curing herring and codfish. The establishment is very compact, and is said to be in a good position for the prosecution of these fisheries. Large quantities of spring herring are taken along this coast, but mostly used for local consumption.

Between Tracadie and the county line separating Gloucester from Northumberland, there is a small river called the "Portage." I was informed that in the autumn of 1866, two Indians speared upwards of seventy salmon upon the spawning grounds of the stream, and that some of the settlers have likewise assisted in their destruction with sweep nets. From the size of the meshes of a net which was said to be used for taking salmon in this river, and which I noticed upon the shore, I am convinced that there is a great deal of illegal fishing in its waters. No other river is to be found until you reach the Tabusintac in the County of Northumberland.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

After leaving the line that separates Gloucester from Northumberland, we arrive at Point Barreau, on both sides of which Mr. Robert Young, of Tracadie, formerly caught large quantities of salmon, but from the distance to the preserving establishments at Portage Island and Burnt Church, the locality has never been thoroughly tried. From enquiries made at Tracadie, I am convinced that in a short time there will be a line of nets stretching from the Tracadie to the Tabusintac, as all accounts agree in establishing the opinion that there is a good salmon fishery along the whole beach.

The Tabusintac is the first river of any importance after leaving the county line. The entrance to it is through a gully which opens into a large lagoon into which the river debouches. From its proximity to the sea, and from the steepness of its banks, which permits fishing boats or small schooners to lie along the shore, this gully offers peculiar advantages for the establishment of a "fishing room." From the mouth of the gully to the head of the tideway, oysters were formerly taken in great quantities, but of late years, on account of the beds being nearly destroyed, they have hardly realized the wages of the men employed. The oysters found in this bed were not of a very good flavor, but, judging from the devastation that has been made among them, there must have been some palates to which they were agreeable. Small quantities of them are still brought into the local markets, but they are nearly worthless, being taken in the fresh water near the head of the tideway. Were this river and lagoon protected from molestation for a few years, I have no doubt that the beds would be restored to their former state. The parties who now rake these fresh water oysters, take them to the salt water, where a few weeks submersion imparts to them something of a saline flavor, that renders them tolerably palatable. The tide flows up this river about seventeen miles; but no salmon nets are now set in it, the settlers preferring to sweep the holes further up the river, during the season when the water is low, in direct violation of the law. Formerly this river was frequented by large numbers of salmon, but the same means which have destroyed and still are destroying other rivers in the county have been practised here to an alarming extent, and so effectually that it is now doubtful whether any salmon visit it at all. From enquiries made of the Indians at Burnt Church, I learned that a few still annually visit it, but not in sufficient numbers to induce a spearing expedition, although the encampment is not far from the river.

The Tabusintac is, without doubt, the best river on the north side of New Brunswick for angling. Incredible quantities of trout of the largest size are taken every season by the various parties of anglers who annually visit it. One party of three caught in a day and a half no less than three barrels of these fine trout, and could have taken as many more had they wished. The trout usually weigh from 2 lbs. to 5 lbs., and furnish excellent sport. June and July are the best months for angling.

Heretofore there has been no protection for trout, either upon this river or any other in the Province. The pools are mercilessly swept by nets, when the water is low, and I have been informed that three or four barrels have frequently been taken by one drag of the net, and I have every reason to believe that "sweeping" is practised along the whole course of the river. If this is continued the trout must soon disappear, although they are still abundant.

Formerly bass and gaspereaux were caught in this river in large quantities, but of late years they have both become scarce, in consequence of the illegal practices I have described. As these fish ascend the river for the purpose of spawning there can be no doubt that with proper protection it will be restored in a few years. I am strongly of

opinion, that as all netting now done in this river is in direct violation of the law, and as it has become so reduced that legal fishing is not remunerative, it should be carefully protected as a breeding stream and nursery for the main river. There is no doubt that it can be leased for angling purposes, and as this mode of fishing, when legitimately pursued, can have no sensible effect upon the stock of fish in the river, a few years of careful Wardenship would make it valuable as an angling stream for salmon as well as trout, and an important tributary to the valuable fisheries of the Bay.

After leaving the Tabusintac, we traverse the Neguac coast, where salmon fishing is prosecuted to a large extent. The fish are generally disposed of to the establishment of Messrs. Loggie and Anderson, at Burnt Church, or to that of Mr. Farnham Letson, at Portage Island. There are at present but two vessels engaged in codfishing from Neguac, where formerly there were ten or twelve. Portage Island, one of the best salmon fishing stations upon the river, lies directly opposite Neguac; upon this Island there are from 15 to 20 sets of nets striking from the shore directly out to sea. These nets, exclusive of tails or *swings* are usually from 150 to 250 fathoms in length. In former years this island was claimed by a few French families, who held it by a sort of pre-emption right, founded upon some old "Minute of Council." By these the privilege of fishing was leased to the different fishermen. A few years ago, however, the Government of New Brunswick put the privilege of fishing at Portage Island up at auction, when it fell into the hands of George E. Letson, Esq., who was then prosecuting a large fishing business at Neguac. Difficulties arose between the purchaser and the fishermen who formerly occupied the stations; these were likely to result in litigation, but the matter was compromised by allowing the fishermen to occupy the old stands. In the latter part of 1864, or early in 1865, a grant of the island was made to the Lords Commissioners of Admiralty, who, since that time, have been accustomed to lease the island in lots, as shown upon plan C, which accompanies this report. The annual rent derived from these leases amounts, at the present time to \$485, which is disposed of in the following manner:—One third of the sum goes toward the payment of the stipend of the Presbyterian Clergyman stationed at Burnt Church and Tabusintac, the remaining two-thirds are divided between the two schools at Burnt Church. Owing to the fact that the parties fishing upon that island leased from the Admiralty, the Warden concluded that he could not exact the usual tax upon nets. At a short distance from the shores of Portage Island, there are numerous sandbars running in various directions. Upon these shoals the fishermen stationed upon the island have been accustomed to place "swing nets." These are fastened at one end to killocks on the bottom, to which are attached large buoys. The nets are extended by means of floats on the upper edge and weights on the lower edge, and one end being free they swing round the buoys with the force of the tide. I instituted enquiries for the purpose of ascertaining the number of those nets, but could gain no reliable information, as the fishermen on the island understated their number, whilst those above largely exaggerated it. One thing, however, is clear, that since their introduction they have annually increased, and are a source of incessant complaint among those fishing further up the river. These complaints are not without reason, for from both Portage and Fox Islands, nets of immense length are stretched directly in the course of salmon entering the river, and these swing nets, in addition to them, almost ruins the fishing further up. From the statements of parties upon whose testimony I can rely, I am led to believe that stations at Oak Point, which for forty years had been uniformly productive, have been rendered almost worthless since the introduction of swing nets at the islands. This is an abuse which should come at once under the cognizance of the Department, and I would strongly recommend that some severe restrictions be embodied in any law that may be adopted for the protection of the fisheries.

In the spring Portage Island is a good station for catching herrings, but of late years this fishery has not been pursued to such an extent as it might be, in consequence of the small value of the fish in the American market, owing to the careless manner in which they are cured, and the improper manner in which the Inspector's brand is placed upon inferior fish. Often from these causes they do not realize the cost of the barrels and salt. A more rigid enforcement of the Inspection law would remedy this, and this branch of the fishing business would soon become lucrative.

Lobsters are found here in great abundance and are considered at present almost

worthless. During the season for salmon fishing large heaps of this valuable shell fish are to be found along the shore, where they have been thrown by the fishermen after returning from their nets. For many years no one has turned his attention to preserving them, although this business could be made profitable by any person possessing a small capital. They can be purchased in any quantity at the rate of 60 cents per hundred. Recently Mr. Letson, of Chatham, has put up 25,000 lbs. of salmon, and about 8,000 lbs of Lobsters in hermetically sealed cans, and there is no limit to the extent to which this branch of the fishery might be pursued.

Proceeding upwards we pass the Burnt Church shore, where great quantities of salmon are annually caught and disposed of to the establishment of Messrs. Loggie and Anderson, which is located in the neighbourhood. This firm, during the present year, put up 78,000 lbs.

Burnt Church River is the next stream we meet after passing Tabusintac. It is small and of no fishing importance, trout are plentiful in its waters, but are of a size inferior to those of the latter river. Between this river and Oak Point, a number of excellent fishing stands are to be found, but there is great reason to fear that if the "swing nets" around Portage Island are allowed they will soon be rendered useless. Already stands that were formerly productive and lucrative have been deserted, and this will be the general result along the north shore of the Miramichi, to the injury of the many for the advantage of the few. In this locality a large oyster bed extends from Oak Point to Sheldrake Island. These oysters are of good quality and command remunerative prices in Quebec. I observed between 40 and 50 boats engaged in raking this bed, and I have no doubt that there have been sent to the Canadian market, from this bed alone, during the season, upwards of 1,000 barrels. As it has been annually raked for some years, I would recommend that it be relieved from this incessant drain for a time sufficient to allow it to recruit.

A short distance above Sheldrake Island, the Bartibogue enters the Miramichi. This river was formerly a favorite spawning ground for salmon, but the sweep net and spear, with nets stretched entirely across it have been so successfully used, that at present but few fish ascend it. There is no river on the north side of the Miramichi which requires more careful supervision than this, and I am convinced that were it guarded as effectually as it deserves, for two or three years, salmon would be as plentiful as they formerly were, seeing that it is peculiarly adapted to the habits of this fish, and offers fine facilities for spawning. Its contiguity to an Indian encampment, however, will render this somewhat difficult. As a trout stream it is unsurpassed, and the most likely means of effectually protecting it will be to lease it for the purpose of angling.

Great quantities of gaspereaux and bass were formerly taken in this river, but this branch of the fishing has been nearly destroyed by seining. The Fishery Regulations for Districts 5, 6, 7 and 8, under section 5, provide "that no seining be allowed within the District comprised between Moody's Point and easterly end of Bartibogue Island, and up the Bartibogue River, under a penalty of \$40 for each offence." Since this regulation came in force, the stream has become an excellent fishing ground for gaspereaux, gill nets alone being used. At a short distance from Bartibogue, Messrs. Lapman and Blizard have a fishing establishment where they usually take in about 56,000 lbs. of salmon during a season. They prepare a large proportion of their fish for market by smoking them. There is a small mill upon the river, but as the dam is low it offers no serious impediment to the fish when proceeding up the stream.

From the Bartibogue, until the North-west Bridge is reached, there are a great many stands of nets set from the shore. On many of these the owners have refused to pay their annual taxes in consequence of the working of the General Regulations under the Fishery Law, which relates to salmon, viz. :—"For every net so used of fifty fathoms in length, fifty cents, and for every fathom over fifty, one cent." They evade the tax by keeping their nets one or two feet under the rateable length, while there is no doubt that many stands, with 48 fathoms of net, take nearly double the number of salmon during the season that 150 fathoms take in other positions.

The distance between the County line of Gloucester and the bridge over the North-

west, is now under the supervision of Mr. Andrew Grant, Fishery Warden. In his district there have been collected taxes from the following persons:—

BURNT CHURCH AND NEGUAC.

Robert Loggie.....	50	fathoms.	
Peter Loggie.....	50	do	
Alex. Loggie.....	600	do	in different sets.
John Anderson.....	250	do	
George Loggie.....	600	do	in different sets.
Wm. Simpson.....	70	do	
P. Morrison.....	200	do	
Hugh Ross.....	180	do	
B. Ross.....	150	do	
Ammon Ross.....	180	do	

OAK POINT.

John Buoy.....	250	do	
James Davidson, Esq.....	250	do	
Alex. McKinnon.....	150	do	
Duncan Morrison.....	250	do	
D. Morrison.....	250	do	
Alex. Buoy.....	70	do	
R. McDonald.....	65	do	
Geo. Smith.....	65	do	
J. Ennis.....	65	do	
J. Grant.....	70	do	
Francis Russell.....	65	do	
John Grant.....	60	do	
Francis Russell.....	65	do	
John Grant.....	60	do	
Wm. Gordon.....	65	do	
John Currie.....	65	do	
Wm. Loggie.....	65	do	
Wm. Clark.....	65	do	

Now, when we reflect that there are three establishments kept continually employed during the fishing season in putting up salmon for the market, and that the quantity cured in this district made an aggregate of 159,000 lbs., we can easily observe that a great many fishermen have escaped taxation by curtailing their nets within the rateable length. The fishermen of Portage Island, who reap more benefit from the salmon being protected than any others, have during this season not contributed anything to aid in securing that protection upon which not only their profit, but the very existence of the salmon depends. In any law to be made, *all nets* should be taxed. No doubt the fairest manner of levying a tax upon the fishermen for the protection of the fisheries should be based upon the actual catch of their nets, but this cannot be fairly carried out, in consequence of the impossibility of getting a fair statement of the numbers taken.

The North-west Bridge is situated but a short distance from the mouth of this branch. In the regulations that apply to this district, included in Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8, there is a clause that provides: "No net shall be set within four rods of the bridge on either side of the North-west River, and no seine shall be drawn within 40 rods below, and 20 rods above the said bridge on either side of the river." I would suggest that the former portion of the clause which relates to set nets should be continued under any law that may be adopted, and that the latter be retained if seines are to be permitted at all.

From all I could observe or learn, I am forced to believe that there is no system of fishing, at present carried on, more injurious to the fisheries of this country than *seining*. It is well known that small fish cannot escape from the seine after being encircled in it. The larger fish in endeavouring to escape drive the smaller fish ashore as the seine is drawn in. In fact a seine is practically only a moveable weir, which allows nothing to escape.

There are two or three seining grounds above the bridge, where large quantities of bass and gaspereaux are annually taken, together with these fish there must be a large number of grilse and trout, which are frequently larger than the fish the seines are intended to take, and which would not be caught in the ordinary salmon net. From the seines, therefore, the salmon fishery must suffer to an extent that it now can ill afford. It will

therefore be a matter of grave consideration whether these seines should not be strictly prohibited, if they are permitted, weirs might as well be allowed, as the principle is the same, and is attended with the same injurious results.

From the bridge, until the head of the tide is reached, the length of the nets in the different localities is distinctly stated in the District Regulations.

When I visited this locality Mr. Jeremiah O'Sullivan, the Warden, had just made a few seizures of nets for violation of the law relating to length. The parties who owned them, not content with the length allowed by law, were in the habit of attaching a *tail*, from five to ten fathoms, to the end of their bar net, coursing it with the line of the river. Of this the Warden could take no cognizance. During the night, however, they were accustomed to lift the killock that confined it to its course, and carry the tail on a line with the bar net, thereby securing an undue advantage over their neighbours above, in violation of the law. Several cases of this kind were detected while I was in the vicinity. I was also informed that many parties carried out nets beyond their pickets, by sinking them two or three feet below the surface. Nets have been set here for catching grilse, and large numbers of them have found their way to the fish preserving establishments. The owner of one of these informed me that great numbers of them had been offered to him during the season. Many parties had come to him, who were willing to supply salmon if the contract would include all the grilse they might bring. Whilst at Red Bank, near the head of the tide, I was informed by a credible person that he had seen two or three barrels of salmon a few days before, all of which had been taken with the spear.

There is an Indian encampment at this place, from which can be seen nightly, spearing parties setting out on their unlawful work. I witnessed one night not fewer than seven torches in different parts of the river.

Many of the fish caught upon the North West are sold to a fish preserving establishment on the south branch of the Miramichi. The rest are disposed to Messrs. G. A. Willard and William S. Brown, the former has, during the season, put up 20,000 lbs., the latter about 16,000 lbs. by the hermetically sealing process.

After leaving the tideway, and directing my course up the stream, I found the most flagrant and daring violations of the law. At different places I found the stakes reached altogether across the stream, and those that did not were, for the most part, in direct violation of Section 1, General Regulations, which provides that no net shall extend more than one third across the main channel. The river at the time of my visit was extremely low, and the fishermen assigned this as a reason why the nets appeared to be unlawfully set. They informed me that after a rain I would find they did not exceed the bounds prescribed by law. Whether this is the case or not I had no opportunity of afterwards observing, but can only say that in future all nets should be kept within the prescribed limits at all states of the river. There is no doubt that many nets are set from shore to shore. Complaints of this nature were more than once made to me, and I am only surprised that a single salmon can find its way to the spawning grounds. At several places where the nets seemed to meet the legal requirements, I found from the outside stakes, to the opposite side of the shore, stones placed in a row as if to turn the fish in the direction of the net. The nets legally set are usually to be found upon rapids, where there is no channel distinctly marked, and the parties avail themselves of this fact to generally take up one third of the river.

For years past, parties from the North-west have been accustomed to cross the Portage to the Nepisiquit, and take large number of salmon and grilse from that river; but from all I could learn they had not made a visit to it up to the time I was up the North-west. I heard, however, that the same parties were then up the Little South-west, where they had nets set, from which river they occasionally made a raid upon the Renous, a tributary of the Main South-west. One or two families on this river seem to have acquired a local reputation for fishing illegally. One of the sets of stakes which I observed across the stream had been placed there by a member of one of these families, and the fishermen along the river seemed to throw all the blame of breaking the laws upon them.

I was informed that it was no unusual thing for parties to go upon the spawning grounds of the small streams that flow into the river, drive the fish into the pools, and then sweep them out with nets. Only a few seasons since two spearing parties loaded their canoes so full, that being unable to propel them over the shallows, they cut out the bellies of the

fish and left the rest to rot. I observed signs of spearing throughout the whole course of the river, and at many houses saw all the implements employed in this illegal practice openly exposed to view. The settlers as well as the Indians seem to consider spearing as one of their rights, and practice it in defiance of the law, although they agree in declaring that salmon are annually getting scarcer. Their principal excuse is, that they are not fairly dealt with, on account of the length of nets permitted at the mouth of the harbor.

This district is altogether too large for one Warden to protect effectually. From the head of the tide, to the source of the different streams which empty into the North-west, would fully occupy one man's attention during the fishing season, and close time. At present it is impossible for the Warden to do anything. If he goes up the river, the parties below fish illegally, and so complete are the arrangements between the poachers, that their companions are notified of his approach, long before he makes his appearance. The fishermen, allied by common interest, watch the Warden far more closely than he can them.

During winter serious injury is done to the bass fishing upon this river by scooping them. This fish is brought to market of all sizes, and the consequence is that during late years they have not been as plentiful as they were formerly. I am, however, forced to admit that more injury is done to this fishery by seines in summer than by scoop nets in winter.

On the Sevogle, one of the branches of the North-west, I found only three nets, all of which, at the time I was there, seemed to be legally set. Of one, however, I heard serious complaints from the fishermen. On account of the lowness of the water on the Little South-west, I could not proceed far up that stream. From enquiries made at Red Bank, and other places, I learned that the same system of netting and spearing is pursued as upon the North-west.

The following list shows the names of parties owning nets from the North-west bridge to the source of the river, including its tributaries. After leaving the head of the tide, the nets are of different lengths and almost all below the rateable length.

FROM BRIDGE TO HEAD OF TIDE.

Hy. Vye (3 sets),	J. McIntosh,
A. Towser,	Joseph Goodfellow,
P. McDowland,	Thomas Hill,
John Goodfellow,	Patrick Keys,
Richard Lawlor,	David Goodfellow,
John Chaplain,	Thomas Mullins,
Edmund Hubbard,	J. Chaplain,
George Sutherland,	Alex. Leech,
John McTavish,	John Simpson,
Hugh Currie,	Thomas Lawlor,
Joseph Lawlor,	Hugh Gillies,
David Walsh,	Wm. Johnson,
Patrick Gillies,	Wm. McAllister,
Wm. Mullins,	Joe Joe (Indian),
John Nowlan,	David Ellison,
Wm. Burns,	Wm. Leech,
John Howe,	Wm. Mennies.
Robert Forsythe,	John Rodgers,
John Mennis,	B. McKinnon.
T. Taylor,	

MAIN NORTH-WEST.

Wm. Ellison,	J. Kingston,
R. Kingston,	R. Mullin,
J. Rolph,	Wm. McCoomes,
Wm. Copp,	John O'Shea,
F. Peabouy,	Murdoch Sullivan,
J. Matchett,	James Fitzgerald,
J. Ryan,	Thomas McGibbon (3 sets),
Thomas Mullin,	James Johnson,
Peter Hyland,	J. Matchett,

LITTLE SOUTH-WEST.

J. Estey,
R. Hill,
J. Blackmore.

R. Holmes,
Wm. Hyland

SEVOGLE.

J. Estey (3 setts),

John Hare.

Upon all these streams there are excellent stations for angling. I would therefore recommend that the Sevogle be set apart as a nursery river, and leased for the purpose of angling, which prosecuted fairly can never injure the fisheries to any degree. I have named the Sevogle on account of there being fewer nets on that stream than on any other, although for spawning purposes it is not equal to some. All these streams will require more than ordinary watching for a few years to restore them to anything like their former state. The fishermen agree in stating that every year salmon are becoming scarcer, and nearly all employ the surest possible means to exterminate them altogether. The best means of restoring the river would be to assimilate our fishery law to that existing at present in Ontario and Quebec. Until this be done, I am convinced that the decrease of salmon will yearly become more apparent. At present the best protection the fish receives results from heavy freshets that sweep timber and rubbish into the streams, so as to prevent fishing entirely, and allow the salmon to proceed to the different branches of the stream, urged on by the powerful instinct of procreation. I feel confident that this alone has done more to prevent the extermination of salmon than any thing else.

One of the standing complaints among the fishermen on the North-west, arises from the fact that the outside fishermen, and in fact most of those who use float nets in fishing, seem privileged from observing section 9 of the General Regulations, which provides for the weekly close time. From all I could see and learn, I am convinced that this portion of the law seems to be carried out along the North-west, and affords one day at least in the week for the fish to proceed upwards.

In the General Regulations, section 10, owners of nets are permitted to leave the stakes upon which their nets have been stretched, remaining in the river for ten days after the fishing season has ended. My opinion is that the time is altogether too long. So long as stakes are allowed to stand so long will nets be attached to them. I think that in any future law 48 hours only should be allowed to withdraw all fixtures.

Mr. Venning having inspected the south-west branch of the Miramichi, I did not proceed up that stream, although it formed a portion of your letter of instruction to do so. From the mouth of the north-west branch of the Miramichi, there are on the south side of the river but few good fishing stations until you reach Middle Island. Occasionally seining for gaspereaux is prosecuted at Canadian Marsh and Nelson, both places being well adapted for that purpose. From Middle Island until you arrive at Point Escuminac, there is an uninterrupted succession of salmon nets. At Black Brook there is an establishment for preserving fish, owned by A. D. Sheriff, Esq., which annually puts up 20,000 lbs. of salmon. At Point-aux-Car, there is an establishment owned by Alex. Loudoun, Esq., where large quantities of salmon are smoked, the rest being put up in cases hermetically sealed. This establishment preserves and smokes upwards of 32,000 lbs. each season. At all the places where salmon can be taken, from Point-aux-Car to Fox Island, there are nets set for their capture. A few are set off Bay du Vin Island, but the greater portion of the fishing is from the mainland. In Bay du Vin there is a large oyster bed, which has not been much injured by raking on account of the depth of the water. The oysters taken here are the best to be found in the Miramichi, being large and well flavored.

At Fox Island, Alexander Loudoun, Esq., has a large establishment, where he preserves, by the hermetically sealing process, during the season, 48,000 lbs. of salmon. At a short distance A. D. Sheriff, Esq., has another establishment where he cases upwards of 64,000 lbs. of salmon annually. On Fox Island some of the salmon nets stretch into the sea, 300 fathoms from the shore. This is a great cause of complaint by those fishing farther up the river, who declare that the greatest injury to the fishing interests is committed upon Fox and Portage Islands. I am strongly of the opinion that no net should be allowed to extend more 200 fathoms from the shore. All the nets in this district are

set with killocks, which are not required to be lifted upon Sunday, this provision in the law gives the fishermen who use killock nets an undue advantage over those stationed farther up the river. This portion of the law should be altered at once, and the fishermen who use killocks should be compelled to loop up their nets from Saturday night to Monday morning. There is no doubt that this would entail a little extra trouble upon the fishermen, but in justice to parties who use picket nets, as well as in justice to the interests of the river, some such provision in the law is absolutely necessary. Portage and Fox Islands offer the best fishing stands in the bay or on the river, and by far the greatest quantities are taken at these places. The fishermen there may be said to control the river, and to monopolize the fishery. It seems to me that in some way those parties who derive the greatest benefit from the fisheries of the river, should contribute largely to their protection. I am decidedly of opinion that the Government should assume their right to control all fishing stands, and that in any general law adopted for the regulation of the fishing of the Dominion, provision should be made for leasing these at a fair price, or perhaps the best mode would be to offer them to public competition, after starting with a fair upset price. Along the shores of the island, and upon the main land, great quantities of lobsters can be taken.

The District Regulations in Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8, read thus:—"No net whatever to be set off any Island, middle ground or shoal in the Bay, Harbour or River Miramichi and its branches excepting as hereinafter permitted;" in the exceptions made I cannot find any clause that applies to Fox or Portage Island, and must therefore conclude that the fishing upon both islands is carried on in direct violation of the present law, so that in regulating nets at these localities no injustice would be done to those who have hitherto been reaping a large harvest by open violation of the present law. At Point Escuminac there is an establishment for preserving fish, owned by Thomas Fleigher, Esq., who probably preserves 10,000 lbs. of salmon and the same quantity of lobsters. Lobsters, along this shore, can be got in almost any quantity at the cost of 60 cts. per hundred. The rivers upon the south shore of the Miramichi are Napan, Black, and Bay du Vin Rivers. The former at one time was an excellent salmon stream, and a few fish still resort to its waters during the spawning season; it will require many years of careful guardianship to restore its old reputation as a salmon river. Black River is not now frequented by salmon, but trout are still abundant. The Bay du Vin River was formerly considered to be one of the best streams upon the main river for salmon, but a mill-dam now prevents them from ascending to their old haunts, and few are now to be found in any part of the river. Great quantities of bass, herrings and gaspereaux, can be taken along the coast from Escuminac to Napan Bay. From the complaints that I heard when on the North-west, I was disposed to think that a great deal of illegal fishing could be discovered in this district, but I am happy to state that with the exception of the length of the nets upon Fox Island, and the use of "swing" nets upon Portage Island, that the outside fishing is as fairly conducted as possible, and that no injury to the fishery results from their mode of prosecuting it.

The Warden for this district is Mr. Amos Perley, who informed me that there were twenty sets of nets in his district under 50 fathoms, and that the parties owning them refused to pay any taxes. The following persons own the nets from Nelson to Escuminac, together with those upon the islands which paid taxes.

ESCUMINAC.		
James McLean.....	100	fathoms.
Thomas Flaglor.....	90	do
Mihael Brausfield.....	50	do
R. McLean.....	50	do
Joseph Lewis.....	90	do
FOX ISLAND.		
Robert Noble & Son.....	400	fathoms, 2 sets.
John Noble.....	300	do
Peter Loggie.....	150	do
Luther Williston.....	270	do
Alex. Loggie.....	270	do
W. & L. Williston.....	600	do different sets.

HUCKLEBERRY ISLAND.

Alex. Mills.....	250 fathoms.
John Mills.....	150 do

BAY DU VIN.

Thomas Ryan.....	75 do
James Taylor.....	100 do
Thomas Carrul.....	110 do
Alex. Taylor.....	100 do
D. McLeod.....	150 do
Luther Williston.....	390 do
W. & L. Williston.....	500 do
John Williston.....	150 do
Robert Loggie.....	100 do

NAPAN BAY.

Francis Loggie.....	270 do
Benj. Sweezy.....	100 do
George Taylor.....	200 do
Alex. McDonald.....	110 do
Robert Russell.....	240 do
Finlay McDonald.....	300 do
James Chapman.....	200 do
James Loggie.....	250 do
Mrs. McDonald.....	100 do
John Gunn.....	100 do

BLACK BROOK.

Alex. Murdock.....	80 do
George Sweezy.....	110 do
Philip Savoy.....	90 do
William Forrest.....	53 do
Alex. Manderson.....	50 do

REMARKS.

1st. There should be one Inspector of Fisheries for the Province of New Brunswick, to whom the Wardens upon the different stations should be compelled to make Monthly Reports of all violations of the Fishery Law, Returns of all monies paid in as taxes, and of all other matters pertaining to their duties.

The greater portion of the money devoted to the protection of the Fisheries should be employed in engaging active Wardens, to serve upon the branches of the different rivers above the head of the tide, where the greatest injury is done to the fishing.

In the tide-way, the duties of a Warden are, comparatively speaking, of no importance, when contrasted with those who are stationed upon the small branches. With the exception of over-netting among the islands in the Restigouche, and the use of swing nets at Portage Island, on the Miramichi, I feel convinced that the salmon fishery in the tide-way of the different rivers has not been injurious to the interests of this portion of our national wealth.

2nd. As long as excessive netting is permitted upon the branches of the different rivers, so long will it be found impossible to protect the Fisheries effectually. The narrow width of the streams present a temptation to the fishermen, not often withstood, to carry his net from shore to shore. It is a question for grave consideration whether the time has not come for prohibiting all net fishing in the rivers above tidal waters. Either this measure, or some very important restrictions, will eventually become necessary to save the rivers from depopulation.

3rd. At present nothing is more required than a strict observance of the *weekly close time*—to this there should be no exception; all nets and weirs, and engines of all kinds, should be compelled to observe it.

The fishermen employed along the sea coast and the mouths of the different rivers invariably use the killock and float nets; and these, according to our present law, are not compelled to observe the close time on Sundays. By this privilege being granted to these nets, no free passage is allowed to the salmon upon that day. This gives the outside fishermen a great advantage over those who fish in the river and set their nets upon stakes. In any law to be made in future for the protection of salmon, a provision should be made to compel those who use the killock and float net to "loop-up" their bar net opposite every "tail," or at least in every three fathoms. I know it will be contended that, on account of the roughness of the sea in many places along the coast, it would be impossible to compel the observance of any imperative law to loop the nets; but there can be no doubt that, on every Saturday when the fisherman can visit his nets, he could likewise loop them.

The present law, which permits the owners of stake nets to allow their stakes or pickets to remain in the river for ten days after the fishing season has ended, should be repealed in all future laws. A great deal of illegal fishing could be prevented every season were a heavy fine exacted from the owners of all stakes not removed within forty-eight hours after the close season sets in.

4th. Swing nets should be prohibited. Fortunately, they seem to have only a local adaptation and are not used, except in one locality. In justice to the fishermen above Portage Island on the Miramichi they should not be allowed, as they are only a worse form of the drift net, which is not permitted to be used in harbours by the law of New Brunswick.

The same prohibition should likewise extend to seines used in any of the rivers, as no fish can escape from them, although the mesh of the seine be sufficiently large to allow two-thirds of the fish taken to escape through it. The stationary trap is not more injurious to the fishing interest than the use of the seine.

5th. All nets should start from the shore, and none should be allowed to be set upon any middle ground, bar or shoal, nor in the small branches of the river; nor should nets be allowed to be set upon the "rapids" of the small streams above the tideway.

6th. No nets, in any location, should be allowed to exceed 200 fathoms in length.

7th. The capture of trout, by means of nets, should be prohibited, as large quantities of grilse are taken with them, greatly to the injury of the salmon fishery.

8th. Wardens should be invested with power to destroy all nets, canoes or spears, in the possession of any person found violating the law. Such power would remove a difficulty complained of by Wardens, that they have frequently to carry nets, etc., a long distance to the place of sale, where they can find no person willing to bid against the party from whom they have been seized, and who generally buys them at a nominal figure.

9th. The provision found in the present law of New Brunswick, that compels the fishermen upon the Pokemouche River to set the net parallel with the line of the stream, should, until the stream be restored, be a portion of any law that may be introduced.

10th. All fishing stands should be put up to public competition, starting with a fair, upset price.

APPENDIX.

To the Honorable P. MITCHELL,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

SIR,—After due provision is made for the protection of the Inland and Coast Fisheries, there yet remains much to be done, in order to place this branch of our National wealth in its proper position.

It will be observed from my former Report that certain fish are not taken in as large quantities as they might be. Along the north shore of New Brunswick almost any quantity of herrings could be captured in the spring season. In former times, such was their abundance, that they were actually used as manure upon the land; the low price that is now paid for them in the American market, to which they were formerly exported, has not been sufficiently remunerative to lead to any great extension of the Herring Fishery. From various circumstances that have come under my notice, I am inclined to think that this low price does not result from the want of markets, but from the slovenly way in which

our fish have, as a general rule, been handled before leaving our shores. There is no denying that fish have been thrown upon the American market almost unfit for food, from the careless and reprehensible manner in which they have been cured. Sometimes the barrels contain huge stones, placed in them to add to their weight, and thus the character of our fish, which, when taken from the water, are inferior to none in the world, is greatly depreciated, and the trade injured; and this has been done with the brand of a New Brunswick Inspector placed upon them.

I would respectfully suggest that a more stringent inspection be enforced, both of fish and fish oil, to which end, a Supervisor of Inspectors of cured fish should be appointed, whose duty would be to see that the Inspection Laws were properly enforced, and that no fish unfit for the market received the official seal.

This duty could be advantageously combined with that of the Inspector of Fisheries, at trifling additional cost, and could not fail to be attended by the most beneficial results.

I would also respectfully suggest that, in such districts as required the appointment of Inspectors of cured fish, the District Overseers could, with advantage, perform this duty, and thus the necessity of a large staff of officials in connection with the Department could be obviated, and a due economy would be secured.

That some general measure of this nature is absolutely necessary to the development of our fishing resources I am convinced, from the numerous complaints that came to my knowledge during my tour of inspection; and I consider it my duty to call attention to the subject, in order that some remedy may be applied to remove the cause of them.

I understand there is such a law in Canada and I think its provisions might, with great advantage, be extended to the Lower Provinces.

Hoping that all defects may be excused, in consideration of the shortness of time to which I was limited, and regretting the paucity of statistical information, which it was next to impossible to obtain in so hurried a tour, I respectfully submit the whole to your consideration.

I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,

P. MILLER.

CHATHAM, October 15, 1867.

APPENDIX.

MR. JOHNSTON'S REPORT.

MARINE AND FISHERIES OFFICE,
Halifax, Nova Scotia, 19th Feb., 1868.

To the Honorable P. MITCHELL,
Minister Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

SIR,—In compliance with your instructions, I have the honor to submit to you a hastily prepared report upon the present state of the River Fisheries of this Province. I regret that the time at my disposal would not admit of a more extended examination of the rivers; but the state of those described will serve to show how great the necessity is for a more stringent enforcement of the existing laws, and for the enactment of such additional ones as are necessary to protect those nurseries of our coast and harbour fisheries.

The deplorable condition to which many rivers, formerly resorted to by myriads of fish, have been reduced is not overstated. The law in force in this Province, leaving to the Sessions the appointment of Wardens of River Fisheries, has been of little practical value, as these officers, even when appointed, have seldom attempted to carry out the provisions of the statute. Under any circumstances the appointment of Local Overseers without a Chief Inspector, who can devote the necessary time and attention to visiting personally the different localities, and seeing that the law is enforced, will not avail much to the real protection of the river fisheries.

In this Province the importance of protecting fish, which resort to rivers to spawn, and upon which the coast and harbour fisheries in a great measure depend, is entirely underrated. In consequence of the ignorance which exists on the subject, most people look upon any interference with their mills, or with their assumed right of taking the fish which Providence sends to their doors, in any way and at all times, as arbitrary and tyrannical. They do not realize that obstructions placed in the way of fish resorting to their spawning grounds, or the destruction of large numbers while there, involves the destruction of myriads, and tends to the speedy extinction of the species resorting to them. Consequently their sympathies are more in favor of the violators of the Fishery Laws, than of the officers charged with enforcing their provisions.

The fisheries on our coasts are an important branch of Provincial industry, which is yearly increasing in extent and value. These depend almost wholly upon the protection afforded to the fish in the nurseries in which they are spawned and bred; and no policy can be more short-sighted, or more to be deplored, than that which allows these invaluable resources to be sacrificed to the temporary convenience of the mill-owner, or to the cupidity and ignorance of the settlers on the banks of our rivers.

All through our Province the very names of many of our rivers, in which a salmon is now rarely seen, are memorials of the consequences of this short-sighted policy, which failed to protect them, till the mischief was irretrievable. In many others, the same cause is rapidly leading to the same end, but it is not yet too late to prevent their entire destruction by judicious legislation and stringent enforcement of the laws.

Among the causes which have led to this depopulation of our rivers, the chief are mill-dams without fish-passes, spearing on the spawning grounds, and illegal netting in

all places where nets can be set. The following result of an inspection of the rivers described, will more fully show the extent of these evils.

Liverpool River is a large stream which empties Lake Rosignol, into which flow a number of smaller streams fed by numerous lakes. It is one of the best nurseries for migratory fish in the Province, and formerly both it and its tributaries swarmed with salmon and gaspereaux, but at present these fish are cut off from their old haunts by several mill-dams, all without fish-passes. A few of both species still annually come to the foot of the lower dam, where they soon fall a prey to the spearer. The immediate erection of passes in these dams, and the strict prohibition of netting and spearing for several years would doubtless restore this river to something like its former condition.

The owners of these dams are said to be men who, from their position, should be the conservators instead of the violators of the laws. One is or was a Member of the Legislative Council, and another a Magistrate and formerly a Member of the House of Assembly.

Port Medway is the longest River in the Province, its head waters being in Annapolis County. There are numerous dams across it, and although they are without fish-ways, the necessity of their being opened to admit the passage of logs now to be found only on its upper waters, enables quite a number of salmon and gaspereau still to ascend it, but overnetting in the harbour keeps down the increase, and more judicious regulations, as well as suitable fish-passes in the dams are necessary to restore its former myriads.

Petit Rivière is not as its name would seem to imply, an insignificant stream. It empties many lakes, but flowing through a flat country, its course is sluggish. It is obstructed by numerous dams, many of them now useless. Formerly vast quantities of gaspereau spawned in this river, and salmon in considerable numbers frequented its waters. The few fish which now resort to it are netted in the harbour, and nothing will save it from utter depopulation but immediate passages in the dams, stringent regulations as to netting, and a due observance of *close time* in the harbour.

La Have River.—This is a stream of considerable magnitude, broken by numerous rapids and falls. On the main stream are many dams without passes, and illegal netting is carried on to a ruinous extent, consequently salmon are becoming very scarce, but shad and gaspereau still frequent it. Its western branch was formerly resorted to by immense numbers of salmon, but they are now barred by a mill-dam without a pass. About two miles from its mouth, on the eastern bank, a tributary flows into it. This is also obstructed by a useless dam, and is now deserted entirely by salmon, although formerly the Indians made it their summer retreat in consequence of the abundance of fish that used to frequent its waters.

Several rivers discharge into Mahone Bay, and all sorts of illegal netting is practised to capture the fish with which it abounds. Bag or trap nets of immense length are here used contrary to law. The first river emptying in it is

Mush-à-Mush River, which formerly was a famous salmon stream, and also swarmed with gaspereau, is now obstructed by numerous dams. The lower one has an insufficient pass, but it is used more as a *trap* than a passage, for illegal dipping is openly practised at its entrance. Both salmon and gaspereau are rapidly disappearing, and immediate action is necessary to prevent its being soon depopulated.

Martin's River.—Old Indians state that, many years ago, this river surpassed any other on this part of the coast as a resort for fish; salmon and trout in prodigious numbers frequented it, but at present, and for some years past, it has been deserted. A dam at its mouth offered an impassable barrier to their ascent, and now nothing is found above it but diminutive trout, and these in small numbers.

Another stream to the eastward was once a favorite spawning place for gaspereau, which resorted to it in immense shoals, but this, too, is completely barred to their ascent by a dam without a pass.

Gold River is one of the few streams in this Province which is not in some way obstructed. On this river the timber has been exhausted, and no dams now exist in its

lower reaches. Above the first falls there is one mill, but the dam is passable, and fish continue to ascend to its head waters. Were it not for over netting at its mouth, and for all kinds of poaching in its head waters, this river would be one of the best in the Province.

Middle and East Rivers, the two last of any importance that flow into Mahone Bay, are now both deserted by migratory fish, and *Hubbart's Cove River* is in the same condition.

Ingroham River, emptying into St. Margaret's Bay, was once celebrated for its salmon, trout and gaspereau. Near its mouth is a dam, but an apology for a fish-way allows the fish to pass when the water is high. Sweeping and spearing is practised in the immediate mouth of this pass, and very few are allowed to escape. Higher up the river there is another dam beyond which no fish can ascend.

Indian River.—About eight miles from the mouth of this stream a dam exists, but owing to the exertions of the Warden, Mr. Mason, employed by the "Fish Preservation Society," a pass has been made through which salmon can now ascend to the upper waters. But few gaspereau can pass this dam. Both species are fast diminishing in numbers, and unless better provision is made for their ascent, there is no hope of their increase.

North East, Little East and Hosier's Rivers, all flowing into St. Margaret's Bay, are so entirely obstructed, that they are deserted.

Nine Mile River, is one of the most picturesque streams in our Province. It was once a splendid salmon stream, and would be again if a passage for the fish that still frequent its lower part, were provided, through a dam about eight miles from its mouth, where the most ruthless destruction has been practised for years.

Prospect River, emptying into the bay of the same name, has shared the same fate from spears and nets, and the fish are fast disappearing.

Sackville River, flowing into Halifax Harbour, is a small stream which was once a most prolific salmon nursery, but a dam has been built across it, about six miles from its mouth, and year by year the fish have diminished in number. The efforts of the "Preservation Society" have placed a pass in this dam, and have secured a trusty Warden, so that there is a good prospect that this stream may be restored.

Cow Bay River, flowing into the inlet of that name, was formerly a fine stream for gaspereau, but a dam prevented their ascent, and although the Society caused the dam to be cut away some years since, the river has not regained its former state.

Little Salmon River flows from a body of water called Lake Major, a dam formerly obstructed and almost ruined it, but a freshet having swept this away, salmon and gaspereau again frequent it. The "Society" has placed a Warden on it, and strong hopes are entertained of its being rendered a most prolific nursery.

Big Salmon River is a succession of lakes connected by large streams, which at last empty into Laurecetown Harbour. There are many dams across it, and it is almost deserted by fish.

Chezetcook River empties into the harbour of that name. There are no dams across it, but from the great facilities that exist for netting but few fish reach its upper waters. Salmon, sea-trout and gaspereau were once plentiful, but are now much reduced in numbers.

Port Peswick River is completely obstructed by a dam above the tide way. Immense quantities of gaspereau formerly ascended it.

Musquadoit River was, twenty years ago, a splendid salmon stream, but netting and spearing have reduced the number of fish to a small remnant. A short distance below this river is a stream connecting with a very large lake, which was formerly the spawning ground of large shoals of gaspereau, but a dam across the stream has barred the ascent for many years, and I believe both stream and lake are deserted.

Jedlore and Charles Rivers are both obstructed by dams. There is an ill-constructed and insufficient pass in the latter. Both these streams formerly abounded in salmon and gaspereau, and there is nothing to prevent their restoration but neglect to enforce the law.

Tangier and Sheet Harbour Rivers present the same sad history. Dams, spears and nets, have almost ruined what were once fine fish rivers. A few are still caught, but there is no prospect of any increase until the laws are more stringently enforced.

Salmon, Quoddy, Ecum Sucum and Liscomb Rivers, are all either obstructed by dams, or so illegally netted, that but few fish are now seen in them.

St. Mary's River is one of the largest and finest in the Province, and drains a vast extent of country, by means of its east and west branches. Formerly it was, perhaps, the very best River in Nova Scotia for salmon and gaspereau. There is no dam on the main stream, but the branches are both obstructed. Netting and spearing, and no regard to close time, have reduced the river to a very low state, and from the manner in which both nets and spears are now used, it would seem that the object of the inhabitants is to exterminate the last first as soon as possible. It is much to be desired that measures should be taken to protect this river.

The state of things above described in the rivers on the southern side of the Province is a fair picture of those on the northern side, and there is little doubt that the failure of the coast fisheries, and the consequent destitution of all engaged in them may be attributed in great measure to the deplorable state of these nurseries which produce the food of our salt water fishes, and attract them to our shores. We are now suffering the consequences of past neglect, and so long as the present state of our rivers continues, these consequences will become more and more serious. Immediate steps are absolutely necessary to remove the evils which exist on almost every river in our Province, and I would respectfully submit that among the measures adopted, the following suggestions receive consideration:—

1st. The immediate placing of fish-ways in all dams which now obstruct the passage of migratory fish;

2nd. The appointment of paid Wardens properly qualified and sworn in, who shall have power of summary action to enable them to perform their duty effectually;

3rd. The appointment of an Inspector to whom the Wardens shall be responsible for the faithful performance of their duty; to whom they must make a full report of all their doings, with such information as will show the state of the district under their guardianship. This officer should be, *ex officio*, a Magistrate, so far as the enforcement of the Fishery Laws are concerned, and should furnish a full yearly Report of the state of the river fisheries of the Province.

COAST AND DEEP SEA FISHERIES.

Nova Scotia occupies the first place among the Provinces of the Dominion in the extent and value of her Sea Fisheries, and her exports far exceed those of all the other Provinces combined. For the last twelve years these have amounted to nearly \$3,000,000 annually. These fisheries are pursued along the whole coast line of the Province, on the nearest banks, and to a great extent in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The banks extending along the Nova Scotia coast from St. Mary's Bay to the Bay of Fundy, eastward to Cape Canso and along the coast of Cape Breton, and which runs out into the ocean for a distance varying from five to twenty miles, have a depth of from five to fifty fathoms. These banks are the feeding grounds of cod, herring and mackerel. Besides these there are others at a greater distance from the coast, among which the most important are St. George's, LeHave, Sable, Sambro, Canso and St. Pierre Banks.

The vessels engaged in these fisheries vary from 25 to 100 tons, and average about eight men each. The fishing on these banks for cod commences about the 1st April, and continues till the middle of June, when the vessels proceed to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Bay of Chaleus, the Coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. The following remarks of Capt. Fortin, are highly complimentary to the enterprise of our fishermen:—

“Every year the coasts of Canada are visited by from 250 to 350 fishing schooners from Nova Scotia, and by from 200 to 300 fishing schooners from the United States, from the spring to the autumn, in well equipped vessels, busily employed taking our finest fish;

and we find them afterwards with those very fish, competing with us in foreign markets, and almost always successfully."

Herring and mackerel frequent the whole of the Atlantic coast, and the shore fishery is carried on in boats. In the cod and haddock fishery, whale boats and undecked sail boats, manned by two, three or four men, are used, and pursue their labours at various distances from the shore, often as far out as fifteen miles. In ordinary seasons these shore fisheries are a most important and valuable portion of Provincial industry, and gives employment to all the inhabitants residing near the shores.

In the Bay of Fundy these shore fisheries are more or less pursued along the whole coast, and cod, haddock, hake, pollack, and herrings are taken in large quantities.

On the shores of the Basin of Minas are three banks or ledges, called from their distance from the shore, three-mile, five-mile, and nine-mile ledges. On these there are from 30 to 60 fathoms of water. The best fishing is in June and July, but often continues till the end of September.

Annapolis Basin has long been famous for its cod, pollock, hake, haddock and halibut, and they are taken all the year. In this basin the small herrings called "Digby Chickens" are taken in vast quantities, and when properly cured are much prized. Mackerel, lobsters and shrimps abound in the basin, and there are extensive beds of scallops and clams on the flats. The principal fishery of the basin, however, is for herrings, which are taken in brush weirs, and vast quantities, too small for curing, are pressed for oil, which is worth about 60 cents per gallon.

It is a question of some importance whether governmental supervision of the sea and coast fisheries would be attended by any permanent advantage to this important branch of our industry. There are some practices which, doubtless, have an injurious effect upon these fisheries, and it is much to be desired that they could be prevented, but any restrictions would be looked upon as a hardship by those who are wholly dependent upon this branch of industry for their subsistence.

With regard to taking fish out of season it would, perhaps, be almost impossible to enforce any regulations to prevent this practice, but it is highly desirable that their capture during the spawning season should be prevented.

Respecting fishing with the "bull-tow" or set lines, upon which innumerable hooks are suspended, there seems to be such a conflict of opinion that it is difficult to decide whether it is injurious or not. The preponderance of evidence would seem to countenance the opinion that it ought to be prohibited near shores and islands, say within three marine miles.

The practice of throwing over offal or "gurry" on the fishing grounds and near shores frequented by fish is, without doubt, highly injurious, and ought by all means to be prohibited if possible.

Defects in curing greatly depreciate the value of our fish, and if this evil can be reached by an Inspection Law I think it highly advisable to enforce one, as in addition to culpable negligence actual fraud is often resorted to, and the high character of our fish when properly cured is lowered thereby. There have been strong efforts made of late by our merchants to get a stringent Inspection Law passed, but they have not been successful. There can be no doubt that a return to the system of official inspection, if properly enforced, will effectually remove the evils of fraud and carelessness. In an Appendix to the Report of the British Commissioners there are a number of memorials on this subject, which strongly recommend the continuance of the official brand upon herrings. The following is a fair specimen of these recommendations:—

"The undersigned therefore strongly recommend the Royal Commissioners for the Sea Fisheries of Great Britain, to leave nothing undone which will speedily and forever secure the official branding of herrings, and they further give it as their opinion that by so doing the interests of curers also will be better served than if the branding were abolished."

When in Halifax, in January last, Mr. Smith, the Secretary of the Department, had a conference with several merchants of this port, largely engaged in the export of fish to foreign markets. The subject discussed related principally to the advisability of having some efficient system provided for the inspection of pickled fish, and upon this point there

seemed to be but one opinion, and that was, that some arrangement for official compulsory inspection was necessary to place this branch of trade upon a satisfactory footing.

The law which is contained in the Revised Statutes of this Province may be considered as nearly a dead letter for all practical purposes. Its provisions, as regards the quality and classification of different kinds of fish are thought fully to meet the requirements of the trade, and are, I believe, substantially the same as those adopted in the United States, and proposed to the Assembly of Canada in the year 1865.

The objections to this law are twofold.

1st. That inspection is not made compulsory.

2nd. As to the appointment of Inspectors.

The advantages of a thorough system of inspection in facilitating the purchase and sale of fish, and giving to this important article a character and standing in foreign markets are sufficiently obvious; but when the use of the official brand is optional, sometimes adopted and at other times neglected, the fish cease to possess that invariable character which will insure general confidence, and tend greatly to enhance their value abroad. In accordance with this view it has been proposed by some to leave it *optional* with parties selling fish within the Province to have them inspected or not, as may be most convenient; but to compel the official brand to be placed on all fish exported out of the Province, while others are strongly of opinion that every barrel of fish packed within the Province, whether for home consumption or for export trade, should be obliged to undergo official inspection. In the first instance the merchant assumes the responsibility of the original purchase, and uses his own judgment as to the quality, and in the other he is guided principally by the brand.

2. The Nova Scotia law gives to the Sessions of each County the right to appoint such Inspectors of pickled fish as may be thought necessary; and this mode, experience has proved to be inoperative. The system now generally regarded as preferable, and in fact the only efficient one, is, that all Inspectors should be appointed and controlled by the Government. A number of these will be required for the different fishing districts, as well as some supernumeraries at the principal points, in order to get through all the work which a busy season might make necessary within a limited time. At the head of them should be a Chief Inspector, responsible for all his Deputies, who should give bonds, with sufficient sureties, for the proper performance of his and their duties.

As regards the remuneration of these officers, one of two plans might be adopted: either let them depend upon the proceeds arising from a certain fixed scale of fees, as has been the case in this Province heretofore, or else have their salaries paid out of the general revenue; this last seems to be the view of most of the merchants here, though they do not propose the abolition of fees, as it would be manifestly unfair to ask the Government to contribute to so large an extent for the exclusive benefit of one branch of trade.

The following brief statement will exhibit what might be the practical working of this system, and its probable expense.

The number of packages of pickled fish exported out of Nova Scotia during the nine months ended 30th June, 1867, was 223,134. During the whole year of 1866, they amounted to 266,139 packages. It is impossible to ascertain from the published Trade Returns the nature of these packages, but they were, as I am informed, principally barrels; and, for the purposes of this calculation, I will assume that they were all of that description.

Taking the year 1866, then, as a basis, and charging the fee of eight and one-half cents, payable for inspection per barrel, according to our present law, and we have—

266,139 barrels, @ 8½ cents \$22,621.

This fund might be applied towards defraying the expense of the Inspectors and the Chief, and the surplus might be devoted to the protection of the Fisheries.

From all I can learn, there would be little or no objection to the payment of the fee above named, as a careful inspection will raise the value per barrel far beyond the amount of this small charge.

I presume, under any circumstances, fish coming from other countries, say from Newfoundland or Prince Edward Island, could be exported without undergoing inspection,

here, as they would be sold not as Nova Scotia fish—but fish caught in Nova Scotia vessels at, say the Labrador, and brought into the Province in bulk, would of course have to be inspected when packed.

I enclose herewith copy of a Memorial, signed by a large number of our most respectable Halifax Merchants, which was presented to the House of Assembly of this Province during the Session of 1867, praying for the appointment of a Chief Inspector, whose salary should be paid out of the general revenue. During the same Session, twenty other Memorials of a similar character, well signed, from different parts of the Counties of Halifax, Lunenburg, Guysboro' and Cape Breton, were laid on the Table of the House. These Memorials were referred to a Committee, and, for the reasons assigned in their Report (*Appendix No. 33, Journal 1867*), their prayer was not acceded to.

These documents are valuable however, as shewing how general was the desire then for some efficient system of fish inspection.

In conclusion, I feel quite justified in stating that the adoption of some law making the inspection of pickled fish compulsory, will be hailed as a most important aid to this very valuable export trade, by a large majority of the dealers in fish within this Province.

(Copy).

“ To the Honorable the Representatives of the People of Nova Scotia in Session assembled.

The Memorial of the undersigned, residents at Halifax, respectfully sheweth :

That your petitioners have for several years experienced increasing difficulty in the sale of fish, in consequence of the carelessness which prevails in preparing them for market.

Your petitioners, therefore, pray, that your Honorable House will be pleased to amend the Act for Inspection of Pickled Fish, by authorizing the Government to appoint a Chief Inspector for the Province, or for each County, as may be considered best, and that the salary of such officer be paid out of the public revenue.

The Act as it now stands, vesting the right of appointing Inspectors in the Sessions of each County, is found to operate very injuriously on the character of pickled fish. Few, if any, of the Sessions have appointed Inspectors for several years, and, in consequence, the law has become inoperative. Great complains are made in the home and foreign markets, both as to the weight and quality of the fish ; so much so, that in many cases the fish have to be re-weighed and re-inspected, which causes a heavy loss to fishermen and merchants.

They therefore hope, that your Honorable House will grant the prayer of their petition, and make such other amendments to the law as may be deemed best to establish the character of our fish in foreign markets.

And your petitioners will ever pray.”

I have not been able to procure any reliable statistics of the catch of these several kinds of fish, although it is highly desirable that such information should be obtained, and I would recommend that in future the attention of all Fishery Officers throughout the Province should be directed to this matter, and that they be directed in their reports to state as nearly as possible, the catch of fish of all kinds in their several districts. By this means some data will be obtained by which an opinion can be formed of the decline or improvement of this important branch of our industry.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. W. JOHNSTON.

APPENDIX.

The following Memorandum on the Inshore Fisheries of Nova Scotia, prepared by request of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, is corroborative of the statements made in the foregoing Report, and I append it in the hope that it may add weight to the remarks I have made in the course of its pages :

In drawing up a Memorandum on the Inshore Fisheries of Nova Scotia, the following points are to be considered :—

1st. The present state of the rivers ;

2nd. The causes that have led to this state of affairs ;

3rd. How to remedy the existing evils, and prevent the almost total extinction of salmon, by encouraging its return to these shores.

In this Memorandum it is of course premised that the value of the salmon is known, both as an article of domestic food and for exportation. Now the habits of the salmon being the same all over the world, one may—by taking the knowledge gained in Great Britain, of the geographical nature of a country most suitable for the culture of salmon—see at a glance by looking at a map of Nova Scotia, what enormous natural advantages she possesses for the especial culture of this valuable fish ; and how nothing but the grossest ignorance and wilful neglect could have brought the rivers into their present deplorable condition.

1st. There are at least thirty rivers (perhaps more) along the south shore of Nova Scotia, the outlets, many of them if not all, of large lakes, with estuaries as they touch the sea ; unequalled spawning grounds in their upper waters, that would yield, if properly preserved, an enormous quantity of salmon, and gaspereaux ; indeed it is very doubtful if there is any country or place of similar size so advantageously placed as Nova Scotia, that could produce the same supply, nature having been so bountiful to her. Out of these thirty rivers *not one* has fair play, and in many of them the salmon has been extirpated.

2ndly. The causes which have led to this sad state of things, are the stopping of a free passage up the rivers, by *mill dams*, the ignorance of the people and a want of proper means of carrying into effect the laws of the Province made for the protection of the fisheries.

The first of these causes is the most serious, as a dam across a river, especially *near its mouth*, put up by an ignorant person, *will effectually DESTROY* it in from two to five years ; while those dams higher up force the fish on the lower spawning grounds, and into the lakes, where the fry, while small, become a prey to the large trout, and where the eggs have not one hundredth the chance of coming to maturity as those deposited in the head waters—to which the salmon's instinct naturally leads him. A strong hand should be brought to bear on this point ; for measures in this direction would not interfere with local prejudices and customs—would be popular except with the mill owners, whose business would suffer so little it scarcely deserves a thought, and it would show and perhaps convince the people that Government were in earnest in the matter, and so pave the way to overcoming ignorance, and the better establishment of the laws of the Province.

The second evil, and one difficult to deal with, for it has been established by custom and wilful law breaking, is the universal practice of illegal netting. Heretofore it has been impossible to obtain a conviction from any County Magistrate (the laws being that the nearest Magistrate should decide on any case, as above, in his vicinity), as most of the Magistrates own the nets themselves, or are mill owners, participating in the profits, as their dams prevent the fish passing up the rivers, and are generally the greatest poachers, or encouragers of poaching in the neighborhood.

Spearing is another method by which many salmon are taken, and many more injured. It is confined to localities, and one trusts that when the good sense of the people is turned to the preservation of so valuable a fish, spearing will be kept down by the people themselves in defence of their rights. It is, however, only a minor evil in comparison with the two former ones.

3rdly. As to the best methods of remedying the existing evils. The following remarks are only suggestive, but something must be done, as the present state of the rivers

is very bad, and each year's delay only establishes present customs more firmly in the minds of the people and so renders them harder to eradicate.

Expense should not be spared in carrying out first measures, as a few years (4 or 5) would shew to the people what legislation, properly carried out, will do for them, and laws habitually broken come into utter contempt, and are worse than none at all.

The first thing to be attacked are the weirs or dams, as without a free passage up a river no legislation will ensure the continuance of salmon.

A Fishery Inspector, or two, one for the east, the other for the western section of the Province, would, in one season, make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the rivers on the south shore, and gain a practical knowledge of their capabilities for rearing salmon and the obstructions at present in existence.

Their report would at least be something to act upon, and by obtaining models or descriptions of the latest improvements from England of fish ladders and fish passes, an important change might be soon effected by their application; and the rivers free from obstacles from their mouth to their source be once more the haunt of the salmon.

A law to the effect that no mill dam or weir is to be erected, hereafter without the knowledge and cognizance of the Fishery Inspector, so as to ensure a proper pass up the river, would exercise an excellent influence. As the more you do to convince the people you are in earnest as regards the preservation of the salmon the better, and steady legislation advancing bit by bit, is far better in a matter like these inshore fisheries than all the spasmodic efforts which have hitherto taken place.

Illegal netting is the second great evil. The existing law is good, as it confines the net to a certain length; the mesh to a certain size; and in the tideway lays down certain rules to guide the relative distance of one net from another; as also the length of the net in relation to the width of the river or estuary. *These conditions are never observed.* Every man tries to outdo his neighbor by having a longer net, and every net has an illegal end, formed by turning the end of the net back at an angle of 60°, and then back again at an angle of 90°; the trap, if one may so call it being kept open by a stick, fish working their way along shore come to the net, run along it until they enter the trap, where they seldom get out. Some nets have a double trap, one each way.

This will be a difficult measure to deal with. You cannot count upon local support, as every fisherman along the shore practises it, and the only remedy would be to do away with the trap by law and see that it was carried out.

No fixed engine (the technical term for all stationary nets, &c.) should be allowed a bag or trap at the end, or anything by which fish could be taken otherwise than by the gills in the meshes of the net. This would serve as a check on illegal meshes, as they now use herring and old mackerel nets, which, from the smallness of the mesh, would be utterly useless.

These illegal nets have found their way into some of the rivers and do great harm, as not a salmon can get up the river, and only that the fence months end on the 15th August, and that there is a large run of fish up the river after that date, there would not be a salmon left in the country.

As before remarked, it is useless to deal locally with this evil, as you cannot obtain convictions. The appointment of a Stipendiary Magistrate holding District Courts might preserve the power of the law, now utterly disregarded; and this would be expedient from another point of view, as there is a strong feeling of hostility springing up between the country people and those living on the shores; the former affirming that as they preserve the fish in the breeding time, while in the rivers, they have an equal right to part of them.

During the past four or five years a Society has been organized in Halifax for the protection of game and fish, and its efforts deserve record, from the fact that this last year salmon were more plentiful between Chester, on the western coast, and Musquadoiboit, on the eastern side, than they have been for years; and this may be mainly attributed to the efforts of the Society, who have done much by appointing Fishing Wardens, removing obstructions in rivers, and checking, with their limited means, illegal netting and poaching.

This is suggestive of what can be done, and the Society also experienced no difficulty in finding men anxious to help their cause; even to the extent of incurring odium in their own neighborhood by their acceptance of the post of Fishery Wardens.


An Inspector of Fisheries, a Stipendiary Magistrate, and a firm but judicious carrying

out of the law, are the three things needful; and it is impossible to calculate the value which these fisheries may not arrive at, with a market—to be the United States—close at hand. This summer a speculation was made by a leading merchant of this city, by sending 300 salmon (fresh) to Demerara in a vessel loaded with ice; and, justly, one can imagine a large trade springing up of a similar nature with the Southern ports of the United States, even as far as New Orleans.

It is impossible to close this paper without expressing a hope that, under the Central Government, a new era of things may be inaugurated, and that waste, ignorance and wilfulness, may give way to preservation, and the observance of law. And whatever is done, the quicker the better. So that by next spring or summer, a free passage, up the rivers enforced.

The above remarks are necessarily confined, as the subject is an extensive one. Its object will be secured, however, if any information is, through these pages, afforded to the authorities, both as to the present state of the rivers, and as to some of the means for restoring them to a proper state.

Mention has been made of the rivers on the south shore only, but these remarks apply to the whole Province, as salmon frequent every river; and everywhere is the same sad answer: "Oh, yes, we had plenty of fish ten or fifteen years ago, but the mill-dams have driven them all away!"



APPENDIX.

SPECIAL REPORT

ON THE

DISTRESS AMONG THE NOVA SCOTIA FISHERMEN.

MARINE AND FISHERIES OFFICE,
Halifax, Nova Scotia, 19th February, 1868.

The Honorable PETER MITCHELL,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

SIR,—In accordance with a telegram received from Mr. Whitcher, requesting me to report upon the nature, causes and extent of the failure of the inshore fisheries of this Province during the last year, I beg to submit the following brief statement of the facts and circumstances which I have been able to collect bearing upon this subject:—

The inshore fishery is carried on to a greater or less extent along the entire coast of Nova Scotia, but especially on that portion commencing at the La Have River, in the County of Lunenburg, stretching east to Cape Canso, and northerly up through the Strait of Canso, into George's Bay, and along the southern and western coasts of Cape Breton. This fishery is generally pursued with nets, and a very large population depend for their living almost entirely upon its proceeds.

Along the western coasts the population do not rely so much on the shore fishery, the land being generally more suitable for cultivation, and the fishermen, more frequently than to the eastward, engage in the deep sea fishery on the Banks.

For many years the inshore fishery has been pursued with varying success. During some years the catch of herring, mackerel, cod, &c., has been such as to place the fishermen in comparatively easy circumstances after a few months' work, while in others a scanty supply has reduced them almost to poverty. From the sterile nature of the soil along a great part of the coast, the fishermen rely but little upon agricultural pursuits for a livelihood, in fact their principal support for the year is drawn from a few months' labour. Such a system as this can be productive of only evil results, nine months of comparative idleness and only some three months' work during every year can scarcely conduce to the formation of habits of thrift and industry, and so the general result, as proved by experience, seems to be that no matter how bountiful the harvest gleaned from the sea may be this year, if the next should be unproductive, but a scanty supply has been laid by for its necessities.

Not many years since the shore fishery was abundant and lucrative, seldom decreasing so greatly as to cause much actual want, but with late years this branch of industry has fallen off to an alarming extent, and a failing fishery around the shores seems to excite no surprise. The causes of this failure (which during the last season has been almost total), can only be theoretically stated, but the observation of experienced persons indicate several reasons of considerable importance in producing this unfortunate result.

The mackerel net fishery is chiefly pursued along the shores of Guysboro, Antigonish, Halifax and Lunenburg Counties and the shores of Cape Breton. Formerly the fish, early in the month of September, commenced moving slowly from their feeding grounds in the Gulf, in a southerly direction, skirting the shores I have named, and occupying some six

or eight weeks between their appearance and final departure from any particular bay or cove along the coast, thus affording the fishermen ample time to secure an abundant catch; now, however, they seldom make their appearance until later in the season, and then are hurrying southward to their winter haunts, remaining but a short time along the shores, and if the weather should be stormy the nets are frequently lost, and the great proportion of the fish pass by uncaught.

Persons living along the shore generally attribute this delay of the fish to the presence in the Gulf of the large fleet of upwards of a thousand sail of fishing vessels; from each of these is thrown over quantities of choice bait, attracted by which the mackerel delay their progress southward for probably a month or more later than their usual time, thus bringing them on our shores in November, a month noted for violent gales any stormy weather, when their capture becomes much more hazardous and difficult.

The prevalence of high winds from the northward has, without doubt, a tendency to drive the fish far out into deep water, beyond the limits of the net fishermen, and, as I am informed, these winds were very frequent during the time last year when the mackerel should have made their autumn visit.

Another and very important reason for the gradual failure of the fishery may be found in the diminishing supply of bait afforded by our rivers and streams, the sad havoc caused among the gasperaux and other fish which formerly resorted in such vast quantities to our shores, by the erection of mill-dams across so many of our best rivers, without sufficient fish passages, has already been brought fully under your notice in previous reports on the subject of river fisheries; there can however be no doubt that for this reason our coasts now cease to afford, so greatly as they used, the necessary attraction in the way of bait to induce the mackerel to remain long around our coves and harbours, and thus by the destruction of our river fisheries a double injury of no ordinary magnitude is inflicted.

With regard to the cod fishery I find a general impression among our fishermen that the set line or bultow system of fishing is fraught with the most disastrous consequences, as by this means the mother fish are caught while lying on the bottom in the breeding season full of spawn, and the actual destruction is by no means represented by the number of fish taken.

The failure of the inshore fisheries last autumn appears to have been nearly a total one, while the deep sea fishery did not yield nearly so large a return as usual. As I before mentioned in the western parts of the Province, including Queen's, Shelburne, Yarmouth and Digby Counties, the inhabitants of the shore do not rely entirely upon this shore net fishing for a livelihood, they are generally in possession of small vessels in which they pursue the bank fishing; but even here I learn there is very considerable suffering which is not restricted to the fishing population but extends to small farmers and laboring men, and is the result of a failing crop last year, and the want of sufficient employment.

Along the shores of Halifax and Lunenburg Counties, few if any mackerel were taken last fall. The following extracts from a letter addressed to me by a gentleman residing at Cape Canso, who is largely engaged in fishing operations, will give some idea of the extent of the failure in Guysboro County:—

“The deficiency of catch of fall mackerel in Chedabucto Bay, during fall of 1867, cannot be less than 15,000 barrels, which at a low average price of ten dollars per barrel amounts to \$150,000; of herrings the short catch will be not less in quantity, and if I were to say one-half more it would be perhaps nearer the mark; but taking the first figure as a deficiency of catch from Cape Canso, including Chedabucto Bay, west to Beaver Light, a distance of sixty miles (west of that I have no reliable information), and placing them at the low price of three dollars per barrel, we have from these two kinds of fish alone the sum of \$195,000 that our eastern shore fishermen (leaving entirely out the east and west coasts of Cape Breton,) are short producing for 1867. Now, add to this the almost entire failure of some other kinds of fish, not so generally known abroad but of much value at home, dog-fish in particular, of which in 1867 there was a total failure, no one boat producing \$4 worth against \$40 as an average for many years past, which, with a large falling off in cod, haddock, spring and summer mackerel and others of less note, we have, at the smallest possible computation, a further deficiency of \$50,000, making in all an aggregate \$245,000 to be borne by this class of men, and the parties who supply them in the shape of debts unpaid on the one side, and privation and denial of the common

necessaries of life, such as bread, molasses, tea, coffee, meat, and the common kinds of clothing on the other side."

Whatever aid is now given in the way of purchasing provisions, &c., can only be of a temporary character, and except some radical change occurs in the mode of life of these men it is by no means improbable that destitution to a greater or less extent will recur every few years, when from any cause an insufficient catch may take place. It is exceedingly difficult to suggest any means for the permanent remedy of this unfortunate state of affairs. The class of men who are maintained by the shore fisheries are, as a general rule, very poor, and many of them largely indebted to the merchants who supply them. The land on which they live is, in the majority of instances, rocky and sterile, and incapable of cultivation beyond the raising of a few vegetables and a supply of hay for their scanty stock; then, as I have before remarked, the principal means of their support is the result of a few months' labour, and during the winter months they are mostly unemployed, and thus a great portion of the year is rendered entirely unproductive; this would not be the cause of such evil results if the produce of these few months of labour was as certain and as great as it formerly was, but with the present frequent short catches and the want of other remunerative employment, distress and want to a greater or less extent seem almost inevitable.

The conclusion from these facts seems forced upon us that the inshore net fishery, *per se*, is quite insufficient to provide for the necessities of those engaged in it, and the question then arises:—Is this to be entirely abandoned as an industrial pursuit, and if not, under what circumstances can it be profitably pursued?

The shore fisheries of this Province will be a remunerative field of industry when they can be combined with the deep sea fishery on the banks, and when employment of some nature or other can be provided during the winter months.

The great obstacle at present to our shore fishermen engaging in the bank fisheries is the want of capital to purchase suitable vessels and to provide a sufficient outfit—they live from hand to mouth and are seldom in a position to lay by anything—under these circumstances the purchase and equipment of vessels is a matter of impossibility. I would respectfully suggest in this connection whether, in case the Government intend taking any step in this matter, it would not be of great advantage as a means of permanent relief to furnish proper vessels to certain numbers of fishermen at different parts of the coast, at the smallest cost price, and to extend the period of payments over a series of years, and in this way bring the purchase within the probable means of the fishermen. It might be objected that this course would involve a large outlay in the first instance, and that great difficulty and frequent jealousy would arise in the selection of localities and persons. This might, however, be obviated by a gradual introduction of the system, a few vessels in one year and a few the next, until the payments for the first coming in would prevent further advances, while the vessel being purchased by companies of fishermen while it made the individual payments easier, would tend to keep down any feeling of jealousy.

Another plan might be the adoption of the system of bounties. This subject is already so familiar to you that I need only mention it—the following extract from a letter received from Mr. Hart, a gentleman engaged in fishing operations at Port Mulgrave, Strait of Canso, bears upon this subject:—

"Believing, as I do, that the net mackerel fishery has become so expensive and so uncertain as to be yearly a losing concern to those engaged in it, and that assistance would but prolong that evil, while I look upon the line mackerel fishery in vessels as a mine of wealth capable of any expansion under favorable circumstances, I look to the encouragement of the latter branch as the only sure method by which to afford a permanent remedy to both branches, as it will undoubtedly absorb the former class as it expands."

"The disadvantages to Nova Scotia owners, however, are just now so great that a very short continuance of them will sweep the fleet from the waters, principal among which are bait, American duty, and last and greatest, men."

"The pogie, the only real mackerel bait, is not caught east of Portland and must all be imported for our fleet, the increased cost of which added to the American duty the fishermen has to pay on his share of fish, besides charges of transportation, place him in the position that if he catches during the season to his own share 40 barrels of mackerel in one vessel, he has not made as good a season by about \$100 gold as if he had been in an

American bottom, this to a labouring man is a large sum and represents one quarter of his yearly income from all sources, to a crew of 14 men it would be \$1,400, add owner's share \$1,400 more and we have \$2,800 less net proceeds than in American bottoms.

"It follows that the American owners have the first pick of the Nova Scotia fishermen to man their fleet, while to us is left the lame and lazy; anything then that will tend to place the men who man our fleet on a fair footing with those who man the American fleet, will be striking at the root of the evil, and will check the process yearly going on, which is culling our smart and intelligent fishermen into a foreign fleet and navy, and furnish lucrative employment to a large and worthy class of men now dragging out a miserable existence, mending old nets in every creek on our coast."

The abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, and the imposition of a heavy duty on Nova Scotia fish entering United States markets, have discouraged many of our merchants from fitting out so large a number of vessels for the fisheries, and has in the case of several firms, of which I have personal knowledge, caused a very large decrease in the number they had actually employed.

How far a system of bounties would have the effect of altering the present state of affairs, would, I presume, depend largely upon the amount granted being sufficient to counteract the effect of the duty exacted in the States. The discussion of this topic would, however, open up subjects into which it is not my province to enter.

If vessels could not be provided with which the shore fishermen can pursue the deep sea fisheries during the winter months, possibly some employment might be found to occupy this long period of their leisure. Net making or mending at present engages a portion of their time, but this only for their own requirements and not for market. The merchant can import nets cheaper than they can be made by the fisherman, and so there is no encouragement for this branch of industry. The following extract from a letter from the Rev. Mr. Ambrose of St. Margaret's Bay, in writing me under date 20th January, while it exhibits the destitution among the shore fishermen in his vicinity touches also upon the subject of net-making as a remunerative employment for the winter:—

"Line fish *i.e.* those taken with the hook, were scarce last season, but the net and seine fishing exhibited an almost entire failure; our fishermen, in debt for their spring supplies, had thus no opportunity of discharging their liabilities, and in consequence were, many of them, refused supplies of provisions and clothing by their merchants in the autumn, these sold their few fall fish for a barrel or two of flour, but were unable to purchase winter clothing. The barley and potatoe crop having failed, this short supply of provisions is now consumed, and several families have eaten their seed potatoes, turnips and grain, and are now utterly destitute and not half clad, many living in barren rocky places, travel long distances to carry their fuel on their shoulders. I have, since New Year's day, been striving to support some of them, and it is pitiful to discover every day fresh instances of whole families, with helpless children, living on one scant meal perhaps in the twenty-four hours, and to see the sick, as I did last Tuesday near Dover, without provision of any kind but boiled salt codfish. I know several families who have had no bread of any kind, and not even potatoes for many days, and this state of things will largely increase with the next month, and yet but little complaint is made by these suffering people, but earnest entreaties for employment come to me from every side. Knowing that the amount likely to be raised in Halifax would not be sufficient for the destitute along the whole shore, I advertised, asking for net-twine from the merchants more than a month ago, so that these people, old and young, might at once engage in the manufacture of fishing nets, in which they are very skilful, for I dreaded for them the demoralization of begging, and they themselves were most unwilling to ask for what they called 'charity flour.' The merchants would lose about \$5 per cwt. on this mode of manufacturing nets compared with the price at which they can be imported from Great Britain; but this loss the Central Aid Committee in Halifax expressed themselves ready to make up to the merchants; one cwt. of twine at 25 cts. per lb. for netting would yield to these poor people \$25, and furnish the country with a much better description of net than the imported one. But time has slipped away, starvation has come, no netting has been provided, and now if the people are to be relieved, as they have already been at Prospect and elsewhere, it must be done at a far less economical rate than that pointed out by me. Almost every day for the last month I have had fishermen to see me, all the way from Shad Bay, round

the outside coast and St. Margaret's Bay, as far as Birchy Head in Lunenburg County, seeking twine to net, but I had none to give. If the twine had been sent in time, \$5 from the Central Aid Committee would thus have provided \$25 worth of the necessaries of life to the work-people. Those who lived farther up the bay, where wood can be had, could support themselves by sending juniper fence posts and pickets like those around Hon. Dr. Tupper's place in Halifax, if a market had been obtained for them as I requested.

"The great want here is remunerative employment during the winter. The fish strike in at certain times between May and November, and these times do not amount to more than three months all put together. No man can be expected to support a family twelve months on the earnings of three, and it would not be a desirable mode of living, in a moral point of view, if he could. Poverty and a want of thrifty habits will therefore be the rule among our shore fishermen, until steady winter employment be found for them. If nets, like other manufactured goods paid a duty of 15 per cent., whilst twine, rope and other fittings were allowed to come in duty free, the manufacture of nets would at once form a source of remunerative winter employment for our fishermen and their families."

In conclusion, I beg to append copy of a Report of a Committee of the Local Legislature, on the subject of the distressed fishermen of the Province, with a statement of the funds available for their relief, and the manner in which they have been distributed among the several counties where destitution is known to exist.

I have honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

H. W. JOHNSTON.

FISHERMEN'S RELIEF.

The Committee appointed by the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia, on the subject of the distressed Fishermen of that Province, beg leave to report as follows:—

1. That they have had a conference with the Committee of Halifax citizens, appointed for a like purpose, and it has been mutually agreed that out of the present available funds of seventeen thousand dollars, or thereabouts, they shall receive as the fair proportion for the County of Halifax, the sum of Four Thousand Dollars; and that of future contributions one-fifth shall be paid over to said Committee.

2. The Committee recommend that the sum of five thousand dollars should be appropriated out of the General Funds of this Province for general distribution.

3. The Committee, after careful examination and enquiry, are satisfied that there exists, at the present time, among the fishing population of the Counties of Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, Lunenburg, Halifax, Guysborough, Antigonish, Richmond, Inverness, Victoria and Cape Breton, great and wide-spread distress and destitution.

4. Your Committee are also satisfied that this distress will rather increase than diminish, from the present date till the first of June next; and that, unless extensive and permanent arrangements be made, many may perish from starvation.

5. The Committee are, therefore, of opinion that there is an urgent necessity, not only for relief from the Provincial Authorities, but for a loud call upon the charity and generosity of the citizens of this and the neighboring Provinces.

6. The Committee recommend that a suitable Board be appointed by the Government in each of the above Counties to take charge of, and distribute, the relief so provided.

7. Your Committee have thus partially reported, and beg leave to recommend that

five hundred copies of this Report be published for general distribution; and that the substance of this Report be forwarded by telegraph for publication in this and the neighboring Provinces.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN K. RYERSON,
H. BLANCHARD,
M. B. DESBRISAY,
J. A. KIRK,
URBAIN DOUCETT,
SAMUEL FREEMAN,
JOSIAH HOOPER,
ALONZO WHITE,
JOHN ROSS.

COMMITTEE ROOM,
Halifax, February 14th, 1868.

THE DISTRESSED FISHERMEN.

The Committee of the House of Assembly on this subject had a conference with a Committee of the Citizens in the City Council Chamber on Friday forenoon, and in the afternoon they reported to the House that the sum at present available for relief was seventeen thousand dollars. They recommend that four thousand dollars be placed in the hands of the Committee of Citizens for distribution in Halifax County, and that one-fifth of all future contributions be placed in the hands of the same committee—the balance to be expended in the Counties of Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, Lunenburg, Guysborough, Antigonish, Richmond, Inverness, Cape Breton and Victoria, by Boards to be appointed by the Government. The Committee also recommended that the sum of five thousand dollars be granted out of the general funds of the Province for the relief of the prevalent distress. This report was adopted. On Saturday the Committee made a second report relative to the division of the amount.

There is now available the sum of.....	\$17,000
And the Provincial grant.....	5,000
	<hr/>
Making a total of	\$22,000
Of this there is payable to the Halifax Committee, per first report.....	\$4,000
And one-fifth of Provincial grant.....	1,000
	<hr/>
	5,000
	<hr/>
Leaving a general fund of.....	\$17,000

Which the Committee recommend to be divided in the following manner—the amounts to be handed to the various Country Boards as soon as possible, and accounted for to the Government:—

Digby.....	\$1,900
Yarmouth.....	2,000
Shelburne.....	1,500
Queens	1,200
Lunenburg.....	1,800
Guysborough.....	1,750
Antigonish.....	650
Richmond.....	1,700
Cape Breton.....	1,400
Victoria.....	1,400
Inverness.....	1,700
	<hr/>
	\$17,000

R E P O R T S

OF

PIERRE FORTIN AND THÉOPHILE TÉTU,

STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATES,

IN COMMAND OF THE EXPEDITION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE
FISHERIES IN THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE,

ON BOARD

“LA CANADIENNE,”

DURING THE SEASON OF

1867.

~~~~~  
PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SENATE.  
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Ottawa:

PRINTED BY HUNTER, ROSE & CO.

1868.

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RETURN

(IN PART)

To an Address of the Senate, dated 23rd March, 1868; for Copies of the Annual Report of the Stipendiary Magistrate in charge of the Government Schooner for the protection of the Fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; also for Copies of any Reports made under the direction of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, on the Fisheries of the Dominion; together with Copies of any Special Reports made under the same direction, on the subject of the Failure of the Fisheries and the Distress existing among the Fishermen of Nova Scotia and parts of the coast of Labrador.

By Command.

HECTOR L. LANGEVIN,

Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

Ottawa, 31st March, 1868.

FISHERIES BRANCH,

Ottawa, 28th March, 1868.

SIR,—I have the honor to enclose a partial Return to an Address of the Senate, dated 23rd instant, for reports relative to the fisheries and distress existing among the fishermen of Nova Scotia and parts of the coast of Labrador.

P. Fortin's Report, 1867.

T. Tetu's Report, 1867.

W. H. Venning's Report.

P. Miller's Report.

W. H. Johnston's General Report.

W. H. Johnston's Special Report.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. MITCHELL,

Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

The Honorable the Secretary of State,
Ottawa.

REPORT

BY

PIERRE FORTIN, ESQ.,

OF THE

CRUISE OF "LA CANADIENNE," IN THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE,
FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE FISHERIES, FROM THE OPENING OF THE NAVIGATION TO THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER, ON WHICH DAY THE COMMAND OF THE EXPEDITION WAS GIVEN OVER, BY ORDER OF THE MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES, TO THÉOPHILE TÊTU, ESQ.

TO THE MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES:

SIR,—I have the honor to submit to you the following Report of the cruise of *La Canadienne* in the Gulph of St. Lawrence, from the opening of navigation to the 1st of September, on which day you were pleased to accept my resignation of the appointment of Commander of the expedition for the protection of the Fisheries, which I had held since 1855, and to cause me to be replaced by Théophile Tétu, Esquire.

This Report refers, it is true, to not quite four months of active service, but this cruise has been one of the most busy and successful ones I have ever made in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, as it has been completed without any serious accident, and we have visited, besides the coasts of the late Province of Canada, several ports in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island; and I think I should be wanting to my duty if I omitted to acknowledge the kind and cordial reception given in those places to the officers and seamen of *La Canadienne*.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
PIERRE FORTIN.

REPORT.

The repairs that had to be made to *La Canadienne*, by order of the Department, to put her in condition to go to sea again, were carried on with all possible care and speed; and in spite of the cold and of the bad weather in the latter part of April, we should have been ready to leave Quebec about the 12th of May; but the east wind which had been blowing for some weeks, instead of moderating as might have been expected, increased in violence, and continued for another week more to blow from seaward. It was useless to think of sailing in such unfavorable weather.

At last, on the 19th, there was a show of change of wind to the westward, and we

hastened to set sail; but we had not gone many leagues from Quebec before the wind came round to the east again, and we had nothing but head winds, so to speak, as far as Rimouski, where we arrived on the 21st.

That same day I visited Messrs. Price's saw mill, on the River Rimouski, in company with the agent, Mr. Luc Sylvain, and I was very well satisfied with the arrangements which that gentleman had made for collecting the sawdust from below the vertical and circular saws, and preventing it from falling into the water. The boxes which surround the cranks are very strongly built, and serve well the purpose for which they are made. They gather up almost all the sawdust from this mill, and what unavoidably falls into the water is very trifling in quantity and cannot injure the river.

Mr. Sylvain certainly deserves credit for having thus complied with the law, in so willing a spirit, and for having obtained such satisfactory practical results with his apparatus for catching sawdust; but, on the other hand, it must be admitted, that it is no slight or moderately expensive task thus to collect heaps of sawdust, at a rate that cannot be reckoned at less than 200 barrels a day.

This sawdust must be collected from under all the saws, and carried in wheel-barrow to a certain distance from the mill; for, without that, it would, by accumulating, impede and obstruct traffic and cartage round about the mill.

I ascertained, during this visit, that the fishway which had been placed on the mill-dam some years before, had been carried away by the ice this spring, and that very expensive repairs would be necessary in order to put it into working order again. I examined the river very carefully, and collected a great deal of information from disinterested persons who know this river, above as well as below the mill; and all that I saw and heard only served to confirm the opinion I had already formed upon the subject of the spawning beds of this river, to the effect that there are not any above the mill-dam, but that, on the other hand, there are some very good ones in the north channel and in the middle channel of this river, below the said dam.

Mr. Luc Sylvain, who is a very reliable person, estimates the number of salmon that spawned in those two channels last year at not less than a hundred; and he has since been able to verify his estimate by frequent observations made last autumn through the new ice, which, being transparent, as is well known, admitted of his not only counting the fish, but also seeing them on the spawning beds, in the act of protecting the ova from the well-known voracity of the trout.

The River Rimouski has certainly been very effectively protected for some years past, and it is in a fair way to be new stocked with the kind of fish that formerly frequented it; and these good results are partly due to Mr. Sylvain, who, being the lessee of that river for fly-fishing, is interested in preventing any fishing prohibited by law from being carried on there.

The spring had been so cold and backward, and the north-easterly storms so violent, that herring had only just appeared when we arrived at Rimouski, but it had come in such numbers that one thousand barrels had already been taken.

As for shad, only a small quantity had been seen as yet.

On the 22nd we sailed from Rimouski with an east wind, which soon changed into a violent storm, and we were obliged to bring to under the lee of Barnaby Island, after having had our jib-boom broken.

On the morning of the 25th we set sail again, with a light westerly breeze, and on the following morning we anchored off Pointe des Monts.

On that day I saw Mr. Comeau, the Fishery Overseer for that part of the coast, and delivered to him the letters and papers addressed to him from the Department.

I settled my accounts with that officer and arranged all the affairs connected with his duty; and, after having put on board of a schooner bound for the River Moisie the Fishery Overseer for that locality, we sailed for Cape Chat on the morning of the 27th.

I appointed a Fishery Overseer for that river, in pursuance of orders from the Department; and, after having made arrangements with Mr. Louis Roy for the construction of a fishway at the Messrs. Price's mill-dam, in case those gentlemen should not themselves cause one to be constructed, I went to Ste. Anne des Monts, where I also placed a Fishery Overseer.

The instructions I gave to these Fishery Overseers were, so to speak, copies of these I

had myself received from the Department on the subject of River Fisheries; I enjoined them especially to watch over the spawning beds, and to prevent fishing by torch-light.

Herring had appeared on the 28th of April, and the codfishing had only just begun. As to caplin, none had yet been seen on the coast.

That night we sailed from Ste. Anne des Monts, and the next morning we arrived at Fox River, which I visited, as well as Cape Rosiers and Grande Grève, and in the evening we got to Gaspé Basin.

Nothing remarkable had happened on that coast. The spring was backward and the cod-fishery but indifferent. Herring, on the contrary, had been abundant, and a comparatively large quantity had been salted for use in winter.

Complaints were made on all sides of the scarcity of seed grain and potatoes, and I regret very much to have to record in this Report the fact, that several pieces of land were left unsown in consequence, and that fears were entertained of sufferings from want in the ensuing winter, even greater than in the winter which had just ended. (And that is what, unfortunately, did happen.)

There were only seven vessels, as yet, in the port of Gaspé.

On the 29th and 30th, I was employed in granting licenses for the salmon fishing stations in Gaspé Bay and the rivers which discharge into it.

Salmon fishing, which had been begun for about a week, was yielding moderate returns. Mr. Joseph Eden, Jr., the Fishery Overseer for this division, had no contravention of the Fisheries Act to report.

Mr. Lowndes, the lessee of the North-west Arm, had had three keepers on that stream the year before, and it did not appear that any salmon had been speared there. He proposed if the Government would assist him in that useful enterprise, to blow up the rocks which cause the falls on that river, and thus remove an insurmountable obstacle to the ascent of salmon into the upper parts of the river and into its tributaries.

There is no doubt that if those obstacles were once removed, the re-stocking of that river would take place on a scale so much larger than the present, that the result would be most satisfactory; and this would more than compensate for the expenditure by the Government of a few hundred dollars in these indispensable works.

On the 30th I went in the schooner to Donglastown to grant fishing licenses. Salmon fishing was then only beginning at that place.

In Gaspé Bay, cod-fishing had been but indifferent until then, although bait in the shape of herrings was sufficiently abundant there.

In the afternoon I visited Point St. Peter and Malbaie, and found all well at both places.

I gave fishing licenses for the *Barachois* and *Coin du Banc*. Salmon fishers were succeeding pretty well in those places.

On the 2nd of June, in the morning, we arrived at Percé. I visited the fishing establishments in that place, and found everything in good order.

I ascertained that cod had made its appearance on that part of the coast about the 1st of June, and that there was plenty of it. The catch of this fish had been better up to this time, than that of the year before. Herring, for bait, was also easy to obtain.

Towards evening we set sail for the Magdalen Islands. At about thirty miles from land we encountered a violent storm, which compelled us to change our course, and the next day we came to anchor at Paspébiac.

We found there fourteen vessels of different sizes, belonging to the fishing establishments of Robin & Co., and of LeBouthillier and Brothers. Some had brought fishing-tackle from Europe, while others were taking in cargoes of dry codfish for Brazil and the West Indies.

There had been a considerable quantity of caplin on the bank of Paspébiac this year, and it was computed that more than 1,000 barrels had been taken, for the purpose of being used as manure.

On the Banks of Newfoundland also a good deal had been caught for the same purpose. The cod fishing, which was only beginning on this part of the coast, was but indifferent.

On the 4th, we took advantage of a good breeze from the west and set sail for the Magdalen Islands, and on the following day we anchored off Entry Island. On the 6th,

we went and anchored off Amherst Island, where there were then twenty schooners, thirteen of which were equipped for the mackerel fishery.

In the afternoon I had a landmark placed in Pleasant Bay, to indicate the portion of that bay which should be left open, under the fishery regulations; and at the same time I caused those regulations to be posted up in all directions, in order that they might be known to fishermen who were strangers in the Province.

During the visits that I made in this bay, I found, it is true, some nets spread in the neighborhood of the line of demarcation between the waters in which fishing was allowed and those in which it was not; but as those nets had been placed there more through ignorance than from any other cause, and as the owners of those nets, on being warned, hastened to remove them, I did not deem it my duty to take proceedings against any of them.

During my stay at the Magdalen Islands, which was prolonged to the 15th, I kept a vigilant watch over the fishermen, and found that all went well.

During the month of March, large icebergs, covered with young seals, had grounded near the west and north west coasts of these Islands, and the inhabitants, taking advantage of this great God-send, had gone there and secured a large number of those young amphibious animals.

It is computed that at least 7,000 were killed in the space of a very few days only.

As for the vessels which had been to fish for seals among the ice in the Gulf, they had not been so fortunate, and had only brought back the spoils of 3,210 of these animals.

The herring fishery, on the contrary, had been very productive in Pleasant Bay, and it was calculated that 11,820 barrels had been taken by vessels from Nova Scotia, and 2,300 barrels by the inhabitants. Besides which nineteen schooners from the United States had taken 13,600 barrels. This number of American schooners is greater than that of previous years, as may be seen by my Reports.

This fish had made its appearance in Pleasant Bay on the 7th of May, and had been very numerous there. It must be said also, that the weather had been very favorable for this kind of fishing, and that the fishermen had known how to take advantage of that circumstance.

When we left Pleasant Bay, mackerel, which had made its appearance there some days before, was still to be found there in great numbers, and there was every appearance that mackerel fishing would be good there.

Codfish had been late in showing itself in these quarters, and cod fishing was not productive.

In the night of the 14th we left the Magdalen Islands, and the next day, being off Miscou, we had to anchor in a calm, and remained at anchor until the day after, when we set sail for Maria, where we arrived the following night.

Early in the morning of the 7th I landed at this place, and with the assistance of my officers I measured all the salmon fishing stations, for the purpose of ascertaining exactly their length and the distance there was between them; and I had the honor to transmit to the Honorable A. Campbell a special Report, in which all these measurements were recorded; but I may say here, that none of these stations were of the length they were estimated by the fishermen of the River Cascapedia, as appears by their petition of the 20th of March last. And, according to the information supplied by Mr. Cook, the Fishery Overseer of this District, these fisheries were, as well as he could judge, of the same length as in past years.

Finding matters in this state I did not deem it necessary to cause any of these stations to be shortened, particularly as the water is deeper opposite the coast of Maria, and that if the fishermen do not carry out their nets to a considerable distance they will be sure not to catch any salmon, for at low tide there are only from four to nine feet of water at the end of each of those nets, as I ascertained myself.

In the afternoon I went to Carleton on business connected with the salmon fishery, and the next day I visited New Richmond.

At the house of Mr. Dimock, the Fishery Overseer of this place, I met most of the fishermen of the River Cascapedia, whom I furnished with the results of the measurements I had made at Maria.

They were surprised at them, and admitted that they had been deceived by appear-

ances, for none of them had ever measured the fisheries at Maria, and at last, as none of them doubted the accuracy of my measurements, they declared themselves satisfied with the manner in which the nets were spread at Maria. Thus this affair was settled in a way that was satisfactory to both parties.

Mr. Dimock reported to me that three persons had commenced the erection of brush weirs in New Richmond Bay, but had afterwards destroyed them when he had forbidden them to continue their work and had threatened them with a prosecution.

The salmon fishers seemed to be making a good catch in the River Cascadepiac, while those of Maria were not succeeding so well as the year before; and that was owing, it was said, to the fine weather and the absence of easterly wind. The water on the beach at Maria had remained so clear in consequence that the salmon could see the nets from far off, and so escape all those snares spread in their way to the River Cascadepiac, the limit of their peregrinations by sea.

There was at Maria this year an establishment for pickling salmon, where it was expected that at least 30,000 would be put up. It was a great advantage to the fishermen, who thus found a ready sale for their fish, and, moreover, received ready money for them.

It were to be wished that there should be many establishments of this kind on the coast, not only for salmon, but for lobsters and flounders. The fishermen and the trade of Canada would gain much by it, to say nothing of that kind of work giving employment to a good number of tinsmiths and others.

It was reported that the fishing was poor at Carleton, while at Meguacha and in the River Ristigouche it was very good.

We left Richmond on the 18th, in the evening, and the next day we anchored at Paspébiac.

Since our last visit to this place a vessel had sailed from it for Barbadoes with dried fish, herring and shingles, and was to be followed by many whose cargoes were being completed.

On the 21st, we went to Port Daniel, and Mr. Phelau, the Fishery Overseer of that District, reported to me that all was well there. Salmon fishing had begun most favorably, and results even more favorable than those of last year were expected. The cod fishery, on the other hand, was only moderately successful.

The same day I visited the River Grand Pabos and the Pabos Portage, and at the latter place I met the Fishery Overseer for this locality, Mr. Nazaire Dupuis.

That officer reported to me that a few days after he received his letter of appointment he saw a caplin boat seining at the mouth of Grand Pabos River, and that thinking the act was illegal he had seized the boat and the seine, but that on reflection, not feeling sure that he was authorized by law to act as he had done in a summary manner, he had decided upon releasing the boat and the seine; and he asked whether, in my opinion, what he had done was justifiable or not?

I answered him that I saw nothing in the Fisheries Act which declared that it was illegal to take trout either in nets or with a seine in water where the tide is felt, as is the case at the entrance of the River Pabos; but that before giving him a final answer on the I subject, would like to refer to the Government, and await your decision as to the true meaning of the 13th section of the Fisheries Act.

As the trout fisheries in the estuaries of rivers have already attracted the attention of the fishermen and other inhabitants of our sea coasts, I will take the liberty of submitting to you some considerations on the subject, which are certainly not without importance.

I do not think that fishing for trout with seines or other non-prohibited engines can injure our fisheries at all, provided such fishing be carried on in waters in which the tide is felt, and at seasons when it is allowed by law.

It is well known that trout multiply with great rapidity, and that they are among the most inveterate enemies of the salmon, and it appears to me that any lawful mode of taking them should be encouraged rather than repressed; and I am not alone in the expression of this opinion. Many fishermen who have had it in their power to study the habits of the trout profess the same opinion that I do on the subject.

I submit these considerations to you in the expectation that you will be pleased to send me instructions which will serve to guide me, as well as the Fishery Overseers in this matter, and in others of a similar nature.

On the 22nd, in the morning, we went and anchored off Grand River. Mr. Simon Beaudin, the Fishery Overseer at this place, furnished me with the following information on the subject of the fisheries which are carried on here.

The salmon nets were spread as usual in the river, but as the high water in the spring had partly filled up the principal channel with gravel, and had opened others, and that in this way the course of the river had become changed in several places, it followed that several of the nets occupied a little more of the channel than the law allowed.

Mr. Hémon, the Fishery Overseer of this District, had not yet visited this river, and the Local Overseer had not yet thought it his duty to cause these nets to be removed.

I examined the locality at low tide; I took the necessary soundings and measurements, and I satisfied myself that as for the first nets they wanted but a few feet of having been set in conformity with the most strict requirements of the law, and I had them set right at once. The infraction of the law in the case of these nets was so slight, and the fishermen who owned them showed such good faith, that I did not deem it my duty to fine them.

As for Mr. Simon Beaudin's nets, I represented to him that, being a Fishery Overseer, he could not be a salmon fisher at the same time; and for that reason he consented to take up his nets and to give up his fishery. By this means the river became quite free from nets above the bridge.

Mr. Beaudin certainly deserves praise for this act of disinterestedness, and I deem it my duty to draw the attention of the Government to it.

The next station belonged to a poor widow of eighty-nine years of age, Madame J. B. Beaudin. To have fined her because, during some ten days, her nets had been spread not quite in accordance with the requirements of the law, and to have confiscated her net and fish, would have been equivalent to depriving her of the means of subsistence; therefore I thought it right to make use of the discretionary powers intrusted to every Justice of the Peace in such cases, and limited myself, for this time, to warning her that if she were guilty of a like offence another time, no excuse that she could make would prevent the law from taking its course.

On complaint made by Mr. Beaudin, a salmon fisher at that river was fined for not raising his nets on a Sunday, and the salmon he had taken on that day and his nets were confiscated.

On the 24th, in the afternoon, I went to Cape Cove, and at night we anchored off Percé.

The cod fishery was but indifferent at all these places.

On my arrival at Percé I learned that the Steamer *North American*, Captain Kerr, having on board more than three hundred passengers, was ashore, near the South Point of the Island of Anticosti, and deeming it my duty to go to their assistance, I gave orders to weigh anchor immediately and to set sail for the scene of the shipwreck. Unfortunately it was a calm night, and we made no progress until the next morning. On the 26th in the evening we reached the spot where the unfortunate steamer lay, and I went and offered my services to the Captain.

The passengers were all on shore, more or less well camped, and the crew had remained on board of the vessel. Happily, there had been no loss of life, and as the weather was very fine, there had not yet been much suffering among those passengers, among whom were several women and children.

Towards evening the Steamer *Napoleon the Third* fortunately made her appearance, and Captain Gourdeau consented to change his course, and instead of proceeding to the light-house at the East Point of Anticosti, to convey the *North American's* mails and \$200,000 in specie to Gaspé, whence the Steamer *Lady Head* would take them to Father Point, to be there put on board the steamer for England.

I saw several schooners and a good number of fishing boats near the wreck, but while we were there no act of pillage was committed.

I sent my chief officer in the long boat to cruise along the coast, and by that means I ascertained that everything was in order.

Then I placed myself at the disposal of the Captain of the steamer and assisted him in every way I could in the unhappy circumstances in which he was placed. But the chief assistance had to come from Quebec; the passengers had already been on shore for

ten days, and were anxiously expecting the steamer which was to come and rescue them from their unhappy position and take them to their destination; but the steamer so much hoped for by these hundreds of persons did not appear.

Captain Kerr, fearing that the first despatches he had sent had not arrived in time; and being desirous also of transmitting more recent intelligence, as well respecting the position of the ship-wrecked persons, which was becoming more and more sad from day to day, as concerning the state of the ship, he intrusted me with a telegraphic despatch for his owners.

I hastened to give orders to set sail, on the evening of the 27th, for Percé, where we arrived the next evening. From that place I sent a special messenger, with Captain Kerr's despatch, to Dalhousie, the place nearest to Percé, at which there was a telegraph station, and distant about 110 miles.

I learned with pleasure that the cod fishery had been profitable at Percé, and the neighbouring stations, for some time.

At Point St. Peter, also, it produced good results. In the Bay, it was but indifferent. On the 30th, we came to Gaspé Basin. The salmon fishery had become more profitable since our last visit to this place, and the case was the same at all the stations in Gaspé Bay.

On the 2nd of July, I visited Griffin's Cove and Fox River. The most perfect quiet reigned at these ports, and no foreign vessel had yet been seen there.

But the cod fishery had been indifferent until then. Nevertheless, cod seemed to have become a little more plenty within the last few days.

On the morning of the 5th, we left Gaspé Basin, and after having touched at Grande Grève, as we passed, we proceeded to Jupiter River, on the Island of Anticosti, where we arrived that night. I visited that river at once, and found all well there. The fishing was good.

The next morning, I visited the South West Point, and there I appointed Captain Salter, Fishery Overseer for the Island of Anticosti. I am told he is an intelligent man, and quite capable of discharging the duties of his office, which will be arduous, as the Island has nearly two hundred miles of coast, and the rivers in which salmon fishing is carried on are distant from each other.

The cod fishery was reported to be good in these quarters, but better on the North shore of the Island than on the south. The ten boats that were fishing at South West Point had about twenty hundred weight each.

At 9.35, A.M., we sailed for the North Shore.

At 3.35, P.M., we doubled the West Point of the Island, and that evening we anchored in Mingan Harbour.

The Fishery Overseer of the division informed me that all was well. There had not been any violation of the law there.

Salmon appeared to be abundant in all the rivers.

On the 8th, I visited Long Point; and on the 9th, the River Saint John.

Salmon was abundant in this river, also, and in the neighbouring stations. The cod fishery, on the contrary, was yielding but indifferent returns.

At Thunder River and at Magpie Bay, cod abounded, it was said, and there had been excellent fishing for some days.

At the River St. John I arrested a sailor who had deserted from the Steamer *Labrador*, which we had left at Mingan, and the same day I had him taken on board of his vessel. Soon afterwards we left for Esquimaux Point where we arrived a little before night.

At this port I received the following important information respecting the fishing:—Thirteen schooners from this port had been out seal fishing this spring, and had killed 4,448 in all. The most successful had killed 591, and others from 83 to 424.

That was doing pretty well, and four of those schooners had also been fishing for herring on the north coast of Anticosti, and had brought back 960 barrels of that fish.

Since then all those vessels had gone to fish for cod on the coast of Labrador.

About 8.30 P. M., we set sail again, and in the afternoon of the next day I visited Watsheeshoo. All was well there. Salmon was abundant in that river, and in the neighbouring rivers.

At Nabisippi, also, where we came to in the evening, all was well.

On the following day, the 11th, we arrived at Natashquan. Mr. Sylvestre, the Fishery Overseer of that Division, was at his post. In one of his rounds he had confiscated several salmon nets for contravention of the law.

There were a good many Indians at Nastashquan, and I took advantage of that circumstance to assemble them and explain to them different clauses of the Fisheries Act, which more especially relate to the salmon fishery.

I told them particularly that they were forbidden to spear salmon, more especially in the vicinity of falls and rapids and on spawning beds.

As for taking them for food for themselves and their families, when they were without provisions in their annual voyages from the sea shore towards the interior, the Department did not wish to forbid them from so doing, provided they only took what was absolutely necessary for them.

They answered me, through their chief, that they had understood what I had said, and would conform to the law. They added, that if they should be obliged to spear salmon for food, they would use caution and discretion in so doing.

Another subject that occupied my attention during this visit to Natashquan was that of fires in the woods.

For some years fires had been seen frequently in the woods along the north shore, which were already rather too open; and it was not known whether these disasters were to be attributed to accident or whether they resulted from ill-will on the part of Indians against white men.

Some time before our arrival at Natashquan there had been a destructive fire in the woods in rear of Little Nastashquan, and some Indians were accused of causing it.

I had the suspected individuals brought before me, but there was no proof to establish their guilt. They made some admissions, however. It was by accident, they said, that the fire had spread from their camp in the forest; and they ought not to be held responsible for the consequences of that accident.

I cautioned them against such acts of carelessness, pointing out to them that if any were to suffer from the destruction of the forests by fire it would be themselves, who derived the greatest part of their means of subsistence from game and fur-bearing animals that inhabited those forests.

They promised to be more careful about their fires in future; and I let them go.

The River Natashquan was full of salmon. The cod fishery was bad. Some thirty Canadian and Nova Scotian schooners had come to Natashquan for the cod fishery; but, not finding it good enough, they had soon left this place and gone further east.

I cannot close these remarks about Natashquan without bringing to the knowledge of Government the many and signal services rendered by Captain De LaPerrelle, of Natashquan Harbour, to the Fishery Overseer, Mr. Sylvestre.

This gentleman, who is one of the proprietors of a considerable fishing establishment, not only showed himself prompt to submit to all the requirements of the Fisheries Act, but, also, often placed his whale-boat at Mr. Sylvestre's disposal; and, on several occasions, he had that officer conveyed to neighboring ports, without requiring any remuneration. Mr. De LaPerrelle certainly deserves praises and thanks for the politeness and consideration he has always shown to all the officers, concerned in the protection of the fisheries, who have visited Natashquan.

On the 12th, in the evening, we left this Station, and the next day we arrived at Meccatina.

From that place I continued along the North Shore as far as Blanc Sablon, stopping at all the principal places, as may be seen by the extracts from the log-book, and granting Fishing Licenses wherever it was necessary to do so.

There we met twelve schooners, nine of which were from Esquimaux Point; one from Nova Scotia, and two from Newfoundland; in the Harbour at Sheep Bay five, four of which were from the Magdalen Islands, and the other from Nova Scotia; in Blanc Sablon Bay forty vessels, one of which was a brig, one was a brigantine, and thirty-eight were fishing schooners. Of these last, five were from Newfoundland, one was from the Magdalen Islands, and the others came from Nova Scotia; at Green Island, thirty-two fishing schooners, twenty-seven of which belonged to different ports in Nova Scotia; one was from

Newfoundland, and four were from Saint Pierre; in Bradore Bay, one schooner, from Newfoundland.

My having met so few schooners in the harbours of this part of the coast was a proof that the cod fishery had not been satisfactory. There were plenty of those fish at some points on the coast, but they would not take the bait; and the disheartened fishermen had gone to seek their fortunes further on in the Straits of Belle-Isle.

I must, however, except certain places, such as Wood Island and Green Island, where, for some weeks, the fishing had been good; but these were the exceptions.

As to salmon fishing, it was much better than it had been in the preceding years; and there was every reason to hope that the yield would be very abundant.

At Green Island, I found several French schooners employed in fishing for cod in our waters, and, on the complaint of some British fishermen, I compelled the masters of those schooners to leave off fishing, and quit our coast, which they did within a reasonable delay.

During this visit to the North Shore, I had had but few matters to settle, and few prosecutions to make; and the greatest quiet had prevailed on the coast.

At St. Augustine, in obedience to orders from the Department, I had named Mr. Matthew Kennedy, Fishery Overseer, for a certain extent of coast; and I do not doubt that this gentleman, who knows all these places well, will render service to the cause of the salmon fisheries.

On the 21st, in the evening, we left Bonne Esperance, with a fresh breeze from the east, and on the 24th, in the morning, we arrived at Percé. I found everything in order at this place. The cod fishing was pretty good there, as well as at the Stations in the neighborhood; but it was reported to be very bad on the South Shore of the St. Lawrence, from Fox River upwards, as far as Matane. We came to Gaspé Basin on the 25th. In the post office, in this port, I found a letter, directing me to repair without delay to the Port of Miramichi, to take orders from you in your capacity of Minister of Marine and Fisheries, for the Dominion of Canada. I need not add that I hastened to obey these instructions; and that same evening we sailed for our new destination, and, in spite of contrary winds during the whole voyage, we arrived at the mouth of the River Miramichi on the evening of the 27th, and on the 28th we anchored off Chatham.

On our arrival, I went, without losing a moment to place myself under your orders and receive the instructions you might be pleased to give me.

You were pleased, Sir, to honor *La Canadienne* with your presence at Chatham as well as at Newcastle, whither we went on the 31st, and all the honors due to your high rank were paid to you by all on board with pleasure and alacrity, on the occasion of each of these visits; and the Officers and seamen were glad to have this opportunity of showing to you by all the means in their power, the sincere feelings of profound respect which they entertain for you, and the very great pleasure given to them by the friendly words with which you were pleased to receive us during this visit to the banks of the magnificent River Miramichi.

And I cannot leave this subject without expressing, on behalf of my Officers and crew as well as for myself, feelings of the liveliest gratitude for the magnificent and truly brotherly reception given to us by the people of Chatham, Newcastle and neighbouring places, of which we shall preserve a most agreeable recollection.

The accomplishment, under such happy auspices, of this visit of *La Canadienne* to those parts of the Dominion of Canada where that armed Government vessel had been previously unknown, constitutes a strong proof of a friendly feeling between the people of the different Provinces.

On the voyage from Gaspé to Miramichi, we met several American schooners fishing for mackerel, but they were all outside of British waters.

The beautiful River Miramichi, which I need not describe because it is well known, abounded in salmon that year, and the quantity that had already been packed in a fresh state in tin boxes, was enormous.

This branch of industry, which is nowhere better known than at Miramichi, is very important and very profitable. It gives employment to a number of workmen, and furnishes a valuable article of export to Great Britain.

From what I could see myself of the River Miramichi, and from all the information

I received on the subject, I came to the conclusion that this river is fished to excess, not only with nets, but also with spears by torch light.

There are, it is true, regulations forbidding the taking of salmon by this last method, but they are not enforced for want of a sufficient number of fishery overseers paid by the Government for that purpose.

No one doubts that a good system of protection is highly necessary for this River, as well as for other rivers in New Brunswick; for however full of fish it may be, and however attractive its clear waters and shady banks may be to salmon, and whatever may be the advantages for the multiplication of this precious species afforded by its long course and numerous tributaries, still it is no less true that this kind of fish will greatly diminish if a stop is not put to the present too great destruction of it.

I need not enlarge on this subject: I know that it has engaged your attention for a long time.

There are important cod fisheries along the coast of New Brunswick from Escumeneac Point to Miscou. They include the stations of Tabisenta, Pocomouche, Tracadie, Shipigan and Miscou. It is off this latter station that the famous banks of the same name lie.

Cod had been rather plenty in these quarters at the beginning of the season, but towards summer it became scarce, and the yield of that fishery diminished in consequence.

These coasts of New Brunswick are inhabited by a robust and vigorous race of fishermen and mariners, who could, I am sure, prosecute the cod-fishery on the banks, and the mackerel fishery in schooners as well as the American fishermen, and I do not doubt that they would make good gains in that branch of industry. But, unfortunately, means are wanting to them, as well as to the fishermen of Lower Canada, so they cannot fit themselves out properly, and that is the only reason why fishing as a branch of industry has not in those Provinces assumed all the scope and development of which it is susceptible.

It is to be hoped that the encouragement which will be given to this important branch of national industry by the new Government, will have the effect of changing this state of things, and of placing our fishermen in a better position for turning to account the immense resources which we possess along our coast.

I do not speak of lumbering in the almost inexhaustible forests bordering on the branches and tributaries of the River Miramichi, of the considerable trade to which it gives rise, of the numerous saw mills and ship-yards that one sees in the neighborhood of Chatham and Newcastle. The ships built at Miramichi have long had a high reputation, as well as those built at the City of St. John, the commercial capital of the new Province, and I have had means of judging for myself, that this reputation which they enjoy is not undeserved.

Agriculture also has made great progress in this part of the new Dominion of Canada, and I might point to some farms that are in no respect inferior to the best one sees in the Province of Quebec, or in that of Ontario.

On the 3rd of August, in obedience to your orders, I left Chatham; that night we had to anchor in a calm at the mouth of the river, but the next day, favored as we were by a fresh breeze from the southwest, we made the Magdalen Islands and anchored at the Basin, in Amherst Island.

My first intention had been to touch at Cascumpec Bay, in the hope of there meeting with the American fleet of mackerel fishers, but when we were off that place we saw that there were but a few vessels there, and we therefore passed by, expecting to find the bulk of that fleet at the Magdalen Islands, as we did the following day. We counted more than 200 leaving their anchorage off Entry Island, most of which after doubling the west point of Amherst Island bore away towards the north-north-west in search of shoals of mackerel.

Deeming the opportunity a favorable one, we got under way for the purpose of following this fleet in order to make the presence of *La Canadienne* in the waters of the Magdalen Islands known to all the men on board of it, and also to try our speed against that of these vessels, which are the fastest sailers in the world; and I have the satisfaction to be able to inform the Government that my expectations were even surpassed, for in a run, close hauled to the wind, from the basin to Deadman Islet, we beat more than thirty of the schooners, and those did not seem the slowest of the fleet.

Evidently, *La Canadienne* had gained much, in point of speed particularly, by the improvements and changes I had made in her masts and sails.

These were certainly very important results, and favorable in the highest degree to

the accomplishment of the principal object of the mission of *La Canadienne* in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, which is, the protection of our fisheries and the enforcement of our fishery regulations.

By beating all these fishing vessels in working, and by out-sailing them, we showed their crews that we could overtake them at any time, and we thus put them on their guard and removed from them all temptation to violate our laws and commit depredations on our coasts, by destroying their hopes of impunity.

We remained at the Magdalen Islands until the 9th.

Since the 6th, we had seen but few schooners from the United States on our coasts. They had gone, no doubt, to try their fortunes on Bradley's Bank and the North shore of Prince Edward Island.

The summer mackerel fishing had been very good at the beginning of that season, but for some time past it had not been so good.

As for the cod fishery, the bad weather more than any thing else had prevented it from being profitable.

There were six schooners in Amherst Harbour, and only three in House Harbour.

There had not been any disturbance of the peace in these parts, nor elsewhere on these coasts, neither were there any complaints against foreign fishermen.

Seeing that all was well, and that our presence could be dispensed with at the Magdalen Islands, we left there to go and visit the port of Pictou, in obedience to the orders you had given me. We arrived there on the 11th.

Pictou is one of the most commodious and best sheltered ports in the whole Dominion of Canada; and the immense deposits of coal in its neighborhood give it an importance which must make it, in time, one of the richest and most frequented ports in the Dominion. But it possesses also another advantage, which is that of being situated near to the fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

It seems to me that Pictou would be a good place at which to fit out for large undertakings in the cod and mackerel fisheries.

There are excellent ship-yards there. Vessels do not cost much. Sea-faring men are numerous. With all these resources one might have hoped that fishing, as a branch of industry, would have been much followed there, as in other ports in Nova Scotia. It is to be supposed, however, that something has interfered to check the development of that branch of industry; for, according to the best information I have been able to procure, I have ascertained that there are only a few schooners belonging to this port engaged in the cod fishery; and even those, I was told, did not make much by it.

It is to be hoped that this state of things will change, and that, with the impetus given to every branch of Art and Industry by the new Government, Pictou, which already possesses coal mines and a trade in coal—together with ship-building—will add to its resources by means of the fisheries. For, I do not see any reason why vessels should not be fitted out for the cod fishery on the Banks, and for the mackerel fishery, from the port of Pictou, as well as from the Atlantic ports in Nova Scotia. It has, certainly, as great advantages for those purposes as those have; and it is certainly nearer to the fisheries.

In this port, I met the schooner *Daring*, Commander O'Brien, formerly belonging to Nova Scotia, and employed in the coasting and light-house service of that Province. She is a pretty vessel, well kept—said to be fast—and well fulfilling the object for which she was built.*

I should deem myself wanting in my duty if I omitted to mention here the kind and friendly reception given to us by the people of Pictou. The intercourse my officers and I had with a large number of persons in this pretty town was most satisfactory; and we have to thank them for the cordiality and politeness which they always manifested towards us in our intercourse with them.

The people of Pictou, who are almost all Scotch, have not forgotten the good traditions of Old Scotland. They are industrious—but they are essentially hospitable—and we shall never forget them.

* Since the above was written, I have heard that this schooner was wrecked on the coast of Nova Scotia, in a violent storm.

On the 14th, we left that port, at sunrise ; and, a little before noon, we arrived at Charlottetown.

In that port, we found the iron-clad frigate *Favorite*, commanded by Captain Shortt. This vessel, one of the finest of its kind in the British Navy, was one of those which had been detached from the British North American Squadron for the protection of the fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The interviews which I had with this distinguished officer on the subject of the service on which we were both employed in the Gulf, and also on the subject of the system of granting fishing licenses to American fishermen, were highly satisfactory to Captain Shortt and to me ; and we were agreed as to the difficulty, not to say the impossibility, of preventing American vessels from fishing in our waters, owing to the obligation which the Commanders of British cruisers were under of giving three distinct warnings to American vessels discovered in the very act of encroaching on the rights reserved to our fishermen, before being able to seize them.

At Charlottetown I had the honor of an audience with his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the Island, and I made it my duty to furnish him with all the information I possessed on the subject of fisheries in Canada, and of the system of granting licenses there to American fishermen.

Moreover, His Excellency did me the honor to visit *La Canadienne*, and I did not fail, on that occasion, to pay him the honors due to his high rank.

As the Government of Prince Edward Island does not keep any vessels for the protection of the fisheries, I was authorized by His Excellency to search any American vessel I might meet with in the waters of that Island.

The port of Charlottetown is one of the finest, the safest, and the easiest of access in all North America, and might become a great centre of the fishing trade of the Gulf. The coasts of Prince Edward Island are much frequented by fish, especially the north coast, where very good mackerel and cod fisheries are to be found ; and fishing might, it seems to me, be profitably pursued as an employment in a place where there is already a good deal of seafaring industry, and where vessels are built cheaply.

But hitherto the people of this Island, who are hard-working as well as industrious, have turned their attention to the cultivation of the soil rather than to navigation and the fisheries. I do not doubt, however, that in a few years, when the population shall have increased, and capital accumulated, a larger sphere of exertion may be embraced by them, and both these branches of industry become sources of widely diffused wealth.

Singular to remark, the house which carries on the largest trade in fish is an American house. That is the dark side of the picture, let us hope that we shall see the bright side before long.

On the 16th we left Charlottetown, and on the 18th we arrived at Paspebiac.

On the 20th we visited Port Daniel, and we went and anchored at night at the entrance of the Harbour of Shippigan.

The next day we reached Cape Cove, and after having searched several American vessels, we came to Percé on the 22nd.

On the 23rd I visited Point St. Peter, *Grande Grève*, Douglastown and Gaspé Basin.

On the 25th we left that port, and I stopped at *Anse Brillant* to search an American schooner. On the 26th I again visited Point St. Peter, and that night we went and anchored off Cape Rosier.

In all these places that I had just visited, the cod fishing was a little worse than the average.

On the 27th I stopped at Griffin's Cove, and at Fox River.

On the 29th we came to Mont Louis, where we were compelled by a heavy gale from the northwest to remain two days.

On the 31st, the wind having moderated, we were able to quit that place for Ste. Anne des Morts, which we reached on the 1st of September.

From Cape Rosier to this place the accounts of the fisheries were discouraging. There was little cod, little bait, and the weather was very bad. The fishermen had not yet taken one half of the usual average. It was very sad ; and if the autumn fishing should not be better, it was to be feared that want and misery would have to be endured along the coast.

But few American schooners had been seen in these quarters, and they had remained only a few days. No one had had cause to complain of their crews.

On that day, as I had been informed by the Honorable A. Campbell, in a letter in which he was pleased to notify me that he accepted my resignation, from the 1st September, I ceased to be the Commander of the Expedition for the Protection of the Fisheries, and in compliance with the orders I had received, I gave up the command to Mr. Théophile Tétu, who, I am happy to be able to say, possesses in the highest degree all the requisite qualities to fit him for the office he is called upon to fill.

And, before concluding this Report, which will be my last, let me be allowed to say that Mr. Tétu has served under me for six years in the capacity of assistant, and that during all that time I always found him prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties.

And if the Government would be pleased to confer upon Mr. Tétu this command, which he has exercised during two months to the satisfaction of all concerned, I pledge myself that the duty of protecting the fisheries will be in good hands.

I have still an important duty to fulfil before I close,—it is that of offering to you, Sir, my most sincere thanks for all the kindness and consideration you have shown to me, of which I beg that you will believe that I shall preserve a grateful recollection.

I conclude by recommending to your kind care and special attention the officers and men of *La Canadienne*, whose services you have been pleased to tell me, on several occasions, you appreciated.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your very humble and obedient servant,

P. FORTIN.

REPORT

OF

THEOPHILE TËTU, ESQ.,

FOR THE SEASON OF 1867.

TO THE HONORABLE P. MITCHELL,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa :

SIR,—On the first of September, Commander Fortin gave over to me the command of the Expedition for the Protection of the Fisheries, on board of *La Canadienne*.

In the afternoon, we anchored at Ste. Anne des Monts. I met there the Local Fishery Overseer, who reported to me that all was well in his division; and that, with the exception of one case, in which a fisherman had misunderstood him with regard to the setting of a trout net, no contravention of the Fisheries Act had taken place. But it was rumoured that some persons intended to go soon to the upper part of the River Ste. Anne, which is full of salmon pools, for the purpose of spearing. I took occasion, therefore, to explain to the fishermen, whom I saw here, that very strict orders had been given to the Fishery Overseer, which would be put into execution whenever any one was found violating the law; and I told the Lessees of the River that they, above all, ought to do all in their power to assist and advise the Fishery Overseer placed there by the Government; and the more so, inasmuch as they alone reaped all the profits of the salmon fishing, at that place.

The River Ste. Anne des Monts was formerly one of the most frequented by fish of all those on the South Shore; and numbers of barrels of salmon used to be taken there every year; but, in the hands of Indians as well as white men, the spear had been very destructive, thousands of salmon having been killed by means of it—besides the numbers that must have been wounded. This practice had driven away the salmon, which had always been in the habit of visiting this stream; and, in 1859, when the System of Licenses was established, this river yielded only a few salmon.

There is a change now in this respect; and it may be seen by the Statistical Tables, accompanying this Report, that the quantity taken this year is double that taken in any late year; and now that a Fishery Overseer will be always on duty here, during the season, and will see that the fish have free passage to their numerous spawning beds, we may expect soon to see the waters of this beautiful river new stocked.

The cod fishing at Ste. Anne's, as in the neighboring ports, was indifferent.

On the 3rd of September, we were at Cape Chat, where Mr. François Roi, the Fishery Overseer, had nothing to report.

In the afternoon, I went with Louis Roi, Esquire, to a saw-mill, about four miles from the mouth of Cape Chat River, to see what would be the best way to build a fishway on the mill-dam. Mr. François Roi told me that, in the month of July, he had counted at least thirty salmon at this place seeking to ascend into the upper part of this river, for the purpose of spawning, but that, finding that obstacle, they had all, after some days spent in fruitless efforts to surmount it, returned to the sea.

After mature consideration it was decided that Mr. Roi should set to work at once to

construct, as he agreed to do, at a cost of \$160, a fishway about 40 feet wide, and with a declivity of one foot in six, according to a model furnished by the Department.

After that fishway had been completed in October, I saw that it was solidly built and would answer the purpose for which the Government had ordered it to be constructed.

At all these places herring were abundant, and the inhabitants had taken advantage of that to salt them in considerable quantities.

I should have liked to have gone as far as Matane, and to have visited the stations between Cape Chat and that place, but about 11 o'clock at night such a high wind began to blow from the west that we had to hoist our sails and proceed down the river.

The next morning I visited Madeleine River and *Cap-à l'Ours*, and in the afternoon Grande Vallée.

At Madeleine River there were some trifling difficulties to be adjusted, but elsewhere all was quiet.

Several barrels of herring had been salted at these places also, but the cod fishing was much less successful than usual, particularly at *Grande Vallée*.

Having left the latter place towards evening, we were at Cape Gaspé the next morning, and I availed myself of the opportunity to visit all the small stations between Ship Head and *Grande Grève*; and in the afternoon we anchored in Gaspé Basin, where there were only a few schooners.

My stay at Gaspé Basin was prolonged to the 11th, partly on account of *La Canadienne* having to undergo some repairs, and partly because the local magistrates having several arrests to make thought it right to ask me to remain some days longer there with *La Canadienne*.

I took advantage of this opportunity to visit the oyster bed in the Basin, but after two hours' work with our drags we succeeded only in bringing up a few shells from the bottom.

I ought also to mention that, on the day after my arrival, the corvette *Sphinx*, Captain Hamilton, coming from St. George's Cove, and being now on the station extending from Cape Breton to Cape Rosier, came into Gaspé Basin.

I called upon that officer, and having shown him my instructions with regard to American fishermen, he promised me all the assistance in his power, and promised me also to tow *La Canadienne* out of Gaspé Bay if, on the day I sailed, when he would leave also, there should be a calm or a head wind; but being detained by an event which happened at the Basin, I could not take advantage of his offer.

Captain Hamilton told me he met but few American schooners near our coasts. The fact is, that our Gaspé fishermen had seldom seen so few, almost all having gone to fish at the Magdalen Islands, on the coasts of Nova Scotia and at Prince Edward Island.

On the 11th, I left Gaspé Basin for the Magdalen Islands, and on the way I touched at Percé and at Bonaventure Island. All was well at those places, but the continued bad weather had prevented our fishermen from visiting the fishing banks, and the consequence was that but few autumn cod had been landed.

On the 12th of September, at one o'clock in the morning, favored by a fresh breeze from the west-south-west, we hoisted our anchor and set sail for the Magdalen Islands, where we anchored, off North Cape (*Grosse Ile*), towards evening.

About 20 American schooners were anchored at this place, fishing for mackerel. I should have been glad to have searched them all, but a high wind and a heavy sea, together with the lateness of the hour, prevented me from going on board of more than those whose names are given in the following table:—

Name of Schooner.	Name of Captain.	From what Port.	Tonnage.	Number of men	Mackerel— barrels.	No. of License.	By whom and where given.
Annie Harris.....	Ed. H. Harris.....	Bremen (Maine).....	42	17	230	399	Port Mulgrave, V. Wallace.
C. Vermont.....	A. L. Colly.....	Westport.....	46	12	120	242	do do
Rattler.....	J. McKenzie.....	Georgetown (P.E.I.)...	92	22	280	.....	do do
Eastern Light.....	J. K. Howard.....	Gloucester.....	70	16	155	455	do do
Total.....	.....	.....	250	67	785	.....	.....

Three of these schooners had licenses to fish, and, as will be seen, the fishing had been but indifferent. The captains told me there were plenty of mackerel, but they would not bite.

The next day I sold a Clergy Reserve lot. Cod fishing at Grosse Ile was indifferent. Mackerel fishing pretty good; each vessel having at the time from 15 to 20 barrels of that fish.

On the morning of the 13th we left North Cape, and at 10 P.M. we anchored off Amherst Island, having beat all the while against a high wind from the west-south-west, accompanied by a heavy sea. At this place we found 90 American schooners that had come there the same evening for shelter from the storm. I could not search them, and the next morning, the wind having changed, they all set sail, and up to the day of my departure from the Islands, the 18th, I had no opportunity of boarding them, for they kept in the offing all the time.

During my stay in Pleasant Bay, I visited, besides Amherst Island, Grindstone Island and Allright Island. At all these Islands cod fishing had been indifferent, and it was calculated that the product would be two-thirds less than that of 1866; but, in return, the summer mackerel fishing was excellent, and our fishermen had done well.

All the schooners that had left the Islands this spring, for the cod fisheries on the coast of Labrador, had returned; but, unfortunately, their voyages had not been profitable to the fishermen, the most successful among them having taken only 240 hundred weight of codfish. The fact is that those fishermen who plied their calling round about the Magdalen Islands, this summer, were much more successful than those who went to the North, and I think this will have the effect of inducing our people to prefer fishing near their own shores rather than expose themselves to the dangers of a long voyage, to return, perhaps, as this year, without fish enough to pay for the necessary outfit; and a proof of the truth of what I say is, that whereas, a few years ago, all the schooners from the Magdalen Islands, without exception, went to the coast of Labrador to fish for cod every summer,—scarcely the half of them are to be seen there now.

Some of the inhabitants of these islands who had bought Clergy Reserve lots last year, paid their second instalments, but many others failed to do so, most of them being away fishing at Grand Entry Harbour, so that I received money from seven persons only. Since my arrival here I have been informed, by a letter from House Harbour, that several others paid after my departure, but as the payments were made in specie, which it had not been possible to convert into paper, it was thought best not to send it, but to keep it until the return of the Government vessel in the spring.

It would be well that a surveyor should be sent to survey those lots, for as there are neither lines nor posts to be seen, it is very difficult to determine the positions of the respective lots.

The inhabitants did not make any complaints against the American fishermen who had come to the Islands this summer, and I have reason to believe that all was quiet after my departure.

On the 18th of September, all my business being finished, and not seeing any American schooners near the coast, and considering that I had still to go to the northward, I took advantage of a strong south-west breeze to give orders for setting sail and making for Blanc Sablon Bay, which we reached on the 20th, in the morning.

I found only five Jersey vessels there, taking in cargoes of dried codfish for the Brazilian and Mediterranean markets.

There had not been any autumn cod fishing at Blanc Sablon, nor at any place between that and Mingan ; and, to make matters worse, the herring, which generally visits this part of our coast in the autumn, had not yet made its appearance, and the season was so far advanced that the failure of that fishing also could be foreseen. And in fact it did fail, so that our fishermen, deprived of these resources would have found themselves in a very critical position and very much at a loss how to get through the hard months of the approaching winter, if it had not been that, fortunately, the salmon fishing was better than usual this year. But for this, many families, not being able to obtain credit from the traders to whom they were already in debt, would have been compelled to leave the coast and seek for the means of subsistence elsewhere.

I have since learned, with pleasure, that the Government had been so good as to send some provisions to the inhabitants of that coast last autumn. It is to be hoped that those provisions arrived there in time, and that the vessel sent with them was more fortunate than the one chartered for the same purpose in 1866, and delivered the provisions in good order and at the appointed places.

There had been a shipwreck in Eradore Bay; the vessel had been lost, but the crew had saved themselves, and the greater part of the cargo had been brought ashore.

During our stay at Blanc Sablon, I visited Wood Island, Little Harbour, Long Point, Sandy Bay and Bradore Bay. Order reigned in all those places.

On the 22nd we set sail, and that night I was at *Bonne Espérance*, which, as well as Salmon Bay, I visited. Not a single barrel of herrings had been salted at the posts between Bradore Bay and Bonne Espérance, and the cod-fishing had been very bad ; the salmon fishing alone had been favorable for the people at these places.

On the 23rd I left Bonne Espérance, and that night I was at St. Augustine, where we had the good fortune to be able to anchor before the close of day ; and very good fortune it was, for in the night the wind began to blow from the north-west, we had a storm which lasted two days and two nights.

There I met Mr. Kennedy, the Fishery Overseer, who informed me that the salmon fishing had been much better than usual, and that there had not been any contravention of the Fisheries Act in his division.

On the 26th, in the morning, we set sail for St. Augustine with a north-east wind, and that day I visited the Whale's Head at Pacachoo, *La Tabatière*, Red Bay, and the Whale's Head at Mecattina.

At *La Tabatière* and at the Whale's Head at Mecattina the cod fishing had been pretty good, but the fishermen were afraid they would not be able to obtain flour and clothing in exchange for their fish, for they knew the Nova Scotia traders would not come there (none of them daring to infringe the Customs Acts this year), and they knew also that Canadian traders did not much like to receive small cod-fish for their flour. They did not, therefore, very well know what to do do ; and after all, they seemed to be but little better off than their brethren who had not taken any cod.

In the evening of the same day we left Whale's Head at Mecattina, and sailed, with a good wind, for Natashquan, where I was to take on board the Fishery Overseers of Natashquan and Watsheeshoo, where we anchored on the 27th, in the evening.

The Fishery Overseer at Natashquan having informed me that a certain person whom he had fined for a contravention of the Fisheries Act, had not chosen to pay the fine, I caused the person to be arrested, and he paid the amount at once.

The cod fishing at Natashquan had not been very good, nor yet very bad, and the same remark will apply to Kégasca.

Schooners from these two places had returned from cod-fishing, bringing but few fish ; the most successful of them having only 250 hundred weight.

The Fishery Overseers for Natashquan and Watsheeshoo, reported to me that no Indians had speared fish in their divisions, and that the rivers were full of salmon at the spawning season.

On the 29th, in the morning, the wind being south-east, we sailed from Natashquan for Esquimaux Point, which I visited the next morning ; and in the afternoon we anchor-

ed in the Harbour of Mingan, where we remained until the 2nd of October, being detained there by a storm of wind from the east-north-east.

I took on board the Fishery Overseer of this harbour, who told me that a salmon had been speared here by an Indian this summer, but that hunger had been the cause of the deed. I shall refer to this at greater length under the head of "spearing," in my general remarks attached to this Report.

On the 2nd of October I left Mingan, and on the same day I visited the establishments at Long Point, River St. John and Rambler's Cove. At these places both the summer and autumn cod fishing had been much better than at other places on this coast, and our fishermen appeared to be very well satisfied with the results of their labor.

The salmon fishing also had been good, and, altogether, it had been many years since there had been such good fishing in St. John's River.

At the last-named post I met Mr. Beaubien, the Fishery Overseer, who told me that all was well in his division, with the exception of some trifling differences between the fishermen, which I settled amicably.

In obedience to orders from the Department, Mr. Beaubien had gone far up the St. John's River, accompanied by a miner, and had succeeded in blowing up a rock of several tons weight, which had until then presented an almost insurmountable obstacle to the ascent of salmon to the spawning beds of this beautiful river, and in the attempt to get over which, thousands of that fish had lost their lives; for when the water was low there was to be seen below the rock in question, a cavity several feet in diameter, and five or six feet deep, which was invisible when the water was high, and into which fell all the poor salmon that did not succeed in leaping the rock, and once in, they could not get out, and soon died, or became a prey to the bears who, when the water was low, ventured as far as this spot, called the *Chaudière*, and devoured all the fish to be found there.

On the occasion of his expedition to the *Caudière*, Mr. Beaubien found from twenty-five to thirty dead salmon in it, and the remains of many more on the rocks around, whither they had been dragged by the bears. The effect of the blast has been such, that salmon will now be able to ascend it without danger, the whole of the side of the *Chaudière* having been blown away.

As Mr. Beaubien had finished his work at St. John's River, and the fishermen had almost all left the North Shore, he took passage on board of *La Canadienne*, and on the 3rd of October, in the afternoon, we anchored at Thunder River, which I visited, as well as Duck Creek.

Cod fishing was pretty good at these places.

We were prevented by fog from leaving this place until 4 P. M., and at 6 P. M. we arrived at Sheldrake Island, where, just as I was going to land, the wind suddenly began to blow from the west with such force, and such a sea got up, that we were obliged immediately to take in sail and make for the South Shore. At 7 P. M. we left Sheldrake Island, and at 2.15 A. M. on the 4th, we were at Fox River. That night was one of the roughest of the season, and we were obliged to pump all the time.

But for that storm I should have gone as far as Seven Islands, and visited the fishing stations between Sheldrake Island and that place.

On the 4th, in the afternoon, we anchored in Gaspé Basin, where there were only a few vessels.

I found nothing new at Gaspé. Some whalers had returned, and seemed well content with their voyages.

On the 7th, after having taken in water and provisions, and had some repairs made to *La Canadienne*, we left Gaspé Basin for the Bay of Chaleurs. On that day I visited *Grande Grève*, Point Peter's and Percé, where we anchored in the afternoon.

At all these fishing stations the autumn cod fishing was very poor, not for want of those fish on the banks or even near the coasts, but because the fishermen could not go out, being prevented by the winds which prevailed continually this autumn on our coasts. But for that the fishing would have been very good, for on the few occasions when the boats were able to get to the banks they brought back from 12 to 15 draughts of cod.

On the 8th we left Percé, and that evening we anchored at Grand River, after having touched at Grand Cove, and on the 9th, in the morning, we were in Paspébiac

Roads, where I counted six Jersey vessels taking in cargoes of dried cod. At all these places the fishing was but indifferent; at Newport, it was better, they said.

On the 10th, in the afternoon, having finished my business at Paspébiac, and the wind coming round to the north-east we set sail, and being favored by a fine breeze, we found ourselves next morning at Carleton, where I went on shore for some hours, and the same evening we anchored up the River Ristigouche, opposite Mission Point.

There, I remarked with pain, that some salmon fishers belonging to New Brunswick, had not yet removed from the River Ristigouche the stakes they had used in making their fisheries, which obstructed the course of the river.

Next day there was a north-easterly storm with rain and hail. On the 13th, in the afternoon, the wind coming round to west-north-west, we left Mission Point, and in the evening we anchored at Carleton, which we left next morning for Maria, and came and anchored the same evening at New Richmond.

At Maria, I met Mr. F. Cook, and at New Richmond, Mr. M. Dimock, both of whom told me that no contravention of the law had taken place since the last visit of *La Canadienne*, that the salmon fishing had been much better than usual, and that our rivers had been visited by a great number of salmon during the spawning season.

I could not leave on the 15th, having to arrest a man at New Richmond, but on the 16th, in the morning, we set sail, and in the afternoon I landed at Grand Bonaventure, where I found the fishing pretty good, some boats having brought in that day from 100 to 500 codfish.

The fishermen baited their hooks with smelts, which they found in great quantity at the mouth of the river.

The same evening we anchored at Paspébiac, which we were prevented by a calm from leaving until the day but one after.

At ten o'clock in the morning of the 18th we were in the harbour of Caraquette, and I sent a boat at once under the command of the chief pilot to the oyster-beds, and the same evening the oysters intended to be planted at Bic, were on board.

Next morning, we left Caraquette, and on the 20th, at eight o'clock in the morning, I landed at Percé, where the fishing continued bad, and where, apart from that, there was nothing new.

In the afternoon we sailed for Gaspé Basin, where we anchored the next morning.

I found at that place 9 vessels loading with dried cod for the Brazilian and European markets.

I remained at Gaspé Basin till the 23rd, and during that time I settled accounts with the different merchants there, took in provisions, dragged for oysters, and unfortunately ascertained that they had not been able to live in the waters of the Basin, and gave assistance to George Dumaresq, Esq., J. P., who, during my stay in this port, had had several difficulties to settle, among others a case of theft on board of a schooner loaded with goods from the wrecked vessel *Ardenlee*.

I arrested the accused, and in the afternoon, after Mr. Dumaresq had concluded the examination, I left Gaspé Basin with the prisoner and lodged him the same evening at the *Chaol* at Percé. I left again next morning, the 24th. In the afternoon I anchored at Malbaie, which I visited, as well as Point Peters, where I found the fishing indifferent.

The next morning, at the *Barachois*, I arrested a man accused of having fired at an ox. After the examination, which took place the same day, the wind being from the north-east, we left Malbaie; but it was not till the 26th that we anchored at Fox River, where I remained until the 28th. The autumn fishing was very poor there also.

I had gone to Fox River for the purpose of affording armed support, if necessary, to Charles Fox, Esq., of the Customs at Gaspé, who had been sent there by the Collector at that port to see to the landing and storing of goods from the wrecked vessel *Ardenlee*. But as all was going on well then, and I was desirous of going, as soon as possible, to Magdalen River and *Ste. Anne des Monts*, at which places I was wanted, and as Mr. Fox said he could dispense with my services, I left Fox River on the 28th, in the morning.

I have since learned that, immediately after my departure, people from different places on the coast, no longer fearing a visit from *La Canadienne*, flocked to the scene of the shipwreck, and, in spite of express prohibitions from the owners of the vessel, who were there at the time, took possession of a number of things, and even that one of them

had been arrested and was to be tried at the next Criminal Term for the County of Gaspé, at Percé.

Although I left Fox River with the expectation of being able to go to Magdalen River and *Ste. Anne des Monts*, and thence to the River Moisie and the Seven Islands, I was prevented from going to any one of those fishing stations by a strong head wind which sprang up on the 29th, so that I made for Old Bic, fearing that if I did not take advantage of a fine breeze from the north-east on the 30th, I should risk having to keep the oysters destined to be planted at that place too long on board of *La Canadienne*.

On the 30th, in the evening, we anchored off Old Bic, and the next day, after having carefully sounded both the Bay there and that at Cap à l'Original, I found two spots where the bottom consisted of mud and sand, and there I deposited my oysters, twenty-five barrels in each of those Bays. They are in from one and a half to two fathoms of water at low tide. I shall treat of this at greater length in my Concluding Remarks.

I took advantage of the calm in the afternoon of the 31st, to visit Rimouski, where I heard that neither the herring fishing nor the sardine fishing had been so good this year as in 1866. The salmon fishing, on the contrary, had been better, and Mr. Luc Sylvain, whom I met, told me that thirty-six salmon had been taken with the fly in the River Rimouski, and that in August and September he had observed there a great number of little salmon, of three or four pounds weight; and I have since learned that at least two hundred couples spawned in that river this autumn.

Mr. Sylvain, who had paid special attention to the protection of salmon in this stream for some years, has reason to be proud of the successful results of his exertions.

On the 2nd of November, in the evening, we left Old Bic for Quebec, and we should have reached that port without having the slightest damage to record if it had not been for an accident,—fortunately not a fatal one—which happened to us that evening, and which was occasioned by want of skill, care and watchfulness on the part of the crew of a schooner who allowed her to come into collision with *La Canadienne*.

On the 3rd we anchored in the stream off Quebec; three days afterwards the crew were paid off, and on the 16th *La Canadienne* was towed into the Palais harbour, where she passed the winter.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

With the exception of the accident which happened in the Traverse, where there was a collision between *La Canadienne* and another schooner, the cruise of *La Canadienne*, which, as may be seen from the extract from the log-book, lasted five months and a half this year, was a most prosperous one, notwithstanding the many gales of wind along the coasts of the Gulf in the spring and in the autumn, which we did not always escape.

We were not able to leave the port of Quebec until the 17th of May, being delayed by the late breaking up of the ice at the mouth of the River St. Charles, and also having to wait several days for our sails, which could not be completed before that day; the consequence of which was that the cruise was a little shorter than usual this year.

Nevertheless, during that time we succeeded in making three visits to the Magdalen Islands, two to the coast of Labrador and the North shore, one to the Island of Anticosti, one to the South shore of the River St. Lawrence, two to the Bay of Chaleurs, and one to New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Some hundreds of schooners also, belonging to the United States, to the Provinces, &c., were searched, as well on the coast of Labrador as at the Magdalen Islands and in the Bay of Chaleurs.

The greater number of the American schooners engaged in fishing for mackerel, which we boarded, were furnished with fishing licenses; but I see by a list furnished to me by J. Fraser, Esq., Collector at the Port of New Carlisle, that of 108 American schooners which anchored this summer at Paspébiac and New Carlisle only 69 had licenses. It is true, however, that all these schooners were not engaged in fishing for mackerel, several of them being engaged in fishing for cod on the banks of Miscou and elsewhere.

It is also to be observed that, the mackerel fishing not being so good this year as it was in 1866, while the price of licenses was double what it was in that year, the American captains, fearing to make bad voyages, and wishing to avoid all unnecessary expense,

hesitated to pay for licenses, and preferred to remain fishing near the Magdalen Islands, where they have a right to fish, and beyond three miles from the coasts of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Gaspé, rather than to procure the privilege of fishing elsewhere by paying one dollar per ton for licenses. I should suppose, therefore, that fewer fishing licenses have been sold this year by the Canadian Authorities to American fishermen, but I cannot affirm that such is the case.

As may be seen by the Report, the best possible understanding continued to subsist between the foreign fishermen and our own throughout this season ; no complaint arising out of any difficulties between them was made, that I know of, to any magistrate, and our fishermen were able to devote themselves to their occupations without any fear of being disturbed or molested in their pursuit of the same.

It is rather among our own fishermen that difficulties occur; and magistrates were obliged to have recourse to *La Canadienne* several times this year, particularly at Gaspé, when it became necessary to make some arrests.

In fact it is, so to speak, almost impossible for them to have a warrant executed and bring a prisoner before them, not having the necessary force at their disposal ; and it is only when we arrive that the law can have its course ; and if it were not for this armed force, it would often happen that the guilty would go unpunished. The difficulty has always been for the magistrate on board of the Government vessel to transport himself at the proper times to the different places where his services have been required. At one time it was a calm, at another time it was a head wind that prevented him from getting there, and during the delay the guilty might escape. This very autumn I could not, on account of the wind, go to two places on the South shore of the River St. Lawrence, namely the River Magdalen and *St. Anne des Monts*, where my presence was absolutely required. A little later I was written for, after my departure from Fox River, to go to the wreck of the *Ardenlee* at *Petit Cap* ; the letter did not reach me, it is true, but even if I had received it, with a sailing vessel I could not have gone there.

But, all things considered, the cruise of *La Canadienne*, with these few exceptions, has given satisfaction, I think, to our own fishermen, as well as to the foreign fishermen who have visited our coasts ; and our laws have been obeyed in our seaports and along our shores, as well as could have been expected considering the extent of coast *La Canadienne* has to watch over.

REMARKS UPON SOME OF OUR SEA AND RIVER FISHERIES.

FISHING FOR MACKEREL FROM SCHOONERS.

A branch of business much followed by the greater number of American fishermen for some years past, is that of fishing for mackerel from schooners. Every year, during the months of July, August, and September, and during part of the month of October, schooners from the United States resort for that purpose to the coasts of the Magdalen Islands, where these fish are always found in great numbers during the spring and summer, and to the Bay of Chaleurs, the River St. Lawrence, as far up as Seven Islands, and the coasts of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, and Prince Edward Island. There were, it is said, 500 in the waters of the Gulf this summer, the town of Gloucester, alone, sending out nearly 400.

It would be difficult to estimate the profits of this fishery, but it is very certain that they must be considerable, and much greater in proportion than those of the codfishery; and a proof of this is that whereas formerly numbers of American schooners were to be seen fishing for cod on the coast of Labrador, few are to be seen there now, and this year we counted only two.

American fishermen must, then, have come to the conclusion that mackerel fishing is far preferable to cod fishing. And it is for this reason that a number of companies have been formed, and have fitted out, for the mackerel fishing, what I will venture to call the finest schooners in the world. These little vessels, manned, generally, by from 15 to 20 men, all of whom share in the profits of the fishery, are built on the newest models and are therefore fast sailers; and it is necessary that they should be so in order that the fishermen may approach the shoals of mackerel as quickly as possible. A slow sailing schooner would not answer the purpose. The above number of men can, when the mackerel bite well, take 50 barrels of these fish, with hook and line, in one day, as has often happened at the Magdalen Islands.

It is true that it is not always so, and that often the result is quite different. This year, for instance, the American fishermen have had but little success, not because mackerel were scarce on the coasts of Canada, for seldom have they been seen in such quantities, and, according to the fishermen's accounts, they were abundant; but, on the other hand, they would not take the bait, and all the well-known skill of the Americans was baffled by this new whim of the fish. This, however, lasted only during the months of July and August, and towards the end of September the fishing became better, though it was not very good, for at the end of October, according to information procured on the spot, these schooners had only taken, on an average, about 150 barrels of mackerel each, making 75,000 barrels between 500 schooners. This is but little, considering the amount of capital employed in the equipment of so great a number of vessels. But failure in this fishing seldom happens, and even when it does take place the American fisherman compensates himself for what he may have thus lost, by fishing for cod on the great banks during the winter, an advantage which our fishermen have not, it is true, but the absence of which is made up to them by their being so near the shoals of mackerel.

The American companies, formed for the purpose of fishing for mackerel, have from 9 or 10 to 20 schooners each; half of these may do well, while the other half may not be so successful; but on the whole, the shareholders still find their profit, for mackerel always sells well, especially in the United States.

It is true that our fishermen would not have the same advantages nor realize as considerable profits as the American fishermen, in consequence of the duty on mackerel imported into the United States by foreigners being so high; but, could not that fish be exported to other countries? And, if for some years past our merchants in the Bay of

Chaleurs and Gaspé Bay have made money by sending salted herring to Barbadoes and Bermuda, would they not find it to their advantage to introduce there a fish that is more than twice as good?

For some years past this new method of fishing for mackerel has been adopted by some fishermen from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and they must have found it suited them, for they increase from year to year the number of schooners they employ in that way. Why should we not do the same thing? And why should not our merchants of the Bay of Chaleurs, and other parties in the Province of Quebec, form themselves into companies for the purpose of fishing for mackerel, in the same way as the American fishermen? If the latter succeed, as it is proved they do, why should not we succeed? One thing is certain, and that is, that the American fishermen themselves admit, that those of our Acadian and Canadian fishermen who have practised this mode of fishing from on board of their own schooners, have been very active and skilful at it.

Now, we must find some one who will devote himself to this branch of industry, and that person once found, all will go well, and we shall be able, like others, to enjoy what this fishery must necessarily bring us.

And what advantages we have over the American fishermen! Mackerel abounds close to our shores, at our very doors, it may be said; we are not obliged, like them, to go a long way to find it; it is near to us, and we have but to stretch out our hands and take it; and for all that foreigners, instead of us, profit by these riches of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. An effort should be made, and we should, without longer delay, apply ourselves to this new branch of industry, and share its profits with our neighbours.

SPRING HERRING FISHING.

At the Magdalen Islands, in the County of Bonaventure, at Maria and at Carleton, this fishing was carried on last spring on a larger scale than for some years past, and it was remarked, with pleasure, that a new firm, Messrs. Petrey, Robertson & Co., from Ireland, set up two establishments for curing herring, one at Maria and the other at Carleton. This company paid the fishermen 2s. 6d. per barrel for round herring fresh from the hook, and 10s. per barrel for packed herring, and proposed to export the fish to the Mediterranean markets.

This will be, I think, the first appearance of our Bay of Chaleurs herring in that quarter. It is to be hoped that this experiment will succeed, and that in consequence, a market will be found there for this fish, which is generally found in such abundance along our shores. As it is not very fat in the spring it will be found preferable to the Labrador herring, which would not keep in those hot countries; and since it will not do for us to export that fish to the United States, seeing that we have to disburse, over and above the price, commission and freight, 5s. for every barrel exported thither, we shall perhaps, have the good fortune to be able to sell to greater advantage in those markets, so well known to our Gaspé merchants.

PORPOISE FISHING.

A company was formed also this spring, for the purpose of taking porpoise in nets, that fish having frequented the Bay of Chaleurs for some years.

Nets were first set near the shoal at Carleton, where those fish were in the habit of coming daily, and a porpoise was taken the first night, although the stretching of the net was hardly completed. This seemed a good omen, but unfortunately this state of things did not long continue, and in a few days, it seems, these fish had either almost entirely disappeared, or avoided approaching the nets in such a way as to expose themselves to the danger of being taken.

Some of the people employed by the company attributed this disappearance of the porpoise to the too great quantity of herring nets set in Carleton Bay, and also to the almost constant coming and going of schooners there; and in order to avoid these obstacles the company decided upon ceasing to set nets at Carleton, and caused a fishery to be built a little above Dalhousie, but on the Lower Canada side of the river.

Some time after the new fishery was completed, from 150 to 200 of these fish entered its enclosure in one day, and if it had not been for a mass of sea-weeds pressed by the

force of the current against the fishery until a part of it gave way, and left an opening for the escape of these prisoners, the company would on that occasion, have been re-imbursed all its expenses of outfit, for each of these fish is worth from \$80 to \$100; but this experiment did not prove more successful than the other, and it appears that only three or four porpoises were taken in the whole season.

It is said, however, that the company are not disposed to abandon the enterprise, and will recommence operations next spring. But these fish are so cunning and so timid in approaching objects they are not familiar with, that it will always, I think, be difficult to take them. Hitherto the best and most successful method of catching them has been that employed for a number of years by the fishermen of River Ouelle and *Isle aux Coudres*, namely, in brush weirs; but these could not be used in the Bay of Chaleurs for want of tidal currents, and nets had to be used instead.

WHALE FISHING.

The port of Gaspé is the only one in Canada that dispatches, as it has done for many years, schooners fitted out for the express purpose of whale fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. At first these enterprises were highly profitable, whales being numerous and readily allowing themselves to be approached by the harpooner.

Now, however, both these conditions are reversed—but few whales visiting our coasts, and those being so timid that often it is only after having rowed for days in all directions, carefully following the movements of a whale, that the harpooner succeeds in dealing it a blow.

This year, for some reason or another, whales seem to have been more numerous, and what was better still, the weather was favorable to our fishermen during the whole season. Accordingly they gave themselves up with the greatest ardor to the pursuit of these animals, as well on the coast of Labrador as on those of Newfoundland and Gaspé, and they succeeded in taking a much greater number than usual, as may be seen by the following table:—

SCHOONERS FROM GASPÉ BASIN, EMPLOYED IN WHALE FISHING IN 1867.

Name of Schooner.	Name of Captain.	No. of tons.	No. of men.	Whale Oil.	
				Barrels.	Gallons.
Admiration.....	Joseph Tripp.....	46	15	200	6,000
Violet.....	Henry Suduard.....	37	15	180	5,400
Rambler.....	Charles Stuart.....	51	15	170	5,100
Highland Jane.....	John Aseah.....	64	15	237	4,110
Breeze.....	William Harbour.....	45	15	80	2,400
Lord Douglas.....	James Baker.....	58	15	96	2,880
Total.....		301	90	963	25,890

The yield of this year's fishing was therefore nearly equal to that of the last two years put together; only 14,420 gallons of oil having been brought back in 1865, and only 12,330 in 1866. But will our whalers always be so fortunate, and will they always return with such cargoes? I do not think so. On the contrary, I think we cannot expect to see as good results every year as those obtained this summer, particularly when we consider how uncertain a chase is that of the whale, which I may compare to that followed in the spring by the inhabitants of the Magdalen Island, when they are so fortunate as to see fields of Gulf ice covered with young seals ground near their shores.

What, then, is to be done to remedy this evil, and supply this deficiency? I answer, what ought to have been done long ago, and what was strongly recommended by Commander Fortin in his Report for the year 1865, and that is to form a company or two for the purpose of fishing, or rather hunting, for whales in the Northern Ocean, and off the coasts of Greenland. There those animals are still to be found in great numbers; and the Gaspé whalers, with their well-known experience and activity, would be sure to do

well there, and their vessels would come back not with their 200 but with their 1000 barrels of oil. That would be something worth while in the way of whaling; but to go and pass a couple of months off the coast of Labrador, and return to Gaspé with 25 or 30 barrels of oil, as has unfortunately happened to some, cannot be profitable to our whalers. On the contrary, it must be injurious to their interests, as well as to those of their outfitters.

The only thing they can do to recover themselves is to go to the North Seas in search of whales, for there are not whales enough now in our waters to give employment to our Gaspé whalers. I do not shrink from repeating once more, that no reliance is to be placed on the results obtained this summer. Those results have been good because by chance the weather was fine, and because whales were more plenty than usual; in another year the weather may be fine, but the whales may be wanting, or *vice versa*.

We cannot, therefore, depend upon that fishing in the waters of the Gulf, and we must seek elsewhere for the means of rendering it certain and profitable.

PROTECTION OF SALMON AND TROUT.

All have observed with pleasure the care taken lately by the Government to protect salmon and trout, by passing new laws, and by appointing Fishery Overseers wherever required; and, thanks to the means employed, the Fishery Act has worked as well as could possibly be expected, particularly in a country like ours, in which the great extent of coast requires more than ordinary oversight.

In the first place a special law was required for the Indians. Their usages are not those of the white man to suit whose ideas also different laws were required. In all this the Government had the good fortune to succeed, so that now it may safely be said that the end it had in view has been obtained, and that our two finest kinds of fish, the salmon and the trout, which had for a certain time almost ceased to frequent our southern and northern rivers, owing to their being harassed by the spear of the Indian and the too numerous nets of the white men, have begun to revisit their former spawning beds and to new-stock our numerous water-courses. Besides the spear, the nets and the weirs, there were other obstacles to the ascent of the salmon to their spawning beds. What were these? First, the absence of fishways on the dams across the streams frequented by these fish, and next, the throwing into the water of saw-dust, "slabs" and "*croûtes*," from the mills on those rivers.

This year a change took place. The owners of the mills at Rimouski, Métis and Matane, conforming themselves to the law with the greatest good will, have managed the internal arrangements of their mills in such a way that no saw-dust falls into the water, and the rivers are free from all these noxious substances.

Two new fish-ways; one on the Grand Matane River, the other on Cape Chat River, will enable the salmon to spawn once more in those rivers. These passes have been made with great care, and according to the newest models.

With such precautions, we may fairly expect to succeed; and a proof that the efforts of the Government have been crowned with success is that the take of salmon is greater by at least one-third this year than in 1866, although it was very good that year.

When I think of the little River Rimouski, which five years ago could hardly boast of being visited by a single salmon, and which has seen more than 200 couples spawning in its waters this year, I may well say once more, that the Government by abolishing the use of the spear and of weirs, and by diminishing the number of nets and increasing the distance between them, has attained the end so much desired, namely, the new-stocking of our beautiful rivers, formerly so full of salmon and trout.

For this purpose even our owners of brush weirs have been subjected to regulations, and it is required by law that in each of these fisheries, in places frequented by these fish, there should be a net work, with meshes at least five inches apart, to insure the passage of any salmon left therein by the falling tide. The entrance to these fisheries must also be closed from Saturday night to Monday morning.

I may say here with pleasure that our fishermen have complied with these regulations with the best possible grace, and that they all understand that they must sooner or later profit by this system of protection.

As I shall observe under the head of spearing, very few contraventions of the Fisheries Act have taken place this year, and the fishermen in general are content, and not one of

them would now, I am sure, for any consideration, go back to the old system; and they much prefer paying for licenses which promise them protection and security, to running the risk to which they were exposed formerly of seeing strange fishermen who never fished there before, and whom, perhaps, they had never seen, fishing alongside of them. Thanks to the system of licenses, each fisherman has his own fishing ground, where he is never molested, and is always ready to take advantage of what the tide may bring him from day to day.

This system works well, I think; and it would be difficult to find a better, and unadvisable, unless there was an evident diminution in the produce of the salmon fishery, to resort to different means of taking this fish.

I might refer to several rivers in which the salmon have increased in an extraordinary manner; but I will only speak of the Grand River in the County of Gaspé, in which, two or three years ago, it was difficult to take even a few salmon with nets. This year General Davis, from the United States, took 160 there with the fly, besides the number taken by the fishermen at their fishing stations. This, it seems to me, is a most satisfactory result.

To conclude, I will add, that according to the reports of all the Fishery Overseers, as well in the Bay of Chaleurs as on the north shore, more salmon than usual visited our rivers this year at spawning time, so that we may expect a large catch in 1868.

OF SPEARING.

For some years past the Government has been doing all it can to protect salmon and trout against the use by the Indians of that destructive weapon the fish-spear.

At first, out of kindness, the Montagnais and Micmac tribes of Indians were allowed the use of the spear, and were permitted to spear both the above kinds of fish, but on the express condition that they should kill fish in that way for their own use only, and should not sell any to white people.

But it was soon found that the Indians, abusing that exclusive privilege, not only gave salmon they had speared in exchange for goods, but also sold such salmon to traders for money, and that at a very low price in most cases, for the purchasers took advantage of the law being against them to pay them as little as possible.

The Government, seeing that, decided at once that the free use of the spear should be abolished, and that the Indians should enjoy the right of using that weapon only in such places as should be indicated in licenses to be granted to them by the Department, such as the River Bersimis, in whose waters they fish with nets and by torchlight, and the River Mingan where they have also leave to set nets during the visit of the Missionaries in summer.

Except in some cases, that part of the Fisheries Act has been very well obeyed this season, both on the North Shore where there were only two cases of contravention, and on the South Shore where not a single complaint of its violation was made. The fact is, that the Government, by stationing a Fishery Overseer at *Ste. Anne des Monts* this year, prevented a great number of fishermen in that neighborhood from indulging in their unlawful habit of spearing fish; and it is to be hoped that, by the use of such effectual measures, the beautiful River of *Ste. Anne des Monts*, which flows from beyond the Chicchacs, and which has some of the finest spawning beds in Canada, will be restored in a few years to its rank as one the best stocked with fish of all our Rivers.

I have a word to add on the subject of the Indians. Their privilege of spearing salmon and trout, by the use of which hundreds of families supported themselves during summer, having been in some degree curtailed, for the purpose of allowing our rivers to become new stocked, these poor people, particularly on the North Shore, find themselves in a very precarious position, for it must not be forgotten that seal fishing and duck shooting are no longer what they were fifty years ago. White men and civilization have caused the partial disappearance of these creatures, particularly within the last few years, when our fishermen from Gaspé and Bonaventure have found out that cod abounds on the North Shore of the River St. Lawrence, and have resorted thither in crowds. Nothing frightens and drives away seals like the noise and the constant coming and

going of fishing boats; so that the take of these animals, an object of great importance to the Indians, is now rarely good.

Another thing against them is that there are seal fishing stations on the coast of Labrador, which did not exist formerly, where a certain number of these animals are taken, some of whom would otherwise, perhaps, have fallen a prey to the guns of the Indians.

Owing to these different causes the poor Montagnais has only the produce of his winters' hunting to support his family with, and often, unfortunately, it is insufficient;—and what happens then? It happens that not being able to repay the considerable advances made to him by the Hudson Bay Company, he finds himself reduced to living upon the few ducks or seals he may happen to meet with. It is then that the idea of spearing fish takes possession of him, and he may sometimes yield to the temptation. This summer five or six Montagnais families went to Anticosti to catch seals; they only succeeded in taking a few of these animals. Thinking to do better they returned to the North Shore, and arrived at Mingan almost dying of hunger. It was on this occasion that a contravention of the Fisheries Act was committed;—a salmon was speared.

In my humble opinion the only way to prevent the Indians from spearing fish would be this:—As it is shown by the reports of the Local Fishery Overseers of the North Shore, that the Indians would never use the spear if they had provisions enough, and that it is only when they have not that they have recourse to that weapon, I really think that if, in order to remunerate them in some degree for their losses, the Government would be pleased to grant to the Indians on the North Shore a larger sum of money annually, and to those on the Bay of Chaleurs agricultural implements and seed grain, those people would come to understand that the Government is friendly to them, and only forbids them the use of the spear for the purpose of allowing salmon to increase, and would no longer indulge in the use of that weapon; and in a few years, particularly on the North Shore, the increase of that fish in our rivers would repay the expense incurred for the attainment of the desired object.

While on the subject of spearing, I may mention that on my last voyage to the Ristigouche this autumn, it was reported to me that a number of salmon had been speared during the season in the upper waters of that river on the New Brunswick side. I cannot say that was really the case, but it is to be hoped that it was not; for on the Lower Canada side the authorities appointed by the Government have for some years past shown so much ability and activity in the discharge of their duties, that it would be a pity to have to admit that their efforts have been unavailing, owing to the Fishery Laws not having been enforced as strictly in New Brunswick as in Lower Canada.

OF THE CURING OF FISH.

I have much to say on this subject; for the good or bad sale of our fish necessarily depends always on the manner in which it has been cured. Until now, our dried cod from Gaspé has always brought the best price, both for the Brazilian and Mediterranean markets, because it has not been found possible to dry it so perfectly elsewhere as there.—Moreover, our merchants of the coast of Gaspé do not send to those countries any cod that has not passed through the hands of a culler, whose duty it is to see that no cod of inferior quality gets mixed with the merchantable; and it follows, that their fish have always maintained the first rank in each of those markets.

Unfortunately, we do not take the same care, or observe the same precautions, with respect to salt fish,—salmon, herring, mackerel, green cod, &c., &c. It is true, that such of these fish as are sent from the Bay of Chaleurs to the United States and to Barbadoes are subjected to inspection, and those are good; but how many are sent to Halifax, to Quebec and to Montreal that are not good, and are so badly cured as to be sold with difficulty, and with small profit to the vendor. It has happened more than once, that the purchaser of a barrel of codfish has found himself cheated by the barrel being half full of plaice or other fish. And the large salt cod, which after having been piled in the hold of a schooner, is stacked on a wharf after its arrival in town, and exposed to the dust blown about by strong autumn winds while waiting to be sold, cannot, it seems to me, appear to purchasers to be of much value.

These are the reasons, I think, for the trifling estimation in which salt fish is generally held in our Canadian markets, and for the low price it brings there. And I venture to

believe, that if the salt fish destined for our markets were inspected before leaving the Bay of Chaleurs or the coast of Gaspé, or even after, dealers in fish from Montreal and Upper Canada, observing the improvement produced by such inspection, and being sure of always getting an article of good quality to buy, would return to our fish markets, and give a higher price to our fishermen for their goods, and make business brisk there once more. There is no doubt that for the reasons which I have enumerated, our markets for salt fish has a very bad name, and it is to be hoped that a change may be effected, and that as soon as possible.

In order to understand this well, notice must be taken of the difference between our salt fish and those of the United States; their mackerel for instance, which when salted is as white as snow, and their autumn codfish put up in pretty, neat boxes, containing from fifty-six to one hundred and twelve pounds, about the quantity required by a family. This cod has been exposed to but one day's sun, or perhaps two, and is, therefore, not too hard, and just what is wanted for the table. It is with this fish that they supply the Upper Canada markets. Why have we not been beforehand with them there? Who prevented us? Is not the cod we take in the waters of the Gulf of as good a quality as that taken on the coast of the United States? It is not that; no, but the reason I think is this, that unfortunately we do not like innovations in these matters, and in the curing of fish we continue always to follow the same process; that followed in drying codfish is very good for the markets of hot countries, but as it does not answer so well for our own markets, why should we not adopt this new method of curing? For a great proportion of the autumn codfish which is sold at low prices in Quebec and Montreal markets, would have brought good prices if prepared in the manner I have mentioned. Even salmon is not salted or packed with sufficient care. I know there are exceptions to this, and that we often see well-cured salmon in our markets, but unfortunately the contrary case is of frequent occurrence.

Besides the fish I have just mentioned, there is another which has made its appearance of late years in our markets, and which is considered as affording one of our choicest articles of food, I mean the *Finnan Haddie* or smoked haddock, which comes to us from the United States, and which certainly could also be prepared by our fishermen, for it is well known that this fish comes on our coasts every year with the codfish. It cannot cost much to cure it, and it seems to me that we might find a profit in doing so, as well as our neighbours.

ARTIFICIAL OYSTER BEDS.

It has been a question for some years, whether artificial oyster beds could not be formed in the River St. Lawrence and in the Bay of Chaleurs. In order to decide this question, the Government has caused oysters to be brought from Caraquette and planted in different places—at the Magdalen Islands, in Gaspé Basin, at New Richmond, and, last year, at Bic.

For some reason or other, although the oysters were planted with all possible care, and according to the latest and most generally adopted European method, those plantations have, unfortunately, not succeeded.

There is something strange about the fate of some of these oysters. In 1859, Commander Fortin planted a certain number of barrels of oysters, from Caraquette, in Gaspé Basin; in 1862, the bed was examined, and oysters were found, full of life, and having all the well-known qualities of Caraquette oysters. It was generally thought, therefore, that the experiment had been successful. This year, however, the bed was again examined by the aid of a rake, made expressly for the purpose, and oyster-shells filled with mud and covered with black mussels (*mytilus edulis*) were brought up, but not a single live oyster was found. The branches which had been laid over the oysters, in 1859, were brought to the surface also covered with these black mussels, but without any oysters attached to them.

But, then, how does it happen that, in 1862, three years after those oysters were planted, several were dredged up near Mr. Le Boutillier's property, and on being tasted by connoisseurs were declared to be excellent, and that none are now living? Is it that the waters and the bed of Gaspé Basin do not agree with them? But, in that case, how is it that they lived for three years there, and then died all of a sudden?

Some people think that the failure of that plantation is due to the fact of the water in Gaspé Basin not being as salt as that in which those oysters lived at Caraquette; others, on the contrary, say that it is too salt; and some think that the bottom on which they were deposited is not hard enough, and has too much mud. The fact is that, at the Caraquette oyster-beds, I never remarked on the fishermen's rakes so much mud as the rake brought up in Gaspé Basin every time I used it, and this mud was black and stinking, and seemed, to me, to be different from that at Caraquette; but, after all, it may well be that the death of the oysters at Gaspé is due to other causes.

As for those planted at the Magdalen Islands, in Basque Harbor, I can not tell whether they have succeeded in living there or not, for, every time we have been there, the wind, which blows almost continually at those islands, has always prevented us from dredging in that spot; and even this summer we could only throw our dredge once, and then we were obliged to come on board again immediately.

Owing to wind and weather, also, the bank at New Richmond has not been examined.

Last year, fifty barrels of Caraquette oysters were planted in the harbor at Old Bic. In the spring of 1867, branches were placed over this bed; but when a search was made, in the course of the summer, no oysters were found. I have since learned (this autumn) that, some time after they had been deposited in that place, a north-easterly storm came on, causing a heavy swell in the harbor, by which the oysters were lifted from the bottom, so that most of them were found on the shore at Apple Island, broken to pieces on the rocky bottom of the harbor there.

The fact is that Bic is not at all a good place to plant oysters; in the first place, the bottom, which is composed of a little mud and a great number of pebbles, certainly can not be suitable for them, for no stones are to be seen on the beds at Caraquette; and, in the next place, even supposing that the bottom was good, and that oysters could live there, would there be room enough in that harbor for more than one or two schooners to load at a time? I do not think so. The bay at *Cap à l'Original* is of similar formation, and presents the same disadvantages.

This autumn, in those two bays, after having sounded with all possible care and attention, I could only find two places, of a few hundred yards in superficies, where the bottom seemed more suitable than elsewhere, being composed of mud and sand, and in those places I deposited fifty barrels of oysters—twenty-five barrels in each bay. They are in from one and a half to two fathoms of water, at low tide. Will they succeed in keeping alive there? I doubt it, very much.

For an oyster-bed to have any commercial value, it must be in such a place that fishermen can work at it every day; and that schooners coming to load may lie in safety, and take the oysters on board in all weathers. Gaspé Basin unites all these advantages; but, I think, Old Bic Harbor is too much exposed to the swell caused by the north-east wind to admit of fishing for oysters there at all times.

Seven Islands Bay, it seems to me, would be one of the best and safest, and most favorable places for the prosecution of this branch of trade, if we could only succeed in getting oysters to live there. Hundreds of schooners could load there, and seldom, I think, would the fishermen be stopped in their work by the wind.

I was told this very summer, that oysters were found some years ago on one of the many shoals in Seven Islands Bay, on which some could probably be planted. The experiment has not yet been made; but if we could succeed in establishing oyster beds there, the extent of that bay and its sheltered situation would make it a place of great importance to us.

GAME LAW.

This law has been obeyed this year all along our coasts, with the exception of the clause respecting the gathering of wild birds' eggs on the Islands off the coast of Labrador.

After the confiscation of the *Ocean Bride* and her cargo, and the imprisonment of the crew, in 1865, it was hoped that this unlawful traffic would cease; and indeed in 1866 no schooner fitted out for that purpose visited our coasts. But this year they returned to the charge, to the number of four, it is said, in the beginning of June, and dispersed to different parts of the coast, and set to work at once to collect the eggs of the different wild fowl, which they despatched towards the end of that month and in the beginning

of July to Halifax. These eggs, it is well known sell for from 25 cents to 30 cents a dozen ; and as it does not take much time to gather them, and a schooner can make the whole voyage in the short space of one month, there is a considerable return of profit for a very trifling expense in the way of outfit ; and this is what induces those people to return to our coasts on this errand, although they know the law is against them, and that they expose themselves to the risk of losing both vessel and cargo.

To put a stop to this it would be necessary that the Government vessel should remain off the coast of Labrador, cruising between Coacoachoo and Sheep Bay, from the 10th June till the beginning of July.

But the difficulty is that during that time the presence of the armed vessel is required at the Magdalen Islands, where there are at that time a number of schooners come to fish for mackerel, and off the coast of Gaspé, where fishing licenses have to be distributed, and where, during salmon fishing, fishermen are apt to commit infractions of the Fisheries Act.

Until now the crews of these schooners, which for the most part came from Nova Scotia, once out of the reach of the Canadian authorities had nothing to fear, and could sell their cargoes without any danger ; and it will only be when the game laws are the same in all the Provinces, and this traffic will be no more permitted at Halifax than it is here, that these expeditions to our coasts will cease, and that our wild fowl, left to themselves, will once more be able to increase in number, so that our islands will be stocked with them as they were formerly ; for the inhabitants of those coasts testify that these fowl are fewer in number now than they were a few years ago, and this decrease can only be attributed to the carrying away of their eggs every year by these fowlers.

The whole, nevertheless, humbly submitted.

THÉOPHILE TÊTU.

REMARKS

ON THE

FISHERIES AND THEIR PRODUCE THIS SEASON.

FIRST DIVISION.

MAGDALEN ISLANDS.

SEAL-HUNTING ON THE ICE FROM SCHOONERS.

On the 21st of March, 18 schooners, 12 of which belonged to House Harbor and six to Amherst Harbor, manned by 180 sailors, left the Islands to hunt for seals on the ice in the Gulf. There were, therefore, 4 Schooners less than in 1866, but for all that they brought back more seals, for the Report shows that only 2,434 were taken in 1866, and this year the crews of those 18 Schooners killed 3,210, so that there is an increase of 776 over 1866,—but there is a decrease as compared with 1865. In short, the results of this hunt can only be considered as middling.

It was not because seals were scarce on the ice in the Gulf that this hunt was not more remunerative; but it was the prevalence of unfavorable winds and the difficulty of forcing a passage through the ice and getting to the herds of seals that prevented our fishermen from killing a greater number of them.

SEAL HUNTING ON THE ICE AROUND THE MAGDALEN ISLANDS.

If the crews of the schooners did not succeed very well among the fields of ice in the Gulf, the inhabitants of the Islands, particularly those residing near South-west Cape, Amherst Island, had a rich harvest to gather, for fields of ice covered with herds of young seals grounded near the Islands, and they killed 7,200 with sticks in a few days. This was a great God-send for them, for want was beginning to be felt, and the traders, fearing a bad season, were not willing to advance much to the fishermen, so that nothing short of such a good stroke of fortune was required to restore the credit of the inhabitants of the Magdalen Islands.

These 7,200 seals, added to the 3,210 killed from the schooners, give a total of 10,410 of these amphibious animals taken this year in the first division. So good a hunt had not been made for a long time, as will be seen by the following table:—

In 1861.....	2,750	seals taken.
“ 1862.....	9,194	“ “
“ 1863.....	3,959	“ “
“ 1864.....	1,622	“ “
“ 1865.....	4,396	“ “
“ 1866.....	2,434	“ „
“ 1867.....	10,410	“ “

As this fishery varies in this way every year, it is easy to understand that its produce is always uncertain, and that everything depends upon the currents and winds that prevail during the hunting season, and their causing, or not causing, ice fields to ground near these Islands.

 SPRING HERRING FISHING.

Never have herrings been seen in greater numbers at the Magdalen Islands than this Spring. Not only Pleasant Bay but even Amherst Harbor was full of them, and if our fishermen had been able to find a market where this fish could have been sold at any profit whatever, numbers of barrels of herrings would have been sent to it. But a high duty on this fish has closed the ports of the United States against its exportation to that country, so that our fishermen in these Islands are unable to profit by this bountiful supply which Providence sends them every spring.

Thirty-eight foreign schooners, 19 of which were from the United States, 16 from Prince Edward Island, 2 from Nova Scotia, and 1 from New Brunswick, manned by 114 sailors, came to fish for herrings at the Islands, and carried away, in a few days, 11,820 barrels, which, added to the quantity taken and salted by our fishermen for exportation to Quebec, Montreal and Halifax, and for home consumption (3,810 barrels), gives a total of 15,630 barrels of herrings taken this spring at the Magdalen Islands.

QUANTITY OF HERRINGS TAKEN.

In 1866, by the inhabitants.....	3,816 barrels.
“ by strangers.....	7,577 “
Total.....	10,893 “
In 1867, by the inhabitants.....	3,810 barrels.
“ by strangers.....	11,820 “
Total.....	15,630 “

SPRING MACKEREL FISHING.

Mackerel, as well as herring, came in abundance to Pleasant Bay this spring. On the 5th of June some were taken for the first time in nets, but it was not until the 12th that the maximum was reached.

Fourteen Schooners, most of them from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, came there to fish for them, and had ample success.

QUANTITY OF MACKEREL TAKEN.

In 1865, by the inhabitants.....	500 barrels.
“ by strangers.....	455 “
Total.....	955
In 1866, by the inhabitants.....	1,050 barrels.
“ by strangers.....	274 “
Total.....	1,324 “
In 1867, by the inhabitants.....	634 barrels.
“ by strangers.....	2,340 “
Total.....	2,974 “

SUMMER COD FISHING.

During the last two years, our fishermen, particularly those from Alright Island and *Grosse Isle*, have applied themselves with more ardor than ever to fishing for summer mackerel with the line, as the Americans do, and have succeeded very well, and as this fish always commands a tolerably high price in the Halifax market, they were enabled by this fishing to compensate themselves for the failure they had met with in the cod fishing.

According to information, collected with care on the spot, this year's fishing has been one-third better than that of 1866, although that was very good.

This is a proof that our mackerel fishers are making progress; for, as I have already observed, the Americans had not as much success as usual in this fishing this year, because the mackerel would not come to the surface. But for all that our fishermen made a better year than usual, and took almost double the quantity taken in 1866, and more than treble that taken in 1865.

QUANTITY OF SUMMER MACKEREL TAKEN.

In 1865.....	952 barrels.
“ 1866	1,760 “
“ 1867	3,157 “

AUTUMN COD FISHING.

I have very little to say about this fishing. The bad weather and the continual storms which prevailed more than ever this autumn at the Magdalen Islands prevented our fishermen, for all their zeal and well-known courage, from applying themselves to that branch of industry as much as they would have wished. The fact is that, during three weeks, no fishing boat was able to go out; and, on one occasion in particular, several fishermen were nearly lost; and, if it had not been for some American schooners—fishing for mackerel in that quarter—picking up some boats, carried away by a storm, several fishermen would probably have lost their lives. Bad weather, therefore, and not scarcity of cod-fish, was the cause of the want of success in this fishing.

AUTUMN CODFISH TAKEN.

In 1866	1,790 cwt.
“ 1867	529 “

HADDOCK FISHING.

This fish is taken chiefly at *l'Etang du Nord* and Amherst Island. It is much inferior in value to cod, but yet it always sells, at a good profit, in the Brazilian market. This fishing was better this year, in proportion, than cod fishing.

QUANTITY OF HADDOCK TAKEN.

In 1865	435 cwt.
“ 1866	370 “
“ 1867	540 “

CODS' SOUNDS AND TONGUES.

Twenty-seven barrels.

FLOUNDER FISHING.

Sixty-one barrels of flounders were taken this year at the Magdalen Islands.

EEL FISHING.

Forty-five barrels.

STICKLE-BACK FISHING.

One hundred and fifty barrels were taken for use as madure.

RECAPITULATION.

Seal Hunting.

Seals killed by crews of schooners.....	3,210, @ \$5.50.	\$ 17,655 00
Seals killed on the ice near the islands.....	7,200, @ \$4.00.	\$ 28,800 00

Herring Fishing.

3,810 barrels, @ \$2.50 per barrel.....	9,525 00
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Spring Mackerel Fishing.

634 barrels, @ \$6.00 per barrel.....	3,804 00
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Summer Cod Fishing.

7,389 cwt., @ 18s. the cwt.....	26,600 40
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Summer Mackerel Fishing.

3,157 barrels, @ \$10 par barrel.....	31,570 00
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Autumn Cod Fishing.

529 cwt., @ 18s. the cwt.....	1,904 40
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Haddock Fishing.

540 cwt., @ 13s. the cwt.....	1,404 00
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Cods' Tongues and Sounds.

27 barrels, @ \$8 the barrel	216 00
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Flounder Fishing.

61 barrels, @ \$5 per barrel.....	305 00
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Eel Fishing.

45 barrels, @ \$8 per barrel.....	360 00
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Stickle-Back Fishing.

150 barrels, @ 1s. 3d. per barrel.....	37 50
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Cod-Liver Oil.

6,637 gallons, @ 70 cts. per gallon.....	4,645 90
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Total.....	<u>\$126,826 40</u>
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Total value of the products of the Fisheries in this Division.

In 1867.....	\$126,826 40
" 1866.....	105,067 00
" 1865.....	112,049 00
" 1864.....	86,590 05

It will be seen by this table that although the cod fishing at the Magdalen Islands, yielded less than in 1866, yet, including the summer mackerel fishing and the seal hunting, the total value of the different fisheries in this division is greater this year than

the preceding years. It must also be observed that the cods' livers were much fatter, and consequently furnished much more oil than usual; 100 quintals yielded this year 80 gallons instead of 60, which is the usual quantity.

To sum up, at the Magdalen Islands this year.

. The summer cod fishing was one-third less than in.....	1866.
The mackerel fishing was one-third better than in.....	"
The seal hunting was two-thirds better than in.....	"

SECOND DIVISION.

This Division includes the Counties of Bonaventure, Gaspé (with the exception of the Magdalen Islands), and a part of the County of Rimouski.

HERRING FISHING.

This fishing was better this year than in 1866, and if, as I have already remarked, our herring could be exported with profit to the United States, the gains from its sale this year would have been very great, for seldom has it been on our coasts in so great abundance.

QUANTITY OF HERRING TAKEN.

In the County of Bonaventure.

In 1867.....	16,280 barrels.
" 1866.....	10,887 "

In the County of Gaspé.

In 1867.....	5,059 barrels.
" 1866.....	4,202 "

In the County of Rimouski.

In 1867.....	3,180 barrels.
" 1866.....	4,180 "
Total quantity in 1867.....	24,519 "
" 1866.....	19,216 "

There is a slight decrease in the County of Rimouski; but that is more than covered by the considerable increase in the other two counties. Besides that, I may mention that instead of the 2,800 boxes of herring cured by smoking in the County of Bonaventure in 1866, we have 7,070 boxes this year.

SUMMER COD FISHING.

It will be seen by the following table that although this fishing was not very good this year, still it yielded more than it did in 1866.

County of Bonaventure.

In 1867.....	5,324 cwt.
" 1866.....	4,713 "

County of Gaspé.

In 1867.....	75,168 cwt.
" 1866.....	61,762 "

County of Rimouski.

In 1867	2,521 cwt.
" 1866	3,608 "
Total in 1867	83,013 "
" 1866	70,083 "

This gives a balance of 12,930 cwt. of cod in favor of this year, which is a good deal; and that too notwithstanding the decrease in the County of Rimouski, which is due in part to the scarcity of cod along the shores of that county this summer, and in part to the smaller number of fishermen employed this year in that part of the second division.

AUTUMN COD FISHING.

If it had not been that high winds prevented our fishermen from going to the banks this autumn, this fishing would have been very good; for every time that our fishing boats could get out they came back loaded with cod.

County of Bonaventure.

In 1867	4,880 cwt. of cod.
" 1866	4,616 "

County of Gaspé.

In 1867	26,359 cwt. of cod.
" 1866	21,591 "

County of Rimouski.

In 1867	1,550 cwt. of cod.
" 1866	1,178 "

HADDOCK FISHING.

In 1867	2,090 cwt.
" 1866	1,728 "

BRILL FISHING.

In 1867	161 "
" 1866	213 "

FLOUNDER FISHING.

Our fishermen took more flounders than usual this year in this division. It was chiefly on the South Shore of the St. Lawrence that this fish appeared in greater abundance than usual.

In 1867	761 barrels.
" 1866	487 "

MACKEREL FISHING.

This fishing was better this year than in 1866.

In 1867	368 barrels.
" 1866	181 "

TUNNY FISHING.

In 1867	10 barrels.
" 1866	10 "

 WHALE FISHING.

As I have already observed, this fishing was very good this year.

NUMBER OF GALLONS OF WHALE OIL.

In 1867.....	25,890 gallons.
" 1866.....	12,330 "

SARDINE FISHING.

For some reason that I am not aware of the sardine fishing in the County of Rimouski did not yield as much this year as in 1866. The fact is that the number of this fish, as well as of caplin and smelts, resorting to our coast varies every year.

In 1867.....	1,525 barrels.
" 1866.....	2,552 "

EEL FISHING.

In 1867.....	130 barrels.
" 1866.....	98 "

SALMON FISHING.

It is pleasing to observe the great increase of salmon in this division; and this increase is very marked since 1865, as may be seen by the following comparative statement:—

	1865.	1866.	1867.
County of Bonaventure.....	299 barrels.	424 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels.	536 barrels.
" Gaspé.....	217 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	278 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	414 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
" Rimouski.....	16 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	14 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	37 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
	<u>533$\frac{1}{2}$ "</u>	<u>717$\frac{1}{4}$ "</u>	<u>988 "</u>

Increase in 1867 270 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels.

This fishing has, therefore, been better by one-third than in 1866. It seems to me that this is a very good result of the efforts of the Government, and proves that they have not been in vain. Besides this, I may mention that our rivers were visited by a greater number of salmon than usual at the spawning season.

And by adding a fifth for the salmon that would have been taken between Saturdays and Mondays if the nets had not been raised during those intervals, as required by law, and 40 barrels more that would also have been taken if instead of 250 yards between the nets there had been only 200 as formerly, the following result of this fishing in this division this year will be shewn to have been possible:—

Quantity taken this year.....	988 barrels.
Add one-fifth.....	197 "
Lost by greater distance between the nets.....	40 "
Total.....	<u>1,225 barrels.</u>

This shows clearly that our rivers improve from year to year. I have pleasure also in being able to say that our Fishery Overseers and Fishermen have worked together for some years past, and done all in their power to secure the observance of the Fisheries Act.

TROUT FISHING.

This fishing, along the coast and in the rivers, yielded 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels this year.

SMOKED HERRING (IN BOXES).

An increase in the quantity of smoked herring is also observable:—

In 1867.....	7,070 boxes.
" 1866.....	2,800 "

 CODS' SOUNDS AND TONGUES.

In 1867.....	359 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels.
" 1866.....	200 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

FISH USED AS MANURE.

Caplin.

We never knew more caplin to visit the coasts of the Bay of Chaleurs, than this year, and our fishermen took a great number. At Paspébiac, I saw 1,000 barrels of this fish that had been taken in one night.

According to my notes and those of the Fishery Overseers, 10,080 barrels were taken this year. In 1866, we counted only 8,802 barrels.

Herring.

Four thousand one hundred and twenty barrels were used as manure. This is more than in 1866, and is owing to the large quantity of herring that came to our coasts this spring.

Plaice.

At Carleton and at Maria, only 400 barrels were taken.

Smelt.

Three thousand five hundred barrels were caught, besides the quantity taken by our fishermen for bait.

Cods' Heads.

I could not ascertain the number of cods' heads used as manure in the County of Bonaventure; 698 barrels were employed for that purpose.

RECAPITULATION.

Herring Fishing.

County of Bonaventure, 16,280 barrels, @ \$3.....	\$48,840 00
Gaspé, 5,059 do do	15,177 00
Rimouski, 3,180 do do	9,540 00
Total, 24,519 barrels.	

Summer Cod Fishing.

County of Bonaventure, 5,324 cwt., @ \$3.60	19,166 40
Gaspé, 75,168 do do	270,604 80
Rimouski, 2,521 do do	9,075 60
Total, 83,013 cwt.	

Autumn Cod Fishing.

County of Bonaventure, 4,880 cwt., @ \$3.60.....	17,568 00
Gaspé, 26,359 do do	94,892 40
Rimouski, 1,550 do do	5,580 00
Total, 32,789 cwt.	

Haddock Fishing.

2,090 cwt., @ \$2.60 the cwt.....	5,434 00
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Brill Fishing.

161 cwt., @ \$2.60 the cwt.....	418 60
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<i>Flounder Fishing.</i>	
761 barrels, @ \$5.....	3,805 00
<i>Mackerel Fishing.</i>	
363 barrels, @ \$10 per barrel	3,630 00
<i>Tunny Fishing.</i>	
10 barrels, @ \$5 per barrel	50 00
<i>Whale Fishing.</i>	
25,890 gallons, @ 80 cts	20,712 00
<i>Sardine Fishing.</i>	
1,525 barrels, @ \$5 per barrel	7,625 00
<i>Eel Fishing.</i>	
130 barrels @ \$10 per barrel	1,300 00
<i>Salmon Fishing.</i>	
988 barrels, @ \$12 per barrel	11,856 00
<i>Trout Fishing.</i>	
64½ barrels, @ \$10.....	647 50
<i>Smoked Herring.</i>	
7,070 boxes, @ 25 cts.....	1,767 50
<i>Cods' Tongues and Sounds.</i>	
359½ barrels, @ \$7	2,518 25
<i>Caplin used as Manure.</i>	
10,080 barrels, @ 25 cts. per barrel.....	2,520 00
<i>Herring used as Manure.</i>	
4,120 barrels, @ 25 cts. the barrel	1,030 00
<i>Plaice used as Manure.</i>	
400 barrels, @ 25 cts. per barrel.....	100 00
<i>Smelts used as Manure.</i>	
3,500 barrels, @ 25 cts. per barrel.....	875 00
<i>Cods' Heads used as Manure.</i>	
693 barrels, @ 25 cts. per barrel	173 25.
<i>Cod Liver Oil.</i>	
73,529 gallons, @ 70 cts	51,470 30

<i>Porpoise Oil.</i>	
240 gallons, @ \$1	240 00

<i>Porpoise Oil.</i>	
790 gallons, @ 60 cts	474 00

Total.....	\$607,090 60
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Total value of the products of the fisheries in this division.

In 1867.....	\$607,090 60
“ 1866	549,836 70

It must not be forgotten that the price of codfish, salmon and oil, was much lower than in 1866. This accounts for the difference in value of products in this division between the two years not appearing to be so great as might have been expected.

THIRD DIVISION.

This division includes the North Shores of the Saint Lawrence and of the Gulf, from Bersimis to Blanc Sablon, and the Island of Anticosti.

SPRING SEAL HUNTING.

Only 529 seals were taken this spring. This is owing to the ice having prevented our fishermen from setting their nets at the proper time. The take was less than that of 1866.

Seals taken in 1867.....	529
“ “ 1866.....	865

SEAL HUNTING ON THE ICE FROM SCHOONERS.

This year's hunt was not a good one, although it was better than those of preceding years, as the following figures will show. Nineteen schooners were engaged in it this spring; they belonged to the under-mentioned places:—

Esquimaux Point.....	13 schooners.
Natashquan.....	3 “
Kégasca.....	3 “

Total.....	19 schooners.
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NUMBERS OF SEALS KILLED.

In 1867.....	6,073
“ 1866.....	2,782
“ 1865.....	4,077
“ 1864.....	5,154

By adding to the number of seals killed in this way this year, that of those taken by the inhabitants of the Coast of Labrador during the summer, and killed by Indians and white men, which amounts to 1,963, divided as follows:—

Seals taken in nets during the summer.....	363
“ killed by Indians.....	1,000
“ “ by white men.....	300
“ “ at Anticosti.....	300

Total.....	1,963 seals.
We obtain a grand total of.....	8,036 seals.

SUMMER COD FISHING.

This fishing, though more productive this year than in 1866, was not to say good; cod appearing only at some places, as Blanc Sablon, Magpie Point, and Thunder River. At other places our fishermen could hardly take any.

QUANTITY OF SUMMER CODFISH TAKEN.

In 1867.....	27,489 cwt.
In 1866.....	22,339 "

MACKEREL FISHING.

No mackerel was taken in this Division this year.

AUTUMN COD FISHING.

I am sorry to say that this fishing was almost a nullity, seeing that only 1,512 cwt. were taken. Bad weather and scarcity of fish were the causes of this failure.

FLOUNDER FISHING.

Three hundred and eighty-six barrels were taken.

AUTUMN HERRING FISHING.

This fish scarcely showed itself on our coasts, and our fishermen were obliged to go to Newfoundland, and to those parts of the coast of Labrador which belong to that Province.

Autumn herring.....	4,344 barrels.
“ “ taken away by schooners from Quebec and the parishes.....	1,000 "
Total.....	5,344 "

AUTUMN SEAL FISHING (1866).

One thousand four hundred and twenty-six seals were taken in the autumn of 1866; but was only middling success. Cold and bad weather were the cause of this.

SALMON FISHING.

I need not repeat here that this fishing, like that in the District of Gaspé, was better here this year than in 1866, although in that year it was very good. The rapid increase of this fish is remarkable, and all those who have visited the numerous spawning-beds in the rivers of this division report that salmon have resorted thither this year in greater numbers than usual.

At the River Moisie 108 barrels more than in 1866 were taken, and the same proportion obtained at all the salmon fishing stations in this Division.

According to the most reliable accounts, 1,732 $\frac{3}{4}$ barrels of this fish were taken this year in this division. In 1866 but 1,240 $\frac{3}{4}$ barrels were taken. There is, therefore, an increase of 492 barrels; and it must not be forgotten that the fishing was good last year.

To this number of 1,732 $\frac{3}{4}$ barrels must be added the salmon that would have been taken in the following rivers if they had not been closed. I add a third to the yield in 1866:—

Mistassini River.....	5 barrels.
Beccscie “.....	5 “
Godbout “.....	70 “
Godbout Bay.....	30 “
Trinity River.....	40 “

Ste. Marguerite River.....	40 barrels.
Mingan ".....	70 "
Romaine ".....	43 "
Corneille ".....	6 "
Great Watsheeshoo ".....	32 "
Natashquan ".....	150 "

Total..... 491 barrels.

This would give 2,223½ barrels, and by adding to this number, as we did with respect to the Second Division, one-fifth for the salmon lost between Saturdays and Mondays, and 30 barrels for the increased distance between the nets, we shall obtain a gross total of 2,109¾ barrels as the quantity which our salmon fisheries in the County of Saguenay would have yielded us this year, if we had worked them as we did four years ago.

By adding together the quantities of salmon taken in the Second and Third Divisions, we have for this year 2,720½ barrels of salmon, being an increase of 768½ barrels over last year, and that without the River Natashquan having been fished.

Trout.....	48 barrels.
Cod oil.....	22,920 gallons.
Whale oil.....	309 "
Oil.....	10 "

RECAPITULATION.

Spring Seal Hunting.

529 seals @ \$6.50 \$3,438 50

Seal Hunting from Schooners.

6,073 seals, @ \$5.50 33,401 50

Seals taken in nets this summer.

363 seals, @ \$4.00 1,452 00

Seals shot by Indians.

1,000 seals, @ \$4.00 4,000 00

Seals shot by White Men.

800 seals, @ \$4.00 1,200 00

Seals killed at Anticosti.

800 seals, @ \$4.00 1,200 00

Summer Cod Fishing.

27,489 cwt., @ \$3.60 98,960 40

Autumn Cod Fishing.

1,512 cwt., @ \$3.60 5,443 20

Flounder Fishing

386 barrels, @ \$5.00..... 1,930 00

Autumn Herring Fishing.

4,344 barrels, @ \$5 per barrel..... 21,720 00

Herring taken away by Schooners from Quebec and the Parishes.
1,000 barrels, @ \$5.00 5,000 00

Autumn Seal Fishing (1866).
1,426 seals, @ \$6.50 9,269 00

Salmon Fishing.
1,732 $\frac{3}{4}$ barrels, @ \$12 per barrel..... 20,793 00

Trout Fishing.
48 barrels, @ \$10 per barrel..... 480 00

Cods' Tongues and Sounds.
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels, @ \$7 per barrel..... 87 50

Cod Oil.
22,920 gallons, @ 70 cts..... 16,044 00

Whale Oil.
309 gallons, @ 80 cts..... 247 20

Porpoise Oil.
10 gallons, @ 60 cts..... 6 00

Total.....\$224,672 30

GENERAL RECAPITULATION.

Total value of products in Third Division.

In 1867..... \$224,672 30
In 1866..... 180,109 50

Total value of products of Fisheries in the Gulf and the lower part of the River St. Lawrence in 1867.

First division \$126,826 40
Second division..... 561,090 60
Third division 224,672 30

Total..... \$912,589 30
In 1866..... \$835,013 20

Difference in favor of 1867..... \$77,576 10

THÉOPHILE TÊTU.

STATEMENT of the Number of Schooners from the Magdalen Islands, and from the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, employed in seal hunting on the ice in 1867; shewing the name of each Schooner, the name of the Captain, the tonnage, the number of sailors, and the number of seals killed.

Schooners from Amherst Harbour in 1867.

Names of Schooners.	Names of Captains.	Tonnage.	Number of hands.	Number of Seals killed.	Value of Seals.		Remarks.
					\$	cts.	
"Cutter"	J. Vigneault	27	10	75	412	50	These schooners left Amherst Harbour for the ice on the 24th of March.
"Flora"	Th. Boudreau	34	10	75	412	50	
"Eugénie"	G. Cormier	30	10	120	660	00	
"Sarah"	H. Boudreau	23	10	120	660	00	
"Espérance"	D. Boudreau	51	10	150	825	00	
"Marie-Louise"	E. Migneault	30	10	150	825	00	
Total		195	60	690	\$3795	00	

Schooners from House Harbour.

"Flirt"	L. Arseneau	46	10	180	990	00	These schooners left House Harbour for the ice at the same time as those from Amherst Harbour.
"Dolphin"	O. Richard	52	10	180	990	00	
"Mary Ann"	A. Arseneau	36	10	80	440	00	
"Emélite"	Ed. Bourque	27	10	80	440	00	
"Tempérance"	E. J. Arseneau	36	10	430	2365	00	
"Jenny Lind"	P. Turbide	39	10	430	2365	00	
"Annie"	Wm. Terriau	41	10	220	1210	00	
"Archangel"	M. Jonphe	40	10	220	1210	00	
"Two Brothers"	R. Delaney	42	10	170	935	00	
"Greenock"	D. Terriau	39	10	170	935	00	
"Mary"	N. Arseneau	40	10	180	990	00	
"Onésime"	M. Richard	42	10	180	990	00	
Total		480	120	2520	\$13860	00	

Schooners from Esquimaux Point.

"Vencleo"	P. Doyle	33	10	591	3250	50	These schooners left for the ice about the 23rd of March, and returned at the end of April.
"Mariner"	E. Landry	23	10	354	1947	00	
"Eugénie"	A. Vallée	40	10	244	1342	00	
"Victoria"	G. Cormier	52	10	217	1193	50	
"Amélia"	X. Cormier	47	10	591	3250	50	
"Wide-Awake"	V. Vigneault	42	10	305	1677	50	
"Alphonsine"	Chas. Lebrun	23	10	424	2332	00	
"Three Brothers"	X. Boudreau	35	10	424	2332	00	
"Constantine"	J. Boudreau	45	10	300	1650	00	
"Racer"	D. Costin	35	10	83	456	50	
"Lady"	J. Muldoon	30	10	442	2431	00	
"Ailex"	F. Cummings	40	10	430	2365	00	
"Iberville"	N. Boudreau	36	10	243	1336	50	
Total		481	130	4448	\$25564	00	

STATEMENT of the Number of Schooners from the Magdalen Islands and the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, &c.—*Continued.*

Schooners from Natashquan.

Names of Schooners.	Names of Captains:	Tonnage.	Number of hands.	Number of Seals killed.	Value of Seals killed.	Remarks.
"Notre-Dame de Mars"	D. Talbot	20	7	225	\$ cts. 1237 50	These schooners left Natashquan on the 24th March, and returned at the end of April.
"Notre-Dame de la Garde"	H. Vigneault.....	22	7	350	1925 00	
"Espérance"	J. Landry	22	7	350	1925 00	
	Total.....	64	21	925	\$5087 50	

Schooners from Kégasca.

"G. S. Risser"	S. Foreman	65	10	200	1100 00	These schooners left and returned at about the same time as those from Natashquan.
"Hirondelle"	Jules Poirier.....	27	10	200	1100 00	
"Marie-Julie"	Simon Bourque.....	26	10	300	1650 00	
	Total.....	118	30	700	\$3850 00	

RECAPITULATION.

Total number of Schooners.	Total number of Tons.	Total number of hands.	Total number of Seals killed.	Total value of Seals.
37	1338	361	9283	\$ cts. 52156 50

SEALS taken during the autumn of 1866, and during the season of 1867.

Names of Fishermen.	Stations.	Fathoms of Nets.	Autumn Fishing, 1866.	Spring Fishing, 1867.	Seals killed during the summer of '67.	Seals killed on the ice in the spring of 1867.	Remarks.
LeBoutillier & Bros...	Wood Island.....	300	64				The trifling success of our fishermen herein was owing to the quantities of ice in the Straits of Belle-Île last autumn and this spring, which prevented them from setting their nets at the proper time.
Narcisse Dumas.....	Blanc Sablon.....	300	40				
Charles Dicker.....	Long Point.....	260	5				
John Bodman.....	do.....	180	23				
Baptiste Dumas.....	do.....	210	27				
Wm. Fruing & Co.....	do.....	220	30				
Widow G. Labadie.....	Sandy Bay.....	180	60				
William Labadie.....	Pointe à la Barque.....	140	5				
Wm. Jones & Co.....	Bradore Bay.....	600	30				
Louis Jones.....	do.....	100	24				
Harriet Griffith.....	Five Leagues.....	140	27				
Andrew Duke.....	do.....	100	14				
Harry Sanson.....	Little Fishery.....	80	22				
James Buckle.....	Bonne Espérance.....	275	6				
Léger Lévesque.....	Burnt Island.....	400	49				
Thomas Hule.....	Dog Islands.....	75	20				
Daniel Robin.....	Old Fort.....	150	2				
Thomas Morris.....	Canoe Harbour.....	90		15			
Wm. Fruing & Co.....	Anse du Portage.....	250	100				
Jean Legouvé.....	Whale Head.....	250	6				
André Roi.....	Fonderie de Facteau.....	60		25			
Jacques McKinnon.....	Kikapôé.....	290	12				
Joseph Gallichon.....	Salt Lake.....	350	53				
Wm. Buckle.....	La Tabatière.....	800	380				
B. Reeds.....	Sheep Bay.....			12			
Samuel Robertson.....	La Tabatière.....	700	247				
Xavier Gallibois.....	Red Bay.....	140	2				
François Lévesque.....	Grand Mecattina Island.....	350	50				
Samuel Gaumont.....	do.....	300	237				
Wm. Ross.....	do.....	100	15				
Charles Bilodeau.....	Whale Head.....	500	215				
M. Kenty.....	do.....	500	30				
Daniel Mauger.....	Gull Island.....	100	15				
Widow Mauger.....	do.....	300	63				
Louis Couombe.....	Little Mecattina.....	70	1				
F. X. Bilodeau.....	Nctaganu River.....	60		35			
J. B. Fortier.....	Wataghaistic.....	150		42			
André Gallibois.....	Point Dumourier.....	100		24			
Michel Blais.....	River Etamamu.....	40		19			
Gilbert Jones.....	Manisunachi.....	60		12			
Joseph Aubé.....	Coacoachoo.....	50		30			
George Métivier.....	Olomanosheeboo.....	100		49			
Simon Bourquo.....	Kégasca.....	60		6			
Samuel Forenman.....	River Kégasca.....	55		7			
Adolphe Guillemette.....	do.....	15		25			
Louis Talbot.....	Natashquan.....	30		5			
S. Kennedy.....	River Agwanus.....	360		25			
Olivier Rochette.....	River Nabisippi.....	75		5			
Joseph Tangay.....	Watsheeshoo.....	165		13			
Victor Blais.....	Ateepetat.....	42		45			
	Magdalen Islands.....				7200	On the ice around the Islands.	
	Total.....	10222	1426	529	363	7200	

SEALS shot in 1867.

By whom and where shot.	Number.	Remarks.
Seals shot by Indians between Bersimis and Blanc Sablon...	1000	Seals were seen in smaller numbers than usual, this summer, on the North Shore and on the coast of Anticosti.
Seals shot by white men between Bersimis and Blanc Sablon.	300	
Seals shot at Anticosti.....	300	
Total.....	1600	

GENERAL RECAPITULATION.

When, where and how the Seals were taken.	No. of Seals.	Description of Seals.	Value of Seals.
			\$ cts.
Seals taken in nets on the coast of Labrador, during the autumn of 1866.....	1426	Adults.....	9269 00
Seals taken in nets on the coast of Labrador, during the spring of 1867.....	529	do	3438 50
Seals taken in nets on the coast of Labrador, during the summer of 1867.....	363	Spring Seals.....	1452 00
Seals shot between Bersimis and Blanc Sablon by Indians.....	1000	do	4000 00
Do do do by white men...	300	do	1200 00
Seals shot on the coast of Anticosti.....	300	do	1200 00
Seals killed on the ice this spring around the Magdalen Islands	7200	Young Seals.....	28800 00
Seals killed by hunters from the Magdalen Islands, Esquimaux Point, Natashquan and Kégasca, on board of schooners, on the ice in the Gulf.....	9283	Adults.....	51056 50
Total.....	20401	.....	\$100616 00

STATEMENT of the Number of Schooners belonging to the Districts of Saguenay and Gaspé, employed during the season of 1867 in fishing for Cod and Herring on the banks and along the coast.

Schooners from Esquimaux Point.

Names of Schooners.	Names of Captains.	Tonnage.	Numbers of Crews.	Cwts. of Cod.	Barrels of Herring.	REMARKS.
"Iberville"	Nathaniel Boudreau...	36	10	180	480	These schooners fished for cod and herring on the coast of Labrador.
"Veneleo"	P. Doyle	33	10	200	320	
"Constantine"	J. Boudreau	45	10	200	650	
"Victoria"	G. Cormier	52	11	195	506	
"Amelia"	X. Cormier	47	10	170	280	
"Alphonsine"	Charles LeBrun	23	10	9	355	
"Wide Awake"	Vital Vigneault	42	10	120	136	
"Mariner"	E. Landry	23	9	57	117	
"Three Brothers"	X. Boudreau	35	10	180	136	
"Ailsa"	F. Cumming	40	10	290	121	
	Total	376	100	1601	3101	

Schooners from Natashquan.

"Tiber"	P. Vigneault	22	7	180	100	These schooners fished for cod and herring on the coast of Labrador.
"Notre-Dame de la Garde"	H. Vigneault	22	7	250	100	
"Notre - Dame de Mars"	D. Talbot	20	7	150	100	
	Total	64	21	580	300	

Schooners from Kégasca.

"Hirondelle"	Jules Poirier	27	10	125	150	These schooners fished for cod herring at the same place as those from Natashquan.
"Marie-Julie"	Simon Bourque	26	10	140	120	
	Total	53	20	265	270	

STATEMENT of the Number of Schooners belonging to the Districts of Saguenay and Gaspé, employed during the season of 1867, &c.—*Continued.*

Schooners from House Harbour (Magdalen Islands).

Names of Schooners.	Names of Captains.	Tonnage.	Numbers of Crews.	Cwts. of Cod.	REMARKS.
"Tempérance"	E. Arseneau.....	36	10	200	Fished on the North Shore of the River St. Lawrence.
"Marie"	J. Godet.....	40	10	200	do do
"Mary Ann"	A. Arseneau.....	36	10	240	do do
"Emelite"	L. Bourque	27	10	150	do do
"Jenny Lind"	P. Turbide.....	39	10	160	do do
"Dolphin"	O. Richard.....	52	10	300	Fished around the Magdalen Islands.
"Archangel"	Naz. Jonphe	40	10	300	do do
"Greenock"	Frs. Terriau.....	39	10	320	do do
"Anny"	Wm. Terriau.....	41	10	280	do do
	Total.....	350	90	2150	

Schooners from Amherst Harbour (Magdalen Islands.)

"Président"	O. Bourque	36	10	175	Fished around the Magdalen Islands.
"Loup-Marin"	Eug. Bourgeois.....	37	10	169	do do
"Flora"	L. Boudreau	34	10	200	do do
"Eugénie"	G. Cormier	30	10	180	do do
"Sarah"	H. J. Boudreau.....	23	10	150	do do
"Cutter"	J. Vigneault	27	10	145	do do
"Marie-Louise"	J. Cormier	30	10	150	do do
	Total.....	217	70	1169	

COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of vessels.	No. of fishing boats.	No. of flat boats.	No. of sailors.	No. of fishermen.	No. of shore hands.	No. of cod seines.	No. of mackerel seines.	No. of herring seines.	No. of caplin seines.	No. of plaice seines.	No. of fathoms of seal nets.	No. of cod nets.	No. of mackerel nets.	No. of herring nets.	No. of fathoms of salmon nets.	No. of fathoms of trout nets.	No. of brush weirs.	No. of seals.	Cob.		
																					Cwts.—Summer fishing.	Cwts.—Autumn fishing.	
1	Blanc Sablon		13	5		26	20	1		1											40	1250	
2	Wood Island		40	15		80	55	2		2		2	300								64	4000	20
3	Green Island																						
4	Little Harbour		15	6		30	20	1		2	3	1										1250	
5	Long Point		6	8		12	9						870				100				185	350	
6	Sandy Bay and Pointe à la Barque		2	2		4	4						320				50				65	30	
7	Bradore Bay		6	7		12	2	2		3			800				60				54	640	
8	Belles Amours		1	2		2	2															10	
9	Middle Bay		2	2		4	2			1	1						100					50	
10	Five Leagues and Little Fishery		6	7		12	9						300				335				63	70	
11	Salmon Bay		19	4		38	30	3		3	2						253					2319	
12	Bonne Espérance		6	6		12	8	1					275				355				6	340	
13	St. Paul River		1	2		2	3										265						
14	Burnt Island		1	2		2	2						400				75				49	20	
15	Old Fort Island		6	3		12	8			1	1		150								2	120	
16	Dog Island		2	2		4	3										210				20	20	
17	Lizotte's Fishery		1	1		2	2										160						
18	Baie des Rochers		1	1		2	2										130					10	
19	River Napitippi		1	1		2	2										90						
20	Shicataca		3	3		6	5			1	1						60					20	
21	Canso Harbour		1	1		2	2						90				80					15	
22	Anse du Portage		1	2		4	4						250				60				100		
23	Esquimaux Bay		1	1		2	1										80						
24	St. Augustin	1	4	5	2	8	6	1	1								895					2	
25	River St. Augustine		1	2		2	2										51						
26	Whale Head, Pacachoo		2	2		4	4						350				235				6		
27	Red Point		1	1		2	2										50						
28	River Kikapoë and Chaines de Kenny		1	2		2	2						200				67					12	
29	Fonderie de Facteau		1	1		2	2						60				13					25	
30	Salt Lake		1	1		2	2						350				68					53	
31	La Tabatière and Red Bay		4	4		8	8		1	1	1		1640				165				629	176	
32	Great Mecattina Island		3	3		6	6						750								302	20	
33	Sheep Bay		3	3		6	6														12	65	
34	Great and Little Mecattina Rivers		1	2		2	2										171						

COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.—Continued.

Mo.	Cwts.—Haddock.	Cwts.—Drill.	Barrels—Mackerel.	Barrels—Herring.	Boxes—Smoked herring.	Barrels—Sardines.	Barrels—Flounders.	Barrels—Tunny.	Barrels—Salmon.	Barrels—Trout.	Barrels—Eels.	Barrels—Cod tongues and sounds.	Gallons—Seal oil.	Gallons—Whale oil.	Gallons—Porpoise oil.	Gallons—Cod oil.	Barrels—Herring (manure).	Barrels—Caplin (manure).	Barrels—Plaice (manure).	Barrels—Smelts (manure).	Barrels—Stickle-back.	REMARKS.
1				8			19					3	240			1000						
2				35			3					5	334			3200						
3																						
4												1				1000						No one fished at this place in 1867.
5				6			2									200						Arrival of the different kinds of fish in the County of Saguenay.
6									11				810			24						
7									4				324			512						
8									2							8						
9									3							40						
10									16				378			56						Cod.—Appeared at Blanc Sablon on the 21st June, and at Whale Head and from there to Mingan about the 25th of June.
11									19							1855						
12									25				36			272						
13									65													
14									2				294			16						Caplin.—19th June.
15													12			96						Herring.—Towards the end of September, but very few were taken.
16									9				120			16						
17									5													
18									22							8						
19									3													
20									2							16						Mackerel.—None were taken.
21									3				90									
22									1				600									
23																						
24									110							1						
25									8													
26									2	2			36									
27									3													
28									4				72									
29									2				89½									
30									5				318									
31									4				3774			140						
32													1812			16						
33													72			52						
34									20													

COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.—Continued.

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of vessels.	No. of fishing boats.	No. of flat boats.	No. of sailors.	No. of fishermen.	No. of shore hands.	No. of cod seines.	No. of mackerel seines.	No. of herring seines.	No. of cuplin seines.	No. of plaice seines.	No. of fathoms of seal nets.	No. of cod nets.	No. of mackerel nets.	No. of herring nets.	No. of fathoms of salmon nets.	No. of fathoms of trout nets.	No. of brush weirs.	No. of seals.	Cod.		
																					Cwts.—Summer fishing.	Cwts.—Autumn fishing.	
35	Whale Head, Mecattina		3	3		6	4						1000				333				245	200	
36	Boat Harbour		3	2		4	3		1													80	
37	Rigolet aux Chats		3	1		4	2															40	
38	Providence Island		3	1		4	1															20	
39	Gull Islands		1	1		2	2						400									73	30
40	Little Mecattina		2	1		4	2		1				70				47					1	50
41	Netagama River		1	1		2	1						60				8					35	
42	Watagheistic		1	1		2	1						150									42	
43	Dumourier Point		1	1		2	1						100									24	
44	Etamamu River		2	2		4	2						40				225					19	
45	Manisuachi (Cape Whittle)		1	1		2	1						60				75					12	
46	Coacocho River		1	1		2	1						50				30	15				30	
47	Olomanoshebo River		1	2		2	2						100				250					49	
48	Washeecotai and Mistassine Rivers		1	2		2	2										350	12				20	6
49	River and Point Musquero		5	4		10	3						15			4	70	40				20	40
50	Kégascha Bay (and schooners)	3	9	18	30	18	11				3		60			15						713	950
51	Kégascha River and outside	1	1	6	10	2	2	1		1			55		1		142	35					3
52	Natashquan River (with the fy)		2	3																			
53	Natashquan Bank (and schooners)	3	18	18	21	64	18				1		30			10	215					925	950
54	Natashquan Harbour		24	4		4	4	1			3				1		10						25
55	Agwanu River		1	2		2	2						360				420	60				25	
56	Nabessippi River		1	2		2	2						75				120	40				5	15
57	Little Watsheeshoo River		1	2		3	2						165				81	48				13	
58	Grand Watsheeshoo River (with the fy)			2		2	2																
59	River on Piashter Bay			1		1											25	36					
60	Crow River and Appoletat Bay		2	2		2	2						42				102	12				55	
61	Esquimaux Point (and schooners)	13	28	56		138	40			4	4											4448	1601
62	Romaine River (with the fy)			3		3	3																
63	do outside (in nets)			1		1	1										68						
64	Mingan River (with the fy)			3		3	3																
65	Manitou River (Indians with nets)																50	30					
66	Mingan Harbour		1	2		1	2						79				79						
67	Long Point Mingan		30	20		60	39		2		7	7			2	3	130					1583	167
68	River St. John (in nets)		16	5		33	14	1			5	5				14	1486					713	105
69	do (with the fy)			3		2																	

COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.—Continued.

No.	Cwts.—Haddock.	Cwts.—Bill.	Barrels—Mackerel.	Barrels—Herring.	Boxes—Smoked herring.	Barrels—Sardines.	Barrels—Flounders.	Barrels—Tunny.	Barrels—Salmon.	Barrels—Trout.	Barrels—Eels.	Barrels—Cods tongues and sounds.	Gallons—Seal oil.	Gallons—Whale oil.	Gallons—Porpoise oil.	Gallons—Cod oil.	Barrels—Herring (manure).	Barrels—Caplin (manure).	Barrels—Plaice (manure).	Barrels—Smelts (manure).	Barrels—Stickle-back.	REMARKS.
35									17½			2	1470	570		160						
36												½				64						
37																32						
38																16						
39													468			24						
40									1			6				35						
41									2			122										
42									2			147										
43												84										
44									22			114										
45									5			72										
46									1½	1		105										
47									20			171										
48									48													
49				20					8	2		70				44						
50				270			3					3500	100		760							
51				10					12	½					2							
52									2													
53				300			2		40			4625			760							
54															18							
55				6					31	1		87										
56									25	1½		17			12							
57									15			45										
58									4													
59									½													
60									14	½		192			10							
61				3101			123					22240				1280						
62									3													
63									3													
64									7													
65									2	1												
66									9													
67				22			52		7				400		1359							
68				4			13		186				39		654							
69									7													

COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.—Continued.

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of vessels.	No. of fishing boats.	No. of flat boats.	No. of sailors.	No. of fishermen.	No. of shore hands.	No. of cod seines.	No. of mackerel seines.	No. of herring seines.	No. of caplin seines.	No. of place seines.	No. of fathoms of seal nets.	No. of cod nets.	No. of mackerel nets.	No. of herring nets.	No. of fathoms of salmon nets.	No. of fathoms of trout nets.	No. of brush weirs.	No. of seals.	Cod.		
																					Cwts.—Sum-mer fishing.	Cwts.—Autumn fishing.	
70	Magpie River and Bay.....	2	2	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....
71	Anse des Roussies	11	10	22	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	759	30
72	Rambler's Cove	23	19	56	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1908	369
73	Jupitagan River.....	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
74	Ridge Point	6	2	12	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	380	.....
75	Indian Harbour	3	1	6	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	197	40
76	Anse aux Coques .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
77	Thunder River.....	17	5	34	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1307	120
78	Duck Creek	1	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	.....
79	Anse à la Mogniac.....	1	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	30
80	Little Sheldrake.....	6	1	12	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	30
81	Sheldrake Head.....	16	6	32	9	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	668	70
82	Sheldrake Bank.....	5	3	10	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	8
83	Le Gros Bay.....	11	2	22	16	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	600	.....
84	Gibraltar Bay.....	2	2	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42	17
85	Bouleaux River.....	7	2	14	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	.....
86	Pigeon .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
87	Trout River.....	1	1	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
88	Moisie River (with nets inside).....	12	15	24	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	360	35
89	do (do outside).....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
90	do (with the fly).....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
91	Seven Islands Bay and Boule.....	12	6	24	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300	48
92	River St. Margaret (outside).....	2	2	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
93	Ragged Islands.....	7	5	14	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110	25
94	Pentecost River.....	1	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	45
95	English Bay.....	1	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....
96	Little Trinity River.....	1	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	.....
97	Caribou Islands.....	2	2	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	320	.....
98	Little May River.....	1	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	20
99	Grand Trinity River (outside).....	1	1	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	150	.....
100	Trinity Bay.....	3	3	3	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	340	50
101	Pointe des Monts.....	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
102	Becciee River (outside).....	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	.....
103	Wapishieeboo River.....	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	.....
104	Gudbout River (with the fly).....	3	2	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.—Continued.

No.	Cws.—Haddock.	Cws.—E Brill.	Barrels—Mackerel.	Barrel—Herring.	Boxes—Smoked herring.	Barrels—Sardines.	Barrels—Flounders.	Barrels—Tunny.	Barrels—Salmon.	Barrels—Trout.	Barrels—Eels.	Barrels—Cods' tongues and sounds.	Gallons—Seal oil.	Gallons—Whale oil.	Gallons—Porpoise oil.	Gallons—Cod oil.	Barrels—Herring (manure).	Barrels—Caplin (manure).	Barrels—Plaice (manure).	Barrels—Smelts (manure).	Barrels—Stickle-back.	REMARKS.
70									67							80						
71				4			2								50	571						
72				6			2								50	1821						
73				3					10													
74							3									304						
75																189						
76																						No one fished at this place in 1867.
77								1½								1141						
78																48						
79																48						
80																184						
81				14			2		8							590						
82									5							86						
83							6									480						
84																47						
85																160						
86																						
87									16	2												No one fished at this place in 1867.
88									481	4						316						
89									85													
90									2	1												
91				217			9									278						
92				30					12							94						
93																						
94									4	8												
95									3													
96									6													
97									26													
98									1	1												
99									22													
100									44	11												
101																						
102									2													
103									1													
104									20													

COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.—Continued.

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of vessels.	No. of fishing boats.	No. of flat boats.	No. of sailors.	No. of fishermen.	No. of shore hands.	No. of cod seines.	No. of mackerel seines.	No. of herring seines.	No. of caplin seines.	No. of plaice seines.	No. of fathoms of seal nets.	No. of cod nets.	No. of mackerel nets.	No. of herring nets.	No. of fathoms of salmon nets.	No. of fathoms of trout nets.	No. of brush weirs.	No. of seals.	Cod.			
																					Cwts.—Summer fishing.	Cwts.—Autumn fishing.		
105	Manicouagan.....		6	4																				
106	Persimis River.....		25																		1300			
ISLAND OF ANTICOSTI.																								
107	South-west Point.....		10	8		20	7					2				4	10				150	400		
108	English Head.....		12	9		24	4				2						14				150	457	50	
109	Macdonald's Bay.....		9	5		18	7	1		2							9					327	60	
110	Caplin Bay.....		9	5		18	7	1			2						10					450	90	
111	Cow Point.....		6	3		12	5				1						3					300	60	
112	Mansdrolle River.....		5	4		10	4		1		1					4	9					450	50	
113	Salmon River.....		1	1		1					1					3								
114	Fox Bay.....		9	5		18	6				1						10					690	80	
115	Dauphine River.....			1		2												70						
116	Shallop Creek.....			1		2												70						
117	Jupiter River.....		1	1		1												100	13			12		
118	Otter River.....			1		1												20	20					
Total.....		21	579	439	63	858	653	20	13	25	75	43	10232	1	14	175	13156	491		9991	27489	1512		

COUNTY OF SAGUENAY.—*Concluded.*

8

No.	Cwts.—Haddock.	Cwts.—Brill.	Barrels—Mackerel.	Barrels—Herring.	Boxes—Smoked herring.	Barrels—Sardines.	Barrels—Flounders.	Barrels—Tunny.	Barrels—Salmon.	Barrels—Trout.	Barrels—Eels.	Barrels—Cods' tongues and sounds.	Gallons—Seal oil.	Gallons—Whale oil.	Gallons—Porpoise oil.	Gallons—Cod oil.	Barrels—Herring (manure).	Barrels—Caplin (manure).	Barrels—Plaice (manure).	Barrels—Smelts (manure).	Barrels—Stickleback.	REMARKS.
105																						
106									10	2												Number of seals killed by Indians and white men between Bersimis and Blanc Sablon.
107				92			70						525			310						
108				49			52						525			385						
109				86			20									309						
110				12			5									412						
111				4												278						
112				6			3									400						
113									20													
114				39			12									616						
115									10	2												
116									27		1											
117									21	2	7						9					
118									1	4												
				4344			386		1732½	48	8	12½	44436½	309	10	22920						

COUNTY OF BONAVENTURE.

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of vessels.	No. of fishing boats.	No. of flat boats.	No. of scullers.	No. of fishermen.	No. of shore hands.	No. of cod seines.	No. of mackerel seines.	No. of herring seines.	No. of caplin seines.	No. of plaice seines.	No. of fathoms of seal nets.	No. of cod nets.	No. of mackerel nets.	No. of herring rods.	No. of fathoms of salmon nets.	No. of fathoms of trout nets.	No. of brush weirs.	No. of seals.	Cod.				
																					Cwts.—Summer fishing.	Cwts.—Autumn fishing.			
1	Ristigouche River.....		60		60	40										26	3458								
2	Nouvelle (above).....		20		25	200										45	429								
3	Carleton.....	3	9	160	20	25	60								2	224	2225								
4	Maria.....	3	9	150	17	100	100			1						326	2802½			16					
5	New Richmond and Black Cape.....		9	9		18	10			1					3	9	9734	121					54	90	
6	Little and Grand Bonaventure.....		65	65		130	82			25	11				41	65	311						780	1950	
7	New Carlisle.....	3	9	9	15	18	11			5	4				8	9							190	120	
8	Paspébiac.....	6	37	25	24	74	209			15	9				22	44							500	800	
9	Nouvelle (below).....		36	13		72	45			1					4	72							1160	312	
10	Shidouac.....		16	7		32	20			2					1	32							200	200	
11	Port Daniel.....		45	31		90	60			4					2	74	859						940	408	
12	Anse aux Gascons.....		50	43		100	62			9					9	70							1500	1000	
	Total.....	15	282	601	76	744	899			46	41				92	996	11058	121	16				5324	4880	

COUNTY OF GASPÉ.

1	Newport.....		70	62		140	70				12					140	48						2050	2000
2	Grand and Little Pabos.....		74	60		148	74				13					150	516						2170	1800
3	Grand River (with the fly).....			3		3	2																	
4	Little River (West).....		106	80		212	120				18					10	212	280					3040	2650
5	Anse du Cap.....	3	82	75	17	161	100				12					120							3890	1800
6	Little River (East).....		28	28		56	35				6					60							1200	700
7	Anse à Beaufile.....		39	39		78	48				12					90							2800	1200
8	Percé.....	1	157	125	2	314	250				30				15	460	150						13460	2600
9	Bonaventure Island.....		64	60		128	95				4				6	192							5800	1600
10	Canne de Roche.....		10	10		20	10				2					30							530	250
11	Coin du Banc.....		15	15		30	14				2					45	231						900	315
12	Barachois.....	2	21	18	20	42	28				4					63	358						1400	900
13	Belle Anse.....		12	12		24	16			1	1				2	36							700	300
14	Malbaie.....		39	39		78	48			1	4				3	117	242						2300	975
15	St. Peter's Point.....		40	70		80	60			2	5				6	120							2400	500
16	Chien Blanc.....		12	12		24	15			1	1				2	24							523	300

COUNTY OF BONAVENTURE.

No.	Cwts.—Haddock.	Cwts.—Drill.	Barrels—Mackerel.	Barrels—Herring.	Boxes—Smoked herring.	Barrels—Sardines.	Barrels—Flounders.	Barrels—Tunny.	Barrels—Salmon.	Barrels—Trout.	Barrels—Eels.	Barrels—Cods' tongues and sounds.	Gallons—Seal oil.	Gallons—Whale oil.	Gallons—Porpoise oil.	Gallons—Cod oil.	Barrels—Herring (manure).	Barrels—Caplin (manure.)	Barrels—Plaice (manure.)	Barrels—Smelts (manure.)	Cods' heads.	REMARKS.	
1									216½						160							Arrival of fish in the County of Bonaventure :— Cod.....27th May. Herring .....25th April. Caplin .....25th May.	
2				200					14														
3			6	6000	5000				83½						80		2000	500	200				
4				5900	1000				70								1000	200	200				
5		3	4	1500	570				67½	4						78	150	200					
6	55	12	10	1830	500				7½							2000	500	1200		1000			
7	30	5	2	100								1				247		500					
8	60	12	10	400								6				1097		4000					60
9	60	10		140								6				1233	10	100					180
10	40	5		200								2				356	20	60					33
11	60	6		140				8		77		2				989	50	60					170
12	60	11		70				9				8				2056	10	100					250
	369	64	37	16230	7070			17	536	6	5	40			240	8056	3720	6920	400	3600	693		

COUNTY OF GASPÉ.

1	200			150			3		11	2		6				2975		500				Arrival of fish in the County of Gaspé :— Cod.....1st May. Herring .....20th April. Caplin .....24th May.	
2	150			250			8		70	4	10	10				2884		1000					
3									8														
4	200			300			10		28			12				4712							
5	150			100			1					8				4088							
6	50			50			1					2				1365							
7	120			100												2300							
8	100		10	375			5					15				11312							
9	50		5	230			3					6				4088							
10	20			40								1				640							
11	50			45					14			2				885							
12	20		3	62			2		27		6	4				1624							
13	20			24			2					2				714							
14	80		4	178			4		16			6				2654							
15	50		7	80								6				2085							
16	10		2	23								2				583							

COUNTY OF GASPÉ.—Continued.

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of vessels.	No. of fishing boats.	No. of flat boats.	No. of sailors.	No. of fishermen.	No. of shore hands.	No. of cod seines.	No. of mackerel seines.	No. of herring seines.	No. of caplin seines.	No. of plaice seines.	No. of fathoms of seal nets.	No. of cod nets.	No. of mackerel nets.	No. of herring nets.	No. of fathoms of salmon nets.	No. of fathoms of trout nets.	No. of brush weirs.	No. of seals.	Cod.		
																					Cwts.—Summer fishing.	Cwts.—Autumn fishing.	
17	Red Head.....		15	15		30	19				1				2	30						615	180
18	Bois Brulé.....		6	6		12	9									12						325	72
19	Anse Brillant.....		8	8		16	10				1				1	16						400	96
20	Seal Cove.....	1	8	8	4	16	10				2				1	16						415	96
21	Douglastown.....	2	29	30	8	58	34				2				4	78	80					1450	200
22	River St. John (in nets).....		3	3		3	3										278						
23	do (with the fly).....		3	3		3	3																
24	North and South sides of Gaspé Bay.....	10	10	20		20	15				1				20	20	3094					350	50
25	S.W. and N.W. Rivers at Gaspé (with the fly).....		5	4		4	4																
26	Cap aux Os.....		6	6		12	8				1				2	15						180	72
27	Seal Rocks.....		6	6		12	8				1				3	18						300	70
28	Little Gaspé.....		8	8		16	10				1				4	30						400	96
29	Grande Grave.....		30	25		60	50				12				30	90						1500	360
30	From Grande Grave to St. George's Cove.....		25	25		50	31				4				4	75						1260	300
31	St. George's Cove.....		16	16		32	20				2				4	48						800	192
32	Indian Cove.....		18	18		36	22				2				2	54						900	216
33	Ship Head.....		14	14		28	17				2				2	42						720	160
34	Cape Rosiers.....		30	30		60	37				10				40	60						1400	560
35	Anse à la Louise.....		18	20		36	25				5				9	40						750	216
36	Jersey Cove.....		8	8		16	10				2				1	16						390	96
37	Griffin's Cove.....		55	52		110	70				5				9	110						2000	660
38	Anse à Fougère.....		12	12		24	15								5	24						420	144
39	Great Fox River.....		90	80		180	100				8				12	180						2500	1100
40	Little Fox River.....		22	22		44	27								3	44						800	264
41	Petit Cap and Grande Anse.....		11	11		22	11				1					19						440	185
42	Echouerie.....		5	5		10	5				1					8						200	80
43	Pointe Jaune.....		6	6		12	6				1					12						250	100
44	Anse à Valteau.....		12	12		24	12				1					24						450	200
45	Grand Etang.....		23	5		46	28				1					50						1800	460
46	Pointe Sèche.....		20	15		40	20				1					40						720	320
47	Petit Chloridonne.....		18	15		36	18									28						525	275
48	Grand Chloridonne.....		12	12		24	12									20						425	160
49	Petite Vallée and Belle Pointe.....		10	10		20	11									10						250	50
50	Anse à Mercier.....		5	5		10	7									8						125	50
51	Grande Vallée.....		48	48		96	50									58	80					1080	450

COUNTY OF GASPE.—Continued.

No.	Cwts.—Haddock.	Cwts.—Brill.	Barrels—Maclerel.	Barrels—Herring.	Boxes—Smoked herring.	Barrels—Sardines.	Barrels—Flounders.	Barrels—Tunny.	Barrels—Salmon.	Barrels—Trout.	Barrels—Eels.	Barrels—Cods' tongues and sounds.	Gallons—Seal oil.	Gallons—Whale oil.	Gallons—Porpoise oil.	Gallons—Cod oil.	Barrels—Herring (manure).	Barrels—Caplin (manure).	Barrels—Plaice (manure).	Barrels—Smelts (manure).	Barrels—Stickle-back.	REMARKS.
17	10	5	2	45								2										
18	6	5	1	18								1					574					
19	13	6	3	24								1					285					
20	7	3	2	25								1					360					
21	50	15	10	87								1					364					
22									4			5					1200					
23									10													
24	15	5	45	40				10	161		3	3										
25									9	6	10			25800			294					
26	10	5	2	18								1										
27	4	3	3	18								1					186					
28	6	4	1	32								2					263					
29	40	10	8	120								7					354					
30	25	20	2	90								6					1037					
31	20	6	2	64								4					1123					
32	10	5	1	72								4					712					
33	8	5	2	60								3					791					
34		15		100			20					7					625					
35		6		100			15					4					1372		25			
36		7		50			5					2					676		20			
37		10		200			25					2					340		15			
38		15		90			6					12					1862					
39		10		250			35					3					394					
40		12		100			8					15					2520					
41		6		24			7					9					744					
42		5		12			6					5					437					
43		4		15			4					2					196					
44		6		20			8					4					245					
45		10		60			20			10	8	4					455					
46		8		25			15					6					1592					
47		6		22			12					6					728					
48		8		25			18					8					560					
49	6			35			5					13					409					
50	4			15			2					3					144					
51	40		4	125			30		5	4		8					107					
																	1099					

COUNTY OF GASPÉ.—Continued.

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of vessels.	No. of fishing boats.	No. of flat boats.	No. of sailors.	No. of fishermen.	No. of shore hands.	No. of cod seines.	No. of mackerel seines.	No. of herring seines.	No. of caplin seines.	No. of plaice seines.	No. of fathoms of seal nets.	No. of cod nets.	No. of mackerel nets.	No. of herring nets.	No. of fathoms of salmon nets.	No. of fathoms of trout nets.	No. of brush weirs.	No. of seals.	Cod.			
																					Cwts.—Sum-mer fishing.	Cwts.—Autumn fishing.		
52	Cap à l'Ours		4	4		8	5			1	1				9	6						190	20	
53	Madeleine River		4	4		8	5			1					3	7						195	19	
54	do (outside)															4	100							
55	Little Madeleine River		3	3		6	4			1						3						70	23	
56	Mancho d'Epée		3	3		6	3															60	15	
57	Gros Mâle		10	10		20	10									10	60					200	60	
58	Anse Pleureuse		11	5		22	10									11						215	65	
59	Ruisseau des Olives		4	2		8	4									4						95	15	
60	Montlouis		42	30		84	40				3					69	50	15				850	150	
61	River à la Pierre		9	9		18	11									9						160	60	
62	Glaude River		9	9		18	9									9						170	65	
63	Ruisseau Arbour		5	5		10	6									8						125	45	
64	Marsouin River		2	2		4	3									4						40	15	
65	River à la Martre		9	7		18	10									12						160	45	
66	Anse à Jean		4	4		8	5									4						80	20	
67	Les Tournelles		25	20		50	31									25						725	50	
68	Ste. Anne des Monts		102	95		204	150				3				10	150	187	15				2550	150	
69	Cape Chat	2	48	40	10	96	60			1					5	50	100					980	240	
MAGDALEN ISLANDS.																								
70	Amherst Island		84	60		168	80			4					165	70						1500	204	
71	do schooners	7	15	7	70	30			5	2	16				30	6					690	1169		
72	Alright Island		66	40		132	55		3	2	16											990	100	
73	do schooners	12		12	120				1	1	3										2520	2150		
74	Grindstone Island		47	35		94	50		2	2					4	47					7200	990	225	
75	Coffin Island		8	5		16	5				1					6						160		
76	Entry Island		4	3		8	5								6	7						25		
77	Grosse Ile		16	11		32	15									20						300		
78	Byron Island		2	1		3	1									1						5		
Total		40	1909	1718	251	3330	2278		11	16	220				434	3676	5918	110		10410	82457	26988		

COUNTY OF GASPE.—*Concluded.*

No.	Cwts.—Haddock.	Cwts.—Brill.	Barrels—Mackerel.	Barrels—Herring.	Boxes—Smoked herring.	Barrels—Sardines.	Barrels—Flounders	Barrels—Tunny.	Barrels—Salmon.	Barrels—Trout.	Barrels—Eels.	Barrels—Cods' tongues and sounds.	Gallons—Seal oil.	Gallons—Whale oil.	Gallons—Porpoise oil.	Gallons—Cod oil.	Barrels—Herring (manure).	Barrels—Caplin (manure).	Barrels—Plaice (manure).	Barrels—Smelts (manure).	Barrels—Stickle-back.	REMARKS.
52	5			45			10									150						
53	6		5	80			20		6	3	4					154		300				
54									5													
55			4	25			3			2		1				66						
56			15	9			4					1				53						
57			15	30			5		5			4				182						
58			2	30			2			2		4				196						
59			1	12			2					1				77						
60			10	350			20		1		3	15				700						
61			2	40			12			2		2				154						
62			2	40			9			3		2				164						
63			1	15			5					1				119						
64			1	6			10			2		1				38						
65			2	27			80			1		2				143						
66			1	12			15					2				70						
67			4	50			15					10				542						
68			10	200			30		29½	4	5	25			80	1890						
69			4	100			20		2	2	3	9			50	854						
70	150		784	2800			12				45	10				1587						150
71													3450			935						
72	80			1980	30							8				872						
73													12690			1720						
74	110		235	840			40					7	25200			1060						
75			45	50												128						
76			7	40			9									15						
77	100		710	50								2				320						
78																3						
1995	97	2137	10829	30			610	10	414½	53½	105	338½	41340	25890	130	77128		1860				150

COUNTY OF RIMOUSKI.

No.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of vessels.	No. of fishing boats.	No. of flat boats.	No. of sailors.	No. of fishermen.	No. of shore hands.	No. of cod seines.	No. of mackerel seines.	No. of herring seines.	No. of caplin seines.	No. of plaice seines.	No. of fathoms of seal nets.	No. of cod nets.	No. of mackerel nets.	No. of herring nets.	No. of fathoms of salmon nets.	No. of fathoms of trout nets.	No. of brush weirs.	No. of seals.	Cod.				
																					Cwts.—Summer fishing.	Cwts.—Autumn fishing.			
1	Grand Capucin.....		20	4		40	16																		
2	Anse du Petit Méchin.....		2	1		4	2																	380	200
3	Grand Méchin.....		6	3		12	2																	60	50
4	River à la Chaudronne.....																6	75						160	210
5	Ilets des Méchins.....		16	9		32	12																		
5	Ruisseau Wapper.....		8	2		16	4									16								220	100
7	Grande Anse des Crapauds.....		3	1		6	2									3								210	50
8	Ruisseau à Samuel.....															3								55	30
9	Ruisseau Jacques Hugues.....		20	2		40	10																		
10	Cape Balance.....															30									
11	Anse à la Croix.....		36	12		72	20																		
12	Long Point.....		4	2		8	4									51				3				625	200
13	Little River Matane.....		20	10		40	15									4				3				60	100
14	Grand River Matane.....		7	2		14	1									30				13				325	400
15	Little River Blanche.....		2	3		4	1				1					7	180	60		6					
16	Grand River Blanche.....		9	5		18	2									6				4				7	
17	Tartigo River.....		5	4		10	1									2				1				9	
18	Sandy Bay and les Boules.....		15	10		30	10									3				3				70	
19	Little River Métis.....		15	9		18	8									2				3				10	
20	Grand River Métis.....		2	4		8	1									2				3				7	
21	Ste. Flavie.....		2	6		12	1									2	15			7					
22	Ste. Luce.....		2	5		10	1													9					
23	Rimouski and Barnabé Island.....		5	8		10	3													26					
	Total.....		199	102		350	116				1					207	300	60	107					2521	1550

GENERAL RECAPITULATION.

Number of fishing boats, of fishermen, of shore hands, of fish taken, of seines, of nets, and of brush weirs, quantity of cod liver oil, of whale oil, of seal oil, of porpoise oil, in the Counties of Bonaventure, Gaspé, a part of Rimouski, the County of Saguenay (including the Coast of Labrador, the North Shores of the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the Island of Anticosti.)

1	76	2969	2860	390	5432	3630	20	24	87	337	43	10232	1	540	5054	30432	782	124	20401	117791	34930
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COUNTY OF RIMOUSKI.

6

No.	Cwts.—Haddock.	Cwts.—Brill.	Barrels—Mackerel.	Barrels—Herring.	Boxes—Smoked herring.	Barrels—Sardines.	Barrels—Flounders.	Barrels—Tunny.	Barrels—Salmon.	Barrels—Trout.	Barrels—Eels.	Barrels—Cods' tongues and sounds.	Gallons—Seal oil.	Gallons—Whale oil.	Gallons—Porpoise oil.	Gallons—Cod oil.	Barrels—Herring (manure).	Barrels—Caplin (manure).	Barrels—Plaice (manure).	Barrels—Smelts (manure).	Barrels—Stickle-back.	REMARKS.	
1	50			80			13								30	530						No person fished at this place in 1867.	
2				30			1									77							do do
3	10			10			16		4						60	259							do do
4																							do do
5				5			10								60	231							do do
6				30			2									182							do do
7				16			1									56							do do
8																							do do
9	30			10			5									381							do do
10																							do do
11	56			70			26								300	616							Arrival of fish in the County of Rimouski:—
12				10		15	2					2			60	112							Herring.....15th May.
13	20			20		40	10					6			150	521							Cod.....25th June.
14				220		100	5		6	2													Caplin.....21st May.
15				200		175	2																
16				60		40	3																
17				60		30	2																
18				215		110	10																
19				200		100	9				20												
20				250		100	3				15												
21				300		125	20																
22				400		200	25																
23				1000		500	30		27	3	30												
	166			3180		1525	195		37½	5	65	S			660	3041	400	1100					

65

GENERAL RECAPITULATION.—Conclusion.

1	2530	161	2174	20624	710	1525	1208	10	2720½	112½	183	308½	85776½	26199	11140	111145	4120	10050	400	3500	150
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EXTRACT

From the Log-book of the Government schooner *La Canadienne*, for the season of 1867.

Date.	H. M.	Date.	H. M.		
May 17	Left Quebec.....	7 30 p.m.	June 8	Left Cape Moule.....	10 16 a.m.
" 17	Anchored at St. Patrick's Hole.	9 30 p.m.	" 8	Anchored in Amherst Harbour.	1 25 p.m.
" 18	Left St. Patrick's Hole.....	7 00 a.m.	" 12	Left Amherst Harbour.....	6 20 p.m.
" 18	Anchored at Fointe aux Pins..	1 00 p.m.	" 12	Anchored in Basque Harbour..	6 45 p.m.
" 19	Left Pointe aux Pins.....	7 30 a.m.	" 13	Left Basque Harbour.....	6 70 a.m.
" 19	Anchored off River Ouelle		" 13	Anchored at Cape Moule.....	7 5 a.m.
	Point.....	1 30 p.m.	" 14	Left Cape Moule.....	5 50 a.m.
" 19	Left River Ouelle Point.....	6 15 p.m.	" 14	Anchored in Amherst Harbour.	6 5 a.m.
" 20	Anchored at Hare Island.....	2 00 a.m.	" 14	Left Amherst Harbour.....	4 15 p.m.
" 20	Left Hare Island.....	5 30 a.m.	" 14	Anchored at Entry Island....	4 50 p.m.
" 21	Anchored off the wharf at Rimouski.....	3 00 a.m.	" 14	Left Entry Island.....	6 30 p.m.
" 22	Left Rimouski.....	7 35 a.m.	" 14	Anchored in the Basin (Amherst Island).....	10 30 p.m.
" 22	Anchored at Barnabe Island..	2 25 p.m.	" 14	Left the Basin.....	11 30 p.m.
" 24	Left Barnabe Island.....	10 00 p.m.	" 15	Anchored at Miscou.....	6 00 p.m.
" 25	Anchored again at Barnabe Island.....	1 00 a.m.	" 16	Left Miscou.....	1 15 a.m.
" 25	Left Barnabe Island.....	5 15 a.m.	" 17	Anchored off Maria.....	1 20 a.m.
" 26	Anchored at Pointe des Monts.	6 00 a.m.	" 17	Left the offing at Maria.....	5 45 a.m.
" 27	Left Pointe des Monts.....	3 30 a.m.	" 17	Anchored at Maria.....	6 35 a.m.
" 27	Anchored at Cape Chat.....	7 45 a.m.	" 18	Left Maria.....	8 50 a.m.
" 27	Left Cape Chat.....	11 50 a.m.	" 18	Anchored at New Richmond....	10 30 a.m.
" 27	Anchored at Ste. Anne des Monts.....	0 45 p.m.	" 18	Left New Richmond.....	7 40 p.m.
" 27	Left Ste. Anne des Monts....	6 10 p.m.	" 19	Anchored at Paspébiac.....	5 45 a.m.
" 28	Anchored at Fox River.....	3 30 a.m.	" 20	Left Paspébiac.....	6 10 p.m.
" 28	Left Fox River.....	9 5 a.m.	" 21	Anchored in the Bay at Port Daniel.....	8 35 a.m.
" 28	Brought to and landed at Cape Rosiers.....	10 30 a.m.	" 21	Left Port Daniel.....	2 00 p.m.
" 28	Left Cape Rosiers.....	11 00 a.m.	" 21	Brought to and landed at the Islets (Newport).....	3 35 p.m.
" 28	Anchored at Grande Grave... 1 00 p.m.		" 21	Left the Islets.....	5 00 p.m.
" 28	Left Grande Grave.....	4 00 p.m.	" 21	Brought to at Grand Pabos... 5 30 p.m.	
" 28	Anchored at the entrance of Gaspé Basin.....	8 45 p.m.	" 21	Anchored at Grand Pabos..... 7 15 p.m.	
" 29	Left the entrance of Gaspé Basin.....	1 10 p.m.	" 21	Left Grand Pabos.....	8 00 p.m.
" 29	Anchored in Gaspé Basin... 1 25 p.m.		" 22	Anchored at Grand River..... 6 10 a.m.	
" 31	Left Gaspé Basin.....	3 10 p.m.	" 24	Left Grand River.....	3 00 a.m.
" 31	Anchored at Douglastown... 8 00 p.m.		" 24	Anchored at Cape Cove..... 5 35 a.m.	
June 1	Left Douglastown.....	5 10 a.m.	" 24	Left Cape Cove.....	5 00 p.m.
" 1	Anchored at Point Peters... 1 45 p.m.		" 24	Anchored at Percé.....	7 30 p.m.
" 2	Left Point Peters.....	2 30 a.m.	" 25	Left Percé.....	4 20 a.m.
" 2	Anchored at Percé.....	5 45 a.m.	" 26	Anchored at the South Point of Anticosti.....	5 15 p.m.
" 2	Left Percé.....	9 00 p.m.	" 27	Left South Point of Anticosti..	10 45 p.m.
" 3	Anchored at Paspébiac..... 7 10 p.m.		" 28	Anchored at Percé.....	10 20 p.m.
" 4	Left Paspébiac.....	10 30 p.m.	" 30	Left Percé.....	3 30 p.m.
" 5	Anchored at Entry Island (Magdalen Islands).....	10 00 p.m.	" 30	Anchored at Point Peters.... 4 15 p.m.	
" 6	Left Entry Island.....	4 00 a.m.	" 30	Left Point Peters.....	5 10 p.m.
" 6	Anchored at Amherst Island.. 9 00 a.m.		" 30	Anchored in Gaspé Basin.....	10 00 p.m.
" 6	Left Amherst Island.....	4 25 p.m.	July 5	Left Gaspé Basin.....	7 30 a.m.
" 6	Anchored at Grindstone Island.....	5 10 p.m.	" 5	Brought to and landed at Grande Grave.....	9 15 a.m.
" 6	Left Grindstone Island..... 5 50 p.m.		" 5	Left Grande Grave.....	10 45 a.m.
" 6	Anchored in Pleasant Bay... 8 10 p.m.		" 5	Anchored at Jupiter River (Anticosti).....	6 10 p.m.
" 7	Left Pleasant Bay.....	5 50 a.m.	" 6	Left Jupiter River.....	5 00 a.m.
" 7	Anchored in House Harbour.. 7 50 a.m.		" 6	Anchored at the South-west Point of Anticosti.....	6 15 a.m.
" 7	Left House Harbour.....	10 00 a.m.	" 6	Left the South-west Point... 9 35 a.m.	
" 7	Anchored at Cape Moule.....	10 20 a.m.	" 6	Anchored in Mingan Harbour.. 9 20 p.m.	
			" 8	Left Mingan Harbour.....	2 00 p.m.

EXTRACT from the Log-book, &c.—Continued.

Date.	H. M.	Date.	H. M.	
July 8	Anchored at Long Point.....	3 40 p.m.	July 21	Anchored in Bonne Espérance
" 9	Left Long Point.....	5 00 a.m.	" 21	Harbour.....
" 9	Anchored at River St. John.....	10 30 a.m.	" 21	Left Bonne Espérance Harbour.....
" 9	Left River St. John.....	2 30 p.m.	" 24	Anchored at Percé.....
" 9	Anchored at Mingan Harbour.....	5 15 p.m.	" 24	Left Percé.....
" 9	Left Mingan Harbour.....	5 45 p.m.	" 24	Anchored at Point Peters.....
" 9	Anchored at Esquimaux Point.....	8 40 p.m.	" 25	Left Point Peters.....
" 9	Left Esquimaux Point.....	9 45 p.m.	" 25	Brought to and landed at Grande Grave.....
" 10	Anchored off Grand Watsheeshoo River.....	2 30 p.m.	" 25	Left Grande Grave.....
" 10	Left Grand Watsheeshoo River.....	5 00 p.m.	" 25	Anchored in Gaspé Basin.....
" 10	Anchored at Nabisippi.....	10 00 p.m.	" 25	Left Gaspé Basin.....
" 11	Left Nabisippi.....	7 00 a.m.	" 27	Anchored at Quarantine Island, River Miramichi.....
" 11	Anchored at River Natashquan.....	10 40 a.m.	" 28	Left Quarantine Island.....
" 12	Left the River Natashquan.....	4 15 a.m.	" 28	Anchored at Chatham.....
" 12	Anchored at the entrance of Natashquan Harbour.....	6 30 a.m.	" 31	Left Chatham.....
" 12	Left entrance of Natashquan Harbour.....	6 45 a.m.	" 31	Anchored at Newcastle.....
" 12	Anchored in Natashquan Harbour.....	7 20 a.m.	Aug. 1	Left Newcastle.....
" 12	Left Natashquan Harbour.....	7 45 p.m.	" 1	Anchored at Chatham.....
" 13	Brought to and landed at Little Mecattina.....	2 00 p.m.	" 3	Left Chatham.....
" 13	Left Little Mecattina.....	3 10 p.m.	" 3	Anchored in Miramichi Bay.....
" 13	Brought to and landed at Whale Head.....	4 00 p.m.	" 4	Left Miramichi Bay.....
" 13	Left Whale Head.....	6 10 p.m.	" 4	Anchored off the Mill (Amherst Island).....
" 13	Brought to and landed at Murr Rocks.....	7 30 p.m.	" 5	Left the Mill.....
" 13	Left Murr Rocks.....	8 10 p.m.	" 5	Anchored in the Basin (Amherst Island).....
" 13	Anchored at Sheep Bay.....	10 40 p.m.	" 5	Left the Basin.....
" 14	Left Sheep Bay.....	10 00 a.m.	" 5	Anchored at Entry Island.....
" 14	Brought to and landed at la Tabatière.....	11 30 a.m.	" 6	Left Entry Island.....
" 14	Left La Tabatière.....	1 10 p.m.	" 6	Anchored at Amherst Harbour.....
" 14	Brought to and landed at Salt Lake.....	2 00 p.m.	" 7	Left Amherst Harbour.....
" 14	Left Salt Lake.....	2 40 p.m.	" 7	Anchored at House Harbour.....
" 14	Anchored at Facticeau's Foundry.....	3 20 p.m.	" 8	Left House Harbour.....
" 14	Left Facticeau's Foundry.....	4 10 p.m.	" 8	Anchored in Pleasant Bay.....
" 14	Anchored at Kikapôé Harbour.....	5 15 p.m.	" 9	Left Pleasant Bay.....
" 15	Left Kikapôé Harbour.....	3 40 p.m.	" 9	Anchored at Entry Island.....
" 15	Anchored again in Kikapôé Harbour.....	6 5 p.m.	" 9	Left Entry Island.....
" 16	Left Kikapôé Harbour.....	4 00 a.m.	" 11	Anchored near Pictou Island.....
" 16	Anchored at Whale Head, at Pecachoo.....	9 35 a.m.	" 11	Left Pictou Island.....
" 16	Left Whale Head, Pecachoo.....	11 45 a.m.	" 11	Anchored at Pictou.....
" 16	Anchored at St. Augustine.....	8 00 p.m.	" 14	Left Pictou.....
" 18	Left St. Augustine.....	2 35 p.m.	" 14	Anchored at Charlottetown.....
" 19	Anchored at Blanc Sablon.....	4 00 a.m.	" 16	Left Charlottetown.....
" 20	Left Blanc Sablon.....	4 5 a.m.	" 18	Anchored at Paspébiac.....
" 20	Brought to and landed at Long Point.....	9 00 a.m.	" 20	Left Paspébiac.....
" 20	Left Long Point.....	9 15 a.m.	" 20	Anchored at Port Daniel.....
" 20	Anchored at l'île aux Perroquets.....	3 10 p.m.	" 20	Left Port Daniel.....
" 20	Left l'île aux Perroquets.....	7 45 p.m.	" 20	Anchored at the entrance of the Straits of Shipagan.....
" 20	Anchored in the Harbour at Bradore Bay.....	9 30 p.m.	" 21	Left the entrance of the Straits of Shipagan.....
" 21	Left the Harbour at Bradore Bay.....	3 30 p.m.	" 21	Anchored at Cape Cove.....
			" 22	Left Cape Cove.....
			" 22	Anchored at Percé.....
			" 23	Left Percé.....
			" 23	Brought to and landed at Point Peters.....
			" 23	Left Point Peters.....
			" 23	Brought to and landed at Grande Grave.....
			" 23	Left Grande Grave.....
			" 23	Anchored at Douglastown.....

EXTRACT from Log-book, &c.—Continued.

Date.	H. M.	Date.	H. M.
Aug 23	Left Douglstown.....	Sept 26	Brought to and landed at
" 23	Anchored at Gaspé Basin		Whale Head, Pacachoo.....
" 25	Left Gaspé Basin.....	" 26	Left Whale Head, Pacachoo... 10 15 a.m.
" 25	Anchored at l'Anse Brillante..	" 26	Brought to and landed at la
" 26	Left l'Anse Brillante.....		Tabatière.....
" 26	Anchored at Point Peters.....	" 26	Left la Tabatière.....
" 26	Left Point Peters.....	" 26	Brought to and landed at
" 26	Anchored at Cape Rosiers.....		Whale Head, Macattina
" 27	Left Cape Rosiers.....	" 26	Left Whale Head, Macattina... 5 35 p.m.
" 27	Anchored at Griffin's Cove.....	" 27	Anchored at the River Natash-
" 27	Left Griffin's Cove.....		quan.....
" 27	Anchored in Great Fox River. 7 10 p.m.	" 27	Left the River Natashquan..... 5 30 p.m.
" 28	Left Great Fox River.....	" 27	Anchored in Natashquan Har-
" 29	Anchored at Montlouis.....		bour.....
" 31	Left Montlouis.....	" 29	Left Natashquan Harbour..... 9 30 a.m.
Sept. 1	Anchored at Ste. Anne de Monts 2 00 p.m.	" 30	Anchored at Esquimaux Point. 8 00 a.m.
" 2	Left St. Anne de Monts..... 10 45 a.m.	" 30	Left Esquimaux Point..... 2 00 p.m.
" 2	Came back and anchored at the	" 30	Anchored at Mingan..... 3 30 p.m.
	same place.....	Oct. 2	Left Mingan..... 6 30 a.m.
" 2	Again left Ste. Anne de Monts 1 15 p.m.	" 2	Anchored at Long Point..... 7 5 a.m.
" 2	Anchored one mile below the	" 2	Left Long Point..... 9 15 a.m.
	River at Ste. Anne de Monts 7 45 p.m.	" 2	Anchored at River St. John... 11 45 a.m.
" 3	Left the last anchorage..... 6 00 a.m.	" 2	Left River St. John..... 2 15 p.m.
" 3	Anchored again..... 7 45 a.m.	" 2	Anchored at Rambler's Cove... 4 30 p.m.
" 3	Left again..... 9 45 a.m.	" 3	Left Rambler's Cove..... 6 20 a.m.
" 3	Anchored at Cape Chat..... 11 15 a.m.	" 3	Anchored at Thunder River... 1 00 p.m.
" 3	Left Cape Chat..... 11 20 p.m.	" 3	Left Thunder River..... 6 00 p.m.
" 4	Anchored at Magdalen River.. 10 20 a.m.	" 4	Anchored in Gaspé Basin..... 1 00 p.m.
" 4	Left Magdalen River..... 0 25 p.m.	" 7	Left Gaspé Basin..... 9 30 a.m.
" 4	Anchored at Grande Vallée... 2 15 p.m.	" 7	Brought to and landed at
" 4	Left Grande Vallée..... 4 20 p.m.		Grande Grave.....
" 5	Brought to and landed at Côte	" 7	Left Grande Grave..... 10 25 a.m.
	Sauvage.....	" 7	Anchored at Malbaie..... 1 30 p.m.
" 5	Left Côte Sauvage..... 11 50 a.m.	" 7	Left Malbaie..... 3 50 p.m.
" 5	Brought to and landed at St.	" 7	Anchored at Percé..... 4 40 p.m.
	George's Cove.....	" 8	Left Percé..... 1 20 p.m.
" 5	Left St. George's Cove..... 0 20 p.m.	" 8	Anchored at Cape Cove..... 2 15 p.m.
" 5	Brought to and landed at	" 8	Left Cape Cove..... 4 20 p.m.
	Grande Grave.....	" 8	Anchored at Grand River..... 7 00 p.m.
" 5	Left Grande Grave..... 3 00 p.m.	" 8	Left Grand River..... 11 55 p.m.
" 5	Anchored in Gaspé Basin..... 5 20 p.m.	" 9	Anchored at Paspébiac..... 7 15 a.m.
" 11	Left Gaspé Basin..... 4 45 a.m.	" 10	Left Paspébiac..... 7 40 p.m.
" 11	Anchored at Percé..... 9 25 a.m.	" 11	Anchored at Carleton..... 6 30 a.m.
" 11	Left Percé..... 4 45 p.m.	" 11	Left Carleton..... 3 15 p.m.
" 11	Anchored at Bonaventure Is-	" 11	Anchored at the Mission (Risti-
	land.....		gouche).....
" 12	Left Bonaventuro Island..... 6 55 p.m.	" 13	Left the Mission..... 9 10 p.m.
" 12	Anchored at North Cape (Grosse	" 13	Anchored at Carleton..... 6 25 p.m.
	Isle, Magdalen Islands)..... 6 00 p.m.	" 14	Left Carleton..... 11 45 a.m.
" 13	Left North Cape..... 10 00 a.m.	" 14	Anchored at Maria..... 1 30 p.m.
" 13	Anchored at Amherst..... 10 30 p.m.	" 14	Left Maria..... 7 00 p.m.
" 14	Left Amherst..... 3 15 p.m.	" 14	Anchored at New Richmond... 8 45 p.m.
" 14	Anchored at Cape Moule..... 5 45 p.m.	" 16	Left New Richmond..... 6 20 a.m.
" 16	Left Cape Moule..... 1 15 p.m.	" 16	Anchored at Grand Bonaven-
" 16	Anchored at Amherst..... 3 30 p.m.		ture River.....
" 17	Left Amherst..... 1 00 p.m.	" 16	Left Grand Bonaventure River. 5 15 p.m.
" 17	Anchored at Sandy Hook..... 6 50 p.m.	" 16	Anchored at Paspébiac..... 9 20 p.m.
" 18	Left Sandy Hook..... 0 15 a.m.	" 18	Left Paspébiac..... 6 15 a.m.
" 20	Anchored at Wood Island..... 4 00 a.m.	" 18	Anchored at the entrance of
" 23	Left Wood Island..... 7 45 a.m.		Caraquette Harbour.....
" 22	Anchored at Bonne Espérance. 0 10 p.m.	" 18	Left the entrance of the harbour 9 30 a.m.
" 23	Left Bonne Espérance..... 9 45 a.m.	" 18	Anchored in Caraquette Har-
" 23	Anchored at St. Augustine..... 7 30 p.m.		bour.....
" 26	Left St. Augustine..... 7 30 a.m.	" 19	Left Caraquette Harbour..... 10 30 a.m.

EXTRACT from Log-book, &c.—*Concluded.*

Date.	H. M.	Date.	H. M.
Oct. 20	Anchored at Percé..... 2 30 a.m.	Nov. 2	Left Kamouraska..... 5 30 a.m.
" 20	Left Percé..... 5 00 p.m.	" 2	Anchored at Ste. Anne..... 9 00 a.m.
" 21	Anchored near the Sand Bank in Gaspé Bay..... 0 40 a.m.	" 2	Left Ste. Anne..... 4 45 p.m.
" 21	Left the Sand Bank..... 6 50 a.m.	" 2	Anchored at Berthier..... 11 5 p.m.
" 21	Anchored in Gaspé Basin..... 10 30 a.m.	" 3	Left Berthier..... 6 30 a.m.
" 23	Left Gaspé Basin..... 1 50 p.m.	" 3	Anchored in the Harbour of Quebec..... 0 30 p.m.
" 23	Anchored at Percé..... 4 45 p.m.	" 4	8 Sailors discharged this evening.
" 24	Left Percé..... 11 30 a.m.	" 6	9 Sailors discharged this evening.
" 24	Anchored at Malbaie..... 4 00 p.m.	" 6	<i>La Canadienne</i> towed to the Provincial Steamers' Wharf. Began to land things from <i>La Canadienne</i> .
" 25	Left Malbaie..... 2 00 p.m.	" 7	Everything has been landed from <i>La Cana-</i> <i>dienne</i> and stowed away in the Govern- ment store-houses. The schooner lies at the wharf until the 14th, when she is towed to Dinning's shipyard, and on the 16th she is taken to the <i>Palais</i> .
" 26	Anchored at Fox River..... 1 15 p.m.		
" 28	Left Fox River..... 6 10 a.m.		
" 30	Anchored at Old Bic..... 4 50 p.m.		
" 31	Left Old Bic..... 11 40 p.m.		
Nov. 1	Anchored at the Pilgrims..... 1 40 p.m.		
" 1	Left the Pilgrims..... 3 00 p.m.		
" 1	Anchored at Kamouraska..... 8 50 p.m.		