

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

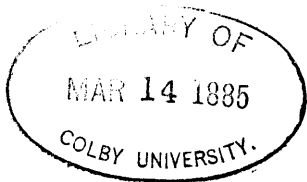
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Public Documents of Maine:

BEING THE



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

Public Officers and Institutions

FOR THE YEAR

1884.

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VOLUME I.

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AUGUSTA :

SPRAGUE & SON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1884.

REPORT

OF THE

Commissioners of Fisheries and Game

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

FOR THE YEAR

1883.

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AUGUSTA :  
SPRAGUE & SON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.  
1883.



# REPORT.

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*His Excellency* FREDERICK ROBIE, *Governor of the State of Maine* :

We have the honor to present the report of our department for the year of eighteen hundred and eighty-three.

Over so wide a territory with its conflicting special laws, antagonistic as are most of them to the general laws of the State, it is no light task to so administer justice or enforce the laws of any one section as to leave no sense of wrong to oppress its neighbor. While we are rigidly enforcing the salmon laws on the Penobscot river, in the endeavor to preserve this almost only remnant of the once teeming home of this king of fishes (the only place where it now exists on the Atlantic coast of the United States in sufficient numbers for purposes of propagation), punishing its capture after July 15, as a serious offence, it is taken in almost every possible method on Denny's river far into autumn and in weirs on the St. Croix. The much prized white perch of Glenburn and Newport and other localities of the western section of the State, are protected by severe laws well enforced from April 1 to July 1, and from nets at all times ; while on Grand lake it is regarded as a nuisance and darkly suspected of destroying the young of the land-locked salmon. The white fish, which is a game fish in Moosehead lake, rises to the fly and is never allowed to be taken but with single baited hook or fly, is destroyed on Grand Lake waters and known in our markets only when captured at spawning time with net or spear. The new law, enacted this year, forbidding the use

of the net above tide water, must now be enforced on Grand lake and that most delicious of all our table fishes saved from utter extermination. No one but those who have eaten this fish when taken in March on hook and line when recovered from spawning, can appreciate its value. We were summoned to Pembroke by the earnest solicitation of one of the State granges to lay out a series of fishways on the Penamaquan, to let the alewives up to their old spawning grounds, where a fishery could be re-established at but small cost, that would go far towards paying the taxes of the town; but the statutes have excluded those waters from our jurisdiction. The same reply have we been compelled to render to applicants from Lincolnville, Boothbay, etc., etc., etc. The alewife is the people's fish; it is so easily bred, requiring only access to the grassy, weedy shallows of our many lakes to deposit its eggs, to insure an ample return to almost any outlay. Every acre of suitable water on our coast should be set to work and become an alewife farm. We respectfully commend the weeding out of our special laws to the attention of the Executive as worthy of suggestion to the Legislature.

The new law in relation to the transportation of land-locked salmon, trout and other fish has proved quite effective in suppressing market-fishing in our waters. Some remedy is required to punish a class who fish merely for the sake of killing; they are not sportsmen, their place is in the shambles as journeymen butchers. They are cruel as cats, sordid as Jews. Sportsmen may do much in checking this evil by social outlawry, sending the perpetrators to Coventry. The quiet influence of such treatment might prove more effective than severer measures. Let it be tried at all our places of resort. The hotel keeper should never purchase of any guest. Let not the temptation to use the net and other dirty methods to gratify a silly, boastful spirit, be countenanced by a strife for the greatest number. It may comport with the interests of the landlord, but not with honest, fair fishing or the preservation of the fish.

## SALMON.

Our return of salmon eggs from Orland, for our subscription of \$1,000 in 1882, gave us 440,000. These added to a generous contribution of 100,000 from Prof. Baird, gave us a sum total of 540,000. In our distribution of these eggs, 100,000 were sent to the hatchery of O. A. Dennen, Esq., Moosehead lake. To the State hatchery at Enfield in charge of Warden A. J. Darling 200,000 for Penobscot river and tributaries. To Machias 20,000 for Machias river. To Mr. Lincoln of Dennysville 40,000 for Denny's river. At Norway 180,000 for Crooked river, Sebago waters, and the Saco river. We, this year, have subscribed to the Orland works \$1,000 for salmon eggs to be hatched and used for stocking and replenishing rivers of Maine. Our return for this season has been 673,000. These will be sent to our various hatching houses and distributed, in the spring of 1884, to waters where the wretched custom of throwing in shingle waste and saw dust, and the ever present poacher, prevents the natural product of the fish being equal to the requirement of our rivers. The catch of salmon in the Penobscot river for the year is reported to us from official sources as good, in numbers less, in amount or weight greater than last year. It is our opinion that a larger number of salmon than formerly, go directly up the river on the spring run of water; the fish have learned the route, have become wonted to the new path through the fishways provided for them and the less interrupted routes afforded by a full volume of water. Salmon have been seen far up the East Branch in small tributaries where hitherto unknown for years. It will be remembered that but few years since netting on the East Branch was abandoned as producing but one fish a season at the Hunt farm. After fish planting was introduced, the product rose to one hundred; then followed hundreds. Dynamite was the discovery of the insatiable greed of the poacher, and gave twenty-five fish from one pool. Thus has been met the good results of the commissioners' efforts in stream and forest. Fish and

game have been swept off by wholesale to feed the drunken debauchery of a vile crew of worthless poachers, who would strip the whole State to nurse their lazy profligacy ; "a class," to use the words of one of the most reputable citizens of one of our thriving up-river towns, "who are never at work unless when stealing ; who will expend more time and labor in backing hoop poles, or stealing ship knees from a proprietor's timber tract than would earn a generous livelihood if spent in honest toil." Netting is now forbidden above tide water by law as a necessary measure to preserve the remnant of our fish. We earnestly solicit our Legislature for the penalty of a term in the State Prison at hard labor as the punishment for using dynamite, or any explosive material in any of our waters for the taking of fish of any description. Nothing less can prevent their utter destruction.

#### LAND-LOCKED SALMON.

We have expended more of our slender means for the last two or three years, in trying to protect this magnificent fish of Sebago lake from the organized gang of poachers that destroy them on their spawning beds on Crooked river and other tributaries, than we could well afford. Were these fish better known, this lake would be more visited than even Dominion waters, and with the same outlay of time and less money, with as great success. Sebago lake is worthy a special appropriation from the city of Portland or the railroads running into it for its protection from the vandals that line its shores, as an investment that would repay a hundred fold in attracting travel. The habits of the fish have not been carefully studied by the local anglers. We do not deem them more shy than are salmon always in dead waters, even on the best salmon rivers. We do not believe they have been fairly and persistently tried with the fly. We ourselves have never had time to devote to it of more than one individual day. On the best of salmon rivers we have known of successive blank days, without a rise to the most tempting flies the



angler's book would afford. Experienced anglers would attribute the inertness of the fish to climatic causes, the premonition of approaching storm and in most cases with correctness. Sebago lake is worthy the persevering study of any good angler, and we think with surety of reward. Trolling, always in a light wind to ripple the water; trolling by night should also be tried; casting the fly by night; deep fishing with fine tackle and live bait. It is worthy of a season's study and trial. Beautiful as Lake Como for a cottage home.

Some very large land-locked salmon have been taken in the spring at the mouth of Songo river. A poacher was last year arrested and convicted for spearing a salmon of twenty-four pounds weight on Crooked river. An account comes to us to-day of a salmon found stranded on the banks of Rogers brook, which measures thirty-seven inches in length and weighed twenty-two and one-half pounds; as it was somewhat shrunken from long exposure, it was estimated that when first out of water it would have weighed thirty pounds. The Grand Lake or Schoodic salmon is very much smaller than that of Sebago lake, four and one-half pounds being deemed a monster fish, while the average would not exceed one and one-half pounds. Both the Schoodic salmon and the Sebago salmon have free access to the ocean and in both lakes have "*salmo salar*," or sea salmon fry been freely introduced for some six years past. In this connection we here publish a copy of an old document for which we are indebted to J. F. Pratt, M. D., of Chelsea.

*To Honorable the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled:*

The petition of the subscribers inhabiting near Crooked river humbly showeth that in said river is a kind of trouts of an uncommon size, weighing from three to fourteen pounds. Some have been caught which weighed seventeen pounds. These fish run up the river in the months of September and October, but are scarce at all other times of the year. They have been, and might continue to be, very beneficial to all who inhabit near said river, which runs from a pond in Oxford, near Bethel southerly line; from thence it runs through said Oxford and through Waterford, a part of Norway and of Philip's Gore, Otisfield, and a part

of Raymondtown into a gore between Raymondtown and Flintston, where it falls into Songo river and with it into the Great Sebago pond. These fish have for several years been prevented from passing up said river by wares built wholly across the water by the inhabitants near the mouth thereof, and as there is no law to prevent them, they not only boast of having availed themselves of all the benefit of the fish in years past, but declare they are determined to do it in future, to the great injury of the other inhabitants above them, who have (or ought to have) equal right to the benefit of the fish. We therefore humbly request your Honours to take the case into your consideration, and to make a law for preventing the obstruction of these fish in said river and its connections in the months of September and October, and as in duty bound will ever pray. (1800.)

(Signed)

ASAEI FOSTER,  
OSGOOD CARLETON,  
JONATHAN RIGGS,  
JOHN SCRIBNER,  
SIMON SCRIBNER,  
WILLOUGHBY SCRIBNER,  
THOMAS WIGHT,  
DAVID RAY,  
DAN MORSE,  
MARK KNIGHT,  
JONA. MOOR,  
OSGOOD WEST CARLETON,  
SPURR,  
GEORGE PEIRCE,  
ISAAC BARTLETT,

ELEAZER BARTLETT,  
JOHN BARTLETT,  
JOHN KILBORN, JR.,  
WILLIAM SHATTUCK,  
DANIEL HOLDEN,  
JOSEPH SCRIBNER,  
TIMOTHY FERNALD,  
SAMUEL KNIGHT,  
JOSEPH MORSE,  
JOSEPH SPURR, JR.,  
SAMUEL SPURR,  
DAVID THURSTON,  
JOSHUA LEAVITT,  
JOHN CARLETON,  
DAVID CARLETON.

Leave to bring in a bill.

Both at Grand Lake stream and Sebago these fish have been always called trout, indeed, at the latter are known by no other name; black spot and red spot indicating land-locked salmon and brook trout. These fish have proved a great success in Moosehead lake and in Rangeley waters. In the former, they are taken more or less every season; one of four and one-half pounds and some of smaller size have been taken the present year. As in Moosehead none but Schoodic fish have been planted, four and one-half pounds, if correctly reported, would indicate increase of size from the present stock. In Rangeley, salmon of four and one-half pounds have been taken, and on the spawning grounds in 1882, a number of very large fish were observed that were estimated at much greater weight. Here we are in doubt as to the increase of weight from present stock, as some fry from Sebago were planted in Rangeley waters several years since.

How to class these fish, amid all this conflicting matter, we are still in doubt, but as none but Schoodic fry have been introduced into Moosehead lake, we must look there for evidence as to increase of weight in new waters. We shall continue to introduce these fish into both Moosehead and Rangeley in as large numbers as our restricted means will allow, until we have established a sufficiently strong breeding stock to afford the yearly supply of young fish to constitute their future breeding home. The rule then should be rigid enforcement of the laws, for the most skillful and persistent angling with baited hook or flies, will never exhaust the fish of any waters. Rigid laws enforced, will always preserve a sufficient stock. The cunning of fishes is coeval with the angler, and the education of experience will preserve its ratio with each. A strict observance of close time, and fair honest angling, is only requisite. We planted this year 225,000 fry in the following waters: At Moosehead lake, 100,000, hatched at the excellent hatchery of O. A. Dennen near the Kineo House, in charge of Capt. Brown. At Rangeley, 100,000 at the Oquossac hatchery, in charge of T. C. Hewey. At Enfield, 25,000, in charge of A. J. Darling. These last were divided between Island pond, Molunkus pond and Cold Stream pond. It is a subject of common observation, that these beautiful fish do not now frequent in accustomed numbers certain favorite localities on Grand Lake stream, where they formerly abounded. This has led to the hasty conclusion that they are lessening in numbers, and the cause attributed to artificial spawn taking. The region of Grand lake, so near the boundary of two distinct governments, would naturally make its wild recesses of forest the favorite resort of questionable, or rather unquestionable characters from all sources. The pouchers of every possible grade exist in numbers only equaled by black flies, and as deserving of extermination. Again, angling is now a mania, a fashion, and five hundred fish where formerly but one cast his fly. Fish have their pastures, their feeding grounds, the same as

our domestic stock. Destroy the feed of a pasture and its stock will abandon it and go elsewhere or starve. Certain flies are bred on the bottoms of rivers amid the gravel and earth. Cover this bottom with tan-bark or shingle waste or saw dust and the bottom of the river no longer produces food for fishes; the fly bred from the egg or worm, that the bottom of the river supplied with the congenial element no longer rises there; the fly that hovered over its surface to deposite its eggs that begat the worm and in turn the fly, no longer tempts the fish. Streams that formerly bred shad by millions, can not now feed one, even if millions were there planted, for the river, now bottomed by poisonous saw dust, produces no food for the baby shad to support it on its way down to the ocean. A factory on the river's source may make a fortune for its owner, even if not allowed to destroy all the fish in the water that runs below his mill. He may not make it at so little trouble, but has he a right to do it if he deprives a family even of one meal of food a week? In response to many letters from Aroostook and other sources, asking relief and redress, which we are unable to afford, we will propound to our legislators the question "if a stream running through a section of country supplies both food and recreation to the inhabitants, has any one a right, by establishing a factory upon its sources or its shores, to so poison its waters as to destroy the fish and thus deprive others of the value of the food destroyed?" Is not even the beauty of a stream running through one's land a consideration of price and value? Has any one a right, by establishing a factory above one's property, to destroy its beauty by throwing waste into it, or its fish by emptying the washings of a starch or other factory into it? Industry and ingenuity have a right to their reward, but not at the price of the food, or the value of the beauty of the humblest homestead.

## BLACK BASS.

The black bass is still growing in popular favor. We have had more orders this year for stocking ponds than we have had it in our power to fill. The great success met with at Pushaw lake; the number and size of the fish taken, some turning the scale at four and one-half pounds; the very marked increase in both weight and numbers of the white perch, all tending to popularize fish protection and fish planting; the increase in the product of fish, the result of the suppression of netting; all have tended to produce a great and beneficial change in the public mind, giving firm and even enthusiastic support where hitherto we have been met by active opposition. Newport and Glenburn can now boast of the two most beautiful and productive lakes in the State, destined in the future to become popular places of summer resort for devotees of boating and angling, and where pretty cottage residences may be built for family homes at but trifling cost, and where the easy access to telegraph and railroad would render their occupants scarcely conscious of absence from city social ties. Cobosseecontee, Snow and Belgrade lakes all are places of marked beauty and healthfulness, easy of access, and where facilities for boating and angling are unsurpassed. Homes for hundreds whose lives are dependent upon country air and exercise, can be made in cottage or tent, while the expense of the more fashionable places of resort bars them from all but those of unrestricted means. We often wonder that our city residents do not appreciate at how small a cost a pretty summer cottage can be built upon the shores of any of these beautiful lakes, abounding in fish, and where their wives and children would obtain rest and health and exercise, and freedom from all the cares of city life.

## GAME.

We have this year been called upon to enforce a number of new and stringent laws, that may almost be termed war measures, to the enactment of which the State was impelled

to save the remnant of the game of the Commonwealth, both fish, fur and feather, from utter annihilation by poachers and market hunters, from home and abroad. The destruction of moose has been very great by Indians from the Provinces, crust hunting in spring, for hides. One party of Indians, in presence of a reliable witness, counted out forty skins; other parties were equally successful. These all went over the border to the Dominion of Canada. We have been credibly informed of three moose wantonly shot down in hot August weather by a party of whites, (we will not class them) where even the trophies could not be pleaded as a temptation, as but one bore horns. Of other as flagrant cases, committed in the same region, we are in possession. The destruction of this valuable game is greater by residents of other States than by our own, while arrests and convictions are mostly of our own citizens. The cause is obvious without explanation. Money, bribery, concealment of the trophies, to be brought out only in open time, by the suborned guides.

The commissioners have the will to enforce our laws to the bitter end, upon all offenders, but have not the power, both from restricted means and from other causes, of which we propose to speak further on. All new laws, like those given us at the last session of our Legislature, should be accompanied by a special appropriation for their enforcement. We should have been enabled to station a competent warden and assistants at certain portions of our State, to make prompt arrests and seizures of persons, weapons and outfits. To a limited extent we have done this, but were only enabled so to do by withdrawing funds, and expending money that should have been devoted to other branches of our service. The year's experience has presented to us some cases of poaching and violation of our game laws where the meanness and infamy of the acts seem to have been in almost direct ratio to social position, education and profession.

The ability to bribe, to demoralize, has been freely used; in one instance offering five hundred dollars to a hesitating guide who feared the State penalty of one hundred. We would

ask of our Legislature to add imprisonment to the penalty of infraction of our laws where bribery is proven. The laws of close time for our State are only such as a judicious farmer acts upon for the most profitable management of his breeding stock, and are absolutely essential to their preservation. "Forest and Stream" has well observed: "Beast, bird and fish have seasons which nature has set apart for their vacation; men theirs, which are not fixed by any unalterable law. Which should be most respected?" The efficacy of all laws in correcting the habits of a people is dependent upon the facilities of enforcement afforded by speedy and prompt justice. Laws can be perfected only by the demonstration before the people of their faithful execution to the very letter. We want no law of mere opinion. We want no officer to judge of the popularity of a law to influence his fidelity to his oath in enforcing it. If a law is unjust, oppressive, let it be rigidly enforced, and give the public an opportunity to know it by actual demonstration and experience. Laws then if wrong, would be as promptly amended or repealed as enacted. Better laws would be the result in place of the present school for perjury. People would then amend their laws in place of persecuting faithful officers for refusing to prove false to their oaths. By statute, our wardens are to look for their pay for service as State officers, chiefly to one-half of the penalty against convicted persons. At present, through the means afforded us from the country trial justices to the bench, the enforcement of the law and the punishment of crime is as uncertain and precarious as a venture by lottery. The jurisdiction of a trial justice is limited to twenty dollars. The penalty for killing a moose illegally is one hundred dollars, a caribou or a deer forty dollars. All these cases must go to a higher court; we are there met by a grand jury, at best unsympathetic through ignorance. Our county attorneys are elected by the votes of the people; their salaries, as a rule, are entirely inadequate to the severe and important duties required of them. They are the advisers of

the grand jury; a heavy docket of criminal cases does not render to the county attorney the pay that the most puny shyster can earn in the purlieus of a police court. Might we be allowed most respectfully to suggest whether it would not be an improvement on our present system, both in economy and justice, that the county attorneys be appointed and commissioned by the Governor and Council, and hold office during good behavior? Let them have a good fair salary for the work and talent they are to devote to the duties of the office, and thus have protection in the fearless performance of their duty, independent of popular caprice.

Final jurisdiction should be conferred upon police courts and trial justices for all violations of our game laws, regardless of the amount of the penalty. We could then obtain speedy trial and justice, while the parties would be protected against the great expense of delay before our county courts, almost equal to the penalty, even when the defendant is successful. For two years past moose have been largely killed in our State by aliens. Citizens of our State are obliged, of course, when in the Provinces to obey their game laws, which impose a license fee of \$20 or \$30 for the right to hunt or shoot. Much of our game is yearly slaughtered, much trapped for furs, &c., &c., by our alien neighbors. Will not our Executive now use its influence to obtain such a law from Congress as will forbid the killing of our game by aliens throughout our domain, without a license first obtained by the payment of a specified sum, say \$50? Such a law is now required on our western plains, and would be applicable to the protection of every State and territory in the Union. Maine has now the influence to obtain the passage of such a law by Congress, if it be exerted. The stock of moose within our State is still good, sufficient under proper protection to give an abundant supply of this most valuable meat-producing animal. There are thousands of acres of land in the State of Maine that are forever unfitted to produce any other crop; if not venison, then nothing.



The deer this year have not been as numerous as last. Had not the new law been put in force, they would have been all destroyed. Entire possession of the game of the State had been taken by a worthless class of men incited to its destruction by middle men, who reaped the larger share of profit. The honest, faithful guide will now be better employed than ever. The future will be brighter to him and to the true sportsman.

The partridge or ruffed grouse is plenty in some sections this year, and very scarce in others. This is the history of the bird every year, from some cause independent of an unusual wet season, or severe crust following a heavy fall of snow, in which the birds will plunge for rest and security from the owl and thus sometimes get frozen in and perish; apart from this, unusual abundance in any one locality seems to attract the presence of a species of winter hawk or else owls, or perhaps some enemy of the quadruped family, that will fairly clear them out from that section, thus changing their abundance from place to place.

Marketing game of course incites many to shoot who would otherwise follow some other calling. This is especially true of the grouse, and their exportation from the State should never in the future be permitted, as it inevitably would lead to their utter extinction. Many a worthless bar-room loungee, or petty saloon keeper, will readily furnish boys with cheap old Springfield guns and ammunition, to be paid for in birds at ten cents apiece. There has been less exportation of our grouse this year than for a very long period. Although our marketmen have been limited by the State law to only three deer, &c., &c., yet that has exceeded in most instances their previous local sales to our citizens. Hitherto they exported and found it more profitable than to cut a saddle for their customers. As more venison has been offered within our State to housekeepers, the first impression has been that the number killed has been larger. That many have exceeded the prescribed number of three deer, we have no doubt; we entertain as little doubt that all these violators

of the law will be picked up and punished by our faithful wardens sooner or later. The exportation of our partridge has been confined most largely to Portland, whose dealers have advertised largely in the back towns and solicited for consignments to be sent to and forwarded by them.

#### FISHWAYS.

We have this year ordered five fishways in response to urgent petitions of local residents of the sections of the State where called for. Of the one at East Dover, the time has expired within which the structure was ordered and no notice whatever, by appeal or otherwise, has been taken of our expressed wishes. Process will be commenced next spring for the enforcement of the law and recovery of the penalty. An excellent fishway has been built at Brownville by Jason Briggs, with his accustomed energy and promptitude, on a new site to replace one removed from the opposite side of the river. A fishway has been built at the outlet of Newport lake, in Newport village, by C. H. Merrill, Esq. Two fishways, from plans rendered by H. Buck, Esq., civil engineer, are in process of construction on the Saco river, after a prolonged and very disagreeable opposition on the part of the defendants. The commissioners avail themselves of the occasion to express their grateful sense of the sympathy and aid extended to their cause and to their very able counsel, Hon. George D. Bisbee, during the trial, by the gentlemen of Saco and Biddeford.

The commissioners respectfully call the attention of the Legislature, through the Executive, to the very defective laws in relation to repairs of fishways. The present law defines repairs of fishways to be made in accordance with the laws ordering fishways, etc.; by this law we are required to give notice in writing of a survey, then a plan, on paper, of the repairs required and a specification of plan and order as to time within which the work is to be done. It involves more time and labor and travelling expenses to replace a plank or timber than would suffice to build a church, while

the work could be accomplished by a village carpenter in half a day.

We append reports from influential gentlemen, members of game protection associations, in response to our inquiries of the working of the new laws passed by our last Legislature. We commend them to the careful reading of the Executive as worthy the close, thoughtful attention of our legislators, our lumbermen and our citizens generally.

We have many matters of importance to which we would solicit the influence of the Chief Executive to present to the Legislature were it in existence. The law under which we are acting, requires that we present a report to the Governor of the State each year before the 31st of December. This law was made when we had an annual Legislature. Our Legislature is now elected every two years, while we are left to write a report in the off year, when there is no Legislature to grant or reject our requests or hear our complaints. We have deferred much to next year, when a Legislature will be more inclined in its new existence to listen to us.

Respectfully submitted,

E. M. STILWELL,  
HENRY O. STANLEY.

MACHIAS, December 3, 1883.

MESSRS. STILWELL AND STANLEY,  
*Commissioners Fish and Game, State of Maine.*

Gentlemen :

In reply to yours of November 22, I am pleased to report as follows :

Prosecutions in Washington County.	January term of Courts done. April “ “	
	“ “ “	Robt. Gillespie killing deer on crust, \$40 and costs.
	“ “ “	M. W. Flye, possession of grouse, \$100 and costs.
	October “ “	Daniel Dunbar, killing deer with dog, \$40 and costs.
	“ “ “	Virgil Richards, killing deer with dog, \$40 and costs.

Before M. H. Wilder, *Trial Justice.*

Daniel Dunbar, }  
Virgil Richards, }

\$10 each and costs, for killing woodcock on Sunday.

I can only give the prosecutions before the trial justices in this vicinity.

Our efforts to bring crust hunters to justice were foiled by the misplaced sympathy of the Grand Jury last April term of court, in proof of which, see speech of Indian as published in full by several of our State papers.

For what the wardens have done during the close season, see reports of last spring.

Most of the work since has been done by Warden L. O. Hill, who entered upon his duties in September, and has been constantly in the woods since, doing effective work.

Deputy Sheriff Wilson M. Dyer of Millridge has also had oversight of that part. In my opinion the county of Washington needs three good wardens. Nunaqungus, Machias and St. Croix are the three most important points.

Warden L. O. Hill has shown great interest in his work and has the confidence of our best citizens. He certainly has done good work and I hope we may retain his services in future as an active game police for which service he is well fitted.

The year of 1882 was the most destructive of game of any for years. Market hunters swarmed into our woods from all parts of the State and Massachusetts, broke over all restraint of law and decency, used dogs, crust hunted, and even shot the does upon the barrens in April. The frequent light snows of November and December gave the pot hunters immense advantage. At the close of the open season of 1882 the prospect was dark for the protectionist, for his work of years was nearly destroyed in a single season. The great success of these poachers promised to add ten times their number for this season. I was discouraged,

knowing from a long experience in this region the basis for game in Maine, that market hunting and game protection were perfectly incompatible, and that it must be checked or our large game would be exterminated.

Our Commissioners proposed that sportsmen meet in Augusta. A few of us responded, but our city friends did not meet us and we were inclined to believe them selfish and not in sympathy with us, thinking perhaps they would like to hunt the game, and we, country chaps, do the work of protecting. We did the best we could to make the Legislature understand what we needed, and the result was our present laws, not perfect, but effective. Let us find no fault, but use the tools we have until the time comes for change, then let all interested meet at Augusta, as proposed by Commissioners and improve them if we can. Our new law is a success, it has stopped the market hunting, and is gaining in favor daily. It has proved more of a success than its friends dared to expect.

However inconvenient the law may be to sportsmen not living in the vicinity of our game regions, it must be remembered that this crowd of poachers require severe measures, and that we must consult the interests of all. We can watch and see what changes can be made at the proper time. One thing is sure, the law must be enforced or be *such* that it *can* be. The sportsman living on the border of the game districts is the man who is expected to watch and work and he must have an effective law, for these fellows do not yield to straws but require stones. Our market hunters are a peculiar class of hoodlums, made up in great part of men without an occupation, and among them we find the skedaddler, smuggler, thief, firebug, and lazy squatter who lives from what lumber he can steal, berries he can pick, fires he can fight, *after setting them*, or anything save honest labor. The middleman is the prototype of the city pawnbroker and junk dealer. He buys at any time what he can sell at a profit without regard to law or decency, and nothing but the most extreme measures will restrain him. These men are wonderful expounders of the law and are ever sure to find them unconstitutional when they in the least interfere with their pockets. Market hunting is a nuisance; it destroys by a few what belongs to all. It encourages idleness, lawlessness and is a school for vice. It is not, nor can it be, a respectable business. There is not a market hunter, or middleman in the State who is at heart a protectionist. They all hunt for pay at any and all seasons, and they are the parties that give so much trouble with their dogs, nets, snares, torches, &c.

Our fish and game are a great attraction for the majority of our State as well as all New England, and, if properly protected, will prove a source of revenue, both directly and indirectly, and an unlimited source of health and pleasure to all. To suffer it to be destroyed by the merciless pot hunter would be the mistake of the age.

Yours with respect,

S. B. HUNTER.

MACHIAS, ME., December 3, 1883.

FRIEND STILWELL:—I am aware that Dr. Hunter will have answered your queries regarding the present "fish and game law," and its working here, better and more fully than I can hope to do. But whether as corroborating or as adding to it, I am in for the law and its enforcement too.

The law may not be perfect in every point. It may not precisely meet the wants of each inhabitant or of each locality in the State. But we sincerely believe it to be the best and most effective one thus far enacted. We find it protective in its design, plain and impartial in its provisions, just and salutary in its enforcements. In spite of the jeers from pandering market men, the ravings of middle buyers, butchers and pot hunters, the game law in this portion of the State is a success.

It is steadily doing a good work. It is awakening our people to a better knowledge of the wealth and the privileges contained in our streams and forests. It leads to a better appreciation of those bounties and blessings, the best interests of the State, its just pride and heritage. More than this we are enabled with free yet prudent hand to share all these with our friends and fellow sportsmen. A square, restrictive law commands respect. Too broad license will always be derided and violated. Among us, those who last year continued their butcheries through the winter and spring months, were, (with scarce an exception), men who had derived the full privileges of the open season. They had enjoyed the greatest latitude, they rebelled against the first check. Having killed their dozens or scores of deer each, they were unwilling to be restrained when the close time arrived. They personate lawlessness in everything. They are ready to shoot the mother duck or partridge from her callow brood, cut the throat of a gravid doe in March, steal knees and sled-crooks from other men's timber, set fire to pine lands and rob lumbermen's camps, thinking and boasting "that law cannot reach them in the woods!"

If our sportsmen in this or our sister States think our law too exclusive, let them consider the class with which we have to deal and against whom we have to legislate. We have found no barrier against game destruction so effectual as the transportation amendment. That and the general acquiescence on the part of carriers to sustain the interpretation, has almost completely stayed the shipment and as a sequence the killing of deer and grouse. It is easy to observe the difference.

This year "Othello's occupation's gone." The shiftless cabin-dweller, the lazy loafer and the school-despising hoodlum, has had, this autumn, no fifteen cent premium to encourage his expenditure of time, of bodily effort and ammunition towards securing a luckless grouse, which he never wanted for himself or family, but, by its sale for shipment, did partly keep him in tobacco under the old dispensation.

I believe, too, that the present warden is the right man, and while some had feared that the game law could not with its existing features be enforced by an officer, let our court records testify (with others in the

State) that it is enforced, and that evil doers are weakening every day.

Perhaps you can gather from these what our sentiments are; and if they can in any way strengthen or intensify the loyalty you have for the game and fish of Maine, or if we can supply an encouraging word at any time believe me it is the desire of

Yours truly,

H. R. TAYLOR.

BETHEL, December 3, 1883.

MR. E. M. STILWELL,

Dear Sir:—In answer to your request I will give you a list of all parties that I have had anything to do with for violating the game law in the year 1883.

*First*, is William Perkins and A. Davenport of Gardiner, Maine, indicted in Somerset county for killing two moose at King and Bartlett lakes.

*Second*, E. Southworth, Frank A. Patch and Robert E. Metcalf, all of Boston, indicted for killing one moose in Franklin county near the town of Eustis.

*Third*, Clifton E. Wing, Daniel Hunt, both of Boston, indicted for killing one moose on Spencer stream in Somerset county.

*Fourth*, John Phillips of Eustis, indicted for killing one moose on Spencer stream in Somerset county.

*Fifth*, Dr. C. B. Porter, Albert E. Porter, both of Boston, and Joseph St. Obin of Eustis, county of Franklin, indicted in Somerset county for killing one caribou on Baker pond in said county of Somerset.

*Sixth*, Frank Smith and John Smith of Worcester, indicted for killing deer near the town of Eustis in Somerset county.

*Seventh*, Dwight Bugslen and William Edmonds, indicted in Piscataquis county for killing one moose on Rupegenus stream and one caribou killed on Soaper brook in said county.

*Eighth*, Joseph St. Obin of Eustis indicted for killing one caribou in Franklin county.

*Ninth*, George Pelkez of Great Works, indicted for killing two moose on Ragged stream in Somerset county.

*Tenth*, Charles Nicholas, Thomas Nicholas, Andrew Nicholas and Joseph Nicholas of Greenville, indicted for killing moose in Somerset county.

*Eleventh*, Paul Peters of Oldtown, indicted for killing caribou on Chesuncook lake in Piscataquis county.

*Twelfth*, Thomas Gero and Suple Jack, indicted for killing one moose and two caribou on Pine stream, near Chesuncook lake, in Piscataquis county.

*Thirteenth*, Mitchel Burni of Kineo, indicted for killing one moose near Chesuncook lake in Piscataquis county.

*Fourteenth*, Samuel Hilton of Gesuncook lake, indicted for killing two caribou on Gesuncook lake in Piscataquis county.

*Fifteenth*, J. C. Resteene of Worcester, Mass., indicted for killing one deer on the Megaleway river in Oxford county.

*Sixteenth*, Charles Pancroft and Edward Pancroft of Philadelphia, indicted for killing two deer in Oxford county.

*Seventeenth*, Henry Hartwell of Lewiston, indicted for killing deer in Oxford county.

*Eighteenth*, George Atwood, indicted for killing four moose in Piscataquis county.

*Nineteenth*, Lorenzo Jackman, Samuel Hall, Consider Campbell and Osnic Hanscom of Mount Chase, indicted for killing three moose in Piscataquis county.

*Twentieth*, Samuel Eams and George Emery of Newry, indicted for killing three deer in Newry in Oxford county.

*Twenty-first*, Lorenzo Linnell of Magaleway, indicted for killing deer in Oxford county.

C. M. WORMELL,  
*Detective.*



## LIST OF FISH AND GAME WARDENS

IN COMMISSION NOV. 23, 1883.

NAME.	Residence.	Date of Commission.
John D. Piper . . . . .	Camden . . . . .	March 10, 1881.
Ellis M. Smith . . . . .	Machias . . . . .	Feb. 23, “
Isaac L. Linscott . . . . .	Brunswick . . . . .	April 23, “
George D. Huntoon . . . . .	Rangeley . . . . .	“ “ “
Isaac M. Jones . . . . .	Patten . . . . .	“ “ “
Charles W. Roberts . . . . .	Bangor . . . . .	May 10, “
John A. Burrill . . . . .	Newport . . . . .	June 2, “
Caleb Gilman . . . . .	Meddybemps . . . . .	“ “ “
W. M. Child . . . . .	Damariscotta . . . . .	July 1, “
George A. Drew . . . . .	Lewiston . . . . .	“ 13, “
Henry B. Penney . . . . .	Oakland . . . . .	Sept. 13, “
C. A. Carr . . . . .	Manchester . . . . .	“ “ “
Charles Sanford . . . . .	Bangor . . . . .	“ “ “
Morrill Sprague . . . . .	Dexter . . . . .	“ “ “
Pelham B. Peterson . . . . .	Columbia Falls . . . . .	“ 19, “
John Mead . . . . .	Bridgton . . . . .	Nov. 30, “
Lewis McDonald . . . . .	North Haven . . . . .	“ “ “
W. S. Hammond . . . . .	Willimantic . . . . .	“ 31, “
Ebenezer G. Morse . . . . .	Eddington . . . . .	Dec. 31, “
William A. Perry . . . . .	Phipsburg . . . . .	Jan. 13, 1882.
Charles Banks, Jr. . . . .	“ . . . . .	“ “ “
Frederick J. Park . . . . .	“ . . . . .	“ “ “
Joseph Nichols . . . . .	“ . . . . .	“ “ “
Thomas Small . . . . .	Bath . . . . .	“ “ “
Joseph Richie . . . . .	Aurora . . . . .	Feb. 9, “
Thomas F. Allen . . . . .	Bangor . . . . .	March 16, “
Laforest Phillips . . . . .	Weld . . . . .	April 27, “
Benjamin Libby . . . . .	Warren . . . . .	June 8, “
I. C. Carr . . . . .	Winthrop . . . . .	Aug. 15, “

NAME.	Residence.	Date of Commission.
Wilson W. Stewart	Newport	Jan. 24, 1883.
Joel Vickery	Glenburn	“ “ “
H. D. Marble	Portland	“ 31, “
Lewis F. Tapley	Bucksport	Feb. 7, “
A. J. Crockett	Rockland	“ “ “
G. B. Thompson	Windham	“ “ “
Hiram Davis	Winn	“ 21, “
Dudley A. Carlton	Brooklin	April 30, “
Charles W. Tracey	Gouldsborough	“ “ “
D. S. Libby	Newport	“ “ “
Timothy S. Southard	Bangor	“ “ “
John Shaw	Machias	“ “ “
John F. Pettingill	Auburn	“ “ “
John A. French	Andover	June 2, “
H. W. Golder	Belgrade	“ “ “
George W. Heselton	Gardiner	“ “ “
J. E. Green	Brewer	“ “ “
A. J. Darling	Enfield	“ “ “
James F. Mayville	Bangor	“ “ “
Delbert Higgins	Searsmont	“ 20, “
Lyman O. Hill	Whiting	“ “ “
J. M. Allen	Westbrook	Aug. 1, “
Eben Patterson	Freeport	“ “ “
Eugene Hersey	Bangor	“ “ “
Alexander McLain	Mattawamkeag	“ “ “
Horace B. Harmon	Casco	“ 22, “
Lindley M. H. Getchell	Harpwell	“ 30, “
W. R. Goodwin	Stetson	“ 22, “
William Cochran	Calais	Nov. 13, “
William F. Reed	Bangor	“ “ “
Frank A. Cobb	Lewiston	“ “ “
Wilson M. Dyer	Milbridge	“ “ “

The list of Fish Commissioners given below is taken from *Forest and Stream and Rod and Gun*, and is believed to be correct :

FISH COMMISSIONERS.

*Dominion of Canada.*

W. F. Whitcher, Commissioner..... Ottawa, Ontario.

*Province of New Brunswick.*

W. H. Venning, Inspector of Fisheries ..... St John.

*Province of Nova Scotia.*

W. H. Rogers, Inspector..... Amherst.

*Province of Prince Edward Island.*

J. H. Duvar, Inspector..... Alberton.

*Province of British Columbia.*

A. C. Anderson..... Victoria.

*The United States.*

Prof. Spencer F. Baird ..... Washington, D. C.

*Alabama.*

C. S. G. Doster ..... Prattville.

D. B. Huntley ..... Courtland.

*Arizona.*

John J. Gosper..... Prescott.

Richard Rule.... Tombstone.

Dr. J. H. Taggart, Business Manager..... Yuma.

*Arkansas.*

John E. Reardon..... Little Rock.

James H. Hornibrook..... Little Rock.

H. H. Rottaken..... Little Rock.

*California.*

S. R. Throckmorton.....	San Francisco.
J. D. Farwell.....	Niles, Alameda Co.
W. W. Taylor.....	San Francisco.

*Colorado.*

Wilson E. Sisty.....	Idaho Springs.
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*Connecticut.*

Robert G. Pike.....	Middletown.
Dr. Wm. M. Hudson.....	Hartford.
George N. Woodruff.....	Sherman.

*Delaware.*

Enoch Moore, Jr.....	Wilmington.
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*Georgia.*

J. T. Henderson, Commissioner of Agriculture and <i>ex-officio</i> Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries.....	Atlanta.
Dr. H. H. Cary, Superintendent.....	La Grange.

*Illinois.*

N. K. Fairbank, President.....	Chicago.
S. P. Bartlett.....	Quincy.
S. P. McDoel.....	Aurora.

*Indiana.*

Calvin Fletcher.....	Spencer, Owen Co.
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*Iowa.*

B. F. Shaw.....	Anamosa.
A. A. Mosher, Assistant.....	Spirit Lake.

*Kansas.*

Hon. D. B. Long.....	Ellsworth.
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*Kentucky.*

Wm. Griffith, President .....	Louisville.
Hon. John A. Steele .....	Versailles.
Dr. Wm. Van Antwerp .....	Mount Sterling.
A. H. Goble .....	Catlettsburg.
Hon. C. J. Walton .....	Munfordville.
Dr. S. W. Coombs .....	Bowling Green.
John B. Walker ..	Madisonville.
P. H. Darby .....	Princeton.
Hon. J. M. Chambers.. ..	Ind'pend'ce, K't'n Co.
W. C. Price.....	Danville.

*Maine.*

E. M. Stilwell.....	Bangor.
Henry O. Stanley.....	Dixfield.

*Maryland.*

Thomas Hughlett .....	Easton.
G. W. Delawder.....	Oakland.

*Massachusetts.*

E. A. Brackett.....	Winchester.
Asa French.....	South Braintree.
F. W. Putnam.....	Cambridge.

*Michigan.*

Eli R. Miller.....	Richland.
A. J. Kellogg .....	Detroit.
Dr. J. C. Parker .....	Grand Rapids.

*Minnesota.*

1st District—Daniel Cameron.....	La Crescent.
2d District—Dr. Wm. M. Sweeney.....	Red Wing.
3d District—Dr. Robert Ormsby Sweeney .....	St. Paul.
4th District—No appointment until January.	
5th District—No appointment until January.	

*Missouri.*

Dr. J. G. W. Steedman, Chairman.....2803 Pine St., St. Louis.  
 John Reed.....Lex'gton, Laf'ette Co.  
 Dr. J. S. Logan ..... St. Joseph.

*Nebraska.*

W. L. May .. .....Fremont.  
 R. R. Livingstone.....Plattsmouth.  
 B. E. B. Kennedy ..... Omaha.

*Nevada.*

Hon. Hubb G. Parker ..... Carson City.

*New Hampshire.*

Edward Spaulding ..... Nashua.  
 Luther Hayes ..... Milton.  
 Albina H. Powers..... Grantham.

*New Jersey.*

Richard S. Jenkins..... Camden.  
 Maj. Edward J. Anderson..... Trenton.  
 Theodore Morford..... Newton.

*New York.*

Hon. R. Barnwell Roosevelt, 76 Chamber St., New York.  
 Edward M. Smith..... Rochester.  
 Richard U. Sherman..... New H'fd, Oneida Co.  
 Eugene G. Blackford (Fulton Market)..... New York city.  
 809 Bedford avenue..... Brooklyn.

*North Carolina.*

S. G. Worth ..... Raleigh.

*Ohio.*

Col. L. A. Harris, President..... Cincinnati.  
 Charles W. Bond, Treasurer..... Toledo.  
 Halsey C. Post, Secretary..... Sandusky.

*Pennsylvania.*

Hon. H. J. Reeder .....	Easton.
Hon. B. L. Hewit. ....	Holidaysburg.
James Duffy.....	Marietta.
John Hummell.....	Selingsgrove.
Robert Dalzell .....	Pittsburg.
G. M. Miller.....	Wilkesbarre.

*Rhode Island.*

Alfred A. Reed .....	Providence.
Newton Dexter .....	Providence.
John H. Barden .....	Rockland.

*South Carolina.*

A. P. Butler, Com'r of Agriculture and <i>ex-officio</i> of Fish and Fisheries.....	Columbia.
C. J. Huske, Superintendent .....	Columbia.

*Tennessee.*

W. W. McDowell.....	Memphis.
H. H. Sneed .....	Chattanooga.
Edward D. Hicks .....	Nashville.

*Texas.*

R. R. Robertson.....	Austin.
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*Utah.*

(No appointment since the death of Prof. J. L. Barfoot in April last.)

*Vermont.*

Hiram A. Cutting .....	Lunenburg, Essex Co.
Herbert Brainerd .....	St. Albans.

*Virginia.*

Col. M. McDonald.....	Berryville.
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*West Virginia.*

Henry B. Miller, President.....	Wheeling.
C. S. White, Secretary .....	Romney.
N. M. Lowry.....	Hinton.

*Wisconsin.*

The Governor, <i>ex-officio</i> .....	Madison.
Philo Dunning, President .....	Madison.
C. L. Valentine, Secretary and Treasurer.....	Janesville.
J. V. Jones .....	Oshkosh.
John F. Antisdel.....	Milwaukee.
Mark Douglas .....	Melrose.
Christopher Hutchinson .....	Beetown.

*Wyoming Territory.*

Dr. M. C. Barkwell, Chairman and Supt. ....	Cheyenne.
Otto Gramm, Secretary .....	Laramie.
Hon. N. L. Andrews.....	Johnson County.
Hon. E. W. Bennet. ....	Carbon County.
Hon. P. J. Downs .....	Uinta County.
Hon. T. W. Quinn.....	Sweetwater County.