

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

❧ 1887 ❧

VOLUME I.

AUGUSTA:

BURLEIGH & FLYNT, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1888.

REPORT

OF THE

Commissioners of Fisheries and Game

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

FOR THE YEAR

1886.



AUGUSTA:

SPRAGUE & SON, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1886.

REPORT.

His Excellency Frederick Robie, Governor State of Maine.

We have the honor to present our Report for the years 1885 and 1886. The two years that have passed since the last session of our Legislature have severely tested the new fish and game laws then enacted, while the increased pecuniary benefit to the State has evidenced the wisdom and foresight of our law makers. We give below the opinion of the Press as expressed in editorials and in communications from correspondents. As this is all outside and disinterested evidence from accomplished sportsmen who gladly visit our State and participate in our field sports, we make no apology for introducing it, as worthy of careful consideration. The following is from the columns of *Forest and Stream* and credited to the *Boston Herald*.

It is a fact that the State of Maine has the most rigid and the best enforced code of laws for the protection of game and game fish of any State in the Union. This is as it should be, for there is no eastern State, at least, which contains so vast an extent of forest, the natural home of the larger game, and so great an area of inland waters. It is also a curious fact that a large percentage of this woodland is valueless for any other purpose than the growing of timber and the furnishing of a sporting ground for the hunter and a breathing place for the lover of nature. That the larger game, moose, deer and caribou, were in danger of finding the fate of the bison, once abundant on the plains, now reduced to a few straggling herds, till the strong arm of the law took hold to stop the ravages of the hunter for the mere hides and the market hunter, there is no doubt. That this larger game has wonderfully increased

in Maine under the enforcement of its more stringent game laws, enacted by the Legislature of 1883, is admitted by even those who would now ask for their repeal. One of the strongest proofs of the value of these later enactments is to be found in the Boston market, where, in the winter season before the enactment forbidding the transportation of game, there were received by actual count nearly 1000 Maine deer, which were sold for a very small price or permitted to rot; but since the existence of that law scarcely a dozen deer find this market from that State in a season. That a correspondent of the *Herald* should find objectors to such a law in the person of guides, hotel keepers and stage owners is not at all strange or unnatural. They prefer the nimble penny to the dollar that is longer coming. It is perfectly natural for the people whom the law is framed to regulate to desire more license, but the bare fact of the great success of the present code of game and fish laws in Maine, in the way of a wonderful increase in the very game and fish which they are presumed to protect, is one of the strongest reasons in the world for letting those laws remain just as they are till such time as when the Commissioners and those who have the perpetuation of the game and fish in question the nearest at heart shall think it prudent to grant a longer open season and greater license to kill. That such greater license will, at the proper time, be granted, we have the best of assurance; and until that time every honest citizen of Maine, and every visitor, should accord a cheerful obedience to a code of laws which permits all to share alike to the fullest extent of open season and privileges of transportation that can be granted with safety to the future existence of the fish and game in question.

Under date of August 6th, 1885, Mr. Charles L. Brace, the noted philanthropist of New York, and who is not only a most successful "fisher of men" but an adroit and enthusiastic angler, pays the following appreciative compliment to the wise forethought of our own State Government:

The State of Maine is wonderfully intelligent in its game and fish laws. The Legislature has made a kind of enormous trout preserve of Moosehead Lake. No trout are allowed to be sent from it to market, and each angler is permitted to take with him only fifty pounds to the lowlands. As a clever legislator said to me, "they found it paid better to get from the gentlemen sportsmen ten dollars a pound for the trout than to let the pot hunters sell them for ten

cents." Great care is taken in re-stocking the lakes and in protecting the fish on their spawning beds and from set lines or any destructive artificial means of capture. Indeed, here they seem to have erred on the good side, and have forbidden the innocent sport of trolling for lake trout. What a contrast is all this to the neglect of the Adirondack lakes, where I have known hundreds of pounds of trout sent to market from a single lake in the spring, and where only recently has re-stocking been attempted. On the contrary, trout fishing has been almost completely destroyed in great stretches of water—such as the Long Lake connections—by the introduction of pickerel. One interesting result of the Maine Fish Commissioners' work was to be seen on the Penobscot at Bangor, where, on the open rapids, some two dozen large salmon had been taken this summer by sportsmen with the fly.

Moosehead Lake is evidently to be the grand fish pond of the Union. It is fed by innumerable springs at the bottom and has various streams suited for spawning. It is in the depths of the wilderness, beyond which are no roads and yet approached by a railroad from Bangor and soon to be reached by another from Canada, connecting with Halifax through eastern Maine. The waters are forever protected by law from such deposits of mills or factories as would drive away the trout. There is really now but one angler's hotel on it, but there is no reason in the future why there should not be a dozen. The game fish in these waters now are the river trout, whitefish, and there soon will be, no doubt, the land-locked salmon—gamest of all the *Salmonidæ*. But angling here in July and early August is, as in the Adirondacks, no joke. You can get the fish, and handsome ones, with the fly, but you have to work for them. An Indian or guide with his canoe must be paid for, camping material for one or two nights taken, and then you must paddle and pole up a stream to some lake or inlet where the one and three pounders lie *perdu* under the shady banks. In this month, too, these beautiful creatures are very fastidious as to their food and their habitat. Nothing is certain about the angling. You may bring home a splendid string or you may not get a "rise." It is very expensive sport, too, costing from \$5 to \$10 per day. In all this, August fly fishing in the New York wilderness is much the same, only the Moosehead trout run larger and the spawning time is later, so that the last weeks of August and September give the best fishing. In the Adirondacks good fishing is over by August 15 and is closed by law September 1.

The best flies, too, seem different. The favorite fly in Northern New York, the scarlet ibis, which resembles no earthly insect, is entirely indifferent to the Maine trout; the brown hackle, black hackle, watchman, and professor seem to do fairly well with both.

Mr. A. H. Wood of Boston, a noted and accomplished salmon fisherman, who has recently returned from his fishing grounds on the Miramichi, writes as follows to the *Forest and Stream*:

The trouble with the Miramichi fishing is at the mouth of the river. If all netting could be stopped above tide-water, the salmon would become more plentiful, and the Miramichi would rank among the first salmon rivers in the world, and sportsmen from all quarters would flock its banks, and leave many thousands of dollars with the inhabitants. Why, just think of it! the State of Maine with her splendid game and fishery laws realized last year from sportsmen and tourists over five millions of dollars, while you, with equal or better facilities, get comparatively nothing. Not only that, but in the near future your people will require to do what the United States Government has already been compelled to do, viz: to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to re-stock rivers which once teemed with salmon, but became entirely barren from the same cause that is gradually, but surely, overtaking yours. Every year seems to produce more salmon fly-fishers and less salmon. Therefore, I say, a little careful legislation in time will draw many dollars to your province, beside saving many in the future, and should you be able to do anything toward bringing about a change for the better every sportsman will help you.

Five millions of dollars is not too high an estimate of the money expended in our State by our summer visitors in 1885. This year, the tide of travel to our sporting centres has been far in excess of any past precedent, and the Press has in one voice pronounced it double, as also its consequent expenditures among our people and on our lines of travel. The primary attraction for this living tidal wave has been and is our fish and game, and which would never have found its way here, had it not been induced by that powerful allurements. That the wonderful increase in our product of fish and game

should have resulted from the very imperfect protection the Commissioners have been able to extend to it, from the limited and inadequate appropriation of the Legislature, has excited surprise and wonder from every State in our Union. Perhaps much of our success has arisen from the intelligence and enlightenment of the great mass of our people, which leads them to yield obedience to any reasonable law, where the benefit to them is so directly apparent, if the means of knowing and understanding it is placed within their reach. The Commissioners for several years have appropriated a sum of money from their slender resources to collate and publish all the fish and game laws of the State, for distribution. Over five thousand copies have been called for within the last two years. This distribution has not been confined to our own people alone, but has been called for from other States by every mail, not only by individuals, and fish and game associations, but by State legislatures. Imperfect in its organization, inadequately sustained by requisite appropriations as is our present Commission, we are widely quoted and referred to as the only State in the Union that has "a sensible code of game laws effectively enforced." The Commissioners have enforced the laws to the full extent of their appropriation, and have then and there been obliged to stay their hands. The extent of our jurisdiction is over 35,000 square miles of territory; our duties, to exercise fostering care over all the fish and game, and to promote its protection and increase by rigidly executing such laws as are enacted by the Legislature; to visit all parts of the State and note the workings of the laws; to introduce new and valuable species of fishes to our waters; to order fishways wherever we deem them necessary; and to see that the wardens do their duty in enforcing the laws. Our appropriation by the last Legislature was \$7,500 per annum for the biennial term. This sum gives a small fraction over twenty-one cents per square mile of our territory to pay for all our work, viz: the pay of all our wardens, travelling expenses, fishway expenses, surveys, engineers and plans, hearings, purchase of sea and land-locked

salmon eggs, construction of our hatching houses, care of eggs until hatched and young fry ready for distribution to the various streams and lakes to be stocked, defending the lawsuits brought against us, the invariable accompaniment of every new and untried law, providing our own office and storehouse rent, fish cans and apparatus, and for doing all our own clerical work. The boundaries of one-half of the State, over which we are expected to extend our protection and care, are upon the Dominion of Canada and the Province of New Brunswick. We require upon our boundaries the services of good, efficient men. These men must have no other occupation. They must be efficient, sterling men, of morality and integrity. Such men will command good wages, and their honesty and integrity is worth paying for. To hunt or shoot in New Brunswick requires a license of \$20. Her Indians and her citizens, and those of Canada, kill our game in close time and crust-hunt our moose, and break all our laws with impunity, and escape beyond the reach of our authority. Our own are sought out and punished. This is why we require a good and efficient guard on our boundaries. Within our own limits, our present appropriation of \$7,500, which is the largest ever made for our department, is only sufficient to do a little in each county of the State, but to do effective and conclusive work nowhere. Uneven or partial enforcement of the laws, from whatever cause arising, promotes disrespect for State authority, and fosters the very evil the laws were enacted to suppress. The open resistance to the authority of the State in Washington County by an organized band of outlaws, who commenced their career of crime by a cold-blooded murder, culminated two years ago in attempting the lives of wardens, in destroying stock, in burning houses and barns, girdling trees, destroying gardens, and seeking to intimidate by sending letters threatening life if the enforcement of the laws was not discontinued. The dignity of the State demanded a rigid performance of our duty. Two of the criminals have been tried and convicted, and, unless gross corruption prevail, will be consigned to the State Prison at Thomaston. It in-

volved one-half of our whole year's resources, and we have been obliged to withhold our annual subscription of \$1,500 for our usual supply of salmon eggs, besides other economies and sacrifices, necessary to keep within our appropriation, even at the expense of our usefulness.

To gentlemen in Machias the State owes compensation for money freely expended in defence of her laws. For their time and influence a lasting debt of gratitude is due. Is there any one interest in our State that pays back directly to the people so large a yearly return as the department of fisheries and game? Would an appropriation of \$20,000 be too large a sum to pay out for a yearly return of five millions? This present year of 1886 will show a return far in excess of last year. Our railroads and steamboats and hotels have been inadequate to the demand made upon them by the armies of pleasure seekers.

One of the most serious obstacles we have met in administering our department is the demoralizing influence of that wealthy and powerful organization of the Massachusetts Game Dealers. Their tempting offers of high prices for game of all kinds, at all seasons, are profusely distributed throughout our State. The bad influence of Boston market is felt in every State in New England, and even to the far West, where the poachers kill for her market at all times, even send game killed by disease or frozen to death in winter blizzard storms. Some of the very worst and most unscrupulous of poachers visit our forests both in open and close time, men calling themselves gentlemen, men claiming to be ministers and lawyers. Redress from the Massachusetts Legislature, we presume, is not to be looked for. Men who will kill game in violation of the laws of a State where they are mere guests, men who will sell game knowing that it is poached from a State where it is close time, must have blunted perceptions of integrity and honor.

SEA SALMON.

The diminished volume of water in our rivers caused by the demands of our industries and the ravages of fire ; the obstruction of our water courses by milling enterprises ; the throwing into our streams of the sawdust and waste of our saw mills ; the poisonous washings from our starch factories, and paper and woolen and cotton and pulp mills, all have tended to destroy our fishes, and at a period of our existence when an increased population and increased means of transportation to new markets demand an increased production. A great portion of the spawning ground of our salmon has been destroyed by being covered with sawdust and other waste from our thousands of manufactories, compelling our migratory fishes to seek other spawning beds, or leave their ova to be poisoned, or its progeny to be starved. The salmon on the Penobscot ascend higher up the streams and their tributaries, to seek newer, unpoisoned spawning beds, to which their pathway is yearly rendered more difficult. The future of Maine is artificial hatching and planting, or the entire extinction of the salmon in our rivers. For the last decade the work of the Commissioners in yearly planting young salmon fry in the Penobscot has alone preserved the salmon to our river. Had the Commissioners not yearly supplied several hundred thousands of young salmon to stock the Penobscot, the great salmon river of Maine, the salmon would now be a thing of the past and extinct. Yearly have we contributed fifteen hundred dollars from our slender means, to obtain salmon fry for our rivers, and yearly have received from Prof. Baird, United States Commissioner of Fisheries, a generous response to our appeals to save our salmon fishery in the Penobscot, the only river on the Atlantic coast of our country where salmon can be found in sufficient quantity to provide eggs to stock the exhausted rivers of our sister States. No salmon ever ascends above the tide-water dam at Bangor that is not a breeder seeking its spawning ground. These fish should

be protected. To be angled for with hook and line and bait or flies is all the license that should be permitted. But the law has been openly set at defiance. Parties from Massachusetts have been induced by the avarice of persons on the east branch of the Penobscot to participate in the felonious sport of netting our brood fish. Not only have the fish been netted, but dynamite has been and is used as an effective means of fishing, by the local poachers. Application was made to the last Legislature to again legalize netting two days in the week on the East Branch. The question was asked in response, "Would they guarantee to enforce the law if granted?" The reply was, "No!" The Penobscot can be made self-sustaining if the State will provide money to protect the salmon from destruction when above tide water. If not, then provision must be made for one million of salmon fry to be turned into the river and its tributaries annually. By adopting one or the other of these two methods alone, can the salmon in the Penobscot be preserved from utter extermination. The benefit to the inhabitants of the upper Penobscot from visiting sportmen to fly-fish for salmon, would far exceed in value all the salmon captured by net, spear and dynamite, while an equal opportunity is open to them to fish by legal methods with their visitors. The testimony of many men can be adduced in Bangor and Calais, who never dreamed of the possibility of taking a salmon with what was termed a *fish pole*, who are now converts to the rod and fly, and fierce opponents to any other methods above tide water, such is their enthusiasm for the newly-experienced delight of killing a salmon in a fair struggle of skill. Salmon do not spawn oftener than once in two years, a portion ascending the rivers each year. Since the enforcement of the law forbidding netting near the dams on the Penobscot and St. Croix rivers, the salmon collect at every tide in considerable numbers, undergoing a sort of preparatory acclimation before making a lengthened journey to their spawning grounds in the fresh water, thus affording excellent sport to the angler. Both the St. Croix and the Penobscot, if proper means of protec-

tion are furnished, will yield an increased revenue to the State from the advent of anglers to enjoy this noble sport, which with us is free to all.

The control and jurisdiction on the St. Croix is vested in the two Governments of Maine and New Brunswick. Happily the enlightened and liberal views of Mr. Frank Todd, the Dominion Fisheries officer at St. Stephen, is fully sustained by his Government. Perfect unanimity exists between the two Governments in the policy of protecting and stocking the St. Croix.

Our salmon planting in the Saco River has been a marked success. The first young fry were taken far up the river into New Hampshire and turned in in 1879. Other plantings have since been made at various points on the river, and in tributary streams. One planting of 100,000 has been made of eggs sent by us to the Commissioners of New Hampshire and hatched under their superintendence, the expense paid by us. This year, 1886, salmon of large size have appeared in considerable numbers at the mills at Saco, and at the dam at Bar Mills, where a fishway is urgently called for by the local inhabitants. Our stock of salmon eggs for 1885 was 600,000, for 100,000 of which we were indebted to Prof. Baird of the United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries. Of the hatched product of these eggs, we planted 260,000 in the Penobscot River, 100,000 in the Kennebec, 100,000 in the Saco River, 100,000 in the St. Croix; 40,000 were hatched by Mr. Lincoln of Dennyville, planted in the Denny's River. In 1886, or the present year, we have planted 1,200,000 salmon fry in the waters of Maine. Of this stock our ever generous friend, Prof. Baird, contributed 500,000. Our distribution of our young salmon was 700,000 to the Penobscot, 200,000 to the St. Croix, 100,000 to the Saco, 200,000 to the Kennebec. Of our salmon contributed to the St. Croix, Mr. Frank Todd of St. Stephen has always paid for the hatching and distribution of the fry. We should here state that the salmon works at Orland are a special benefit to the State of Maine, inasmuch as all the salmon

used there for spawning, are purchased from the fishermen at the same rates per pound that the market consumers pay. But while the other purchasers buy to eat, the Orland Salmon Works preserve their fish alive, and after having stripped them of their eggs in October and November, return them again, alive and healthy, to their native Penobscot waters.

LAND-LOCKED SALMON.

There are two varieties of this beautiful fish to be found in our State. The fish abounding in the chain of lakes known as Long Pond, Ship Pond and Sebec Lake, and other sources emptying into Pleasant River, all tributaries of the Piscataquis, a branch of the Penobscot, are similar in size and general appearance to those of Grand Lake Stream and the lakes of which it is the outlet. The average size of these fish is from two to three pounds. There is a large lake in Hancock County, known as Reed's Pond, that is noted for land-locked salmon similar in size to the noted fish of Sebago Lake. The Commissioners visited their newly-established experimental station on Crooked River recently, where in a collection of some three hundred fish, two-thirds of which were females, the average weight was estimated by experienced men, accustomed to the handling of fish at the Orland Salmon Works, at over ten pounds. One female fish weighed twenty-five pounds. A male fish of peculiar shape and beauty weighed twenty-seven pounds. The land-locked salmon has been found, to our knowledge, indigenous to no waters in Maine unaccompanied by the smelt, both evidently being land-locked fishes. The smelt seems to be their natural food, but what is of far greater importance, its young fill the place to the new-born progeny of the land-locked salmon, of milk to the young of animals. The land-locked salmon spawn in autumn, contemporaneous with the sea salmon. The smelt spawns in spring, and its young are born about the time the young of the land-locked salmon begin to forage for themselves. The smelt may be called one of the dwarf fishes, like the Red Fin, the Stickle

Back, the Black-Nosed Dace, etc., whose minute young seem designed to afford the first food to the fry of the large and more valued class of fishes like the salmon. We have never known the land-locked salmon a marked success in any waters, unless there was a plentiful supply of the fry of dwarf spring-spawning fishes. If there have been marked failures, it has arisen from an insufficient supply of food adapted to the new-born fish. In Rangeley Lakes there are Red Fins, Black-Nosed Dace, and doubtless other dwarf fishes. The land-locked salmon is a success in Rangeley, as is evidenced by a fine show of large salmon at the spawning grounds near the village. Many land-locked salmon fry have been planted at Moosehead; the dwarf fishes are doubtless to be found there, but in both cases, at Rangeley and at Moosehead, we shall never be entirely satisfied with the plant until a strong colony of smelts is introduced into both waters. A foolish notion is widely entertained that a surplusage of fish food (or minnow food, perhaps, will be better understood) will injure the fly fishing. Just the contrary is the fact. Trout and salmon will rise to the fly even with minnows in their mouths. Fish love change and novelty as well as "white folks." Webb's Pond, in the town of Weld, is noted for its fine pickerel and trout. The tributary inlets of the pond are large and of swift running water over a gravelly and rocky bottom, affording abundant protection to the trout from the vile pickerel. The pond is full of smelts, indigenous to the locality. Ten years since we commenced stocking this pond with land-locked salmon. Some few of the fry we introduced were from Sebago salmon eggs, but the main supply was from Grand Lake Stream. The increase of these fish in their new locality is truly wonderful, many of all sizes from one to eight pounds being yearly taken on both fly and bait. In the spring of the present year, a spent male salmon was taken, that weighed eleven pounds and two ounces. This fish if in full condition must have weighed fifteen or sixteen pounds, probably more.

On a recent visit of the Commissioners to the pretty little village of Weld, they found the people quite elated over their

great run of salmon on the spawning grounds. We rode some distance, striking the Bowley Brook at quite a remote point from the lake. We then strolled along the banks of the stream, finding salmon in almost every pool where there was water enough to allow the fish to obtain access to it. It was at a season of almost unprecedented drought and the number of fish both surprised and delighted us. One would have thought the scarcity of water in the brook would have rendered the ascent of the fish to the distance we were from the pond insurmountable. The inhabitants are fully appreciative of the value of their beautiful lake and its fine salmon fishing.

Sebago Lake has been to us a great source of expense and trouble. More money for wardens to patrol the country infested by the poachers was required than we had the means to provide. Every water course required its guard. Our only resource to save the few salmon left in Sebago waters has been to build a weir stopping every fish as near the mouth of the river as possible, to take the spawn of every ascending salmon and hatch the product at a house built at a convenient point for the purpose, all to be turned back into Sebago waters. Sebago may thus be made one of the most popular fishing resorts in the country, and of inestimable value to Portland and all the railroads centering there. The demand upon us for land-locked salmon fry has been far in excess of our supply or its possibilities. In most cases the waters proposed to be stocked were entirely unsuitable. We trust the remarks we have made above as to the necessity of the progeny of some spring-spawning dwarf fishes, to supply their first, or what we have designated their milk food, will lead to more discrimination in applications in future. To this we will only add, that in every instance there must be spawning ground for the salmon, in either the inlet or the outlet of the proposed locality to be stocked.

We have referred to our being compelled to contrive some method of checking the poaching on Crooked River, which resulted in our device of the fence weir built directly across the river at the nearest accessible point to its mouth, with a plank

walk on top, to enable a man with a rake, to clear away any refuse collecting between the rails of the fence, endangering the safety of the structure from any suddenly occurring autumn freshet. From time immemorial the spearing of these fish has been the only method of taking them by the local inhabitants, and is continued down to the present day, until the fish have become almost extinct. Our weir has been amply sufficient to take and hold all the ascending fish. If the lake could now number one salmon to an acre of water, we should have required weirs capable of holding as many hundreds as we have now units. We copy from one of our previous reports a memorial to the Massachusetts Legislature, at the time that Maine was part of her territory, and for which we are indebted to J. F. Pratt, M. D., of Chelsea, Mass.

To the 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 Phillip'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 weirs 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,	ELEAZER BARTLETT,
	OSGOOD CARLETON,	JOHN BARTLETT,
	JONATHAN RIGGS,	JOHN KILBORN, JR.,
	JOHN SCRIBNER,	WILLIAM SHATTUCK,
	SIMON SCRIBNER,	DANIEL HOLDEN,
	WILLOUGHBY SCRIBNER,	JOSEPH SCRIBNER,
	THOMAS WIGHT,	TIMOTHY FERNALD,
	DAVID RAY,	SAMUEL KNIGHT,
	DAN MORSE,	JOSEPH MORSE,
	MARK KNIGHT,	JOSEPH SPURR, JR.,
	JONA MOOR,	SAMUEL SPURR,
	OSGOOD WEST CARLETON,	DAVID THURSTON,
	SPURR,	JOSHUA LEAVITT,
	GEORGE PIERCE,	JOHN CARLETON,
	ISAAC BARTLETT,	DAVID CARLETON.

Leave to bring in a bill.

The ruinous custom of spearing fish on their spawning beds, which is a savage, cowardly remnant of barbarism inherited from the Indians, is so wide-spread an evil in our State, that we know of no method so economical as the one we have adopted at Sebago of re-stocking and preserving our waters, and at the same time discouraging the destructive poaching methods. Every one of these criminal forms of wasting the needed food of the people, whether of girdling fruit trees, destroying fish with dynamite or on their spawning beds, crust-hunting game or in close time, should be punished by imprisonment as well as fines.

Our supply of land-locked salmon has ever been necessarily limited, inasmuch as our supply of spawning fish is limited. Of our sea salmon, our supply has no limit but our capacity to purchase. We can always buy at the weirs as many fish as we can find means of paying for, while at Grand Lake Stream our waters are limited, and the crop of fish is proportionate. A new field has been opened to us from our recent experiment at Crooked River, Sebago Lake, the large size of our fish taken there yielding many hundreds of eggs per fish more than those at Grand Lake Stream. We

anticipated taking but few fish from which to obtain eggs, inasmuch as there are left but few fish in the lake, but our surprise was great when those few fish by their large average size of ten pounds to all taken, yielded us the unlooked-for result of 1,000,000 eggs. It may be worthy of note that one female fish in our preserve or pen weighed twenty-five pounds. One huge male fish of wonderful beauty weighed twenty-seven pounds. From the present flattering point of view appearances would indicate that we may here look for our future supply of land-locked salmon eggs of increased numbers and less expenditure. Our supply of Grand Lake Stream or Schoodic salmon eggs for 1885 was 230,000. Of these 75,000 were hatched at Rangeley, 80,000 at Enfield, 75,000 at Weld, and distributed at varied points where the applications were most imperative and the localities unquestionable. In the present year of 1886 we had a return of 153,600 as our portion from the Grand Lake Works. Of the distribution of the young fry, 60,000 were hatched at Moosehead and planted by Mr. O. A. Den-
nen; 23,000 at Bridgton and planted in Peabody Pond, Sebago waters; at Weld, 60,000 were hatched—20,000 were planted in Auburn Lake, 15,000 in Wilton Pond, 10,000 in Horn Pond in Limington, and the balance in Weld Pond.

BLACK BASS.

We have still more applications for black bass than we can supply, either from disapproval of the place sought to be stocked, or want of time and means to gratify the wishes of others when there are no fish of value to be jeopardized. From the restless spirit of our people, which destroyed some of the best trout waters in Maine by introducing the pickerel, applications will now be made to repeal the close time on black bass and white perch. The black bass breeds no faster than the white perch, and is no more of a predatory fish, but the black bass pair off and make their nests on the bottom of the ponds and do not afford the easy prey to the netter that does the white perch, that rush to the brooks in large schools,

where they are easily swept up by the poacher. We most desire to protect the white perch, which we most esteem. We would respectfully suggest that if the close time be reduced from the first day of July to the first day of June it would best meet the views of all.

We had written thus far in our report when the story of the foul murder of Hill and Niles reached us. We must confess that we were prepared for this culmination of the lax administration of justice in our State. It is but two years since that a murder as cool and unprovoked here in our State was punished with but one year imprisonment. Killing a man, to these desperate vagabonds, is but removing a troublesome rival, an importunate creditor, or a feared official. The slight punishment is not much when the advantage gained is weighed in the balance of profit. Our game laws are fair and impartial to all. They only seek to protect the game when it is breeding, or when nursing its young, or when recuperating after the season is passed. It is merely sought to insure to the working man, whether at manual labor, or at the desk, or counter, or factory, or saw mill, an equal right to his share of what belongs equally to all. By what right do these men abandon that work by which the members of the social world earn their bread, and claim authority to kill and sell that which belongs to the State, and which the State gives equally to all upon conditions to be fulfilled before legal title to the same can be acquired? By what right do certain men conspire together to seduce visitors at our summer resorts to break our laws and kill our game? With bated breath the inhabitants inform us of the outrages of these men, but always pleading that we will not give their names, as they fear the threats of personal violence, of life, of burned barns, or tracts of forest fired. The whole community, the whole State, stands in awe of these vicious, dangerous outlaws. The very men whom they entice to break our laws are cheated. We have known some of these very fellows, after earning five dollars per day from some deluded summer tourist in vain pursuit of moose or deer in close time, to spend the spring

in slaughtering the very game by which they earn their largest harvest of ready money by wages. We have found *thirteen hides* of crust-hunted moose in the tent of one noted guide, whose services are sought by every summer visitor at Moosehead Lake. If our visitors will be loyal to honour and justice, the laws of hospitality, they will aid us by giving information against these traitor scoundrels. Our very wealthiest lumber operators stand in terror of them. For such men as Graves and McFarland, are Burlington, and Ellsworth, and Rockland, and Calais, and Bangor responsible, for in those places have always been found men ready to buy and ship their game for them. Above all is Portland guilty, for there are to be found the agents to ship more of the game birds of our State in the interest of Boston markets than from any other source. We appeal to every true man in New England to aid us in sustaining our fish and game laws, for they are impartial and equable; made in favor of no one class; made expressly for our own citizens, but extending the same rights to the humblest visitor who may come among us as to the most distinguished or wealthy.

DEER.

There has been a wonderful increase in the numbers of our deer, attributable as well to the diminished exportation from limiting the number to be killed by individuals, as to the law against hunting with dogs. Were there no other reason for the law against dogs, it would be found in the unusual number of lakes and ponds that dimple the entire surface of our State, that would inevitably lead to the destruction of every deer. To kill a deer in the water is about as brave a deed as to shoot a calf in a pen. There is something so pitiful in the cruelty of driving a deer into the water with dogs, and then in the craze of their terror and bewilderment to slaughter them, and by the very hand from which they would seek protection! Can one conceive of women engaging in this sport? Of such cases we have evidence this last season at Nicasious Lake. We have

spoken of the increase of our deer. They seem, contrary to their former habit, to be equally distributed almost all over the State. Formerly certain districts were entirely abandoned by them, owing to the terror of the wolves then quite common, and compelling them to seek the counties nearer civilization. The wolf is now extinct in our State, and the deer are to be found in every county. The Dominion of Canada has passed a non-exportation law for venison and grouse. How long will the fish and game of Maine last if our forest and streams are opened to the demands of the markets of Boston and New York? Have we not all witnessed the desolation of the western plains, to which the territory of Maine compares but as a small township? And yet this is the issue before us. Give us the aid of every loyal man in the State. Give us the aid of every loyal sportsman in the country, or submit to the reign of such butchers as Graves and McFarland. We require a square non-exportation law. There are enough deer for all, and the law has made a fair apportionment of three for each; this is enough. No one man should be allowed to make a business of killing and selling that which equally belongs to all. One moose, two caribou, and three deer is the apportionment made by our Legislature for each. The running of deer by dogs is intended to insure their slaughter without any work or skill on the part of the hunter. Every deer in a county can thus be killed by a few men banded together. The law should be amended by making it punishable with fine and imprisonment to kill a *deer in the water* as well as hunting and killing with dogs.

MOOSE AND CARIBOU.

Many moose have doubtless migrated into our State from other forests, but there has been a very marked increase in their numbers in our own woods. Notwithstanding this one favorable feature, we fear their early and utter extermination unless the Legislature will give us both money for enforcement, and laws to control. The slaughter of moose of all

ages and sexes the last two years by crust-hunting poachers, has been most pitiful. Thirteen moose hides taken last spring by one Indian guide were lately found in his possession. The high market value of the moose skin is as great a temptation to the idle, vagabond poacher, as is a well-filled safe to his brother scoundrel, the professional cracksman. While many of the sportsmen who visit our State are gentlemen in the true sense of the term, and rigidly obey our laws, others are amenable to no law, but boldly offer to pay the penalty for destroying our moose in close time if caught, thus tempting and demoralizing our guides. These men are pretty generally picked up in a year or two by our wardens, and made to pay the penalty. Many of the guides, all who are Indians, after earning good wages from their employers, and after the season is over, seek out the wintering yards of the moose, and in the snow-crust of spring, slaughter all, even down to the worthless calf. If the yard is handy to a winter camp of lumbermen, the meat is sold. If far away, they are killed for the skins alone. The whites and Indians, both our own or neighboring scoundrels, are engaged in this destruction of our moose. The few bulls killed by our visiting sportsmen would never exterminate the race, for rarely is a cow moose killed, as they do not come to the call of the hunter. It is the destruction of the cows by the crust-hunter that is to lead to their utter extermination, if not summarily stopped by the enforcement of severe laws. A penalty of \$500 and six months imprisonment should be the mildest punishment for killing a cow moose *at any time*. We think a term of imprisonment should be added to all our penalties, as the bearing of the money penalty is necessarily unequal in its application to all criminals. The wealthy come here and employ a guide to break the law, promising to pay for all infractions. The poor man is more severely punished by a dollar fine than the wealthy by a hundred dollars. In these cases imprisonment cures the evil. Our laws forbid hunting our deer with dogs. Many of our visitors have the hardihood to bring hounds with them into

our State, boldly acknowledging they intend to break our laws. Will not our Legislature give us the means to punish this insulting defiance to our State laws? Give us a law that will compel them to give a bond of \$100 for each and every dog, with two resident sureties, or deposit that amount in the hands of the city marshal or the game warden or one of the commissioners, the money to be forfeited if the dogs are used for illegal purposes or sold within the State.

Of caribou it is difficult to make any estimate of increase or decrease. The reports to us are of plenty and in all sections. We have heard of many being killed, but of all our game animals the caribou is the most capable of taking care of itself. But still, in all changes of our laws for venison we wish to have caribou included.

We have expressed our earnest desire that the law in relation to moose should be so altered that it be made penal in the sum of five hundred dollars and a term of imprisonment to kill a cow or a yearling moose at any time. In conclusion we would respectfully suggest that the open season for moose, caribou and deer should be so changed as to include the month of September, dating the close time either from the first day of December, or as at present, from the last day of December.

GAME BIRDS AND SONG BIRDS.

Of our birds we regret that we have nothing favorable to report. The exportation of our game by means of the agents of Boston markets at either Portland or on board steamers or coasting vessels continues. We know of nothing but adding imprisonment to all our penalties, that will deter avaricious and unprincipled men. Judas Iscariot would be deemed of rather fastidious honour by our game dealers. Some varieties of our birds have become almost extinct by the wretched practice of spring shooting. Casting aside humanity, mercy, every attribute of sentiment, was there ever, in the light of economy and common sense, a more absurd

law than to permit the very birds we are trying to increase in numbers by protection, to be shot when they return to their breeding homes to seek places to nest and rear their young? The netting of ducks in our ponds, as well as fish, is an almost universal practice with the professional poachers of our State. The two murderers, Graves and McFarland, have been in the hands of our wardens for netting ducks and dogging deer. Every remote section has its duck netters. Numberless sheets of water rarely visited saving by some summer tourist, have their vagabond netters. All these birds would be liable to seizure if bearing no marks of having been killed by fair shooting. Even this test is now imitated by an instrument made expressly for the purpose; this is applied to the head and neck and other parts of the body, to punch holes imitating shot holes. A mania among the idle seems to prevail to make a specialty of destruction to everything that can be converted to money without work, or that does not involve methodical industry. Even our very barn swallows, that live entirely on mosquitoes and black-flies, have been sacrificed by the shooting loafers, for the few feathers of the breast that find favour with the milliners. The tern and other harmless sea-birds of our coast, that enliven the solitary hours of our island homes or our light-house guardians, have become the objects of slaughter by both Indians and whites. Might not Congress pass a law covering our whole coast and giving light-house keepers, revenue officers, etc., powers of enforcement?

Respectfully submitted.

E. M. STILWELL,
HENRY O. STANLEY.

REPORT

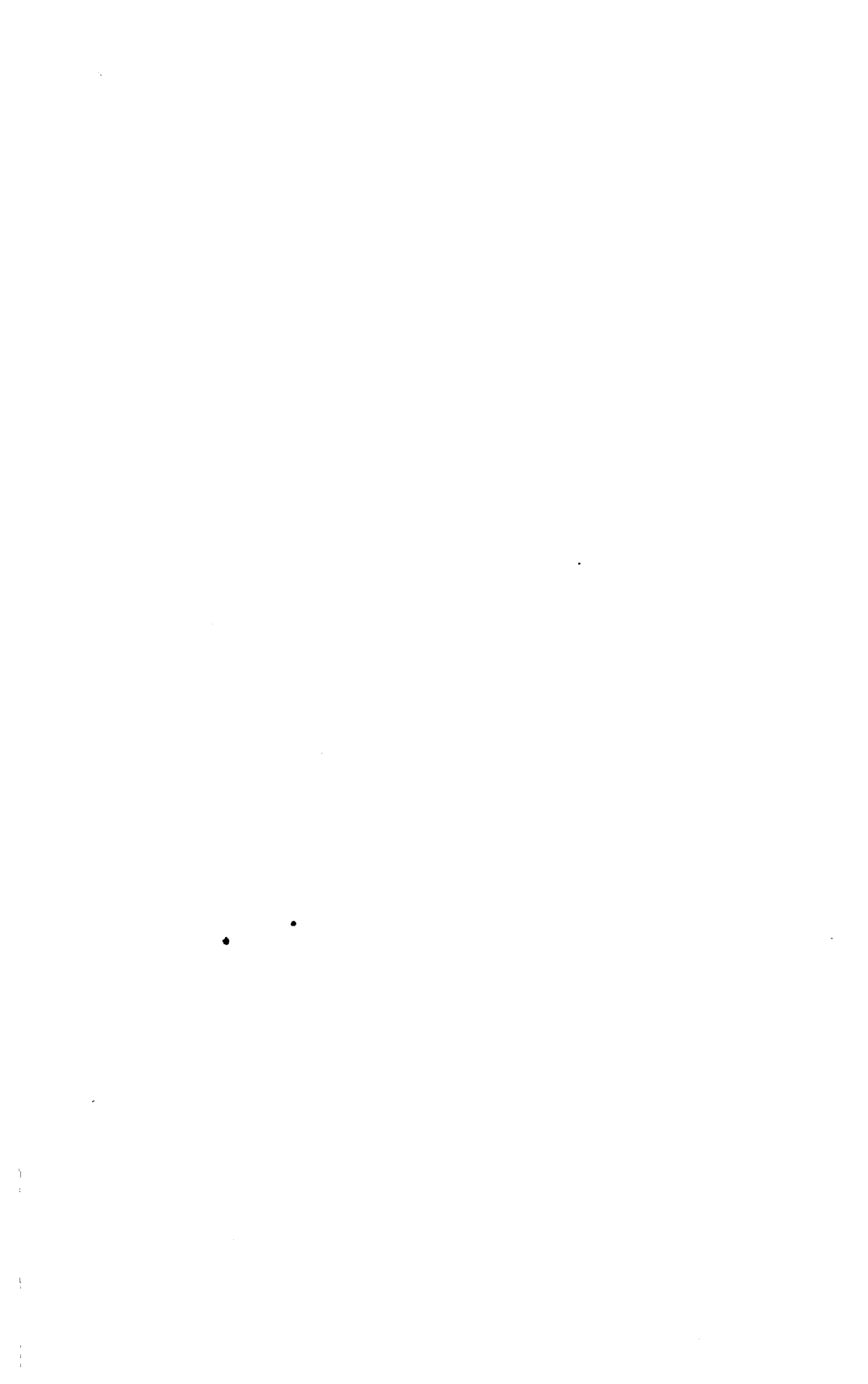
OF THE

Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1886.



REPORT.

To His Excellency FREDERICK ROBIE, *Governor of Maine:*

The Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries has the honour to present his first report.

The efforts of the Commissioner during the two years covered by this report has been devoted to enforcing the law for the protection of lobsters, mackerel, alewives, shad, smelts, salmon and other migratory fish.

It has been no small task to look after this branch of the fisheries stretched along the coast some 5000 miles from Eastport to Kittery. With a small appropriation (\$2,500) we have not done all that might have been done if we had had the means to carry out our plans.

We have endeavored to observe economy in all we have done, and have at all times remembered that the resources at our command were limited.

LOBSTERS.

The lobster is an important branch of the Maine fisheries. There are in this State some forty lobster and sardine canning factories. Of this number about two-thirds can lobsters and one-third can lobsters and sardines. Only about one-half of the lobster factories did any canning the past season.

It takes about five or six of the small lobsters from nine inches or less to make one can. It is seldom that the factories can any lobsters over nine inches long, as those ten and one-half inches in length are shipped to Portland, Boston and New York.

I have been unable to ascertain the number of lobsters canned. It is a very large amount, and a large number of small lobsters are used for that purpose.

The following notes from the experiments by Prof. Richard Rathburn of the Smithsonian Institute will prove of interest in connection with this subject.

The experiments were begun in 1886 and form part of the work of the United States Fish Commission. They are at present incomplete, but advance sheets were kindly furnished the Commissioner.

“All the States interested in the lobster fishery, excepting New Jersey, whose fishery is small, have enacted protective laws; but, either because these laws are inadequate or are not properly enforced, they have failed to stop the decrease, though they may have checked it more or less. As a result, the fishery is falling off in the United States, and we are even now dependent, to a greater or less extent, on the British Provinces for the supplies of our larger markets. The same trouble exists in Europe, where the lobster fishery is, of course, of much older date than in this country, and where it has been controlled by legislation for many years. Many elaborate reports have been published upon the European fishery by experts appointed to investigate its condition and needs, but they are apparently at as much loss there as we are here regarding the methods and benefits of protection. In Norway, which country possesses the most important European fishery, they have, as a last resort, sought relief through the aid of artificial lobster culture, and experiments to that end have been carried on for several years. In the United States, where the methods of fish culture are best understood and have been most productive of beneficial results, it is natural to suppose that the same course would have been often suggested, and such has really been the case. None of the trials up to this year have, however, been made according to the most approved methods of fish propagation, and insufficient means for carrying on any such practical experiments with respect to salt-water species of fish have

alone prevented the Fish Commission from engaging in this work before.

It would be impossible, within the limits of this paper, to cite even a portion of the evidence bearing upon the decrease of lobsters which has been collected, but following are a few of the remarks with which this subject is introduced in the report already referred to :

‘An illustration of the rapidity with which the lobsters of a small area may be caught up, is furnished by a salt-water inlet on the coast of Maine, in which lobsters were at one time very abundant. This basin opens directly into the sea, and is sufficiently large to have afforded a remunerative fishery to several lobstermen. Two years' time was sufficient to reduce the supply of lobsters to such an extent that fishing became unprofitable. After an interval of about five years they again became abundant, and the supply was once more exhausted. Had this inlet not been so situated that it readily received supplies from without, it is probable that it would have required a much longer time to become replenished.

On the coast of Maine the evidences of decrease are very strong, especially as regards the shallower areas, but the rapid extension of the grounds into comparatively deep water has made the actual decrease less apparent. The rocky bottoms of Maine are also supposed to afford the lobsters greater protection than the sandy ones to the south, and in many places the traps cannot be set as closely together, nor is it probable that the lobsters in such localities move about as much in search of food.

The greatest decrease has occurred within the past fifteen or twenty years or since the establishment of numerous canneries and of the perfected methods of transporting fresh lobsters to all parts of the country. The demand being so much greater than the supply, there are no restrictions on the amount of the catch beyond those imposed by the State laws or resulting from the scarcity of lobsters. Fish are among the greatest enemies of the lobster, and cod are known to consume enormous quantities ; but nature has provided against

their extinction by such means, and it is man alone who has disturbed the balance.'

The above remarks were based mainly upon the fishery investigations of 1880, since which evidences of continued decrease have been constantly received. About a year ago, a prominent Boston dealer wrote that he was receiving large quantities of lobsters from Nova Scotia, as the Maine fishery was totally inadequate to supply the demand, the amount obtained from that State having been less than in previous years.

One of the strongest evidences of decrease in abundance is afforded by the continuous decrease in the average size of the lobsters sent to the markets. The exact amount of this decrease is not determinable, as no records bearing upon this subject were made prior to 1880, but the fact was granted by the fishermen and canners, even in those regions where a perceptible decrease in numbers was not admitted. The average weight of the lobsters marketed in most places in 1880 was estimated to be about two pounds each. A New Haven correspondent stated that the average length of the lobsters sold in the markets in that place in 1880 was about ten and one-half inches, and the average weight about two pounds, against an average length of about thirteen inches and an average weight of about three and one-half pounds twenty years ago. In Boston the market lobsters ranged but little above the limit in size permitted by the State laws, and that seems to be the case nearly everywhere. In Portland, Maine, the average length of the lobsters marketed in 1880 was about ten and one-half inches, and in Boston eleven to eleven and one-half inches, while in New York City the range in size was from ten and one-half to fifteen inches.

The facts above stated apply only to the larger distributing centers, where custom had prescribed the minimum limit in size of the lobsters marketed, before protective laws were enacted. At that time there was an abundance of large lobsters, and the smaller individuals were regarded as of little account for the fresh trade. They have, however, been used

for a long time by the canneries on the coast of Maine, by the fishermen as bait, and to supply local demands. The quantity of lobsters consumed, measuring less than ten inches in length, is, therefore, very great, and on some portions of the Maine coast the canneries make use of only those that are too small for the fresh-market trade. In fact, the greater proportion of the lobsters now canned are less than ten inches long. From these statements it will be seen that there is a steady demand for lobsters of all sizes, and that but a limited protection is afforded either by laws or custom.

Lobsters are found with spawn attached to the abdomen during the entire year. This fact is recorded of both the American and the European species, but the length of time they are carried before hatching and the limits of the hatching season are not precisely known. As regards the European crayfish, a fresh-water crustacean closely related to the lobster, Professor Huxley states: 'The process of development is very slow, as it occupies the whole winter. In late spring-time or early summer, the young burst the thin shell of the egg, and, when they are hatched, present a general resemblance to their parents. This is very unlike what takes place in crabs and lobsters, in which the young leave the egg in a condition very different from the parent, and undergo a remarkable metamorphosis before they attain their proper form.'

The smackmen of the southern New England coast claim that the eggs hatch in the wells of their smacks in the greatest abundance, from some time in May until late in July, but that at other seasons they have never seen any embryo lobsters, although the smack trade in lobsters is kept up during nearly the entire year. During the season mentioned, the surface of the water in the wells of the smacks often becomes perfectly alive with the young, and they may be scooped up by the hundreds of thousands. This evidence is tolerably conclusive as to the duration of the principal hatching season, and determines the period when experimental work in artificial propagation can best be undertaken. The fact

that a few of the eggs contained in the jars at the Wood's Holl station of the Fish Commission hatched during November of this year indicates, however, that some hatching may take place at other seasons, as the conditions under which the eggs were kept were perfectly normal, the water being of about the same temperature as that of the harbor outside. Hatching is supposed to begin somewhat later farther north.

The writer was, at first, inclined to believe that the hatching continued to a considerable extent through the entire year, basing his conclusions upon the fact that, during the months of August and September last, eggs were found in various stages of development, from the freshly laid and totally opaque ones to others in which the dark greenish yelk sack occupied scarcely more than one-half of the area of the egg, the remainder being transparent and clearly showing the structure of the embryo. Some of these eggs, preserved in the hatching-jars, were carefully examined from day to day, and, although they exhibited a certain amount of progress, development was slow. It finally became evident that the development of the eggs was being retarded by some cause, presumably the lower temperature of the water, and this result, coupled with the statements of the fishermen, that embryos are seen only in May, June and July, makes it probable that the hatching of lobster eggs at other seasons is only an accidental or occasional occurrence. It is also not at all improbable that the young hatched during cold weather perish soon after they leave the egg."

Professor John A. Rider, formerly of the United States Fish Commission, writes under date of November 4, 1886 :

"In a period extending over about one hundred days the young lobsters grow from a length of one-third of an inch to one of one and a half inches. In making this growth the young lobsters moult not less than nine times, the earlier moults coming much closer together than the later ones. The interval of time probably becomes still greater during the later months.

I think it probable that after reaching a length of nine inches, the lobster moults but once a year.

I have never seen a lobster under nine inches with eggs attached that I can remember. If the old lobsters were to moult oftener than once a year the result would be that the eggs would be cast off with the shell.

That this is not the case is, I think, sufficiently proved by the fact that the eggs are carried on the swimmerets."

Much has been said about the shrinkage of lobsters after boiling.

Having made a large number of measurements to test this point, in the presence of witnesses, I am convinced that a hard-shell lobster, such as used by the canning factories, will not shrink at all by boiling.

The last test was May 1, 1886, in Thomaston, and resulted as follows :

No.	Live Lobster.	After Boiling 20 Minutes.	After Cooling 12 Hours.
1	11 1-8 inches.	11 1-8 inches.	11 1-4 inches.
2	10 5-8	10 5-8	10 5-8
3	12 1-32	12 1-32	12 3-32
4	12	12	12
5	11 1-4	11 1-4	11 1-4
6	11 7-16	11 7-16	11 1-2
7	11 1-16	11 1-16	11 1-16
8	11 1-8	11 1-8	11 1-8
9	10 25-32	10 25-32	10 25-32
10	10 11-32	10 11-32	10 11-32
11	10 9-16	10 9-16	10 9-16
12	10 26-32	10 26-32	10 26-32
13	10 21-32	10 21-32	10 22-32

It will be seen by the above measurements that none of them shrink by boiling and four of them gained a fraction.

Mr. Arthur Brown of North Haven, who has been in the business of canning lobsters for many years, measured in the spring of 1885, fifty young lobsters just nine inches long when alive. After boiling them the proper time measured them again and found that they did not shrink at all by boiling.

I know of many other similar experiments with similar results.

Chapter 40, section 21, Revised Statutes, reads as follows :
 "It is unlawful to fish for, catch, buy, sell, expose for sale, or possess between the first day of October and the fifteenth

day of the following August, any female lobster in spawn or with eggs attached, or any young lobster less than ten and one-half inches in length, measuring from head to tail extended, exclusive of claws or feelers, and such lobsters when caught shall be liberated alive at the risk and cost of the party taking them, under a penalty of one dollar for each lobster so caught, bought, sold, exposed for sale, or in possession not so liberated. *Provided, however,* that from the first day of April to the fifteenth day of July it shall be lawful to fish for, catch, buy, sell, expose for sale, or possess for canning and all other purposes, any lobsters not less than nine inches in length, measured as aforesaid, but not including female lobsters in spawn or with eggs attached."

It will be seen by the above section that the law makes no distinction between a live lobster or one that has been boiled.

Such being the law, it makes no difference whether the lobster is alive or dead if found in possession; the party having it in possession is violating the laws.

If the law is to be practicable in its application the time of measurement cannot be limited. When lobsters are found in possession while alive the invariable claim is that the possessor intends to liberate them, and that if he does this while there is a vital spark left in them the law has been complied with. When found boiled the possessor says, Hands off, you have no right to touch a lobster after he breathes his last! He is then entitled to rest in peace. Now what did the Legislature intend, when they declared that lobsters of a prohibited length should not be bought, sold, exposed for sale, or had in possession? Did they mean to limit the time to the life of the lobster? Would it not be just as consistent to say that a female lobster after boiling did not come within the prohibition? Few lobsters are exposed for sale before boiling. If they cannot be measured after boiling then the penalty for illegal possession cannot be enforced. There are no rules laid down to be followed in measuring which contemplate contraction or extension in the process of boiling. If this law is to be enforced officers charged with its enforcement must have the

right to take the prohibited lobsters, illegally held, while living or after they are boiled, and proper measurements made at either time must be considered sufficient. The statute should receive such construction that its provisions can be enforced.

This was certainly the intention of the originators of the law, as will be shown by the following letter from the Hon. John H. Kimball, Chairman of the Fish Committee when the law was passed :

BATH, Maine, October 30, 1886.

To the Editors of the Lewiston Journal :

Certain crustaceans are known commercially and scientifically as lobsters and by no other name, whether alive in their salt-water homes or on the marble slab of the fish dealer, boiled and ready for the table. In either condition they are known only as lobsters.

The Revised Statutes recognize no difference between living and dead lobsters and the same rule applies to all fish where a limit is given as to size, in the laws enacted for their protection.

The having in possession a herring for canning purposes, less than eight inches in length, or a trout less than five inches, or a salmon less than nine inches long is a violation of the law, and the possessor is liable to a penalty. In the enactment of these laws there was no distinction made between living or dead fish or lobsters. A great deal has been written and said about the lobster law, and the attorneys of prosecuted parties have endeavored to befog the court with the idea that a boiled lobster is not a lobster within the meaning of the statute, and claim that the length of the lobster when alive in the trap is to be the true measure. I know of no objection to that if each lobster is provided with a duly authenticated certificate that it was of legal length when caught.

But all these arguments seem puerile and nonsensical, beside the plain reading of the law.

“It is unlawful to fish for, catch, buy, sell, expose for sale or possess, between the first day of October and the fifteenth day of the following August, any female lobster in spawn or with eggs attached or any young lobster less than ten and one-half inches in length.”

In the framing of that law, the best legal talent in the Legislature was consulted. Nothing was left to conjecture or inference,

but the intent and meaning was put into pure, undiluted Anglo Saxon, so that it should be plain and intelligible, even to the weakest intellects.

Now, unless the Supreme Court shall decide that a boiled lobster is not a lobster, then there can be no doubt as to the construction of the law. I have no fear of such a result.

I have been asked, as Chairman of the Committee on Fisheries during the last two sessions of the Legislature, to state the views and intentions of the committees in the enactment of the lobster law. Those committees were as intelligent and competent to perform their duties as any in the Legislature, and there was no difference of opinion as to the intent and meaning of the law, that whatever condition the lobster may be in, alive or boiled, the length is to be taken when the illegal act is detected. Otherwise the law would be an absurdity.

How is a man to prove that the identical ten-inch boiled lobster which he offers for sale, measured ten and one-half or eleven inches when alive? Even if it were possible to so prove, which it is not, he would still be liable to the penalty, for the law expressly says that it is unlawful to have such a lobster in possession and makes no provision for any exception whatever.

I think, however, that this question of shrinkage in boiling has been conclusively settled by the experiments made by Shore Fish Commissioner Counce, and which demonstrate beyond dispute that a sound lobster suitable for food does not shrink in boiling.

J. H. KIMBALL.

This question of shrinkage was raised in the very first case, State against Josiah Burnham of St. George, for having 445 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long May 23, 1885, and he was fined. Case appealed and carried to law court, and up to this time the decision has not been reported.

In almost every case since, this same point of shrinkage has been raised and the cases carried up to law term, so that but little has been received by the fish wardens for fines on this account.

It is hoped that this question will soon be decided, for if this question of shrinkage is allowed the law is not of much account, for most of the lobsters offered for sale are first boiled.

To settle this question, I would respectfully ask that the law should be so amended and changed that it shall be unlawful to fish for, catch, buy, sell, expose for sale, or possess, at any time, lobsters less than ten and one-half ($10\frac{1}{2}$) inches in length, measured alive or after boiling, from the end of the bone of the nose to the end of the bone of the middle flipper—exclusive of fringe; the lobsters to be extended full length when measured. That there shall be no close time; that all owners of lobster cars shall have their full names carved, painted or branded upon the top of all cars in legible letters, not less than three quarters of an inch in length and the name shall be *prima facie* evidence of ownership; and any cars found in use without such name thereon shall, together with its contents, be seized and declared forfeited to the officers making such seizure, unless a claimant appears for the same within twenty days and proves ownership and pays all expenses attending said seizure.

I would recommend that the word “*young*” should be stricken out of chapter 40, section 21, sixth line; and a few other slight changes in various provisions will greatly facilitate the practical enforcement of the law. The attention of the next Legislature should be called to these matters, and the present laws relieved of all uncertainties.

What is wanted, says the *Forest and Stream*, is a uniform law that shall bring Rhode Island and Connecticut into line with Maine and Massachusetts, in this good work. It adds: “It is worthy of note that all along the Maine and Massachusetts coasts, at least, the fishermen evince a willingness and even a desire to see the short lobster law enforced. All they ask is that it be made general. They know that it is better to give the lobsters time to grow; but if undersized ones are to be caught, each fisherman feels as though it was a duty to his pocket that he got his share.”

It has been noticed that lobsters of a much larger size are now coming into market.

MACKEREL.

As this fish has been scarce on our coast the past season, the law has not been violated as much as usual.

Some of the seiners have come into the rivers within the three-mile limit and have been caught.

It has been very difficult to catch them, as many of them are steamers from other States, that steam into our rivers and cast their nets for a short time, then steam out before a warden can board them or learn their names or where they hail from.

The total New England catch of mackerel to November 12th, 1886, was 80,092 barrels compared with 329,108 barrels in 1885 and 418,418 barrels in 1884, and the mackerel season is closed.

It will be noticed by this statement of the catch that it grows smaller and smaller each year, and, unless this fish is better protected it will soon be destroyed as the porgie fishing has already been.

SMELTS.

This fish extends from Maine to North Carolina, and the shipping of smelts during the winter months has become quite an important business in this State.

Many thousand pounds of this little fish are sent during the winter and spring out of this State.

Some amendments should be made in the present laws to prevent the wholesale destruction of this fish.

I would recommend that no smelts be sold between the first days of April and October, under a penalty of not less than \$10 nor more than \$30 for each offence, and a further penalty of twenty cents for each smelt so sold, except caught by hook and line. Provided, that dip-nets may be used between April 1st and May 1st.

ALEWIVES.

In the summer this fish abounds in the coastal waters of all the Atlantic States from Maine to Florida, in winter only south of Cape Hatteras.

This fish is a very important one in this State as an article of food, but it is fast disappearing, and unless better protected will wholly disappear as the porgie has.

The alewife is caught in Damariscotta and Georges rivers in large numbers and pays quite an amount of the taxes in Damariscotta, Newcastle and Warren.

The right to catch these fish in Damariscotta Mills was sold in 1884 for \$3,555, in 1885 for \$2,510, in 1886, \$1,655.

The parties buying the right to fish at the Mills do not have the right to catch fish on the river or back streams.

It will be seen by the above statement that the value of these fish is growing less every year. There are now on the Damariscotta River twenty-five weirs and on the Georges River fifteen, beside the nets. Such being the case, it makes it very hard for the fish to overcome those obstacles and reach the ponds to deposit their spawn. Something should be done to prevent such wholesale destruction of the young alewives as they return to the ocean. Thousands of them are ground to chum every season as they return by the mills on these streams. The last Legislature passed an act granting the town of Union the right to take alewives for two days in the week on the sponding grounds in Georges River.

“This was the unkindest cut of all” and such an act should never have been passed. The passing of so many special local laws is much to be regretted, as their workings are productive of much harm, and I hope the growing practice will be discontinued.

I am pained to know that one of the best and most faithful wardens in the State has been cruelly murdered while doing his duty. I allude to Warden Lyman O. Hill of Whiting,

and trust that every effort in the power of the State will be used to catch and punish the murderer.

In conclusion, I would say that the expense of enforcing the law for the protection of fish is very considerable, in order to afford the protection that the law is designed to give. Nearly all violators of the law have thus far shown a determined spirit in resisting all legal proceedings to enforce penalties, and much litigation may be necessary to establish the fact that the law must be respected by all alike. The appropriations so far have not been adequate for a successful enforcement of the law, and I would recommend that they be made more generous in the future. While the law provides that many, if not all of the provisions of the laws for the protection of fish may be enforced in the name of the State, it is not practicable to rely wholly on criminal prosecutions for their enforcement, and in not a few instances we have brought civil suits. This method seems to be the only one by which we can enforce a lien upon vessels for penalties for violation of the laws.

Respectfully submitted.

B. W. COUNCE.

Fish and Game Warden Jesse W. Peabody of Thomaston reports the following cases :

George F. Tilden of Hurricane was complained of for having 97 short lobsters in possession. Case settled.

Lewis Avery of Vinal Haven was indicted for having 175 lobsters less than nine inches in length in possession. Case pending.

A. P. Burgess, Vinal Haven, was fined \$71 and cost for having 71 lobsters in possession less than nine inches. Paid.

Charles Kimball of Vinal Haven, fined \$3 and cost for having 3 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Paid.

Reuben Brown of Vinal Haven, fined \$13 and cost for having 13 lobsters less than nine inches long in possession. Paid.

Elijah York, Vinal Haven, fined \$15 and cost for having 15 lobsters less than nine inches long in possession. Case settled.

Charles Pool, Vinal Haven, fined \$16 and cost for having 16 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Paid.

Calvin Brown, Vinal Haven, fined \$13 and cost for having 13 lobsters less than nine inches long in possession. Paid.

F. A. Colby, Vinal Haven, indicted for having 45 lobsters less than nine inches long in possession. Case pending.

Freeman Rackleff, South Thomaston, fined for having 20 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Paid \$20 and cost.

Edward Marshall, St. George, fined \$9 and cost for having 9 lobsters less than nine inches long in possession. Paid fine and cost.

Lewis Clark, St. George, was fined \$13 and cost for having 13 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Paid fine and cost.

Thomas Doherty, St. George, was fined \$3 and cost for having 3 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Settled.

Alfred Simmons, Friendship, was fined \$117 and cost for having 117 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Case now pending.

Samuel Simmons, Friendship, was fined \$74 and cost for having 74 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Case now pending.

George Brown, St. George, was fined \$11 and cost for having 11 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Paid.

Wilson J. Simmons, Friendship, was fined \$8 and cost for having 8 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Paid.

Chas. Demiere, Friendship, fined \$6 and cost for having 6 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Paid.

Josiah Burnham, St. George, fined \$34 and cost for having 34 lobsters in possession less than nine inches long. Paid fine and cost.

Stephen Chase, Rockland, fined \$9 and cost for having 9 lobsters in possession less than ten one-half inches in length. Paid fine and cost.

Benjamin Maxey, Thomaston, was fined \$20 and cost for having an unlawful weir. Case now pending.

Warden Peabody had a number of small cases not here reported, which have been settled.

Charles W. Tracy, Fish and Game Warden, of Gouldsboro', reports the following prosecutions in Washington County :

George W. Smith for canning 33 short lobsters fined \$33 and cost.

Freeman & James Parrot for canning short lobsters, paid \$18 without cost.

Green Hodgkins & Son for having short lobsters in possession paid \$20 without cost.

Samuel Yeaton for having short lobsters in possession paid \$12 without cost.

Davis & Rider for canning 3 short lobsters paid \$3 without cost.

Lenard Wakefield for having 3 short lobsters in possession paid \$3 and cost.

John L. Perry for having 33 short lobsters in possession paid \$33 without cost.

Joseph Nichols of Phippsburg, Fish and Game Warden, reports the following cases in Sagadahoc County :

Sewall P. Morse, Winnegance, prosecuted for setting net in the flood gates of Winnegance Creek. Case tried in municipal court, Bath, and fined \$25 and cost. Appealed to Supreme Judicial Court, tried appeal and found guilty. Afterward proceedings quashed on account of informality in the complaint.

Charles Banks, Jr., and Frederick P. Banks for using a net in Winnegance Creek, less than six-inch mesh and taking thereupon five bass. Defendants arraigned before municipal court and found guilty. Fined \$60 and cost each and placed under bonds to appear at Supreme Ju-

dicial Court. Case again tried, defendants found guilty as before, then carried to law term on exceptions.

John L. Thompson, Fish and Game Warden, of Newcastle, reports the following cases :

Otis Dodge of Newcastle was fined \$20 and cost for fishing in weir during weekly close time. Committed to jail and afterward paid fine and cost.

Lincoln Dodge of Newcastle was fined for the same offence \$20. Warrant quashed by Supreme Judicial Court.

Daniel Fitch and Leroy Fitch of Bristol, fined for same offence and were discharged by paying cost.

Edward C. Dodge of Boothbay, fined \$20 and cost. Paid fine and cost.

Benj. Dodge of Newcastle was fined \$20 and cost. The warrant quashed by Supreme Judicial Court.

Frank Smith of Boothbay was bound over to Supreme Judicial Court for \$800 for having in possession 655 short lobsters less than 9 inches in length.

This case was not reported by the County Attorney and a civil suit was brought and he was fined \$420. Case carried to law court July 10th, and not yet reported.

Wm. P. Foster of Boothbay was fined \$7 and cost for having 7 lobsters less than nine inches in length. Paid fine and cost.

Alfred White of Newcastle was fined \$20 and cost for fishing in weekly close time. Paid fine and cost.

Wm. Timball of Edgecomb was fined \$20 and cost for fishing in weekly close time. Paid fine and cost.

Israel Harrington of Edgecomb, fined \$20 and cost. Paid fine and cost.

Josiah Burnham of St. George was fined \$447 for having 445 lobsters less than nine inches long in possession and 2 female lobsters with eggs attached. Case carried to law court and not yet reported.

William Kelsey of Bristol, fined \$20 and cost for fishing during weekly close time. Paid fine and cost.

Joseph Brown of Bristol, fined \$20 and cost for fishing during weekly close time. Paid fine and cost.

Between July 23d and September 30, 1885, Mr. Thompson made complaint before the Grand Jury of Lincoln County and furnished proof of thirteen cases of illegal seining of mackerel within the three-mile limit, but no bill was found. He then commenced an action of debt against the owners of schooner Clear the Track, Portland; schooner Eliza M. Smith, Portland; schooner A. W. Lenox, Portland; schooner Cosmopolitan, Bristol, and Cora Greenwood of Bristol. The owners of these five vessels appeared and settled.

Writs for the remaining eight vessels are in the hands of the officer to serve when he can find the vessels.

Joseph Hoff, Boothbay, was fined for having 267 lobsters in possession during close time; \$1 on each lobster,	\$267 00
Fine,	50 00
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
	\$317 00

Joseph F. Hoff, Boothbay, partner of Joseph Hoff, was fined \$50.

Fessenden C. Stone, Edgecomb, was fined for having 133 lobsters in possession during close time; \$1 on each lobster,	\$133 00
Fine,	50 00
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
	\$183 00

Mr. Thompson also had a number of small cases which have been settled.

Warden P. H. Mills, Deer Isle, reports the following cases :

Deer Isle Packing Company was fined \$20 for having 20 lobsters in possession less than 9 inches long.

James Conley of Isle Au Haut was fined \$15 for having 15 lobsters less than 9 inches long in a car.

S. B. Morey of Deer Isle was fined \$20 for having 20 lobsters in possession less than 9 inches long.

S. G. Stevens, Center Harbor, was fined \$21 for having in possession 21 lobsters less than 9 inches.

Warden Benj. Libby, Warren, reports the following cases :

George Robinson was fined \$20 and cost for fishing in close time.

Edmund H. Hyler, Cushing, was fined \$20 and cost for fishing in weir in close time.

Albert Marshall, Cushing, was fined \$20 and cost for fishing in weir in close time.

Simeon Hoffses, Cushing, was fined \$20 and cost for fishing in weir in close time.

On complaint of Riley Davis, Fish and Game Warden, Cushing, October 14th, Steamer David H. Wilson of New York was seized in Portland for fishing for mackerel within the three-mile limit and keepers put on board. November 18th the owners, Wolff & Rensing of New York, gave a bond for \$1000 to appear at Rockland at the December term of the Supreme Judicial Court.

Fish and Game Wardens W. M. Dyer, Samuel C. Morgan, Jesse E. Frisbee, Abijah Tarbox, George Alexander, F. S. Pattangill and the lamented Hill and others have been very efficient wardens and have done good service, and have had a number of convictions in court.

To B. W. Counce, Esq., Commissioner Sea and Shore Fisheries, Thomaston, Maine.

SIR:—Your request for a report of all prosecutions made by me since April 1st, 1885, is at hand and I would respectfully report as follows :

I made a complaint May, 1885, against Wm. Mains of Woolwich, for illegal weir, he having 274 feet of deep water lead, or 174 feet in excess of a legal length. He was brought before municipal court at Bath, fined \$75 and costs, from which he appealed, but paid the fine and costs before the setting of court in August. He was the only one of eleven weir owners in a circle of about 6 miles but what, after being notified, made their weirs conform to the requirements of the law. September term of Grand Jury, 1885, I made a complaint against the schooner Mary Hagar for illegally taking shad inside the limits, but failed to get indictment.

I find by close inquiry that no vessel has this year been seen in attempting to seine shad in any of the rivers and harbors in my district.

I also have failed to find an illegal weir out of 76 I have visited.

September 30th I made a complaint against a party for illegally taking smelts and he was fined on two complaints, and paid the same, amounting to \$80, fine and costs.

I have looked over nearly 300 loads of lobsters in the past 18 months, and in but very few cases have I found any cause of complaint and those being, perhaps, one or two a sixteenth of an inch too short in a lot of 100 to 300 lobsters.

I would respectfully call your attention to the smelt law at present in force. It allows no one to take smelts after April 20th, and many complaints have been made to me by people that they could not get smelts to eat unless they were made liable to a fine, as the ice seldom leaves our bays and brooks in season for smelts to come up before April 20th, and it would seem that the time should be extended for taking smelts in the spring by dip-net, to May 1st. It was formerly May 20th and was changed to suit the weir men, and certainly it would look hard that the spring fishers should be entirely shut off that the fall fishermen should gain.

Yours very respectfully,

O. S. DESPEAUX.

FISH COMMISSIONERS.

FOREST AND STREAM presents its annual list of the Commissioners of Fisheries and Fishery Officers of the different Provinces, States and Territories of North America, revised and corrected to September 1:

THE UNITED STATES—

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

ALABAMA—

Col. D. R. Hundley, Madison.

Hon. Charles S. G. Doster, Prattville.

ARIZONA—

J. J. Gosper, Prescott.

Richard Rule, Tombstone.

J. H. Taggart, Business Manager, Yuma.

ARKANSAS—

James H. Hornibrook, Little Rock.

H. H. Rottaken, Little Rock.

[These were the officers last year; we have not been able to get replies from them.]

CALIFORNIA—

R. H. Buckingham, President, Sacramento.

Hon. A. B. Dibble, Secretary and Treasurer, Grass Valley.

Thomas J. Sherwood, Marysville.

CANADA—

Hon. John Tilton, Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Ottawa,
Ont.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK—

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

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA—

W. H. Rogers, Inspector, Amherst.

A. C. Bertram, Assistant Inspector, North Sidney.

PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND—

J. H. Duvar, Inspector, Alberton.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC—

W. Wakeham, Inspector, Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf
Division, Gaspé Basin.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA—

Thos. Mowat, Acting Inspector, New Westminster.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—

Alex. McQueen, Inspector, Winnipeg, Man.

S. Wilmot, Superintendent of Fishculture, Newcastle, Ont.

COLORADO—

John Pierce, Denver.

CONNECTICUT—

Dr. Wm. M. Hudson, Hartford.

(Term expires August 26, 1889.)

Robert G. Pike, Middletown.

(Term expires March 8, 1889.)

James A. Bill, Lyme.

(Term expires August 26, 1887.)

DELAWARE—

Enoch Moore, Wilmington.

(Term expires April 23, 1887.)

GEORGIA—

Hon. J. T. Henderson, Commissioner of Agriculture, Atlanta.

Dr. H. H. Carey, Superintendent of Fisheries, LaGrange.

Under the laws of the State these constitute the Board of Fish Commissioners.

ILLINOIS—

N. K. Fairbank, President, Chicago.

S. P. Bartlett, Secretary, Quincy.

Maj. Geo. Breuning, Centralia.

INDIANA—

Enos B. Reed, Indianapolis.
(Term expires in 1887.)

IOWA—

E. D. Carlton, Spirit Lake.

KANSAS—

S. Fee, Wamego, Pottawatomie County.

KENTUCKY—

Wm. Griffith, President, Louisville.
P. H. Darby, Princeton.
John B. Walker, Madisonville.
Hon. C. J. Walton, Munfordville.
Hon. John A. Steele, Midway.
W. C. Price, Danville.
Dr. W. Van Antwerp, Mt. Sterling.
Hon. J. M. Chambers, Independence, Kenton County.
A. H. Goble, Cattleburg.
J. H. Mallory, Bowling Green.

MAINE—

E. M. Stilwell, Bangor.
Henry O. Stanley, Dixfield.
Commissioners of Fish and Game.
B. W. Counce, Thomaston, Commissioner of Sea and Shore
Fisheries.

MARYLAND—

G. W. Delawder, Oakland.
Dr. E. W. Humphries, Salisbury.

MASSACHUSETTS—

E. A. Brackett, Winchester.
F. W. Putnam, Cambridge.
E. H. Lathrop, Springfield.

MICHIGAN—

Dr. J. C. Parker, Grand Rapids.
John H. Bissell, Detroit.
Herschel Whitaker, Detroit.
W. D. Marks, Superintendent, Paris.
A. J. Kellogg, Secretary, Detroit.

MINNESOTA—

- 1st District—Daniel Cameron, La Crescent.
 2d District—Wm. M. Sweney, M. D., Red Wing.
 3d District—Robt. Ormsby Sweeny, President, St. Paul.
 S. S. Watkins, Superintendent, Red Wing.

MISSOURI—

- J. G. W. Steedman, M. D., 2,803 Pine street. St. Louis.
 Gen. J. L. Smith, Jefferson City.
 H. M. Garliech, St. Joseph.

NEBRASKA—

- W. L. May, Fremont.
 R. R. Livingston, Plattsmouth.
 B. E. B. Kennedy, Omaha.

NEVADA—

- W. M. Cary, Carson City.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—

- George W. Riddle, Manchester.
 E. B. Hodge, Plymouth.
 John H. Kimball, Marlboro.
 E. B. Hodge, Superintendent.

NEW JERSEY—

- Richard S. Jenkins, Camden.
 William Wright, Newark.
 F. M. Ward, Newton.

NEW YORK—

- Hon. R. Barnwell Roosevelt, President, 17 Nassau street,
 New York.
 Gen. Richard U. Sherman, Secretary, New Hartford, Oneida
 County.
 Eugene G. Blackford, Fulton Market. New York.
 William H. Bowman, Rochester.
 Superintendents: Seth Green, Rochester; Fred Mather,
 Cold Spring Harbor; Monroe A. Green, Mumford, Monroe
 County; F. A. Walters, Bloomingdale, Essex County.
 Secretary: H. H. Thompson, P. O. Box 25, New York
 City.

NORTH CAROLINA—

[A note from Col. M. McGehee, Raleigh, the former Commissioner, under date of August 9th, says: "There is no Fish Commissioner in the service of this State."]

OHIO—

Col. L. A. Harris, President, Cincinnati.

George Daniels, Sandusky.

James Dority, Toledo.

Henry Douglass, Superintendent, Sandusky.

[No information furnished; the names are those of last year.]

PENNSYLVANIA—

John Gay, President, Greensburg.

H. H. Derr, Secretary, Wilkesbarre.

Arthur Maginnis, Swift Water, Monroe County.

A. M. Spangler, Cor. Sec., 512 Commerce street, Philadelphia.

Aug. Duncan, Treasurer, Chambersburg.

Chas. Porter, Corry.

RHODE ISLAND—

John H. Barden, Rockland.

Henry T. Root, Providence.

Wm. P. Morton, Providence.

SOUTH CAROLINA—

Hon. A. P. Butler, Columbia, Commissioner of Agriculture.

TENNESSEE—

W. W. McDowell, Memphis.

H. H. Sneed, Chattanooga.

Edward D. Hicks, Nashville.

VERMONT—

Hiram A. Cutting, Lunenburg.

Herbert Brainerd, St. Albans.

VIRGINIA—

Col. Marshall McDonald, Berryville.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY—

Albert T. Stream, North Cove, Pacific County.

WEST VIRGINIA

- C. S. White, President, Romney.
W. A. Manning, Secretary, Talcott.
F. J. Baxter, Treasurer, Braxton Court House.
(Terms expire June 1, 1889.)

WISCONSIN—

- The Governor, *ex officio*.
Philo Dunning, President, Madison.
C. L. Valentine, Secretary and Treasurer, Janesville.
J. V. Jones, Oshkosh.
A. V. H. Carpenter, Milwaukee.
Mark Douglass, Melrose.
Calvert Spensley, Mineral Point.
James Nevin, Superintendent, Madison.

WYOMING TERRITORY—

- Otto Gramm, Laramie.
[Dr. W. N. Hemt, Cheyenne, is Commissioner for Laramie
County and B. F. Northington, Rawlins, is Commissioner
for Carbon County.]