

Lake Champlain Fish.

Editor Forest and Stream:

I noticed recently an article from a Vermont correspondent complaining of the netting of fish across the Canadian line in Missisquoi Bay. It seems that one McPhee gets a permit or license to fish from the Canadian or Provincial Government for a nominal sum, he being, it is claimed, a politician of some note. He commences to net before the ice goes out and keeps it up while the fishing lasts in a manner to pay, and catches an enormous quantity of wall-eyed pike, together with other game and food fishes. If the people of Vermont would put a fishway in the dam at Swanton and cut a passageway through the Sand Bar bridge, it would keep a large number of fish in Vermont waters that now go further north to spawn, as a way through the bridge would afford them access to the Lanville River without going around Grand Isle, a thing I don't believe they will do, as they now follow the east shore north until they come to the Missisquoi River, when those who care to run up that and the balance go on north. But the river below the dam is not all good spawning ground and a fishway would let them go up, and by relieving the over-crowded stream below, cause three fish to run up the river where there is one now.—DEXTER.

Conroy's New Catalogue.

MR. THOMAS J. CONROY, who has recently removed his fishing tackle establishment to No 303 Broadway, has just issued a new catalogue. He charges twenty-five cents for it. Every man is warned not to send for it unless he has time to go fishing, for its pages set forth about everything an angler can need or may indulge in as a luxury, and everything is set out with illustrations and arranged so seductively that to turn the leaves breeds a longing to go fishing. The Conroy catalogue is excellently arranged and is a very complete and handsome specimen of its class.

Length and Weight of Bass.

MR. J. C. CLAGETT, of Frederick, Md., on Sept. 20, 1884, caught a small-mouthed black bass at Point of Rocks, in the Potomac River, which measured 23 1/2 in. in length, 14 1/2 in. around behind the gills, 16 1/2 in. in greatest girth, and weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz.

HOW TO TIE SALMON FLIES.*

This is one of the most beautiful books which it has been our pleasure to review—in quality of paper, beauty of typography and illustration and in its orderly arrangement. Capt. Hale herein relates "the experiences and ideas of an amateur fly-maker and fisherman; the desire of the writer being to describe the details of the art of salmon fly-making in such homely language as would convey the several processes clearly to the comprehension of all beginners who care to approach it." All the essentials to the fly-maker's art are clearly set forth. The seven principal chapters of the book relate (1) to hooks, (2) to materials, implements, etc., (3) on drying furs and feathers, (4) gut loops, etc., tags and tails, (5) butts, ribbing, bodies and hackles, (6) hackles, jointed bodies and grubs, (7) wings; and in the appendix are given full directions for the dressing of forty flies. They are thoroughly illustrated by seventy figures, drawn from photographs. For these photographs Capt. Hale acknowledges his indebtedness to Mr. C. O'Meara and to Mr. R. B. Marston, of the Fishing Gazette, for assistance and useful suggestions.

However amateur fly-tiers in America may differ from Capt. Hale in little details as to choice of hooks and the various odds and ends belonging to the fly-tier's outfit, they will richly enjoy the reading of his book and place it among the classics in their libraries.

*"How to Tie Salmon Flies." A treatise on the methods of tying the various kinds of salmon flies, with illustrated directions and containing the dressings of forty flies. By Capt. Hale, East Lancashire Regiment, London: Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Limited, 1892.

"THE PRACTICAL ANGLER."

The above is the title of the latest publication in book form from the pen of Kit Clarke, the author of that fascinating little volume, "The Trout Hide," which has taken a place in the affections of the disciples of rod and line. "The Trout Hide" is eminently a book for fishermen, written by a fisherman. Not a guide book or a manual for the novice in the art, but the experienced angler's companion and friend, destined to occupy a place in his pocket or gripsack when starting out fishing, alongside the tongs, trilling packages, necessary adjuncts of a fishing excursion, one containing a delightful romance, written by the side of the solitary camper by a far northern lake, who reads and feels the excited blood coursing through his veins as he fancies he sees our author's struggles on Lake Edward with 13 lbs. of fontinalis almost evenly distributed between his three fly-hooks, or keeps the tally and holds the "kitty" during that exciting game of fish poker at Lake Hopakong.

How much, too, of the genuine experience of every angler is recorded in this booklet. In "The Practical Angler" there is no romancing. As the author relates in his preface, the book is written for the benefit of the man whose angling education, to his great misfortune, has been neglected, and who desires to acquire a knowledge of the most delightful health-bringing and relaxing recreation in existence. Technical phrases and rhetorical protechnics are studiously avoided, as they are of no use, as Mr. Clarke well says, in the practical pursuit of catching fish. "The Practical Angler," as all old fishermen who look into its pages will readily concede, well fulfills its mission of teaching—so far as precept can teach—how, where and when to catch fish, giving a description in the author's well-known and infatigable style, of American game fish caught with hook and line, methods of capture, their habits and haunts, and all requisite information whereby the novice can acquire the art, and enjoy the delightful recreation of going a-fishing. One of the most valuable features of the book is the chapter containing "one hundred hints to anglers," for many of which Mr. Clarke will undoubtedly receive the thanks of many a veteran in the piscatorial art. The illustrations of the various American and Canadian game fish are excellent, and worthy a place in any authentic text-book of natural history.

Canadian anglers, and Americans accustomed to whip Canadian streams and lakes, have been placed under deep obligations to Mr. Clarke for having assisted in the great work of popularizing and making known the principal resorts of successful fishermen in the Lake St. John region of Quebec. In the work before us he has added to these obligations by a readable chapter upon the omananche or fresh water salmon of Lake St. John. Land-locked salmon these fish are not, for they descend the Saguenay to the sea, and have been captured at or near Tadoussac. Mr. Clarke is not the first author of repute who writes the name of this illustrious game fish "winnish," and the spelling undoubtedly aids the pronunciation. But this is the only word before me that I can find for substituting for a pretty, melodious Indian name with a meaning, an English form of the word that has neither derivation, meaning nor character. *Iche* is an Indian diminutive when used as an affix, *ouaniche* in the Ontario dialect signifies salmon; so that "ouaniche" is "little salmon." The chapter on this remarkable fish in "The Practical Angler" is a valuable contribution to the literature of the subject, the description of the species and of the angling for ouananche is such as only an angler who has handled the fish and enjoyed the sport of fighting it could possibly write, while the time and place for taking it in springtime in rivers tributary to Lake St. John, are correctly defined. It may be added, however, that the ouananche

is to be freely taken in the same rivers in the late summer months after it has left the Grande Discharge.

The presentation copies of his exquisite book received by a few of Mr. Clarke's privileged friends, have looped up upon their satin covers, with the charming originality that characterizes him, one of the favorite flies of the talented artist-angler-author. QUEBEC, May 7. E. T. D. CHAMBERS.

"THE HUMAN SYSTEM is like a bow, which, in order to preserve the tension must be relaxed occasionally, and which becomes a worthless thing when its elasticity is no longer apparent."

Moral: Take a day off and go fishing via the Erie R. R.—Adv.

NEAR-BY FISHING AND SHOOTING.—A few vacancies exist in a club within a mile of excellent trout streams and 500 acres of good quail, ruffed grouse, and woodcock grounds within 30 miles of New York. Address P. O. Box 25, New York City.—Adv.

Fishculture.

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY.

The twenty-first meeting of this organization was held at the Holland House, New York, May 25-26, and brought together one of the largest and most influential bodies of men that has up to the present assembled to discuss fish and fisheries. In the sence of the President, Dr. J. A. Henshall, who was detained in Washington by sickness, the Vice-President, Dr. Joel C. Parker, of Michigan, presided. At roll call thirty-six members responded to their names.

Letters were read from Dr. Henshall and A. N. Cheney, both of whom were unavoidably absent. C. J. Bottemanne, of Holland, would have attended the meetings but could not leave his duties. Raveret-Wattel, secretary of the Société National d'Acclimation, France, sent greetings and regrets. Fish Commissioner Jno. W. Titcomb, of Vermont, could not be present because of work for the State, but his colleague, Mr. Warren, represented the commission.

The non-resident members of the Fisheries Society were invited by the New York Society for the Protection of Game to dine with them at the Holland House on Wednesday, May 23. The South Side Sportsmen's Club invited the members to visit their preserves at Oakdale, Long Island, and partake of a collation; a special train was provided for the excursion.

The proposals for membership included forty-five names for active membership and two as corresponding members, the latter being Mr. Thos. Andrews, of England, and Dr. Desio Vinciguerra, of Rome.

The report of the treasurer, Mr. H. C. Ford, showed a comfortable balance to the credit of the Society. The corresponding secretary, Mr. Doyle, stated that the numerous circulars sent out to increase the membership had brought scant returns, and more was done by personal efforts on the part of Mr. Cheney, Mr. Amsden and other members.

The committee on nomination of officers for the next year were W. L. May, H. H. Carey and W. A. Butler, Jr.

The next order of business was reading of papers. J. E. Gunckel, of Toledo, O., read a very interesting article on "Fish and Fishing in Ohio," and was followed by Prof. J. D. Quackenbos, who read a paper by Mr. A. N. Cheney, of Glens Falls, N. Y., on "The Food of Fishes," also a paper by Wm. P. Seal on the "Present Status of Trout Culture." The reading of this paper was not concluded when the FOREST AND STREAM went to press.

Those present were: J. J. Amsden, John Gay, H. C. Ford, C. C. Warren, H. H. Carey, L. Streuber, W. A. Butler, Jr., Hoyt Post, H. Whitaker, Dr. J. C. Parker, W. H. Bowman, Fred Mather, E. P. Doyle, W. L. May, G. B. Goode, J. F. Ellis, F. N. Clark, J. E. Gunckel, Henry Burden, Dr. E. Bradley, J. D. Quackenbos, W. H. Rogers, C. B. Reynolds, W. F. Page, L. D. Huntington, T. H. Bean, Jas. Benkard, A. S. Bickmore, W. L. Gilbert, D. Morell, C. F. Orris, Dr. F. J. Ferrall, T. W. B. Hughes, J. W. Hoxie, Dr. W. H. Hudson, Judge Asa French, W. L. Powell.

FISHERIES OF THE PACIFIC STATES.

FROM Census Bulletin No. 167, dated March 4, 1892, and prepared by Mr. Charles F. Pidgin and Dr. Hugh M. Smith, we learn that in 1890 the fisheries of the Pacific States, U. S., gave employment to 13,850 persons, \$6,498,239 were invested in the industry, and products to the value of \$6,387,808 were obtained. According to the tables, the fisheries of California are more important than those of either Oregon or Washington. The canning of salmon is still the most important branch of the fisheries.

In the three States there were 63 canneries, and the quantity of fresh salmon put up is given as 41,632,233 lbs., for which the fishermen received \$1,733,227. The total output of 622,037 cases was worth, at the ruling market prices, \$3,703,838.

The fisheries of this region, as a whole, show a decided advance over 1880. Increase in capital invested, 182 per cent.; value of products, 50 per cent. There has been a decline in a few special branches of the fisheries. Among the causes of the increase are mentioned: "The rapid growth of the country, the natural abundance of fish in the rivers and adjacent to the shores, and the decreased supply of mackerel, whales, etc., on the Atlantic coast. Especially worthy of notice is the great increase in the whale fleet of this coast and the maintenance of the extensive salmon fisheries in the face of the enormous yearly drain on the species."

In the general remarks Messrs. Pidgin and Smith call attention to the fact that the natural conditions of our Pacific coast are unusually favorable to the development of fisheries of great importance, which are as compared with those of our northeast coast in their infancy. The off-shore vessel fisheries for miscellaneous food fish are yet to be developed. San Francisco vessels monopolize the whole fishery, and this port has become the greatest rendezvous for whalers in the world. "The river fishery for salmon on this coast is the most extensive in the world, and the business of canning salmon, which is dependent on the fishery, is of great magnitude." The shore line of California is given as 1,910 miles; that of Oregon as 1,170, and of Washington 1,345.

The yield of shrimp has doubled in value; the oyster industry returns products worth half a million of dollars.

Tables showing amount of capital invested, vessels, boats, nets, fish wheels, seines, and other apparatus used, number of fishermen and shoremen employed, canning of salmon, etc., are given. The values of the different fisheries were as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Fish, Mammals and their products, Molluscs, crustaceans and reptiles, Secondary products. Values range from \$2,865,840.00 to 12,440.00.

The average value of the fish proper is 4 1/2 cents per pound; that is the gross price received by the fishermen. Salmon constituted 73.41 per cent. of the entire quantity of fish taken, and 72.63 per cent. of the value. No other single species shown exceeds 5.33 per cent. of the catch, or 3.14 per cent. of the value.

In the mammal fisheries the fur seal ranks first, being 63.66 per cent. of the total value of all skins, bone, ivory and oil taken, or nearly three times the value of the whale fishery, which is next in importance. Sea otters rank third, and yield 5.76 per cent. of the value. Among the shellfish oysters rank first, while the yield is but 9.92 per cent. of the

shellfish fishery, the value is 61.01 per cent. of the total. Shrimp, prawn, abalones and clams are the other objects of these fisheries.

A table giving a summary of the fresh fish trade of San Francisco in 1883 and 1889 is very interesting. For instance, the average price of Spanish mackerel is given as \$1.50 per pound, pompano \$1, striped bass \$1, eels 30 cents per pound, while brook trout are 30 cents, lake trout 25 cents and anchovies 5 cents per pound. Notwithstanding the fact that fresh-water perch are 12 1/2 cents, salmon are a fraction less than 7 cents. To an Eastern man's eye it looks as if the subjects and prices were mixed, but we are assured by Dr. Smith that these figures are practically correct.

The average price of oysters is given at \$3.90 per bushel, hard-shell clams \$3 per sack, crawfish 7 1/2 cents per pound, shrimp 8 cents per pound, prawn 30 cents, terrapin \$3 per dozen, frogs \$3 per dozen and turtles 5 cents per pound.

Although of small size, but 25 royal octavo pages, this bulletin is full of interesting statistics and of great value to those seeking for information about the west coast fisheries.

Netters Taken In.

COMPLAINTS concerning unlawful fishing in Vreeland's Pond, in Passaic, have been numerous of late. It lies without easy reach of the sportsmen of that city, but the recently imported Hungarians seem to have arrived at the conclusion that they can do as they like with the pond and the fish in it. The recent conviction of Domus Barkalov, who has been frequently suspected of having netted the lake, did not seem to have the deterrent effect expected and nets have been used there since. A number of the Hungarians were in the habit of going after dark and netting all they could get hold of. Fish Warden Shiner made it his business to watch the place last night. Shortly after dark two Hungarians put in an appearance and proceeded to use a large dip net. The net was about ten feet square and was placed in the water; after leaving it there a few minutes the Hungarians raised it. At this juncture of affairs the Warden put in an appearance, confiscated the net and arrested the violators of the law. They offered no resistance and were at once taken before Justice of the Peace Hamilton M. Ross, where they pleaded guilty. They had the same attenuated excuse to offer, "Ignorance of the law and poverty." One of them ingeniously supplemented this excuse by saying that he had been told that there was no danger of being caught if they did the netting after dark. The Justice imposed the statutory fine of \$20 and costs in each case. The Hungarians declared they had no money, that they had been trying to save up enough to buy shoes, etc. The Justice proceeded to make out a commitment, when one of the two weakened and sent out and got the necessary cash. The other held on a little longer and then also weakened and paid up. The Warden hopes that this will break up the unlawful practice. The names of the convicted were Stephen Petric and William Morrisse.—Paterson, (N. J.) Daily Press May 18.

Trout Poisoned by Mill Refuse.

FISH COMMISSIONER RAMON E. WILSON says that the poisonous liquids used in the paper mills along Paper Mill Creek and which are emptied into the creek have poisoned the trout. The Commissioners are, however, "powerless," they say. Who ever knew them to be otherwise? They are in the attitude of the Railroad Commissioners. They request that somebody will do the necessary watching or investigating and make a complaint. Perhaps this is not a remarkable similarity, seeing that the Fish Commission is a sub-department of the Southern Pacific. The company has one of its attorneys on the board. It always takes care to have a tailor or two or an attorney or two on all these commissions, boards, etc. Sometimes they can't help much, but often they are very useful.—Report, San Francisco, April 26.

The Kennel.

FIXTURES. DOG SHOWS.

- Aug. 31 to Sept. 3.—Second Annual Dog Show of the Blue Grass Kennel Club, Lexington, Ky. Roger Williams, Sec'y.
Sept. 6 to 9.—Second Annual Dog Show of the Hamilton Kennel Club, at Hamilton, Canada. A. D. Stewart, Sec'y.
Sept. 6 to 9.—Rochester Kennel Club, at Rochester, N. Y. Dr. O. S. Bamber, Sec'y.
Sept. 12 to 16.—Fourth Annual Dog Show of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association, at Toronto, Canada. O. A. Stone, Sec'y.
Sept. 20 to 23.—Western Michigan Kennel Club, at Grand Rapids, Mich. H. Dale Adams, Galesburg, Mich., Superintendent.
Sept. 27 to 30.—Dog Show at Ottawa, Can. Alfred Geddes, Sec'y.
Oct. 25 to 28.—Omaha Kennel Club, at Omaha, Neb. E. L. Marston, Sec'y.
Nov. 23 to 25.—American Pet Dog Club, at Madison Square Garden, New York. Marion E. Bannister, Cranford, N. J., Sec'y.

FIELD TRIALS.

- Sept. 6.—Manitoba Field Trials, at Morris, Man. A. Holloway, Winnipeg, Man., Sec'y.
Sept. 7.—International Field Trials Club, third annual trials, at Chatham, Ont. Amateur Stake, Nov. 7. Open Stakes, Nov. 8. W. B. Wells, Sec'y.
Nov. 7.—United States Field Trials, at Elizabethtown, Ky. P. T. Madison, Indianapolis, Ind., Sec'y.
Nov. 8.—New England Field Trials, at Assonet, Mass. Geo. E. Stickney, Newburyport, Mass., Sec'y.
Nov. 14.—Fourth Annual Trials of the Brunswick Fur Club, at Princeton, Mass. J. H. Baird, Sec'y.
Nov. 15.—American Field Trials, at Columbus, Ind. W. J. Beck, Sec'y.
Nov. 21.—Eastern Field Trial Club Trials, at High Point, N. C. W. A. Coster, Sec'y.
Nov. 28.—Philadelphia Kennel Club Trials, at High Point, N. C. F. G. Taylor, Sec'y.
Dec. 5.—Central Field Trials, at Lexington, N. C. Col. Odell, Sec'y.

THE MERCER CASE AND THE C. K. C.

Editor Forest and Stream:

A case can only be prejudged when new facts may be forthcoming later which might alter the decision if taken into account. All the facts have long been before the public, and the Ottawa committee had already acted upon them before my letter appeared. The facts are these: Mr. Mercer, a member of the Ottawa committee, knowing the rules of bench shows well, entered another man's dog without his knowledge or consent, by which he obtained a money prize and retained the same until obliged to return it by the command of the Ottawa bench show committee. If this is not fraud, what is it?

There has been a great deal of sophistication about this case, and it is about time things were called by their right names. Apologies are excellent in their place, but they do not alter the nature of this transaction.

Had the C. K. C. uttered any uncertain sound in this case they would simply have been encouraging others to indulge in similar sharp practices. Strong letters on this subject were addressed to me, and the purpose of my letter in the Canadian Kennel Gazette was to strengthen that public opinion on which the respectability of our Canadian kennel world depends, and I shall not hesitate to speak my mind on any similar occasion. MOUNT ROYAL.

[The above does not alter our opinion as given in "Dog Chat" last week.]