

NEW ENGLAND WATERS.

IT has already been mentioned that fishing for pike and mackerel off Boston Harbor was popular this season, and it is now observed that this sort of fishing is getting to be a very popular fad. Men who have never fished before in their lives are delighted with the sport, and even ladies, though there is danger of seasickness, are being much pleased with the novel notion. There were said to be more than twenty boats off Beachmont and Ocean Pier on Sunday with parties engaged in this sort of fishing. Two or three members of the leather trade were out, but old Neptune soon had the attention of two of them to the extent that they were obliged to go ashore without catching a perch.

Mr. Brown, of the firm of Wright, Brown & Crossly, patent lawyers and solicitors, returned from a two weeks' fishing trip in Maine on Monday. It is not mentioned where he went, but he caught fish and got a good deal browned. Mr. James S. Gates, principal of the Globe Nickel Plating Co., is spending the month of July in the woods of New Hampshire. He is an enthusiast with the rod and line, as well as a beginner with the camera. He will hunt and fish when there is weather. But the most of his shooting will be with the camera.

Mr. E. B. Fessenden, of Providence, R. I., is reported to have recently taken a trout from Rangeley Lake weighing 6½ lbs. W. H. McDonald, the celebrated baritone of the Boston Ideals, and W. J. Fegan have been to Kennebago, with good luck on trout. They also tried for landlocked salmon on Rangeley Lake. Mr. McDonald had a strike which he at first considered was a small fish. He drew it in easily till Martin L. Fuller, the guide, was about to net it, when it suddenly objected. It was a salmon that Mr. Fuller estimated to have weighed 7 lbs. at least. It came out of the water several times, salmon like, and finally escaped from the hook after the most magnificent fighting the gentlemen ever witnessed. They are loud in their praises of the gamy qualities of Rangeley salmon, though they did not secure this one. Mr. Fuller is sure that the fish actually stood on his tail out of the water for as much as one second. Report has Mr. Edwards, of Lowell, Mass., take a trout at Middle Dam, Richardson Lake, weighing 9½ lbs. 5oz. If this account is true, Mr. Edwards has the honor of the biggest trout of the season thus far at the Rangeleys.

The reports of deer are numerous in Maine. They are frequently seen by the fishermen who go into the woods. Already some illegal shooting has begun. I have now one authentic report of a deer killed by a well known guide and camp keeper, and another by his guest, a Boston poacher. This dastardly work has begun early, but the ending may not be as easy for the law breakers as a year ago, when illegal shooting was by far too common, as already explained in the FOREST AND STREAM. But this year the case is liable to be different. The Commissioners are neither dead nor asleep, and a warden is likely to drop in when least expected. The able and conscientious Commission has some means to work with this year, and I am sure it will be used in just such a way as the Commissioners themselves believe to be for the best. Neither the opinion nor the consent of certain individuals, themselves poachers, will be asked. These individuals will be allowed to falsify and malign the Commission in such of the public prints as will grant them the space, and no notice of their defense of murderers and outlaws will be taken, except possibly they may be invited to answer to libel suits later on. SPECIAL.

Rev. Dr. Munger writes in *Summer Rest* of the name of Sunapee: "In default of legend or incident we can fall back upon the name itself as furnishing material for poetic associations. It is soft, multifarious and full of suggestion—Soonipi—wild goose water. Scarcely anything in the habits of animals is more beautiful than the migration of wildfowl, a habit which Bryant has made the theme of what the English critics regard as the finest American poem. The southward journey of wild geese from their summer home in the north, flying high above 'the fowler's aim' in a wedge-like procession, led by the strongest of the flock, settling at night upon the bosom of some lake like this and lingering for days with the lingering summer for the young to rest, seeking at night a sheltered nook, like 'Job's Creek,' until at last, warned by some colder wind, rising on their wings with screams that grow soft and almost musical in the distance, pointing their way unerringly to the south—this is itself a poem wrought into the name of the lovely lake, where we, too, are resting for a while."

HOW TO PRESERVE FISHES.

WHENEVER it is possible fishes should be put into the preserving fluid as soon as they are taken. After remaining in it a few hours it is necessary to take them out, rub off the mucus and make incisions in the belly, and if the fish is large, on the sides, to allow the fluid to penetrate thoroughly. For the first bath a mixture of equal parts of alcohol and water is suitable. The second bath, however, must contain a larger per cent. of alcohol—not less than 70. In order to insure perfect preservation the specimens must be examined every few days until the fluid has completely saturated them. For final preservation the writer prefers equal parts of alcohol, glycerine and water. In this mixture the fishes remain flexible for study and retain their colors longer than in any other fluid known to him. Whenever the preservative becomes discolored and organic matter collects in the bottom of the jar or tank, fresh liquid must be substituted for it. Eternal vigilance is the price of a collection of fishes.

THE CONNECTICUT TROUT SEASON.—Connecticut anglers are greatly dissatisfied with the present short open season for brook trout, and a bill to extend the fishing period was introduced in the last Legislature by Representative Mower, of Roxbury. No other New England State has so brief a season for trout, and this fact, together with the unsatisfactory catch up to July 1, naturally excites discontent among the lovers of fishing. The proposed change of law embodies provisions for preventing the taking of trout under gin, in length and regulating the capture of fish for artificial propagation.

SALMON IN THE PENOBSCOT.—More salmon have been taken in the Penobscot this season than during any other season for the past ten years, and the proportion of large fish weighing 20 lbs. to 30 lbs. has been unusually large.

WOOD'S HOLL, Mass., July 16.—Bluefish have made their appearance and a few have been caught in the "hole" on trolling lines with live eels for bait. The hook generally used is Harrison's largest size sea bass hook, which has an eye in the shank. Two hooks are fastened a few inches apart on a copper wire one foot or more in length. The wire is attached to a swivel and this to the ordinary heavy cotton or linen line. One hook is passed through the mouth and the other through the tail of the eel. The line is then trolled behind a sailboat in the usual manner, or operated by heaving and hauling into an eddy close to the edge of the tidal currents, in which the fish may be seen feeding on young herring and occasionally breaking water. For still-fishing (or heaving and hauling) menhaden is more killing here than eel, and chumming is resorted to. The fish are uncertain in their movements and in their readiness to take the bait. "Here to-day and gone to-morrow" expresses the bluefish situation in this locality. It is evident that most of the schools are merely passing through from Buzzard's Bay to Vineyard Sound. We cannot learn that any have been seen much to the eastward along this cape. They always appear to follow along the north shore of Buzzard's Bay and are caught earlier at New Bedford than here. The same is true of tautog and other fishes.—T. H. B.

OUANANICHE AND LANDLOCKED SALMON.—Fryeburg, Me., July 10.—*Editor Forest and Stream*: Will you kindly inform me through your paper what difference there is between the landlocked salmon of Sebago Lake and other Maine waters and the ouananiche of Canada? I notice that Hallock in his "Fishing Tourist" notes a difference, while some of your correspondents speak of it as identical.—EDWARD E. HASTINGS. [The ouananiche, or winninish, of the Saguenay region is believed to be identical with the Schoodic salmon of Maine. We have compared Canadian landlocked salmon with the Maine fish and can find no distinguishing marks by means of which to separate them. Singularly enough, this little salmon is known in some Nova Scotia streams as the grayling, to which it is not closely related. Landlocking of the sea salmon is observed in Europe as well as in America; indeed, more than one member of the salmon family has both marine and fresh-water representatives. The winninish has been pretty fully discussed in FOREST AND STREAM of May 29, Aug. 21, Sept. 11, 18 and 25, 1890, and to these issues we refer you for detailed descriptions and accounts of fishing for this superb game fish.]

THE ADIRONDACK LEAGUE AND STATE LANDS.—Northwood, N. Y., July 20.—*Editor Forest and Stream*: I desire to call your attention to the fact that the Adirondack League lands out of a large tract of State lands from those who do not belong to the league. Practically the State lands become a part of the league preserve. What ought we to do about it?—RAY SPEARS.

THE JOINTED SINKERS described in our advertising columns are a great convenience at times when, as often happens, it is desired to make a change quickly without actually undoing one sinker and putting on another. They are well worth a trial.

Fishculture.

WISCONSIN FISHCULTURE.

WE have received the report of the Commissioners of Fisheries of the State of Wisconsin for the years 1889 and 1890. The Commission had an appropriation of \$12,000 for their work during each of these years, and the results obtained appeared fully to satisfy the people of the State. The distribution of eggs and fish was as follows:

	1889.	1890.
Brook trout.....	2,190,000	3,320,000
Rainbow trout.....	2,615,000	3,460,000
Whitefish.....	30,000,000	27,600,000
Lake trout (impregnated eggs).....	27,322,500	30,963,500
Carp.....	5,230	37,541
Pike (wall-eyed).....	14,050,000	14,680,000

The demand for brook trout was so great that only about 50 per cent. of the desired number could be furnished, and less than 30 per cent. of the wall-eyed pike asked for could be supplied.

A special appropriation of \$10,000 in addition to the regular annual grant is urged by the Commissioners for the purpose of increasing the hatching facilities. The value of intelligent fishculture in attracting visitors to the State is thus recognized by the Commissioners: "In our report two years ago, we called attention to the large sum of money being brought into Wisconsin each year by the tourists who flock to our summer resorts. The testimony which we then published, from prominent railroad officials, was to the effect that hundreds of thousands of dollars are annually received by Wisconsin people from this source, exclusive of railway earnings, which are in turn taxed to meet the expenses of the State government.

"One of the features of this rapidly-growing tourist invasion has been the erection of attractive summer homes upon the banks of some of our beautiful inland lakes, chiefly in Waukesha, Walworth, Racine, Kenosha and Green Lake counties. Herein dwell thousands of people from Chicago, St. Louis and other cities beyond the borders of the State. They have made valuable as building lots the farm lands bordering upon these lakes, and are customers for much farm produce. These summer dwellers and transient sporting tourists, who bring so large a revenue to our State, seek not only fine scenery, boating and fresh air. Our lakes and rivers are also attractive to them because of their fish supply. This supply needs continual protection as well as reinforcement. The business of hatching and protecting should, in all our waters, go hand in hand. That the institution of the present system of fish and game wardens has wrought some improvement there is no doubt. This is more plainly to be seen with regard to the Great Lakes, from which source alone statistics are obtainable. A steady increase in fishing industry there is apparent from an examination of the comparative table which we publish in the appendix. Nevertheless it is painfully apparent to any one who has had occasion to examine the practical workings of the existing warden system, both inland and on the Great Lakes, that the results are quite unsatisfactory as compared with what is desirable and possible. The laws relative to fish and game wardens need the prompt and serious attention of the Legislature. A complete revision will alone meet the difficulty.

"While upon this matter of fish protection, we desire again heartily to recommend the formation of local fish and game clubs. Those already organized are doing good work in fostering a healthy, popular sentiment in favor of protecting fish in the spawning season, and have often rendered

efficient aid in prosecutions for the violation of law. These clubs deserve all possible encouragement."

Attention is called to the custom among land owners in some parts of the State of renting portions of creeks flowing through their premises to individuals and sporting clubs. There is some doubt whether or not this can be prevented by law, but the Commissioners have for the past two years refused to furnish fry for stocking such rented streams.

The Legislature is asked to appropriate money for a suitable display by the Wisconsin Fish Commission of the fishery interests of the State at the Columbian Exposition in 1893.

The rainbow trout which was introduced into Wisconsin streams a few seasons ago has succeeded so well that there is no longer any doubt of its value for permanent residence. Individuals weighing upward of 10 lbs. have been taken near Antigo, and the species has become thoroughly acclimated in many portions of the State. By some anglers the rainbow is not considered equal to the brook trout as a game fish, but it is adapted to warmer waters and has some advantage over the brook trout because the fry are deposited later in the spring, when there is less danger from freshets. The eye disease, which attacked some of the trout two years ago at the Madison hatchery, has not recurred. The claim is made by the Wisconsin Commission that the cost of fry is only 24 cents per 1000, the same as in Michigan, while in Minnesota the cost is 30 cents, in the Dominion of Canada 39 cents, in Pennsylvania 44 cents, in Nebraska 48 cents, and in New York 86 cents per 1000.

The list of the Commissioners of Fisheries of the United States is stated to have been compiled from information recently obtained, but in many respects we find it at least several years behind the times.

From the report of the superintendent, James Nevin, we learn that the experiment of impregnating whitefish eggs and immediately depositing them on the natural spawning beds was made in 1889 and repeated in 1890. More than 58,000,000 of eggs were so treated. Mr. Nevin states the belief that not one egg in 100,000 naturally deposited by the parent fish in the Great Lakes is impregnated. This is accounted for by the lack of coincidence in the time of arrival of the two sexes on the spawning grounds. Of the first run 80 per cent. are males, and in the later run of spawners 70 per cent. are females, so that when the eggs are about to be deposited, there is a lack of males to fertilize them. It is supposed in some parts of Wisconsin that brook trout artificially planted do not reproduce in the streams, but as the natural increase is only about one per cent. annually the results are so slow as to mislead casual observers. The streams would soon be self-sustaining if the ruthless slaughter in some localities during the spawning season should give place to rational fishing.

The increase of whitefish in Lake Erie, as a result of artificial culture, was so marked in 1890 as to attract the attention of every one interested in the subject.

Some Wisconsin people have been successful in carp culture. Mr. Gurkee, of Fillmore, fed about 300 bushels of corn to his carp in one year. A carp weighing 12 lbs. is among the large ones reported.

Mr. Nevin thus expresses his views about the proper age at which to deposit fish: "It is my belief that the fry should be planted as soon as the food-sac is absorbed, and while they inherit the natural instinct to hunt for their natural food in the streams and lakes. About four years ago we planted 400 lake trout in Lake Mendota, which were two years old and would weigh about a pound each, and the result was that within forty-eight hours four of these same trout were taken to Mr. Dunning's store that had been taken from the mouths of pickerel, which had been speared. These trout had been reared in ponds where there were no other fish except of their own size, they did not know what it was to have an enemy and had lost all the natural instinct to look out for themselves. It was like placing a lot of lambs in a den of lions. Mr. Watkins, of the Minnesota Commission, tells me of a similar experience. If the applicants will follow our printed instructions for planting, and the water is suitable, with an abundance of food for the kind of fish planted therein, there can be no failure in planting fry."

RAINBOW TROUT IN COLORADO.—U. S. Fish Commissioner McDonald has received from Mr. William R. Scott, of Denver, a very interesting statement of the result of planting the California rainbow trout at an unusual elevation in Colorado. We believe this is the greatest height at which any member of the salmon family is known to exist in America. A variety of the red throat (*Salmo mykiss* or *purpuratus*) is recorded by Cope from the Sierra Madre, in Mexico, at an elevation between 8,000 and 9,000 ft., but in the case here mentioned the rainbow is not only existing but flourishing, at a greater height than its kindred in any other part of the world. Mr. Scott has recently visited Naylor Lake, in Clear Creek county, a body of water with no visible outlet, covering about 50 acres and lying about 300 ft. below the limit of trees, or nearly 11,000 ft. above the level of the sea. Here the rainbow breeds at the inlet and thrives wonderfully; its flesh is beautifully colored, and Mr. Scott saw individuals weighing 4 lbs. The trout were planted about 9 years ago by the Colorado Fish Commission.

LARGE MAINE SHAD.—We are indebted to Commissioner McDonald for permission to publish the following interesting letter relative to a shad of unusually large size: "BATH, Me., July 3, 1891.—U. S. Fish Commissioner: Sir—The annexed record of a large shad is thought worthy of notice and is vouched for by a reliable person, John W. Curtis, of Topsham, Me., who now has the fish, but with head cut off, dressed and salted. Caught June 25 in the Androscoggin River at Topsham. Extreme length, 27 in.; extreme girth, 17 in.; weight, 8 lbs. Respectfully, H. W. SWANTON." This is the maximum weight of the shad in Eastern waters according to the most reliable records of the present period. It is claimed that shad weighing 14 lbs were taken in the early days of our history, but such examples probably are not to be found now except in the waters of California, where the fish has thrived beyond all expectation.

HATCHING WHITE BASS.—Walter Marks, superintendent of Michigan hatcheries, and James Nevin, of Wisconsin, early in June collected eggs of the white bass (*Roccutus chrysops*) at the outlet of Lake Mendota, Wis. They reported a total of 16,000,000 eggs, each female yielding about 50,000. The fish were not hurt by handling and were liberated alive. In water at 60 degrees the eggs hatched in ninety hours.

THROUGH VESTIBULED AND TOURIST SLEEPERS BETWEEN CHICAGO AND LACOMA, WASH., AND PORTLAND, ORE.—The Wisconsin Central and Northern Pacific Lines run through Pullman Vestibuled and Tourist Sleepers between Chicago and Tacoma, Wash., and Portland, Oregon. The train known as the "Pacific Express" leaves the Grand Central Passenger station, at the corner of Fifth avenue and Harrison street, at 10:45 P.M. daily. For tickets, berths in Pullman or Colonist Sleepers, etc., apply to Geo. K. Thompson, City Passenger and Ticket Agent, 203 Clark street, or to F. J. Eddy, Depot Ticket Agent, Grand Central Passenger Station, corner Fifth ave. and Harrison st., Chicago, Ill.—Ado.

FOREST AND STREAM, No. 2,832. N. Y. city, has descriptive illustrated circulars of W. B. Leffingwell's book, "Wild Fowl Shooting," which will be mailed free on request. The book is pronounced by "Nimitz," "Glean," "Dick Swifeller," "Sybillene," and other competent authorities to be the best treatise on the subject extant.