

streams and swamps contiguous to the lake and rivers, depositing their spawn. They are the earliest spawners we have. By the time the ice is fairly out of the larger rivers and the lake, they have deposited their spawn and returned to the deep waters. They never feed during the spawning season, when they become much emaciated, in which condition they remain till late in the summer. They are in their best condition from the middle of September to the middle of February. They have been known to weigh twenty-five or thirty pounds. They will take a trolling bait or spoon, a live minnow in deep fishing, a frog, a young duck and have been known to swallow a gosling a week old. When in season they are esteemed by many as a very fair table fish. The largest should be boiled, the smaller broiled. They are also rapid growers; at one year they will weigh six ounces; at two years, one pound; at three years three to four pounds; five to six years they attain their growth.

Third—The common Eastern pickerel or green pike (*Esox reticulatus*) has the same habits as the great lake pike, and is fished for in the same way. They are not often seen in the great lakes, and seldom weigh more than five or six pounds. They are much darker colored than the lake pike; the bars on the sides are more marked and distinct.

Fourth—The hump-back pickerel (*Esox cypho*) resembles *Esox salmosinus*, only he is rounded or swollen in the dorsal region.

Fifth—The banded or trout pickerel (*Esox americanus*), dark green, the sides covered with twenty curved bars.

Sixth—The little pickerel or trout pickerel (*Esox salmosinus*), olive color, green above and white below, with streaks on the side instead of black bars. These three last never grow to be a foot long, and are considered of very little account by fishermen. Their habits and mode of life are very much like the other species of the family to which they belong.

FAIRLEE LAKE.

Editor Forest and Stream:

A few days since I was in the village of Post Mills, Vt., enjoying the genial hospitality of Captain Thos. H. Chubb's home. A copy of the FOREST AND STREAM was placed in my hand and my attention called to an article bearing the signature of "S." and entitled "Auld Lang Syne," which carried me at once, in imagination, to scenes of my childhood, which, I believe, must have transpired in the same town of which "S." writes. I am sure the description answers perfectly to the town of R—h, where I was born, and the Uncle Lisha must have been Uncle Isaac R—d, of whom I have heard many most laughable anecdotes besides those related by "S." Uncle Isaac was a man who, besides being universal "Uncle," was universally liked. But he had one bad habit; he would partake too freely of the "ardent," and when exhilarated he got the "cart before the horse" more than ever, and then the boys—some, and, in fact, most of them "boys" of a larger and older growth—delighted to congregate in the village store and hear the old gentleman talk.

It was on one of these occasions that he said he "wanted to get a good board to come and boy with me and go to theool thith winter." Also on such an occasion he told a story of a wonderful field of pumpkins in these words: "Onth I had the nitheth field of pigths that ever wath, and the neighborth's dam punkinth kept getting into them pigths. I got tired of it, and I jutht called the houth out of the dog, and they went through the devil ath though the very bruth fenth wath after them." And I wonder if it was an exaggerated version of the story that "S." relates that I heard, or if "S." did not quite remember it all. To "tell the story as 'twas told me," he once borrowed a sleigh called a cutter in those days, of a man named Tucker, and in the course of the evening he stepped into Mr. Tucker's house, saying, "Well, Mithter Cutter, I run your tucker under the thed and put your harneth in the thtable and hung your horth up in the barn, and I gueth you will find it right."

But alas! the trout fishing of which "S." speaks is now no more. Like most of the towns in Vermont, the brooks of R—h are tenantless, and the hills once clothed in verdure are disrobed. Many of our beautiful forest trees have been "cut off as cumberers of the ground," and are now no more. Tree planting will soon be as necessary with us as at the West.

But the hunting and fishing laws of Vermont are beginning to have a beneficial effect. Game and fish are more abundant than they were five years ago. It is well that there were a few men far-sighted enough to realize that game and fish must be protected by law and cultivated, and a happy illustration of this foresight may be seen in the case of Fairlee Lake, which lies partly in Post Mills village. The waters of this lake had formerly contained a great variety and seemingly an inexhaustible supply of the finny tribe, but fifteen or twenty years ago they only lived in the memory of the people. However, about that time there came to Post Mills, from the Lone Star State, a gentleman who was passionately fond of hunting and fishing, especially the latter. He was at once struck with the beauty and healthfulness of this locality, and he decided that this was the place for him, consequently he brought his family and settled here, and as it was now to all interests and purposes his home, being an active energetic man, he set about making improvements. He interested himself in the law for protecting game and fish, and stocked the beautiful lake that is so like an emerald gem, with a variety of fish, and established a manufactory of all kinds of fishing implements, and has kept the place alive generally. His is a history which, were it only written, is well worth the reading. R. A. T.

VERMONT.

GEORGIA BASS FISHING.—Macon, Ga., Sept. 15.—My friend and partner (H. B. D.) owns an interest in a large mill pond three and a half miles from Macon. In this are a great many small bass. Some years ago the supply was almost exhausted by the largest ones destroying the smallest and then being taken by the fishermen. H. B. D. had the pond restocked, and now the fishing is improving. He and I caught over twenty fish one day in June, most of them bass, and we also had some bream fishing. Together with a friend one morning in June I caught twenty of these, the finest perch fish in the world. Three miles beyond this pond is one owned by Dr. McC., of Macon, which is well supplied with bass, and several parties have caught some big weights there recently. I give you weights of ten, 2, 2, 3, 4, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 9 pounds respectively. These are private ponds and well protected. We anticipate some fine sport in November, as H. B. D. will let off most of the water in his pond to have some repairs done. The fish will then be in a small compass of water, and will bite freely. Will report to you if we have much success.—I. H. J.

A SECOND COURTSHIP.

A YOUNG lawyer friend of mine, H. H., has lately married. His wife is a good Catholic of an old Virginia family, and on Fridays and Wednesdays H. has to eat fish or dine with the heretics. These circumstances have been fortunate for your esteemed correspondent, who, by pretended or true interest in the cause of churchly fasts, was invited to "try the trout some Thursday." So last Thursday I asked H. if he thought his folks would take kindly to *Salmo fontinalis*, or *subclivus*, whichever be correct. His reply was favorable, so I meditated another bold stroke, namely, to persuade my own wife to walk to the stream and participate in the prospective sport. Leaving directions to a colored citizen to follow with lunch, my wife and I set out. The Big Spring is about two miles or more from our humble dwelling. We "walked in the middle o' the road," to avoid climbing too many fences. We wanted the trip to be inconspicuous, but every acquaintance we have seemed that evening to be on that particular road. My wife, however, behaved well under fire, and trudged along admiring the beautiful landscape on each side of the way, and enjoying the fresh air and exhilarating exercise as much as her fisherman escort, who was feeding on prospective pleasures yet to be drawn from the clear running brook, odorous with fragrant mint and sweet-smelling plants—pleasures of tangible shape and beautiful form—flame-colored fish sprinkled with sparkles of the finest jewelry. In fine, he was thinking of the trout and she of the landscape.

The trout stream runs through a beautiful grassy meadow. Its waters, clear, swift and sparkling, glide over enameled pavements of multifarious mosaic, many-formed and many-colored, all colors represented in its pebbles and clays—reds, whites, yellows, bluish-grays, and lead-shaded tints changing their hues with the movement of water, sky or cloud, outshining the products of man's poor looms.

One of our sons with the colored contingent had arrived and the rods were jointed, the narrowness of the stream precluding the fly, we began to try the swift stream with the festive grasshopper, who was out in force and tumbling from everything but "sweet tater vines" into the stream and being gulped up by the agile and scaly citizens of the water. Rob caught the first and largest fish, more than a foot long and as broad as my palm, in fact the rascal, notwithstanding the commandment, "Honor thy father," etc., beat me in size of catch, though not in numbers. Or to put the matter as Henry Powell, the colored aide, did: "Mr. W., if your fish were two or three inches longer you would beat Rob all to pieces, I tell you this for a fact."

We fished the stream to the river, about half a mile, caught a dozen fish, eight trout, nearly all plump and sizable, and after lunch and a pleasant walk home, ate trout for supper with the fragrance of mint still clinging to them, besides turning over to our friends enough for their Friday meal.

My wife had such a color, was so pleased and excited by the pleasure of the trip that I only was kept from courting her over again by the presence of the children, and by the consideration that "discipline must be maintained." If ladies only knew how much prettier a complexion may be gotten on a trout stream than from a drug store they would take more exercise and less powder. T. W.

LEESBURG, Va., Aug. 31.

RHODE ISLAND BASS.—I took with the rod the week ending Sept. 16, striped bass, the largest weighing 22 pounds; smallest 3½ pounds. Two rods that I baited during the week ending Sept. 12 took respectively: Rod No. 1.—Sept. 7, five, of 12, 9, 4½, 5 and 4½ pounds respectively; Sept. 8, two, of 17 and 8½ pounds; Sept. 9, six, of 10, 7, 5, 5, 2½ and 2 pounds. Rod No. 2.—Sept. 10, one, of 22½ pounds; Sept. 12, four, of 12½, 10, 7½ and 5 pounds; and Sept. 12 another rod took six, of 6, 5½, 4½, 4, 3 and 2½ pounds. Seven bluefish were also taken during the week, weights, 10½, 10, 8½, 8, 6, 5½, 3 pounds. I think from the indications that there is going to be the best fishing this month there has been for some years. For the past month the menhaden steamers have been in other parts and the menhaden have struck into the rivers and along this part of the coast, which in this locality means good bass and bluefishing. The gill-netters and trap-fishermen have had very poor fishing most of the season and it looks as if there would be less of them the next season. If there should be less and should the steamers also make themselves scarce, it would be of great benefit to the hook fishermen who depend on the line for their daily bread. I was much pleased with your editorial on the menhaden question, also with Mr. Clapham's notice, and could it be made as plain to the United States Government as it is to most fishermen that the steam fishing, pound and gill-netting destroys our fishing and fish supply, they would either be restricted or wiped out.—W. M. HUGHES (Newport, R. I., Sept. 13).

FIGHTING BASS.—New York, Sept. 22.—Editor Forest and Stream: A friend of mine, recently from Florida, has just told me an absolutely true fish story, as follows: A friend of his with his wife were out rowing on Lake Nettie, near Lake Eustis, Orange county, Fla., when, noticing a commotion in the water at some distance, they approached and found two black bass in deadly combat. The water boiled. The fish attacked and retreated after the approved style of the arena. Finally one of them seized the other by the upper and lower jaw, and shook him as a dog shakes his prey. So exhausted were they that the gentlemen reached down and drew them both into the boat. One of them weighed 9 pounds and the other 9½ pounds. Verily Florida waters are the ones in which to go fishing, without either rod, line, hook or sinkers.—GEO. SHEPARD PAGE.

RAINBOW TROUT IN THE ADIRONDACKS.—Number Four, Lewis County, N. Y., Sept. 20.—Editor Forest and Stream: During the spring of 1883, while I was in this region, Mr. Fenton was hatching 300 eggs of the rainbow trout. About the first of this month Rev. Dr. Shipman, of New York city, caught one of these fish in the rapids of Beaver River, which weighed ten ounces. A day or two afterward one of the same size was caught by a gentleman from Albany. I found that they fed on green worms gathered from the rock bottom.—SPENCER M. NASH.

BRITTLE HOOKS.—Redditch, Eng., Sept. 10.—Editor Forest and Stream: We notice that one of your correspondents complains of the quality of the sprout hooks of one of the manufacturers in this town. We take the liberty of sending you 100 of our manufacture, and shall be obliged if you will try them and report on them. Yours truly—S. ALCOCK & Co. [We have tested the hooks sent and find them of most excellent quality, and have sent some to our correspondent Mr. E. A. Leopold.]

LONG ISLAND SEA FISHERY.—Springs, Long Island.—The fishing of September here has been better than before, but the fresh winds and rough sea have been unfavorable for the bunker steamers and the pound-fishermen. The cooler weather and water have brought in the fish from the ocean tides in greater abundance, but the water has been too rough to allow the pound boats to "lift" their nets. One party here (Fireplace Point) who have five pounds at Fort Pond (Montauk) have been able to visit them but once this week, viz., on Monday. On that day (7th) we had fresh easterly winds here, when the racing yachts were prevented by calms off Sandy Hook from completing their struggle. The fish chiefly taken in the pounds of Block Island, Gardiner's Bay and Peconic Bay waters are weakfish, bluefish, porgies, shiners and flatfish, these five pounds taking from two boxes of fish to twenty. The average prices they receive for them in New York vary from \$2 to \$12 each, according to the demand for them in city markets. The dealers tax the fishermen about 12 per cent. for sales, which is a fair sum and is not objected to here. Once each day a cartload of worthless fish is taken, such as sharks, dogfish, skates, bunkers, etc., and these are used to manure the land.—I. McLELLAN.

SNAKE AND BETHABARA WOODS.—Snake or letterwood is a tree of the genus *Piratinera*, growing in Guiana, South America, and used by the natives for making bows and arrows, for which reason it should be an excellent wood for fishing rods, but has not entered into general use owing to its being very heavy and expensive, costing twenty-five cents per pound in the log in Guiana. Greenheart is a variety of the genus *Laurus*, found in the West Indies and South America. That in Jamaica and Guiana is the *Nectandra rodiaei*, called also "cogwood" in the former and "siper" in the latter locality. Lancelwood is a tree found also in the West Indies, called in botany *Gualetteria virgata*, and is par excellence the best wood for fishing rods. It will be difficult to find bethabara wood in the botanical list, it is only found in the catalogues of some fishing rod makers who have enshrouded it in mystery, otherwise it is nothing but a fancy name for greenheart.—M.

FLY-FISHING FOR PERCH.—Salisbury, Md., Sept. 14.—My colleague and myself were red fishing on the Urcomico River, two miles below this place, and at my suggestion, Mr. D. put on a leader containing three flies. On the third cast he took a white perch, and on the fifth or sixth cast took a large yellow perch, twelve or fourteen inches long. Handing his rod to me, he went into the yacht's cabin to put a leader on another line, when upon the first or second cast, I took a large yellow perch. This was on a narrow mud flat, shelving up toward a marsh in fresh, or perhaps a little brackish water. The tide had been flowing perhaps an hour, and was in a short time too high upon the flat to fish. We will try it again. Fly-fishing for perch is something new to both of us.—E. W. HUMPHREYS.

FISHING WITH A PADDLEWHEEL.—Horncllsville, N. Y.—I see it reported that the other day the steamer Moulton struck and stunned a thirty-five pound pickerel with her wheel, in the lake off Chautauqua. A fisherman named Rew killed it with his oar and sold it to the Chautauqua meat market for four dollars. It was more of an object of interest than the pin machine, for the time being. I do not think this fish was a pickerel, but a muscalonge (*Esox nobilior*). I have caught them in Chautauqua Lake, but could see no difference in them and the Niagara and St. Lawrence muscalonge except in color. True this is some years ago and I did not at that time know that the true muscalonge had naked gill covers.—J. OTIS FELLOWS.

BASS FISHING ON THE SCHUYLKILL.—Philadelphia, Sept. 19.—Bass fishing is now excellent in the Upper Schuylkill, above Phoenixville, and the fish take the fly freely. Two friends waded the river at or near this turn a few days since and took twenty or twenty-five fine bass with the artificial lure. September and October with us are the season par excellence for this fish, and our anglers are finding it out gradually and many put up their bass rods for July and August and never think of jointing them until autumn opens.—HOMO.

PICKLING CLAMS, MUSSELS AND EELS.—Can any of your readers give me directions for pickling clams, mussels and eels, for use on a long cruise?—A. W. R.

Fishculture.

Address all communications to the Forest and Stream Publishing Co.

THE BIENNIAL SPAWNING OF SALMON.

THE BUCKSPORT EXPERIMENTS.

[Read before the American Fisheries Society.]

BY CHARLES G. ATKINS.

AFTER the organization of the establishment for the collection of eggs of sea-going salmon at Bucksport, on the Penobscot River, in 1872, it was one of the earliest suggestions of Professor Baird that we should attempt, as occasion might offer, to obtain evidence bearing on the frequency and duration of the salmon's migrations and its rate of growth. To carry out these suggestions it seemed requisite that observations should be made on individual fishes at successive periods in their lives; yet, whatever means should be taken to secure and identify them must, it was evident, not prevent free movement in the open river to and from the sea, or interfere in any way with the development of their functions or their regular growth. They must be distinctly and durably marked, yet in such a way as to do them no injury. The cutting of the fins would answer the purpose only in part, since it would not afford a sufficient variety in form to enable us to distinguish a great number of individuals. Branding upon the side of the fish was thought of and even tried, but the serious mutilation that befel the first fish operated on, and the extreme probability that those marks that were so lightly impressed as to do no injury to the fish would soon become illegible, or so nearly so as to be overlooked by fishermen, caused that method to be abandoned. A metallic tag, stamped with a recorded number, appeared to offer the greatest promise of success. The first tag tried was of thin aluminum plate, cut about a half inch long and a quarter wide, and attached to a rubber band which encircled the tail of the fish. It is probable that most of the bands slipped off, and that those which were tight enough to stay on cut through the skin and produced wounds that destroyed the fish. At any rate, no salmon thus marked were ever recovered. The next method employed was the attachment of an aluminum tag by means of a platinum wire to the rear mar-

gin of the first dorsal fin. This place of attachment was chosen, because, being near the middle of the fish, it has less lateral motion when the fish is swimming than any point nearer the head or tail, and because the tag, lying thus in the wake of the fin and close to the back, would be better protected from contact with foreign objects than elsewhere. The attachment was effected by placing the fish upon a narrow table, confining it by straps, and piercing the thin membrane of the fin between the last and next to the last ray by means of a needle, into the eye of which was threaded the wire already connected with the tag, the ends of the wire were then twisted together, so as to form a loop, and neatly trimmed with scissors. The tags were stamped with dies. This mode of marking has been adhered to in all subsequent experiments of the kind with no change except that the aluminum tag has been replaced by one of platinum.

The marking was always done in the fall, after the fish had been relieved of their spawn. They were then liberated either in tide water or in fresh water whence egress to the sea was easy.

Of the salmon marked with rubber bands in 1872, as has been said, none were recovered. In November, 1873, there were marked 391 salmon. In the ensuing year rewards were offered to the fishermen for the return of any marked specimens. In response, there were sent in to the station twenty salmon, the first in January (taken in a smelt net) and all the others in April and May. All of the twenty retained the wire, by which they were with certainty recognized as having been marked in the preceding autumn. Sixteen of them still retained the tags. One of them was found to have lost eight ounces in weight, eight others had lost from one to two pounds each; all had fallen away in flesh since November. The males had faded in color; the hooks on their lower jaws were still present, but had decreased much in size. The females had retained their bright silvery color to a great extent; in their ovaries were the germs of the next litter of eggs, but they were very small. No food could be found in the stomachs of either sex. It was quite evident from their condition that these fishes could not have been to their feeding grounds during the winter. Twelve out of the twenty were taken in the Penobscot above Bucksport, and nine of these were taken at Veazie, twenty-five miles above Bucksport, in close proximity to the first serious obstacle they would encounter in ascending the river. Salmon in their condition should be bound toward the sea, and had they, as may have been the case with some, reached the upper waters it is quite impossible that they could have become breeders the same year. That all these loiterers dropped down to the sea before the first of June we may conclude from the fact that after that date no more were captured. During the whole year not a single marked fish was recovered or reported that had in any degree mended from the condition in which it was released the preceding autumn.

In 1875 the offer of a reward was renewed and this time resulted in the recovery, in May and June, of eight specimens, and among our breeding fish there was found in the autumn another whose mark had escaped observation at the time of capture. Of these nine fish, four were females, three males, and two not determined. They were all of good size, weighing from 16 to 24½ pounds, and measuring 31½ to 40½ inches in length, and were all fat and apparently healthy. One of the females was placed alive in our inclosure and yielded in the fall about 11,500 eggs. Unfortunately the tags, supposed to have been good aluminum plate, proved deficient in durable properties, became (as we learned by direct observation) weak and brittle after a short time in water. All of them had fallen off from these specimens, and we could not therefore trace the record of the individual salmon, but the wire remained and proved beyond question that these salmon were marked and released in November, 1873, as none others had up to this time been marked in the same manner, and none at all marked in 1874. They had thus been absent eighteen or nineteen months, and had (we cannot doubt) passed the intervening months, including the summer of 1874, mainly on their feeding grounds in the sea. The experiment was repeated in 1875 and in 1880, with platinum tags, which proved durable.

In 1875 there were marked and released in tide water, at Bucksport, 357 salmon. In the spring of 1876 a considerable number of these were taken in the river; but without exception they were, as in 1874, all poor. In 1877 three specimens were recovered, all in good condition and of larger size than when released. The first, No. 1,019, was caught on Cape Gelson in April. This was a female fish; before spawning it weighed 21 pounds 6 ounces, and at time of release 16 pounds. When retaken, seventeen months later, it weighed 33½ pounds. The second individual, No. 1,010, was also a female; weighed before spawning 18 pounds 3 ounces, after spawning 13 pounds 8 ounces, and on recapture in Lincolnville, nineteen months later, 30 pounds 8 ounces. The third individual was also a female; weighed 20 pounds 7 ounces before spawning, 15 pounds on release, and 26 pounds on recapture in Lincolnville nineteen months later. The results of this second experiment supported the conclusions drawn from those of the first in every particular.

The salmon marked in 1880, numbering 252, were released in the fresh waters of Eastern River, a small branch of the Penobscot. The distance from the point of liberation to tide-water was two miles, and the only impediment a dam over which they could easily go down in the spring, or at any high water when the river was not very low, but which during the winter must have constituted a serious impediment. There is reason for thinking that the larger part of these salmon remained above the dam until the spring floods. A small reward was offered for the return of fish or tags taken the next spring, and twelve tags were received. Nine of the fish bearing them were weighed and found in every instance to have fallen away in weight since marking. No fully or partially mended fish were obtained or heard of that year. But in June, 1882, five prime salmon were recovered bearing the tags affixed in October and November, 1880. The following statement shows the date for each individual:

## RECORD OF MARKING.

No.	Date.	Sex.	Length in inches.	Weight before spawning, lbs. oz.	Weight of eggs, lbs. oz.	Weight on release, lbs. oz.
1185	Oct. 28	F.	30	9 7	1 15	7 8
1186	Oct. 28	F.	30	9 5	2 1	7 4
1239	Nov. 5	F.	26	17 12	3 8	14 8
1248	Nov. 5	F.	32	10 5	2 5	8 0
1247	Nov. 12	M.	30½			8 8

## RECORD OF RECAPTURE.

No.	Date.	Place.	Length in inches.	Weight lbs. oz.
1185	June 20	Ericksport Center.	34½	16 8
1186	June —	Ericksport.	35½	17 4
1239	June 22	Sandy Point.	39½	21 0
1248	June 27	North Bucksport.	30	21 0
1274	June 23	Frankfort.	—	14 12

The results of this third experiment coincide, it will be seen, with those of the other two, and they leave little room for doubt that it is the normal habit of the Penobscot salmon to spawn every second year. Had any considerable number of them recovered condition in season to return to the river for spawning the year after their first capture, they would hardly have escaped detection altogether, indeed, they would have been much more likely to retain their tags, since they would have borne them only six or seven months, instead of eighteen or nineteen. This view is further supported by what we know of the reduced condition in which the end of the spawning season finds the salmon, the short time, only six months, that intervenes between the spawning season and the time for the next "run" up the river, the low temperature then prevailing in the river and bay, and the fact, which is pretty well es-

tablished, that a large part, perhaps nearly all the salmon, instead of proceeding at once to sea after spawning, linger in the fresh water all the winter and descend only with the spring floods.

BUCKSPORT, ME.

**THE TEXAS COMMISSION.**—The last Legislature of Texas has abolished the Fish Commission of the State. The late Commissioner, Mr. John B. Lubbock, of Austin, has leased the State carp ponds, and is now supplying customers with young carp at from eight to ten cents each, according to quantity. Mr. Lubbock was an active Commissioner, and the Legislature has done an unwise thing in abolishing the office.

## The Kennel.

Address all communications to the Forest and Stream Publishing Co.

### FIXTURES.

#### BRNCH SHOWS.

Sept. 22, 23, 24 and 25.—Dog Show of the Milwaukee Exposition Association. John D. Olcott, Superintendent, Milwaukee, Wis.

Sept. 20, 30 and Oct. 1, 2.—Third Annual Dog Show of the Southern Ohio Fair Association. H. Anderson, Secretary, Dayton, O.

—Twelfth Dog Show of the Western Pennsylvania Poultry Society, Pittsburgh, Pa. C. B. Elben, Secretary.

Oct. 6, 7, 8 and 9.—Second Annual Dog Show of the Philadelphia Kennel Club, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, E. Comfort, Secretary, Philadelphia, Pa.

Oct. 6, 7, 8 and 9.—Fourth Annual Dog Show of the Danbury Agricultural Society. S. E. Hawley, Secretary, Danbury, Conn.

Oct. 7, 8 and 9.—Dog Show of the York County Agricultural Society. Entries close Sept. 28. A. C. Krueger, Superintendent, Wrightsville, Pa.

Oct. 8 and 9.—Second Annual Dog Show of the Stafford Agricultural Society. R. S. Hicks, Secretary, Stafford Springs, Conn.

#### FIELD TRIALS.

Nov. 9.—Second Annual Field Trials of the Fisher's Island Club, for members only. Max Wenzel, Secretary, Hoboken, N. J.

Nov. 9.—First Annual Trials of the Western Field Trials Association, at Andale, Kan. Entries close Oct. 15. A. A. Whipple, Secretary, Kansas City, Mo.

Nov. 16, 1885.—Seventh Annual Field Trials of the Eastern Field Trials Club, High Point, N. C. Entries for Derby close May 1. W. A. Coster, Secretary, Flatbush, L. I.

November.—Fourth Annual Trials of the Robins Island Club, Robins Island, L. I., for members only. Wm. H. Force, Secretary.

Dec. 7.—Seventh Annual Field Trials of the National Field Trials Club, Grand Junction, Tenn. Entries for Derby close April 1. B. M. Stephenson, La Grange, Tenn., Secretary.

### A. K. R.—SPECIAL NOTICE.

**THE AMERICAN KENNEL REGISTER**, for the registration of pedigrees, etc. (with prize lists of all shows and trials), is published every month. Entries close on the 1st. Should be in early. Entry blanks sent on receipt of stamped and addressed envelope. Registration fee (50 cents) must accompany each entry. No entries inserted unless paid in advance. Yearly subscription \$1.50. Address "American Kennel Register," P. O. Box 2832, New York. Number of entries already printed 2704.

### THE EASTERN FIELD TRIALS.

*Editor Forest and Stream:*

Owing to the want of timely advertisement the closing of the public stakes of the Eastern Field Trials Club, viz., the All-Aged setter and pointer stakes, is postponed from Oct. 1 to Nov. 1, the Members' stake to the evening of Nov. 11 and the Champion stakes to the evening after the finish of the two all-aged stakes. The dates of running remain as advertised last spring, viz., the Members' stake on Thursday, Nov. 12, and the All-Aged Setter stake on Monday, Nov. 16, followed on its finish by the All-Aged Pointer stake, the Champion stake, if it fills, and ending with the Eastern Field Trials Derby.

WASHINGTON A. COSTER, Secretary.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.

### THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB.

*Editor Forest and Stream:*

I think we have all been somewhat cranky this summer. How could it be helped? The A. K. C. was such a sore, so constantly breaking out in new places, that we all got to be cranks in our magnifying of our pet grievances, and our adulation of our pet remedy.

Now that there is to be another attempt to put the A. K. C. on a firm and respectable basis, let us all try to clear our minds of crotchets and illusions, and bring a sober, unprejudiced reason to our aid. We will doubtless make some mistakes that cannot be helped, but let us build so that we will be respectable and not the laughing stock we have been in the past.

To my good friend Osborn I extend my hand. I will fight by his side in a mutiny till the ship sinks. Now after the above prosy sermonizing, for an application, to wit, the "standard committee" business. It is really incomprehensible to me how so many clear-headed men have gone wrong in this. Except Mr. Osborn, I do not know of one that has expressed himself in public to the real point on this matter. Granting that the mainspring that moved the machine was the desire to enact a setter standard to fit the Gladstone dog (there is no use beating round the bush), there is nothing inherently wrong in that. If certain parties want a standard enacted to fit a certain dog or strain of dogs, that is legitimate enough, and all that is required is to let all shades of opinion be heard, and decide the question fairly. If the majority want the Gladstone type, so be it; if not, then down with it. Granted that it was the intention to smuggle it through in Pennsylvania Legislature fashion, that is now balked, and in fighting that, don't charge around like a bull in fly time, tail in air, eyes ablaze, charging every cornstalk in the field (this especially applies to "Porcupine").

The mischief is that these excellent but excited bovines seem to be possessed with the idea that these standard committees would upset all existing standards, and set up creations of their own. Now, no such chimera can be evolved from the mode of appointment or construction of any of the committees except that on setters. How many breeds are there for which there is no standard? Take mastiffs. Who ever judges them by the sacred "Stonehenge," that so many have made a fetish of? "Stonehenge" gives thirty-five points for head, Mr. Wynn's scale, prepared for the late mastiff club, gives forty-two, and the practical lesson derived from the judgments of the O. E. Mastiff Club is about seventy-five! Is it not about the same in many other breeds? For instance, take the illustration of Governor in "Dogs of the British Islands." Can any one imagine him a good mastiff if the wretched beasts the English craze has recently sent over here are good type? Imagine old champion Turk, with the mien of a chief justice of the United States, led out and beaten, as he surely would be, by such a beast as Lady Clare, as short-faced and turn up nosed as any pug, with quarters as lank as a starved wolf. Here we have got clear away from "Stonehenge," and have set up a shadowy fancy of our own, each judge giving us his own particular views as to high art.

In such a case (and I assume that there are a dozen more), would it not be well for it to be positively laid down that "Stonehenge" is the standard?

Then this "standard" business has brought out blasts from "Porcupine" and even from the level-headed editor of the A. K. R. about "a good judge that knows his work," not need-

ing any standard. Now this is sheer nonsense. How is any judge to know what is the correct type, or what are the relative values of various merits or demerits in the specimens being judged? In fact, no judge can act without consciously or unconsciously following a standard, and on this no advice can be sounder or clearer than that of "Zoilus" that lately appeared in FOREST AND STREAM, especially when it is known that "Zoilus" is himself one of the oldest and most weighty of English judges. So much for an airing of my pet crank. Another thing. The "constitution" (there really is such a thing, construction, skylark appointment of committees, etc., notwithstanding) provides that the officers of the A. K. C. have no vote. Now, is not this wrong? If we have sufficient confidence in any one to elect him an officer should we not trust him with a vote? The change was brought about by the president casting one vote as such, one as a delegate and "x" as proxy; but cannot all this be obviated by providing that the officers shall not be delegates, and that none shall hold more than one proxy? I am not blind to the enormous difficulty we will have in securing respect for any set of rules that may be enacted. The farces of "construction," "Pickwickian" appointment of committees, Jack Bunsby opinions, and the unavoidable necessity of deliberately setting rules aside has honeycombed the idea of a duty to observe rules, but with the evidence of a sincere determination to look solely to the general good, and an executive and committee on discipline, determined to enforce rules, with the single purpose of protection to canine interests in general, these difficulties will gradually vanish.

W. WADE.

HULTON, Pa., Sept. 12, 1885.

### THE PHILADELPHIA DOG SHOW.

*Editor Forest and Stream:*

At a meeting of bench show committee of Philadelphia Kennel Club Sept. 15, 1885, it was decided to separate the dog and bitch mastiff puppy class and make a class for each; also in the fox-terrier dog and bitch class in October show. The numbers therefore of mastiff dog puppy class will be 579 and that of the bitches 579½, of the fox-terrier dog puppy class 668 and the bitches 668½.

E. COMFORT, Secretary.

*Editor Forest and Stream:*

There is every prospect that this show will be as large in entries as any yet given by the Philadelphia Kennel Club. The attendance at the State Fair will be double that of last year, and room enough has been given the Kennel Club to do away with all possibility of a jam, as occurred last season. Fully 50,000 people will visit the fair daily. Last year there was an average of 39,000 each day, so it can be readily observed the coming show will be just the place to sell and advertise dogs. A number of entries have already been made for the collie trials, and quite a number of valuable specials have been presented to the club for distribution. These will be apportioned to the several classes at next meeting of the committee, and sent to you for publication.

HOMO.

### THE BLACK AND TAN COLLIE.

*Editor Forest and Stream:*

I desire to call your attention to a matter and hope to be able to enlist your aid in accomplishing what I think would be a benefit to breeders of shepherd dogs, as well as to the future of the breed in this country.

To me at once to the point, I am anxious to see the black and tan collie a separate class at the bench shows. I think this dog has distinct characteristics which entitle him to be separated from the general collie class. There is no other collie with such distinct markings, reverting from sire to progeny (when carefully bred). By black and tan collie I mean a black dog with tan (or bluish black) undercoat, tan spots over the eyes, tan under the chin and on neck, and a very beautiful tan triangular point down on the breast, tan on the legs, principally the forelegs, and sometimes a ring around the neck. This is the beautifully marked animal, and as I said before, properly bred will throw the markings at every point to the offspring. There is no other one-color collie which will do this as certainly as the black and tan.

Besides the obvious advantage of perpetuating this beautiful collie by encouraging his separate breeding, the division of collies into two classes would do much to smooth away the growls of exhibitors at bench shows, when the rulings of the judges seem (?) to favor one color more than another.

I am not foolish enough to imagine that the mere insertion of this letter in your columns, signed as it is by a young and comparatively unknown breeder, would have much effect. And it is for this reason I beg the FOREST AND STREAM to actively take up the matter and solicit the opinions of the larger and better known breeders on the subject. I believe if such an expression of opinion could be had, the majority at least of those favoring the black and tan in their kennels would favor the movement, and those breeding other colors certainly have nothing to lose and perhaps something to gain by lessening the competition. That I may not be accused of studying only my own interest, I would state that I am breeding black and tans, and also tawny and white, and my kennels have as many of one kind as the other. I trust you will give this matter your consideration and attention.

B. A. R. OTTOLENGUI.

### SUCCESS IN TRAINING.

*Editor Forest and Stream:*

My father and uncles were sportsmen of the old school, in the good days when Manton guns and pointer dogs were used in the fields, and I have been accustomed to dogs from my childhood. Years of observation had taught me that training was better than breaking, and I had so found it in my own experience. When, therefore, Hammond's book, "Training vs. Breaking," made its appearance, I was attracted by its title and bought a copy, and have taken it as my guide for I there found systematized and reduced to an art the principles which I knew to be correct. By the aid of this little manual, I trained a dog in the season of 1883 as thoroughly as I ever saw so young a dog broken. He would do anything that any dog broken by a professional would do and do it cheerfully, and he was of a disposition which made it likely that he would have been spoiled had he been broken instead of being trained. As a retriever (the thing of all others that its advocates say force is necessary to make) he was one of the best that I ever saw. This dog I sold to a gentleman in Georgia, and I have no doubt his training sticks to him.

I now have a couple of puppies five months old; one of them by San Roy (Count Noble—Spark) out of Drane's Cora (Mark—Jennie; Mark, by Rob Roy out of Juno; Jennie, by Leicester out of Dart), and the other by San Roy out of Queen Bess (Gladstone—Donna J.); and if I can find time, I shall train these puppies according to Hammond's rules in preference to placing them in the hands of a breaker. Already they point, back and drop, and readily retrieve a ball or glove. One of them showed a good deal of inclination to gunshyness (although there is no gunshyness in his ancestry), but I effectually cured him by following Hammond's directions.

No matter what may be one's views as to the proper mode of breaking or handling dogs, no bird dog owner can afford to do without this little book of Hammond's. It should be in the hands of every sportsman; and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would be doing God's service if it would raise a fund for the gratuitous distribution of this book. It teaches the best code of morals yet devised for the regulation of the relation of sportsman and dog. It shows that kindness will more effectively do the work of preparing the dog for field use than brutality. It raises from a most disagreeable task—a task involving beatings innumerable for the poor dog