

caught by wiers and stake-nets, the latter should be placed one mile at least from the entrance of all the rivers, in order to keep the tide-way clear for the fish to reach the pools and spawning grounds. We believe also that the money spent in building fish hatcheries and maintaining officers, could be better and more profitably expended in improving the rivers and paying guardians or preventive officers to stop Indians and others from spearing salmon while depositing their *own*. It is in these interior places that houses and officers are required. Leave nature to do its work, and place guardians on the spawning-grounds to prevent the fish from being disturbed, and doubtless a change for the better will soon appear. Parties renting a river, should be compelled to guard the estuary, seeing that the nets are properly placed, and the meshes of legal size. If this is done, we will hear of salmon becoming abundant—the fly fisher and net owner will have their share. The Government may do with the hatcheries what they think proper. We are satisfied that if salmon are not interfered with on their spawning-grounds, that more healthy fish will return to the sea from the natural hatchery than from the artificial one.—C.

BLACK BASS AND PIKE-PERCH.

We have had verbal accounts from various localities relative to inland fishing this season. Good sized Black bass and Pike-perch (Doré) are evidently abundant in some of the Quebec rivers, but especially the Canadian waters of Lake Champlain. Early in the season, Bass were found occupying grounds wherein schools of minnows occurred about sunrise. Sportsmen discovering the fish thus situated were then generally successful in taking Bass with a fly resembling a grasshopper. Black Bass are, at certain seasons, gregarious, following a leader, in the chase of small fishes; it is astonishing how Bass manages to secure sufficient of these small quick swimming fishes, but they do destroy numbers of them daily. All the species of fresh-water and marine Bass are truly carnivorous, preying on the weaker forms occurring in the same waters. We have opened the stomach of a large Sea Bass, sent to us from St. John, N.B., which contained thirteen adult herrings. Sometimes Black Bass have the same inquisitive nature noticed in the salmon and trout,

by rising to the artificial fly, when the colours of the latter attract its curiosity. Bass do not generally go in schools; but later in the day when the sun shines warmly, they separate retiring under the shade of aquatic plants or to rocky cavities, resting till after noon, when they return to deep water in search of food. Pike-perch (Doré) are ravenous feeders, especially in the morning, when they are in cool shallow water. At noon they do not, as a rule, seek the shade of plants, but move to deep water or a current in which to rest at a convenient depth, ready to devour any small fish passing or approaching them. The habits of Pike-perch are not unlike the common Yellow Perch when the latter attain adult form, it becomes a deep water wanderer, particularly where there are large ponds surrounded by marshes. This accounts for one making a good day's fishing over a certain ground, while the following day, the same place may turn out poor. There is therefore two portions of the day—morning and evening—that these fishes are on the move. Many persons who go fishing, return home either disheartened or disgusted when they meet with bad luck, often under the impression that no fishes were in the water, while in fact they were there—on their resting-grounds—but difficult to discover. A good indication of the presence of large fish, is in noticing minnows leaping over the surface of the water; the enemy is beneath them, and it is generally in the neighbourhood of such places that large Bass, Pike-perch, and Maskalouge are to be found. We make these few remarks to give encouragement to the disappointed fisherman. Go to the same place again, and with a little experience, success may be the result.—C.

A PRIME FISH.

Mr. M. Wright, proprietor of the Cottage Saloon 74 St. Urbain street, Montreal, while trolling for fish on the south side of the St. Lawrence, near the foot of Lachine Rapids, struck a large Pike-perch (*Lucio-perca Americana*) commonly called Doré in this Province. His tackle consisted of a good silk line, rod and reel. The bait being Westwood's No. 4 gold and silver spoon; its concave side is red. The fish is 34 inches long, with the following circumference:—before pectoral fins 16 inches; centre of body 18 inches; front of anal fin 14 inches. Weight 13 lbs. Attached to the