

## Marine and Fisheries—Fisheries Branch.

During the month of November, I made several voyages around the Georgian Bay and part of Lake Huron, and found very little attempt on the part of fishermen to poach during the close season; the majority of them are more inclined to assist in the protection.

The whitefish I found to be increasing, especially on the north shore between Killarney and Western Islands.

During my season's patrol, the several overseers have been taken over their divisions whenever desiring to go.

I arrived in Owen Sound on the 3rd of December, and received your instructions to pay off on the 5th of December, which was done, and the boat placed in winter quarters.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. PEARSON,  
*Commanding "Dolphin."*

The whole most respectfully submitted.

O. G. V. SPAIN,  
*Commanding Fisheries Protection Service of Canada.*

### ANNEX A.

#### DETAILED REPORT OF THE FISHERIES INTELLIGENCE BUREAU.

HALIFAX, 31st December, 1898.

Commander O. G. V. SPAIN, R.N.,

Commanding Fisheries Protection Service of Canada.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Fisheries Intelligence Bureau for the season of 1898.

In connection with the bureau during the past year, the stations comprised the following, viz. :—Fifty-three reporting and twenty-four bulletin stations. The two following stations were abolished, viz., Bayfield, N.S., and Beaver Harbour, N.B., as no telegraphic communication existed. Two new reporting stations were established, as follows :—Clark's Harbour, in charge of J. Lewis Nickerson, and Wood's Harbour, in charge of W. Luther Crowell.

An application was received from residents of Fox Bay, Gaspé County, P.Q., requesting that a reporting station be established in their locality, but, owing to various reasons, was not authorized by you.

The following is a summary received from the various stations showing the results of fishing operations for the season of 1898 :—

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

##### CLARK'S HARBOUR.

*Codfish.*—This station was established on June 11th, and the first report, on the 14th, indicated fair codfishing. After this they became more plentiful, but as bait was scarce, the catches were consequently light throughout that month. About August 15th, clam bait was used, which enabled those engaged to obtain very fair results. During the remainder of the season, whenever bait could be obtained, good catches were reported. Total catch for season estimated at 1,800 quintals.

*Haddock* were first reported on June 16th, in fair quantities, but during the remainder of the season, catches were light and somewhat irregular. None were taken on trawls. The aggregate catch is estimated at 300 quintals.