

whitefish, trout and pickerel $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents dressed, except pickerel. The Noble Brothers come to my camp for all fish. When delivered at the camp I had nothing more to do with them. This company ships to the Buffalo Company, in the United States. I do not notice much difference in the quality of fish at any time. When spawning they are softer and flabby and not so good.

Whitefish come on their spawning grounds from deep water the beginning of November, and spawn through this month, after this they leave for the deep water. Some fishing has been done in November by some fishermen, but not by me, and the catches then are the largest of any. Whitefish are thickest and more easily taken in November as they get closer together for spawning purposes.

Salmon-trout come on earlier, beginning about the middle of October. They come on the rocky bottoms where it is honeycombed, there they lay their eggs. They mostly lay their eggs at the end of October. They then leave for deep water. There are reefs far out in the bay where they may spawn in 5 or 6 fathoms of water, but when they come on the shores, very often only a short distance from shore in from 3 to 4 feet of water. The trout are called by some rock trout, salmon-trout and black trout. They are all the same. Those that spawn outside, and on the shore are the same. They look alike, although trout differ considerably in colour and appearance, sometimes some are whiter, sometimes more speckled, all are, however, termed the salmon-trout.

Herring, I do not catch any; pickerel spawn in the spring, get through about the 1st of May; bass I do not know.

No bullheads, but I get some channel cats, these will run from 6 to 10 pounds each. They sell at the same price as sturgeon. Salmon-trout, and whitefish always come out of the deep water in the fall of the year to spawn. They come in greater quantities in October and November than at any other time. That whitefish have fallen off is the general statement of the fishermen. My experience being only for the last two years, I cannot give a proper opinion of it. The general impression is that whitefish have fallen off. I cannot say anything about the trout. I caught more whitefish in 1893 than in 1892, but I had four nets in 1893 and only two in 1892, but the proportion was about the same. The general impression of the cause of the falling off of the fish is, that it has been brought about by the use of too small meshes in the pots formerly. Some were as small as a 2-inch mesh. Some of the fishermen, Gauthier for instance, would catch everything large and small, and the small fish would be carried off in hand barrows and thrown away. This information was obtained from my fisherman who formerly worked with Gauthier and Reeves. It is injurious to the fisheries to catch fish at the spawning time, and no doubt this was practiced formerly, even when the close time was only ten days, then they were allowed to fish after the ten days. It was more than injurious, because the fish would then be spawning, and this would naturally affect the fisheries. Bark and the soft wood on the logs which has been found to be very plentiful in the water since the exportation of saw-logs has taken place, is injurious. This stuff rubs off by the motion of the logs while being towed across the bay to the United States, or elsewhere, or even from the rivers when brought down to our own mills. The rafts are very large, and great damage is done to the meshes of the nets. This is very injurious to the fisheries and clings to the meshes of the nets. It is much more injurious to gill-nets than pound-nets. If these logs are allowed to be towed over our waters, this difficulty will increase, and the prospects for any improvement in the fisheries will not be very encouraging to the fishermen. If the present fishing laws had been in the past carried out as fully as they have been in the past two seasons, and the evils spoken of regarding small meshes, and the saw log difficulty were overcome, then fishermen would become prosperous again, and would increase. More licenses might then be granted. With the present mesh in nets the young fish could not be caught. Fish of 2 pounds and under will go through a 4-inch mesh. I cannot give the average of our whitefish or salmon-trout, as to size or weight. There should be close seasons to protect fish at their spawning time, and the periods, mentioned before by me, are about the right time of their spawning.