

finally to divide the surplus between the capital and the labourer. This system, it will be perceived, is as nearly equitable as any arrangement can be. It gives to all those employed in the production, whether represented by capital, one of the great elements in production, or by labour, another of its chief elements, a similarity of interest, and a *pro rata* share in the profits. Mr. Briggs stated that the result had been not only to put a good bonus into the pocket of the labourers—a bonus of five per cent. on their wages—but to yield himself, as capitalist, a larger profit than he had ever before received, even in the most prosperous years of the colliery's existence. This co-operation between capital and labour is only a variation of co-operative working societies, where the men themselves represent both the capital and the labour; but, as in the latter case, the efforts of the men are hampered by the smallness of their means at the commencement of their undertaking, we think the arrangement a better one where the capital is furnished, and the men, as in the case of the Coal Company above mentioned, given a certain share of the profits. They might also be allowed to invest their earnings in stock of the company, and thus give them a strong motive for the practice of economy and the virtues which are inseparable therefrom."

#### OUR SALMON FISHERIES.

During the past month a very interesting correspondence has been kept up in the columns of the *Globe*, on the past and present position of our Canadian Salmon Fisheries, and the artificial propagation of this fish.

A short time since a Mr. Wilmot, of Newcastle, C. W., exhibited in Toronto a vessel containing some 20,000 to 30,000 small salmon, about 12 days old and about 1 inch in length. These were the progeny of four female salmon, the ova of which was taken from a small stream in the township of Clarke, during last fall, and hatched by Mr. Wilmot in small wooden boxes, in his own house. These little fellows were very lively, and so transparent that the action of the heart and blood were distinctly visible. Mr. Wilmot has no doubt that, with his very limited experience, he can succeed in hatching about 80 per cent. of the eggs produced; and when we consider how amazingly prolific the female salmon is, we can imagine the effect it would have on our inland fisheries, were the artificial culture of this fish more generally promoted. Unless the necessary protection is afforded the fisheries on the part of the Government and people of Canada, and their artificial propagation is encouraged, in a short time the salmon will scarcely be known in our waters. As one writer remarks, "they are driven away from their original spawning ground in the bays and rivers, by the advance of civilization in the shape of steamboats, schooners, saw-mills, and in many cases by the seines and nets of

fishermen, and in consequence are compelled to run on the open shores of the lake to spawn, exposed to the heavy storms of November and December, which wash up and destroy more than three-fourths of the spawns: There are plenty of little bays in the shore here which could be for a trifling amount converted into breeding places. A few hundred dollars would do the whole thing." There is no doubt that, a few years ago, our rivers and creeks abounded with this delicious fish. We have seen them regularly sold in the streets of Toronto, at prices not higher than is now asked for a good sized white-fish. One of the correspondents of the *Globe*, dating from the township of Clarke, and signing himself "*Salmo Canadensis*," says:—

"The writer is about a middle-aged man, yet he has seen as many as five hundred taken in one night, in a creek so small that an active man could jump over it at a single leap. He has with his own hands caught sixty in one day, and has at other times caught many hundreds in the same creek; older inhabitants will vouch for having seen over 1,000 salmon caught in one night in this little stream. This statement will apply to many of the creeks running into the lake from Kingston to Hamilton. Every small creek and stream had its salmon, and in the larger rivers, such as the Credit, Rouge, and Trent, they were still more numerous. Around my own neighbourhood are men now living who have caught one and two hundred salmon in a night.

In speaking of the salmon of Upper Canada, many persons from the Lower Provinces and elsewhere fancy they are the "salmon trout." I trust that they will disabuse their minds of this error, as the salmon taken in Upper Canada are the true *Salmo Salar*, as described by Cuvier, being identical with the Saguenay salmon in Lower Canada, and the St. John's salmon in New Brunswick, both of which I have seen. Should further proof be required, the living fish can be shown to the sceptic in November next in the creek referred to, by visiting "*Salmo Canadensis*."

I shall now refer to another of the salmonidic tribe, the white-fish, reputed to be as delicate and finely-flavoured as any fish in the world, were known to abound in myriads along the shore of Lake Ontario. So plentiful were they and the catches so great, that thousands and tens of thousands were left upon the beach to rot and putrify. In years gone by it was usual for farmers and others to take two empty barrels to the fishing grounds; they would get one filled with white-fish, and leave the other as payment for the fish.

Our Lake also abounded in salmon-trout, herrings, and other fish. The rivers running into the Bay of Quinte—the Moira, Salmon, and Napanee—were at one time and at certain seasons almost overflowing with pickerel and suckers. The waters in the interior, Rice Lake, Scugog Lake, and others too numerous to mention, were all at one time teeming with maskinonge and bass, the former so plentiful that canoe loads could be caught in a single night; thousands could be caught by trolling, and in the winter sleigh-loads were frequently