

to the stringency of the Fishery Act now in force, which compels fishermen to lift their nets on the last day of October, and compels them to remain idle until the last of November, thus shutting them out of the fall catch, for after the close season expires, as it now stands, the weather is too cold to fish; the close season should commence the last day of October and end on the 15th day of November. It is well-known that the spawning is over on Lake Superior on the 15th day of November. Your attention should be particularly called to this branch of our native industry, and have it properly represented to the Government. Were the close season to end on the 15th day of November, the fishing industry would more than double itself.

APPROPRIATION FOR GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES

should be urged by your Board during the coming Session of Parliament, and the attention of the Government directed to the necessity of an appropriation for dredging the shallow spots in our harbor so as to make an uniform depth of seventeen feet of water, also an appropriation for the extension of the Western portion of the breakwater. During the session of 1887, an appropriation was made of ten thousand dollars to apply on a suitable building to be used as Customs House and Post Office, this should be largely supplemented during the coming session, and the necessity of the work being proceeded forthwith urged.

THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE BOARD

which is in a very fair condition, considering the time we have been organized, will be seen by referring to the Secretary's statement.

FUTURE PROSPECTS.

In conclusion, I may say that the past year has been a most eventful one in our history, the success of our Western wheat crop and the development of our mineral and agricultural resources warrants the future of Port Arthur and the prospects for the ensuing year are more promising than ever.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. MARKS,

PRESIDENT.

Port Arthur, Ont.,
January 26th, 1888.

