

FISH CULTURE.

There are 7 government establishments for fish breeding. At Newcastle, Ont., over a million salmon eggs were deposited, 300,000 eggs of the salmon trout, and 200,000 white fish eggs. At Sandwich, Ont., more than twelve millions of white fish eggs were successfully deposited. About 70,000 salmon at Gaspé; 60,000 at Miramichi. At the Restigouche 300,000, and at Tadoussac 200,000; at Bedford, N.S., there are 600,000. 1,700,000 young fish from the hatching of 1871 were distributed in the waters of the Restigouche and its tributaries, of St. John, Dartmouth and Malbale rivers, and the tributaries of the Miramichi, and in various rivers and streams in the Province of Ontario. 300,000 were successfully placed in Salmon River, making altogether 470,000 fish distributed in that river. It is thought that the Lake Ontario Salmon are now sufficiently numerous to allow a few fishing licenses to be issued. Additional *fishways* were constructed in various places, and the Act respecting filling up streams with sawdust, &c., enforced. The protection afforded to the inland lake fisheries has been so successful that some relaxation of the restrictions has been allowed,

and the supply of fresh fish in the markets has largely increased. There is great danger of complete exhaustion of the oyster beds in some parts of the Dominion, and closing them against dredging for three years is strongly urged by the fishery officers. An alarming decrease in the lobster fishery was reported by the officers, ascribed to over production and wasteful capture. The falling off in one year was over \$500,000, and stringent measures need to be taken. The trade in fresh fish increases every year with improved modes of preserving them and increase of railway communication. In the salmon fishery of Gaspé Basin there was a great decrease; in some other of the Quebec fishing grounds there was as large an increase. In British Columbia the salmon fishery is in danger of decline, from the large quantities of salmon spawn destroyed by the Indians. In the fall they take the spawn by the ton, mix it with a kind of moss, dry it and bake it into winter food. In the spring they take the young fry by the million and use them fresh, dry them in the sun, stringing them with a needle. The fisheries of the Fraser are already beginning to feel the evil effects, and some measure of protection is necessary.

Penitentiaries of the Dominion.

KINGSTON PENITENTIARY.

An Act was passed in 1875 abolishing the Board of Directors of Penitentiaries, and appointing an Inspector to perform the duties of the Board under the direction of the Minister of Justice. The Inspector is required to visit the different Penitentiaries twice a year, and the Wardens to make monthly returns to the Inspector. There was a large increase in the number of criminals in 1875. On 31st Dec., 1874, there were in the four Penitentiaries 665 convicts; on the 31st Dec., 1875, their number had increased to 808. The gross cost of maintaining the Penitentiaries in 1875 was \$191,323, and the earnings of the convicts \$100,960 making the net cost to the Dominion \$90,324, or \$33.61 per head on the average number of convicts. The financial affairs of the Penitentiaries, such as awarding of contracts, are executed by the Inspector, as well as the duties of inspection and decision on points of conduct or discipline requiring a higher authority than the Wardens of the Penitentiaries themselves. The staff of each Penitentiary consists of a Warden, Deputy Warden or Chief Keeper, Roman Catholic and Protestant Chaplains, Accountant and Surgeon, with the requisite subordinates. The Warden is the chief executive officer under whom are all the employés. The Chaplains exercise supervision over the schools, the Surgeons over the hospitals. There are also a certain number of trade instructors, who instruct the convicts in their trades and measure the value of the work performed.

The conduct of the prisoners in this institution was upon the whole satisfactory. There were in the Penitentiary on 31st Dec., 1874, 385 males and 25 females. Total 408. There were received during the year 1875, 345 males and 6 females: 115 males and 6 females were discharged by expiration of sentence, 30 males and 1 female by pardon, 6 were sent to the lunatic asylum, 8 died and 3 escaped, leaving in the Penitentiary on 31st Dec., 1875, 593 prisoners, 572 men and 21 women. The number of officers of the prison was 68, and the pay list \$39,840. The total expenditure for all purposes was \$96,424. The total revenue in cash was \$12,106, but in addition to this was a debt of \$20,000 due for labour done by the convicts. The general depression in business led to a largely decreased demand for the labour of the convicts, but the surplus labour was used on works connected with the Penitentiary and on some work for the Dominion Government. The actual value of labour performed by the convicts was \$74,818. The yearly cost of each convict is estimated at about \$160, and the value of his labour at about \$147, leaving a balance of \$22 as the actual cost to the government of each convict while in the Penitentiary. The sanitary condition of the institution was good. The cells are clean and well ventilated, the persons and clothing of the convicts kept clean, the workshops well lighted and airy, and the regular hours, good plain food and discipline kept the