

we want a long-headed, pushing man like Prof. S. F. Baird of Washington. A writer in the St. John (N.B.) *Sun*, seems to know more about our native food fishes, than the men at present in office. The Fisheries Department should be allowed facilities to form a museum of animals of economic value, coming from our marine and fresh waters, with the same opportunity to display objects of this kind here and abroad, as are extended to the Geological Museum. By the way, what are the naturalists connected with the latter institution doing? Why cannot one or two of them be sent to help Mr. Gregory down the Gulf? One man can do very little work in so short a time, especially on a steamer, and where is he to procure the material? It is absurd to send a man on an expedition of this kind. A good Taxidermist should have at least two assistants, besides means of procuring specimens. What has become of the objects collected in the deep sea dredgings in the Gulf? A schooner was employed to cruise in the Lower St. Lawrence, and it had a good crew to assist the dredging party, but something should be shown for the outlay. The Department of the Interior should also be at work. It has as much to do in procuring material for the coming Exhibition as a similar Department in the United States. Manitoba and the N. W. Territories have to be represented; in fact the fish products of the latter regions are not even known in Ontario or Quebec. If we discover that the naturalists of the Geological Survey are lacking in energy, then something further must be said. The above statement is made that the public may learn something in regard to matters of this nature. The Montreal *Star* stated lately that Canadian museums had nothing Ichthyological to send to the London Exhibition. The writer made a mis-statement, as we know that Toronto University Museum contains a fine Canadian collection of Fishes and Reptiles. Laval University has quite a number of stuffed food fishes in its museum, and the

Literary and Historical Society of Quebec possesses a fair fish exhibit. The Natural History society of Montreal has a very good collection of the same material, and if the above institutions wished to send their combined collections to England, the total would be larger probably than that to be brought together by Scotland and England. But museum collections are not loaned, especially to go out of the country. We know a gentleman who has had experience of this kind; he made a loan of stuffed fishes for the Paris Exhibition; they were not returned, nor never will be. The fact is, they were supposed to be Government property, and it is therefore probable that they are at present in a French or British Museum.—C.

FISH-BREEDING IN CANADA.

We have before us, "The Daily Sun," St. John, N.B., containing over five columns of a review on Superintendent Wilmot's Report on Fish-Breeding. The writer in the *Sun*, although well posted in Ichthyology, comments rather severely, in fact spitefully against Mr. Wilmot's efforts to hatch fish. The reviewer charges as follows:—"That 'he (Mr. W.) failed in his quixotic enterprise;'"—giving "glowing accounts in his characteristic style of florid description and incorrect statement;" that he kept "salmon stored up from July until November in that cesspool, the Carleton mill-pond, into which the sewerage of a large part of Carleton is drained," and further "that the Government has been paying vast sums of money in teaching this blunderer his science." The reviewer in the *Sun* has a perfect right to make a clean dissection of Mr. Wilmot's report, but when an attack is made upon a man's energy to develop and increase food fishes for the rich and poor of Canada, we think it is unjust to use such harsh language. Mr. Wilmot honestly states that he has failed in breeding *Salmo salar* on the borders of Lake Ontario, and he gives the cause. In fact, we were almost certain that the hatching of the latter species, so far inland, would ultimately fail. The Fisheries Department are greatly to blame for allowing so many stake-nets to block up the entrances of rivers. If salmon and trout are to be