

The above statement shows that the quantity of fish caught this year is greatly above that of last year. One of the causes of this increase is due to the fact that the Long Point Company increased the number of their pound nets' pots from four to eight, and that the pounds were set earlier than in 1874. A further cause, but of secondary importance, is the proper laying out of the fishery stations made last season, which materially increased the number of stands and allowed of more people being employed in fishing. The close seasons were strictly enforced. This beneficial result was attained by constant watching, night and day, on the part of the Overseer in charge and two assistants. The whole of this division, and especially that portion lying in front of the County of Norfolk, needs a great protection, for within its shores is situated what is called Inner Bay of Long Point. This bay forms a sheet of water, about seven by ten miles in extent, surrounded on three sides by marshes, extending several thousand acres, and interspersed with numerous and extensive ponds and creeks; the whole forming, at the proper season of the year, a vast spawning ground for the most valuable varieties of fish in Lake Ontario. Fish in large numbers enter this bay during spring in search of creeks, ponds or shallow waters, for the purpose of depositing their eggs, and afterwards retire into the lake so soon as the spawning season is over. Without proper care thousands of these breeding fish might be destroyed in a single night. Most of the fish caught in this division are sold for local consumption; the rest is sent to several cities and towns of Ontario and the United States.

### RONDEAU DIVISION, LAKE ERIE.

JOHN McMICHAEL, *Overseer.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the yield and value of the fisheries in this division:—

	1872	1873	1874	1875
White Fish, brls.....	125	138	53	109
Herring, brls.....	124	155	320	330
Pike and Bass, brls.....	30	10	.....	63
Pickereel, brls.....	79	48	35	68
Coarse fish, brls.....	.....	.....	11	277
Total.....	358	351	419	847
Value.....	\$1,936	\$1,689	\$2,214	\$5,110

The quantity of fish caught in this division is double that of 1874, and this result is due to the greater number of men employed fishing, and to some of them being better prepared with boats and fishing tackle, but especially to the beneficial effect of the protection afforded by judicious close seasons and active guardianship.