

game protection in an American and Canadian view; harmonizing the Game Laws of the Provinces; correct nomenclature of the Game animals and other kindred subjects. American sportsmen have a greater interest according to numbers and position, in taking part in a Congress of this nature than we have, besides there is something congenial in a meeting of true sportsmen; All have the same objects in view. We at least protect the bulk of woodcock and snipe bred in the north, more for the benefit of our neighbouring sportsmen than our own. We do the same with geese and ducks, classed as game occurring on the waters of both countries.—C.

THE ST. FRANCIS SALMON.

The Sherbrooke *Examiner* of 4th ultimo, made a charge against Mr. W. C. Willis, a Fishery Overseer, for granting permits to take salmon from the tributaries of the St. Francis River with "fly and minnow." An anonymous writer in the Montreal *Star* of 12th ult. reiterates it *cum grano salis*, under the sig. of "One who has caught Salmon with a rod." The *Star* knows this salmon-rod sport; he is doubtless known to the Fish and Game Protection Club of Sherbrooke, and we trust they will look further into the matter. We now see that "W. C. W." takes the *Star's* sport by the nose, telling him that he is lying in every particular, notably regarding the catching of salmon with "dip-nets" at Brompton, or with the fly or minnow near the latter place. The Overseer says:—"I have consulted several old sportsmen, who assert most emphatically that they never heard of or saw a salmon which was caught (in the St. Francis) in the manner spoken of by your correspondent. It would be interesting to be informed of the time and place of this extraordinary catch. The Fisheries Department, as a great favor, granted fifteen days to catch a few salmon, by the only means they can be taken, in that river, at which this person grumbles, while he fails to notice the thousands that are yearly taken in rivers of the lower St. Lawrence by nets and pounds, of

which we in the townships seldom or ever get a taste. These fish begin to ascend the St. Francis River annually about the middle of July, thence they pass up the Salmon River to the spawning grounds situated in the township of Ditton. During their passage up they seem to refuse all food; the most fascinating fly has been thrown across them, but all in vain, not a "rise" can be got, though the burnished sides of the tempting beauties are plainly visible beneath the current." Taking a truthful view of Mr. Willis' statement—i.e.—that salmon pass up the St. Francis "annually about the middle of July, when they refuse all food; even the most fascinating fly," is a peculiarity in the history of *Salmo salar* unknown to us. We have no knowledge of this river as far as Brompton, but it is however evident that no pools or falls interrupt the fish to the latter place. Mr. Willis says that they "pass up the Salmon River to the spawning-grounds situated in the Township of Ditton," but we have no proof that a "rise" can be had even in this river. If it is true, we now say to the Fishery Department, place a guardian on the upper waters of this river. Here, we have an overseer stating that salmon go up the St. Francis (we suppose) without resting, continuing on to inland waters called the Salmon River, on the upper sources in which the fish spawn. This locality is the place we wish to see guarded. The cool mountain tributaries; the woodlands surrounding these spawning-grounds should be protected. Taking Mr. Willis' statement that no salmon were caught on the St. Francis by fly or minnow, during the last thirty years, we suggest that no netting be allowed on any portion of the rivers for three years at least. By so doing, good results will follow, and salmon will become abundant in these rivers, and they may be tempted to make their way to waters further inland. We say protect the Ditton Township spawning-grounds, facilitate passages for salmon endeavouring to mount the St. Lawrence above Quebec, and there will be no