

Marine and Fisheries—Fisheries Branch.

in company with Overseer Elliott, and after proceeding about fifteen miles among the islands we visited the pickerel creek and found a large quantity of pickerel penned up, which we liberated. We arrested two men, who were camped near, for the offence. On returning to the steamer, and the charge being read over to the prisoners, they pleaded guilty and were fined \$20 each.

We hove up anchor, proceeded to Birch Island, took small boats and visited a house on the La Cloche peninsula, where we found in the cellar a quantity of pickerel packed in ice, which we confiscated.

Continued patrol in this vicinity for some time, not finding any more trace of illegal fishing. Returned towards French River on 13th of May, and on the 14th, while patrolling between French and Key Rivers in small boats, we seized one boat and seine and arrested the three men and despatched them to French River in charge of a man. We continued search and when in channel known as east branch of Pickerel River, we lifted and destroyed five trap-nets, liberated the fish and returned to French River.

On the 16th of May, held court here and convicted the men arrested on the 14th and fined them \$20 each.

On the 17th of May, destroyed one trap-net which had been seized by keeper of Jones Island light. On the 18th May, I lifted and destroyed two trap-nets, which were set between Campbell's Rock and Rosa Island. On the 20th May, lifted and destroyed another trap-net in the vicinity of Sturgeon Point. When grappling at Giant's Tomb on the 21st of May, I lifted and destroyed six very large trap-nets. Returned to Owen Sound on the 25th and shipped the seized seines to Ottawa.

Upon receiving orders from the department to assist the lightkeeper to make necessary repairs to fog bell on the Flower Pot Island, I visited and made repairs on the 27th May. I then patrolled and visited fish stations on the west side of Georgian Bay, receiving applications for licenses from a number of Indians and others.

On the 3rd of June I delivered to Overseer Elliott a row-boat, which I received from steamer "Bayfield," with instruction to deliver to him. When patrolling through Badgeley Channel on the 10th June we sighted a boat seining, and upon our approach they made for the bush, leaving seine and boat, which I confiscated and made search for the offenders, but was unable to find them.

On the 13th of June, met Overseer Elliott, and proceeded to Spanish River to investigate and report upon grievances of fishermen, forwarded to me from the department. We visited the several pound nets of Lapointe and Glanville, then proceeded to Sault Ste. Marie, checking over nets in the North Channel, arriving at the Sault on the 15th June, returning on the 17th. On the 20th at Little Current took on board seine seized by Overseer Elliott's men. Continued cruise along north shore, and on the 22nd June I grappled around Giant's Tomb and vicinity; was successful in finding and destroying eight large trap-nets. Again, on the 23rd, we lifted one more trap-net set on the shoals to the north of the island.

On the 24th, was interviewed by Inspector Sheppard in Midland. Upon arriving in Owen Sound on the 25th, I stored seines which I had seized and collected.

On the 28th, Mr. W. H. Noble, of Marine Department, joined ship to visit light stations on Cabot's Head, Flower Pot and Cove Islands, and returned to Owen Sound on the 29th. After coaling, I patrolled towards Meaford, interviewing fishermen and checking over licenses, and thence to Christian Island, where I lifted one trap and one fyke-net, and destroyed them by fire.

On the 7th of July, when cruising in the vicinity of Sandy Island, we lifted five trap-nets, which I destroyed. Continuing cruise up the north shore, visiting the fishing grounds, not finding any further trace of illegal fishing. Visiting Rattlesnake Harbour, I found a number of Indians fishing without license. I allowed them to continue fishing on paying fee and applying for license.

I then cruised towards South and Thomas Bays on the south side of Manitoulin Island, returning on the 16th July, I found one trap-net set off Cape Smith, which I lifted and destroyed by fire.

On the 22nd, when patrolling near Limestone Islands, I sighted a sail-boat making away from North Limestone Island, which I signalled with whistle of steamer, which