

the tidal netter has not) to take fish whilst passing through his water, a small share of the fish which he permits to pass his net. Allow me to suggest to the Department of Fisheries another mode of settling this question. In Scotland, in firths, estuaries and rivers the seine is used for salmon fishing. In the Bay of Fundy the sweep or drift net gilling the fish is used, also this net is used in the Fraser River to the exclusion of any other, it is also used on the Columbia River. Why not allow it in Bay Chaleur with certain length and size of mesh and giving the whole general public a chance to participate by paying a license fee and doing away with all the fixed stationary nets and pickets. That salmon can be caught by this mode is undoubted and if the weekly close time is observed sufficient fish would reach the fresh water. Even in a fresh water river the drift net cannot take all the fish, if so, there would have been none in the Restigouche years ago.

Quite a change has taken place on the dear old river since 50 years ago. Islands have been swept away, others increased, alluvial flats on its banks where the wooded protection was cut down swept off by ice and water. The silt held in solution by the river in spring, increased by the lumbermen driving on the smaller branches and cutting through the alluvials in the brooks to float the lumber, when met at its mouth by the reaction of the tides, became deposited, creating middle bars and extending banks, closing up many channels. You can see now the bones of some old vessels said to be French war ships sunk by the English in 1774 some five miles above where a schooner would float to-day. In those good old times no laws were in force (if there were any they were dead letter) respecting the mode or time of salmon fishing. Whilst fish were running close to shore in early spring the net would be set from some rock having a favorable eddy, later used to drift or sweep, each net would have an allotted piece of river or the parties would take turns about first. The Indians and whites, both in August and Sept. would go 100 miles above tide water after the fish, but as many of the pools are very deep a remnant must have escaped. The Indians would commonly start in a body on Monday morning, pole all day and continue poling and spearing up-stream all night. The fish caught were split and buried under the gravel in some of the small cold brooks. They would keep on for three days in this manner and on return take in the fish, finishing up by Saturday night. When they went to head waters it took two weeks, and they used to carry a portion of salt. At this time the debris of the torches (of bark) would lie along the beaches and shores like winrows of hay. Our beautiful, clear, pebbly bottomed Restigouche was the spearer's paradise.

This state of matters was not changed in a day. The Fisheries Department endeavored to stop this illegal fishing, but which both whites and Indians believed they were perfectly justified in continuing, particularly as the rivers were leased to a few individuals, ignor-

ing all other rights were also inadequate in any manner, and to be observed by who attempted blame.

The concessive changed matter owners of fishery, it would be frequently the gross possession of a

The Local Council a small portion tions, placing auction for a the R. S. Clut upon for a dis breeding stream must ultimately serve credit. to angle—the Proprietors, crown, i Rods fishing owners, Micmac and Members of

There were 1888, and f

Pro
Restigouche
Micmac
Campbellton
Sir Geo. Ste
Capt. Sweet
Messrs. Sag
W. P. Clyd
C. F. Fear
J. & A. Mc
Mr. McAm
Olcott & L
Mr. Tapp
Messrs. W
Mr. Roger