

PRINCE EDWARD AND BAY OF QUINTE DIVISIONS.

CHARLES WILKINS, }
 JOS. REDMOND, } *Overseers.*

COMPARATIVE Statement of the yield and value of Fisheries in these Divisions.

Kinds of Fish.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Whitefish.....	Brls. 199	715	Lbs. 223,000	Lbs. 62,200
“.....	Lbs. 375,600	215,000	120,000	183,000
Trout.....	Brls. 679	950	brls. 610	brls. 341
Herring.....	“ 250	637	2,200	23,800
Maskinongé.....	“ 3	180	40,600	175,400
Bass.....	“ 103	373	64,400	76,200
Pike.....	“ 109	218	1,800	964
Pickarel.....	“ 169	686	brls. 982	brls. 964
Sturgeon.....	“.....	1,880
Coarse Fish.....	“ 3,643
Fish used for local consumption.....	“ 515
Totals in barrels or lbs.....	7,548	6,714	lbs. 802,600	lbs. 781,600
Value.....	\$ 47,112	60,520	42,466	62,507

Overseer Redmond reports a continued falling off in the yield of the fisheries of his division, principally in whitefish. This, he believes, is caused by the thousands of worthless small fish which infest our waters, dying by hundreds during the summer to float afterwards on the surface, or sink to the bottom, and defile the feeding ground of the whitefish. This has a tendency to drive our most valuable kinds of fish to deeper water. Close seasons were strictly observed and no violation of the law is reported.

Overseer Wilkins also reports a decrease in the finer grades of fish, although there is an increase in the coarser kinds. He never knew the catch of whitefish to be so insignificant as it was this season, and the oldest fishermen agree in the same opinion. Considerable damage was done to nets and boats by severe stress of weather and meshes. The fishways in this district were all examined and found to be in good condition.