

thing bigger than sea-trout, and very few of them: and ultimately abandoned this form of activity as useless. Our effective operations being thus reckoned equal to the work of three canoes, the total catch was about forty salmon, averaging fifteen pounds, and fifty grilse, averaging five pounds; a very small result, but the causes of its smallness have been already indicated.

Those who know salmon-fishing in other regions, will compare this result with their own experience. For ourself, we can only compare it with what we know of Scotch rivers.

An average of two salmon a day used to be considered good sport on the Spey; for though on very good days, a skilled sportsman might kill four or five, yet on other days his basket would be empty. Our average was nearly equal to this in salmon, and exceeded it, if grilse be taken into account; and ours was the poorest fishing this year on the Restigouche. Since we left the river, we have come to know, that during one afternoon, in a favourite pool, our captain hooked eighteen fish, of which he landed eight.

If the Restigouche be taken as a specimen of the Canadian rivers—and we believe it is, though a favourable one—it is clear, that for a certain season, a greater weight of fish may be taken in a given time in them than in the best rivers in the old country. But the season is short. In the Margarie of Cape Breton, for instance, it lasts only two or three weeks. In the Restigouche it covers, with slight breaks, upwards of two months, from about the 20th of June to about the end of August. In the best Scotch stream, the season extends, with perhaps a lull in the dry weather of May or June, from March to September: and there are pools in which, those who ought to know declare, there are clean fish every day of the year. The comparative dryness of the Canadian summer, and the want of snow-deposits in the hills, all the year round, to supply cool water to the rivers, may help to explain this contrast.

It may be doubted, however, whether a moderate take of fish, such as ours was, is not more in the nature of sport than Chikki-geleegit's long roll of success. Ten or twelve salmon a day! That must mean pauseless battle, a fish hooked as soon as the last is killed. It means also tackle of the strongest and therefore not of the finest kind. It means, further,—if we allow each fish the average of an hour from hooking to gaffing, and count nothing for run-