## THE GAME FIELDS OF ONTARIO.

of fish as they once contained, also the introduction of other varieties, has for a number of years engaged a good deal of public attention.

But I have grave doubts as to the introduction of new species into our small lakes proving successful. It seems to me that wherever a fish's natural food is to be found, or the water and bottom of a lake are congenial to its habits, that variety is invariably found ; and that where such conditions do not naturally exist, the attempt is likely to prove a failure.

As an illustration of the accuracy of this theory. Gull River, the most westerly and longest branch of the Trent waters, takes its rise in the District of Haliburton. It is composed of a chain of lakes, every one of which contains trout in large numbers. Trout, suckers, ling and minnows are the only varieties of fish found in any of them down to Moor's Lake, in the township of Lutterworth. But no trout have ever been found below that lake. The distance between Moor's Lake and Mud Turtle Lake, on the same river, is only some eight miles. There is no obstruction between to prevent the free passing to and fro of fish, and yet no trout have ever been found in Mud Turtle, nor masqulonge and bass in Moor's Lake. The dividing line between the laurentian formation and limestone lies between those two lakes, and in that section of country no trout are ever found where the geological formation is limestone. Below Moor's Lake the principal variety of fish are masqulonge and bass. Perch, sun-fisb, suckers, mud pouts and a small variety of berring are also abundant, But for the whole distance from Moor's Lake to the Bay of Quinte there are no trout.

About twenty-five years ago an attempt was made to stock those waters with trout. Some ten thousand trout fry were placed in Cameron and Balsam Lakes. A large

3

33