

Rod and Gun.

LAND-LOCKED SALMON.

Most of our fishermen are well acquainted with the "Land-Locked Salmon" of the St. Croix lakes and the splendid sport they afford to the angler. The rapid settlement of that district, and the erection of several factories on Grand Lake stream, threatened the extinction of this variety of the *salmo*, when Prof. Baird, the United States Commissioner of Fisheries, took timely measures to preserve it by artificial breeding, and many of the lakes of Maine and other States are now well stocked with this excellent game fish. Through the exertions of Overseer Frank Todd, of St. Stephen, and the kindness of Prof. Baird and Commissioner Stillwell, of Maine, our townsman, Thomas F. Raymond, Esq., has procured from the Hatchery on Grand Lake stream about 10,000 fine, healthy fry, which arrived by the Western train last night in care of Mr. Benjamin Wyatt, the Fishery Warden for the American side of the St. Croix River. On the arrival of the train, Mr. Wyatt was met by Mr. Raymond, and the fry were immediately conveyed to their destination and successfully planted in the waters of Loch Lomond, which are admirably adapted to their growth and propagation.

We learn that a still larger number will next spring be procured by Overseer Todd for the same destination, and reasonable hopes are indulged that in a few years the waters of Lake Lomond will afford ample sport to the angler and yield many a well-filled creel of these delicious fish.

In this connexion we cannot refrain from contrasting the liberality of the United States Commissioners with the niggardly policy pursued by our Superintendent of Fish Culture, who, residing in Ontario, knows nothing of the wants and capacity of our rivers and inland waters. In a former issue we mentioned the fact that a gentleman on the St. Croix erected a Fish Hatchery at his own expense and applied to the Superintendent for a few thousand salmon ova, which he would hatch out and place in the St. Croix River. He was informed that there was none to spare and his request could not be granted. We find in the report of Fish Breeding for 1879, which has just reached us, the following in the report of Mr. Mowat, the officer in charge of the Restigouche Hatchery:—

"I respectfully beg to inform you that, after careful examination, I am satisfied this Hatchery contains 1,600,000 perfect ova. * * * As to the danger in the Hatchery from overcrowding, I beg to say that, with less ova last year, I had to relieve it by filling my distributing boats and placing them out in the river; owing to the difficulty of graduating the proper supply of water in the boats, and keeping the fish clean, this plan was not very satisfactory, as more loss was experienced than in the Hatchery."

What the loss from this cause has since been we do not know, but, of course, with a much larger surplus, a much larger loss would be inevitable from this overcrowding, and yet the gentleman who made the application was told none could be spared from a Hatchery which was thus overcrowded. In the same issue we urged that this surplus, which Mr. Mowat reported to be in danger from overcrowding, should be removed to the St. John Hatchery, which was practically empty; but no attention was paid to our reasonable request. We cannot but think that a more liberal policy on the part of the Superintendent would better meet the reasonable requests of gentlemen whose only aim is the public good.—*Daily Sun*, St. John's, N. B.

Mr. John Wallace, of Lausdown, has been appointed a Fishing Inspector on the St. Lawrence.

At a recent meeting of the Montreal Fish and Game Protection Society a deputation was appointed to proceed to Quebec with reference to the proposed amendment of the law referring to the shooting of ducks and deer.

Prince Leopold and suite will enjoy some fishing to low Quebec previous to their departure for England, which is to take place on the 24th prox.

Sr Bache Cunard, M. G. Cunard and F. Gosling, of England, registered at the New Victoria, St. Johns, N.B., last week en route north on a fishing tour.

ITALIAN QUAIL FOR MAINE.—The steamer containing the quails shipped from Massa, Italy, for Maine, arrived in New York, June 5. There was about twenty-six hundred birds in all, and some four hundred arrived in this city last evening. One lot came direct to B. B. Thatcher, Esq., and the other to H. W. Durgon, Esq., both of whom circulated a paper among the sportsmen in this city, in order to raise the money to make the purchase. The latter lot are at F. T. Hall & Co.'s store, where they were examined by quite a number of our citizens. They will be divided into pairs this morning and liberated in the fields in the vicinity, it being now time for them to breed. The law will protect them for the next three years and by that time they will be quite numerous here.—*Bungor Whig*.

Kennel.

TORONTO DOG SHOW

Last week we briefly announced the holding of a meeting of gentlemen interested in the dog show in connection with the Industrial Exhibition next September. There is not much more news to give this week, but what has transpired is very encouraging. On Tuesday evening of last week a number of the Committee waited on the Exhibition Directors, to whom they were introduced by Mr. Reunie. Upon being invited to submit their propositions, Messrs. Stewart and Watson set forth at considerable length the advisability of holding a first-class show, such as would attract good entries from the United States as well as Canada; further explaining that to do this prizes of value were necessary as much to enable a good entrance fee to be charged, and so exclude valueless dogs, as to get good entries. A grant of \$400 was asked for, and this being so much in excess of what the Board of Directors had anticipated would be asked, they did not feel that an immediate answer could be given, and it was decided to appoint Messrs. Reunie, McGregor, Smith and Doel as a committee to enquire and report to the Board at its next meeting which was held Tuesday evening.

The Dog Tax.

That dogs should be taxed is beyond doubt imperative, but we cannot commend many portions of the plan of operation in Toronto which is adopted throughout the Province. The system of paying for a brass check exempting your dog from capture, while at some previous date you may possibly have paid the tax itself, is wrong in principle, and only another of the many cobwebs which will remain in municipal bodies undisturbed by the broom of improvement. It would seem the simplest thing in the world, any outsider would imagine, for the corporation to amalgamate the enforcing of the tax and the granting of the exemption and receive a much larger revenue from the canine residents than they do now. No greater loop-hole for fraud could be suggested than the granting an exemption apart from the collection of the tax, and we will guarantee that the books of the corporation show a marked difference between the number who pay for exemption and those who pay their license. The brass tag should be made to act as a voucher that the tax had been paid, and not simply a means of retaining your dog and escaping the payment of that tax, so that the number of tags issued would be conclusive as to the number of dogs owned in the city, whereas it is nothing of the kind as the thing is arranged at present.

There is also the question of a heavier tax for bitches than for dogs, which is perfectly erroneous and cannot be justified on any good grounds. The gentleman who distributes the tags at the Toronto City Hall told us the other day that if he had his way he would have bitches taxed \$5. A further question elicited the information

that it was purely on moral grounds, and that like the late Lord Mavor of London, who had the case of the Zulu photographs before him, he feared for the rising generation. It has always been our opinion that any such breaches of decency were as much the fault of the male as the female, and in reply to this the gentleman of the tags shifted his ground and said that bitches were more valuable on account of their breeding properties. This was flatly contradicted, for, as everyone at all conversant with valuable dogs knows a dog yields but for the larger revenue. At present a petition is being signed for the tax to be \$1 for a dog and \$2.50 for a bitch, and before any action is taken in the matter we desire to place certain facts before the eyes of those interested in the subject.

The dog tax is established for the purpose of keeping down the useless and dangerous curs that would otherwise infest the country, and to restrict their numbers to dogs whose tax is paid, either on account of value or affection. As a part of the reason there is nothing more pertinent than sheep killing, and when we state that dogs are the culprits in this case, and back that up by proof, it may be that in place of the proposed alteration in the tax, matters may be entirely changed, and dogs suffer the penalty of their indiscretions.

In the current number of a very excellent quarterly magazine published in New York under the title of "The Archives of Comparative Medicine and Surgery," and devoted to the Anatomy, Pathology and Therapeutics of the Lower Animals, an article is published on the "Castration of the Dog—its desirability as a means of checking the sheep killing and other evil propensities of the species," by Alexander Haddon, M. D., N. Y. The subject is rather a delicate one to handle outside of a medical or veterinary journal, but extracts may be made without offence. The author begins as follows:

The raids made by dogs upon sheep and other defenceless domestic animals, such as fowls, have been so frequent, and the consequent destruction of property throughout the United States alone has been so great, that almost every means that could be thought of to prevent them and still retain this useful animal as a part of the household has been devised and put into practice, but, as yet with only partial success.

The chief preventives hitherto employed have been the following: The destruction from time to time of the animals themselves; the assessment of damages upon the owner of the culprit; the levying of a tax upon dogs, the revenue arising from which to be applied to the liquidation of all damages resulting from these raids; the breeding and employment of certain varieties of the species—namely, such as might be thought less prone to offend in the manner indicated, in preference to other varieties more likely to offend.

As the statistics show, none of these expedients, nor all of them together, have yet been found effectual in preventing the evil. The Commissioner of Agriculture, in his report for the year 1865, makes the following startling statement in regard to the ravages of dogs upon sheep in the United States; and this, too, comprises only the returns from 375 counties of 23 States. Number of sheep killed in that year, 77,851. From this he estimates the whole number of sheep killed by dogs in the United States during the same period at, in round numbers, no less than 500,000 head, and the loss to the growers at \$2,000,000. Since 1865 no reports have been made, but there is good reason to believe that the ravages since then, and the consequent pecuniary loss, annually have been no less.

Upon inquiring into the matter, we find that dogs are not driven to undertake these raids by hunger or by any other such uncontrollable propensity or desire, but are actuated wholly by a spirit of mischief which seems to be an incidental remnant of their wild state. Furthermore, we discover that the dog never goes upon these raids alone. He always seeks a companion of his own species, and sometime the animals go in packs. It is noticeable that these raids are almost invariably preceded by the intimate association of neighboring dogs.

Castration produces a change—if we may be allowed the expression—in the moral character of the animal. The objects of his attachment are now different. Whereas, before he wandered from home, seeking the companionship of others of his kind; now, he becomes more firmly attached to his home, and more dependant than ever upon his master.

We have a letter from a gentleman living at Mount Pleasant, Wayne Co., Pa., Mr. Arthur Stevenson, who may justly be regarded as an expert in all that relates to the dog. He says in the letter referred to: "I have