

the local fishery officers who were to qualify themselves for the duties of Deputy Inspector in their respective divisions. It having been thought proper to withdraw the scheme of compulsory inspection of fish from the control of the Fisheries Department and place the law under administration by the Internal Revenue Department, we are now no better off than we were before as regards yearly returns of the produce of the fisheries. The Chief Inspector and his Deputies no doubt report the kinds, qualities and quantities of fish annually inspected by them, and the fees collected; but that is all. There do not appear to be any attempts made to represent the nature and extent of the fishing business, in its relations to the commerce and productive capacity of our fisheries, nor any observations made to prove the anticipated effect of an official inspection on the character and development of the trade. The undersigned ventures to suggest that some arrangement should be made between these two Departments with a view to concerted action in the matter of statistical information of an authentic and serviceable description.

FISH CULTURISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the American Fish Culturists' Association will be held at New York about the middle of February next; but as it is probable that Parliament will be convened at that date, it is impossible for me to attend.

It is my very pleasing duty to acknowledge the courteous presentation by the Hon. Spencer F. Baird, U. S. Commissioner of Fisheries, of another consignment of California salmon eggs from Assistant Commissioner Stone's establishment on the Pacific coast. Also a number of eggs of land-locked salmon from the Penobscot fish breeding works under charge of State Commissioner Atkins, at Bucksport, Maine.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PROTECTING FISH AND GAME.

A strong movement has taken place in the United States, supported by men of energy and ability to form an International Society to protect fish and game. The objects of this Association are most praiseworthy; and the practical and vigorous manner in which its members have commenced the work certifies to their earnestness and augurs success.

CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.

Many engagements of a more immediate and pressing nature, have prevented me from attending to your wishes as regards assisting in the exhibition of Canadian fishes at the Philadelphia Centennial next year. Having addressed to you a special report on the subject, it is unnecessary now to say more.

STEAM CRUISER.

The steamer *Glendon* which was last year employed in the service of protecting the fisheries of the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, in place of the Government schooner *La Canadienne*, will be replaced in future by the steamer *Lady Head*.