

would suggest that the Sessions should regulate the close seasons for the rivers in their respective counties.

19 & 20. A revised act has been prepared and forwarded by me to your Honorable House, in which has been embodied my views, relative to the alterations required in the existing law, and also my views of the general policy, which should be pursued ; to which document I refer you in answer to the 19 & 20 question.

21. If any river spanned by a number of dams, in which fish-ways could not be made without great damage to mill property, be exempt from the existing law, the fishery of that river will be totally destroyed. It is for your Honorable House to consider the propriety or impropriety of such exemption.

22. A grilse is a young salmon, and the same provision should be made as for old salmon. Salmon are supposed to be at their full growth in 5 or six years, and they alternately resort in the intermediate period to the salt and fresh water. The grilse may be preserved by the use of nets with meshes not smaller than 5 inches.

23. Spearing is decidedly injurious and destructive, and I beg again to refer you to the revised act previously referred to.

24. The food of salmon in the salt water is the sand cel, and caplin, and in fresh water they feed on flies, worms, grubs, &c.

25. Occasionally salmon remain in the rivers all winter. This is caused by debility, and in the spring they are found in an exhausted state.

ANSWERS OF PATRICK GOUGH.

1. Not till within the last twelve months.
2. I am acquainted with the rivers of Queens County, principally.
4. Alewives and salmon, principally.
5. They begin to resort to the Rivers in Queens County the last week in April, and continue to the last of July. Port Medway River is only 10 miles from Liverpool River, but the Salmon resort to the former river a fortnight earlier than to the latter.

After the Salmon, comes the Grilse ; they begin about the 20th July, and cease about September. About 38 years ago, a gentleman of Queens County caught a Grilse and marked it, and returned it to the water. It then weighed $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. The next year it was caught again ascending the same river, and then weighed 12 lbs.

6. Salmon begin to spawn in October.

7. When the fish come first from the sea, they are fat and in their prime. They begin to deteriorate at once, and become worse and worse till the actual deposit of the spawn.

They are wholesome till within 5 or 6 weeks of spawning.

10. Salmon select the shoal water near the heads of rivers for spawning. I have seen them in water scarce deep enough to cover their backs. Gravelly bottoms are most resorted to. The Salmon when ready to spawn make holes in the gravelly bed of the river, where they remain in