

'garding mill rubbish and the attention of the American Commissioners has been directed "to the necessity of a more strict supervision of those on the American side."

Overseer Cunningham of Passamaquoddy district reports as follows :—"I have pleasure in informing you that returns of fish of all kinds have increased very materially over those of last year, and also that there has been a marked improvement in the prices obtained. A large business has been done in haddock and herrings packed fresh in ice, and sent to Portland and Boston by steamer, bringing better prices than if cured in the usual way. Lobster fishing in the bay has been good; most of these have been canned at the curing establishment of Mr. Hartt, in St. Andrews, but a considerable number have been sent fresh in ice to Portland and Boston. A number of salmon have been caught in a weir at Sandy Point, St. Andrews, showing that this fish is again returning to the St. Croix. The good result of fishways and protection on this important river, leads me to hope the same measure will be adopted on the Digdeguash River, which formerly abounded in salmon, shad and gaspereaux." Overseer Cunningham calls attention to the arduous nature of his duties, being engaged in winter as well as in summer, and asks that his present small salary be increased to the amount paid to other Overseers in less difficult districts. As this request is a reasonable one, and as I think him well-entitled to the increase, I beg for his case your favorable consideration.

Overseer W. B. McLaughlin of Grand Manan sends quite a full report of this important district, the substance of which I will give in his own words. He says :—"The various kinds of fish frequenting the waters of Grand Manan have been abundant, and as a natural consequence the catch has been very much better than in former years, the returns are under rather than over the full catch, and were it not for the continued low prices of smoked and pickled herrings in the markets of the United States, our fishermen would soon become wealthy. Although prices have ruled low and salt has been exorbitant, yet, owing to certain fortuitous circumstances, the fisheries have been remunerative, and peace and plenty continue to abide in the homes of our fishermen. Among the circumstances alluded to above, is the enhanced value of Hake-sounds and Cod liver oil,—staple articles of export at North Head, and the recent discovery of most excellent lobster fisheries in Seal Cove and Southern Head, extending to Grand Harbor, to which the fishermen in the vicinity have turned their attention during the past season. The lobster factories at Grand Harbor and in Seal Cove have exported to England 28,800 cans, and five large smacks running to and fro, between Grand Manan and parts in the State of Maine, have carried not less than 700 tons of live lobsters, for which our fishermen obtain on the spot \$15 per ton, making the aggregate sales resulting from the year's labor amount to the respectable sum of \$189,139. The abundance of line fish, such as cod, pollock, hake, halibut, &c., and their marked increase in our inshore waters, can be accounted for only by the immense schools of herrings of all sizes, swarming in these waters, the result, no doubt, of the protection of the spawning grounds. Since the expiration of the close time at Southern Head, Seal Cove Sound, a fine bay containing some thousands of acres, has been literally *crammed* with large fall herrings, but from the unaccountably low price of pickled herrings in the markets of the United States, very few fishing vessels have been on the ground this fall, and resident fishermen have taken them only for the purpose of bait, which is sold to American fishing vessels; some forty of which have obtained their bait at Seal Cove within the last month, I have seen fifteen sail at a time waiting for bait, the supplying of which our fishermen find to be profitable, and I regret that they will be deprived of this resource when, under the Washington Treaty, American fishermen are admitted to our inshore fisheries. The quantity of fish taken in my district by non-residents is twice that taken by resident fishermen, and yet there is no perceptible diminution of the supply, for while I write fish are as plentiful as ever both at North and South Heads and at White Head Island. No fines or forfeitures have been collected the past season for the reason that the law has been well observed, the fishermen having learnt by seizure and confiscation of their property during the first two years of my incumbency, that the law would be enforced at all hazards. I have heard of but one instance in which gurry has been deposited on fishing grounds in con-