

This, however, would not prove a serious impediment were any demand to arise for iron ores: at present there is so little inducement held out, that there has been hardly any search made for them in this Province.

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ART. VII.—ON THE SALMON OF NOVA SCOTIA.—BY J. BERNARD GILPIN, A. B., M. D., M. R. C. S.

(Read February 10, 1879.)

It is more than ten years since I read a paper before the Institute on the Salmonidæ of Nova Scotia. Since that time I have had greater opportunities of studying their habits, and my opinions are somewhat modified as regards the new facts I have obtained. Although this paper will be almost a repetition of what has been told, yet I have thought the importance of the subject may well allow it to be re-told—to be verified by personal observation, and to be put in proper order, and to be shown how this order is modified by the natural features of this Province. Thus this paper will be not upon the Salmon in general, but upon the Salmon of Nova Scotia.

If we examine the map of this Province we will find it a narrow peninsula scarce seventy miles wide, whose interior is filled by numerous lake basins of about four hundred feet elevation, from which flow the various salmon river streams to the ocean. Thus our Salmon in seeking their spawning grounds have only an elevation of four hundred feet to overcome, and at farthest scarce thirty miles to ascend. We know further, from personal observation, that they rarely ascend so high, or so far, but are often seen spawning four or five miles from the tide, and scarce fifty feet elevation. This fact is so important with me in modifying their habits that I shall verify it presently by formal statements and dates. We also recollect our climate is cold, and that our lakes are frozen towards the end of November, attaining a thickness of nearly four feet of ice, which is broken up and descends the streams by the middle of April. This is the general average, though varying in different seasons. Now compare these facts with the genial lakes of Eng-