

Your Committee had in view the publishing in both languages of a full synopsis of the Fishery and Game Acts, accompanied by an appeal to the community in general for countenance and aid. This they intended to circulate widely throughout country places especially, and they hoped thus to be able to interest the influential and enlightened in their favor. They have delayed doing so however until it be known if any amendments to these Acts are to be made. This will probably be ascertained in a few months, when the Committee would recommend to their successors to carry out the proposed publication.

Notwithstanding all the penalties that can be attached to the improper destruction of game, the practice will be carried on so long as the evil consequences are not evident to the people, and while, therefore, no general opprobrium attaches to the offence. Interest the multitude however in the matter, create an enlightened public opinion as to the propriety and necessity of these laws for the general good, and their infringement to an injurious degree, in any settled part of the country, would soon be an impossibility.

The Committee have been in communication during the year with a gentleman residing in Chateaugay County, who has taken a warm interest in the removal of the numerous obstructions to the ascent of Salmon which exist in the River Chateaugay. The required order for the erection of fishways on the dams have been given by the proper authorities, and if these orders are complied with—if edging slabs, saw-dust, and other injurious rubbish be kept out of the stream, and especially if the inhabitants on the banks of the river can only be induced to give the fish fair play, your Committee would strongly recommend that the attempt be made to stock it again with Salmon.

This will not cost a large sum, as even under all the present disadvantages several were killed there last season. Doubtless a number of the public-spirited among the inhabitants of the county will contribute to the expense, and if successful, and there is no reason why it should not be so, Salmon may, in a few years, be nearly as numerous in that river as was the case thirty or forty years ago.

Salmon River too, which flows into Lake St. Francis, and which derived its name from the abundance of that noble fish once found in its waters, might, were proper care observed, be re-stocked without much difficulty.

Your Committee would recommend this matter to the attention of the Club during the ensuing season. The re-establishment of several good Salmon streams in the neighbourhood of Montreal would be an object worthy of their efforts.

While on this subject they regret to have to say, that it is within their knowledge that over 200 Salmon were killed by the scoop net last season, at Brompton Falls, St. Francis

River, near Sherbrooke. This is known to almost every man, woman and child in the neighborhood, and it seems that the fishway there is insufficient, and that the fish are captured with ease while attempting to ascend the dam. Such things happening in one of the few streams that the Salmon yet frequent, augurs ill for the success of such experiments as have been recommended.

They have also to report that Lake Memphremagog was given over in toto to the torch and spear last fall. During the preceding year some good was done by the presence and exertions of Mr. Nettle, the Superintendent of Fisheries; but during last Oct. every lunge found on the spawning grounds, became sport and profit to the barbarians of the spear. Many of the respectable, among the inhabitants on its shores, deeply regret this, and would do all in their power to prevent it, short of running the risk of having their houses and barns burned by the vagabonds who follow this nefarious trade, and who do not hesitate to threaten this as the result of taking any steps against them. It would be well did the law provide for the taking of the most notorious of such depredators to some distance, say to Sherbrooke, for trial; and your Committee would strongly recommend to their successors to urge upon the Crown Lands Department the necessity of sending to that locality a force of three or four special constables during the next spawning season. The laws are openly defied there, the local authorities quite inadequate, and the preservation of the Black Trout or Lunge, in that noble Lake, is well worth the small expense it would entail on the Government.

With regard to general sporting interests during the past year, your Committee would observe that game of nearly all kinds has been somewhat more plentiful. Ducks of the different varieties were numerous. The Partridge, or Canada Grouse, appear to be increasing in number, the destruction by snaring seems to have been somewhat lessened of late years, and if the amendment to the Bill, asked for, were passed, and snared game could be seized in the market, there is no doubt that this practice would soon cease, and this fine bird become exceedingly abundant.

Snipe have visited us in great numbers during the past year, and woodcock were very abundant during the breeding season; about the beginning of August, however, and earlier than usual, they took their accustomed flight to parts unknown, and did not return in September in numbers, by any means, as large as usual.

Deer appear to have been abundant, especially in Canada West, but the Committee is credibly informed that great numbers were wantonly slaughtered last spring, in the vicinity of Ottawa, at a time when neither carcase nor hide is of any value. The angler has had less reason to congratulate himself. There can be no doubt but