

### SALMON AND TROUT RIVERS AND LAKES OF QUEBEC.

It may be said that in former times salmon visited the greater portion of the Northern rivers entering the St. Lawrence above and below the city of Quebec. Some of these rivers are not now frequented by salmon. It is only of late years, however, that the Jacques Cartier became worthy of being leased for surface fishing. We are informed that under proper management and good guardianship, the pools on this river are prolific with fish that give excellent sport. Years ago, the small river known as the St. Charles, at Quebec, was considered a salmon stream, but none have been in it for seasons gone by. The Editor killed a grilse in the St. Charles, near Lorette, about fifteen years ago. Very large trout (*S. fontinalis*) has been taken by the fly from beneath the falls of Montmorenci. Doubtless, these were forced down the river when small, and having lain in the cool surging pool, the fish became fattened and large.

Salmon enter the St. Anns, but on account of lofty falls, they cannot follow the river to a great distance. This river has been greatly poached in the neighborhood of Bonquet's Bridge.

There are other salmon rivers of minor importance, entering the St. Lawrence below St. Anns, and some of them are pronounced good, but we believe that there has been too much netting of late years [on the coast, and hence the old reliable good score rivers have suffered. This may be considered a mere opinion; however, it will be our object to fully investigate the cause of last season's scarcity of the noble fish. We are anxious to have the opinion of men of old experience.

There are two ways of reaching the salmon rivers between Bersimits and Natashquan. This is done by means of sailing mail packets—one leaving the long wharf at Rimouski on the 1st and 15th of each month, from May to September. The other packet leaves Gaspé Basin on similar dates. The Rimouski

packet calls at Bersimits, Godbout, Trinity Bay, Seven Islands and the Moisie River. The captain charges one dollar per passenger crossing the St. Lawrence, the latter to supply his own provisions during the passage. The Gaspé packet is supposed to call at the west and east ends of the Island of Anticosti alternately—that is to say, one trip to English Harbour on the west end, and the following trip to Fox Bay on the north-east end; thence across to Natashquan, Point Esqui-mault, Mingan and other rivers on the same coast. The charge for the passage from Gaspé to Anticosti is four dollars, with board.

Now that we have introduced these matters in regard to fishing localities, the continuation of our remarks on the salmon rivers will appear in the February number. In the meantime, we will occupy a portion of our space with a description of the beautiful trout lakes situate north of Montreal.

We will first mention the region of the Upper Assumption River, where numerous lakes abound, containing beautiful rich-flavoured trout. It is difficult to reach the lakes of the Northern Laurentian districts, on account of rugged woodland and rocky surroundings, there being no roads leading from civilization but what are generally used on both sides of the river as Indian paths to the upper waters. With a good guide a series of mountain lakes can be reached in a day's walk from Manning's farm, taking along a canoe or two. Any lake will offer abundant sport. The upper portion of the Assumption river abounds in trout averaging from a quarter to two pounds weight. There is another grand scenic locality which we have visited, where the lakes are alive with large luscious trout; these are situated on each side of the colonization road leading to the Mattawan. The Black River runs for several miles along the side of the road and its pools and rapids are teeming with game fish; therefore, as a summer resort for fishing, this region cannot be surpassed. To reach the mountain lakes, it will be necessary