

efforts and expenditure, to add the Messina quail to our Canadian moors and forests. I have a dozen of the Colonel's Sicilian quail, at present in my aviary, the breeding season being over when I got them, and am waiting for April to let them loose, in order to test Col. Rhodes' theory about this migratory species' return to where it was hatched. The capercaillie, without being as delicate a bird to eat, as our ruffed grouse, from its size, would be a very welcome addition to our fauna. In Canada, he would find a climate, haunts, food and protection, similar to which he meets with in the pine forests of the north—in Norway—it is worth while trying, if he can be naturalized here. I hope yet to learn that some public-spirited sportsman will undertake the introduction of this noble bird—the capercaillie—and succeed here, as has happened in Scotland.

I remain, dear Sir,

Yours most obediently,

J. M. LEMOINE,

President Lit. & His. Society.

BAY OF QUINTE NOTES.

Owing to the unprecedented dryness of the weather in September the shooting season in this district opened under very unfavorable auspices. The Woodcock was driven out of his usual haunts, and compelled to take refuge in the inaccessible recesses of our marshes, and though some of our sportsmen tried the well-known covers, they met with but poor success, the best bag I have heard of consisting of no more than six birds. Some sport has been had within and close to the city limits among the Golden Plover, but no heavy bags have been made. Very few Partridge have been shot as yet, the foliage is too dense for the shooter; after the leaves have fallen we hope to have some sport, as the breeding season was favorable.

The Fall ducks are beginning to arrive; the frosty nights of the 5th and 11th October have started them on their Southward journey, and they have begun to appear on our market, to the great satisfaction of the gourmands. Hay-bay, an offshoot of the Bay of Quinte, about midway between Belleville and Kingston, used to be a celebrated resort for duck-shooters, but of late years the birds have been almost entirely driven away by incessant and indiscriminate cannonading. It is now, however, under the protection of an association of neighboring sportsmen, who only allow shooting on three days in the week, and who, I am

informed, charge one dollar a-day for the privilege—a sum which no true sportsman would object to pay for a fair day's sport.

The fishing in the Bay, though inferior to that of last year, has yet afforded some good "takes" to the devotees of the rod and line. Among others, Mr. Wm. Orwin has had good sport among the Black Bass. On one occasion he and his son killed 95 lbs. of Bass in an afternoon. On another they took 75 fish, weighing considerably over 100 lbs., and on the 11th October they took, at Nigger Island, half way between this and Trenton, 103 lbs. of Black Bass. His usual bait is a grasshopper, but as the insect is rarely to be had now, his latter fishing has been done with an artificial fly, tied to resemble that tempting bait. Mr. Orwin reported some heavy flocks of duck coming in while he was fishing.

A well-known veteran angler, Mr. Alpheus Dulmage, paid a visit to Squire's Creek, in the Township of Rawdon, 25 miles from Belleville, on the 12th September, and in eight hours, took 70 Speckled Trout, one of which weighed close upon 2½ lbs., and another turned the scale at 1½ lbs. These fish were mostly killed with the worm, but, fishing by moonlight, the trout refused the worm bait, which was freely taken by the Chub, which also inhabit the creek. By way of experiment Mr. Dulmage cut up a Chub and baited his hook with pieces of its flesh, and with this bait caught several nice trout.

The bush-fires which devastated a large section of the middle district of Hastings County during the hot, dry weather of summer, made sad havoc among the game and wild animals within their sway. The lumberers report the finding of many remains of Deer, Partridges, and other animals in the burnt woods. In the Township of Grimsthorpe, a fire swept through six miles of forest in twenty-four hours. One of Messrs. Rathbun's foremen, following the track of the conflagration to look for such timber trees as were spared, found a Porcupine with all its legs burnt off and still living, and, a little further on, another with its head and shoulders singed bare, and its eyes put out by the flames; he put them out of pain with his hatchet.

The fires of this year, having run through many of the thick swamps which, in ordinary seasons, are incombustible on account of their moist condition, have driven many Bears, Wolves, &c., out of their strongholds, and they have, consequently made their appearance in