

lation in a moment before this art had had time to approve itself to the nation. With regard to his hybrid experiments, they were yet too young to say exactly what might come of them, but they showed peculiar forms in scaling, and perhaps might help towards connecting different species of Salmonidae and reducing them down to one or two species, the others being merely varieties. He was much obliged to Mr. Wilnot for his remarks on land-locked Salmon; but having had some experience on lakes in Scotland where Salmon had been bred and had not gone into the sea, he had found invariably that where there were no Char in the lake the Salmon had become very large in the head, and seldom exceeded four or five pounds in weight. On the other hand, some nine years ago he got a few eggs of the Leuvi Trout from the late Mr. Buckland, and turned about one hundred and fifty into a small piece of water a little over one hundred acres, which contained nothing but small Perch. Last Friday a gentleman brought him one of these fish, which he had found washed ashore, which must have been just nine years old; it measured 33½ inches, but was in very bad condition. The Trout when put under conditions of having shallow swimming fish beside it had obtained this enormous size, and he had no doubt it was absolutely necessary to land-locked Salmon to have shallow-swimming fish to feed upon. If they were not present in the water, they should be introduced first, and the *Salmo scholops* afterwards; this would make the experiment more successful. He concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, who had taken a great interest in the operations of the Fish Culture Association, of which he was President.

The Marquis of HAMILTON had much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to the Chairman. He could not but think that the speeches which had been delivered that morning would have the most practical effect on all those interested in fisheries. He hoped the observations made by Mr. Wilnot with reference to State aid being given to the fisheries of this country, would be earnestly taken up by the public at large, and that before many months had elapsed they would take a practical form, and be brought forcibly under the notice of Government.

The vote of thanks having being passed unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN assured Congress it had given him the greatest pleasure to be of any use by occupying the chair. He had seldom presided

at so interesting a meeting, or gained so much knowledge in so short a time. He must say he did not believe in land-locked Salmon as a distinct species. He believed you could produce a land-locked Salmon from the ordinary fish. He recollected when his uncle, the late Lord Spencer, had the shooting of Glenlochy, near Kilin, he collected a quantity of par and put them into a small tarn high up on the hills, where they remained for several years. When they went to fish this lake they saw a number of silvery-looking fish of about 2 to 3 lbs. in weight, jumping just like Trout would do. He believed those fish were the par which were put in seven years before, which had turned silver, like Salmon. It was hoped they would continue to increase, but they became thinner, and gradually dwindled away. Before sitting down he must say a word in defence of the poor Black Bass, which had been so hardly used. He fully agreed with the remark that they should not be put into Trout streams, where they would be as destructive as Pike, but in many parts of England, particularly in his own country, there were neither Salmon nor Trout in the streams, only Pike, Perch, and the most abominable of all fish, coarse Bream. In those waters the Black Bass would be a useful addition, he would rise to a fly; he would take any bait; he would live with the Pike, and he was exceedingly good eating. They contained very few bones, and he thought the flesh was decidedly more like fresh Whiting than any other fish."

NOTES ON THE NATURAL HISTORY OF LABRADOR.

BY W. A. STEARNS.

There has been much contention between the two great powers, France and England, as to who first discovered this great peninsula of Labrador. It was certainly visited by Sebastian Cabot in 1496; and more or less explored by the Portuguese Cortereal, who, it is supposed, named it.

The popular tradition of the coast seems to be "that one Labrador, a Basque whaler, from the kingdom of Navarre, in Spain, did penetrate through the Straits of Belle Isle as far as Labrador Bay, some time about the middle of the fifteenth century, and eventually the whole coast took its name from that coast and harbor."

*From Proceedings of the U.S. National Museum, vol. vi., No. 8.