

until next summer. There is a good pass for alewives around the end of the dam on the Roseway River, but it does not answer for salmon, and the ladder will have to be repaired next year. The passes on the Clyde River are of little use; they were not properly built or located, and will have to be rebuilt next year. Mill-owners have been informed that persons throwing sawdust or mill rubbish in the rivers next year will be dealt with as the law directs. The water being too high in the rivers to allow of any repairs being done to fish-ladders, I did not proceed to Yarmouth and Digby, but returned to Halifax, in order to see that my instructions as to the construction of proper ladders were properly carried out, and to enable me to report on the work done, as directed by the Commissioner of Fisheries.

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.

I visited Mr. Morton's new mill on the Annapolis River, but the water was so high that I could not see the fish-way, built under Mr. Carty's direction; it being entirely under water. I doubt very much whether it will be of any use, because if properly built, it ought not at any time to be entirely covered with water. The ladder put on Mr. Beal's mill-dam, next above Morton's, under my direction, is a good one, and fish easily ascend it. There is also a ladder on a dam above the Nictaux Falls, built under Mr. Carty's directions, but it was covered with water so that I could not see it. I think, however, that it requires some improvements. Instructions to the Overseer in this county having issued from the Department some three or four years ago, to enforce the clauses of the Fisheries' Act, relative to saw dust and mill rubbish, mill-owners are keeping most of their stuff out of the streams.

KING'S COUNTY.

Only one river in this county is obstructed by mill dams—the Gasperaux—and Overseer Bishop looks sharply after it. The only dam now obstructing this river has a good fish-way on it, but it will require some repairs next summer.

HANTS COUNTY.

The fish-ways in Hants are all efficient, so far as I could judge without seeing the fish go up. The law relative to fish-passes was not enforced on the St. Croix River by Mr. Venning's directions, some years ago, and my own opinion is that it will be difficult to keep fish-ways in the dams on this river, owing to heavy ice freshets, and on account of the dams being very high. Fish-passes were built some five or six years ago, but were carried away next spring. Mr. Venning thereupon instructed Mr. Burnham to let things remain as they were until further orders.

PICTOU COUNTY.

Fish-ways in this county are a good deal out of repair. Those on the River John are entirely torn away, and will require to be re-built next summer.

The Provincial Officer, who ought to know more about the construction and location of fish-ladders than the local Overseers, should if at all possible visit each ladder once a year to see that they are kept all right, and know for himself when and where changes and improvements are required.

I am convinced that on most of the large streams a second, and in some cases a third ladder would be of great advantage, as a portion only of the fish seem to find the entrance on wide rivers—like the Lahave in Lunenburg, or the Mersey in Queen's. A thorough investigation on the state of fish-ways throughout the province of Nova Scotia should be had next summer, and I would strongly recommend that the inspecting officer, whoever he may be, should have a conveyance under his own control provided for him, and thus be enabled to visit all the streams, dams, &c., &c., much cheaper than by public conveyance, whilst he would also have plenty of leisure