

subject, but that he has done so is a fact much to be lamented. I was informed by Marshall Richey, Esq., of Fredericton, and his information was corroborated by Henry Rutter, Esq., of the same place, that this season several salmon have been taken below the dam, and that one was seen during the last week in August to go up the sluice-way into the river. It is really lamentable to know that fish have been waiting so long in vain to have a passage provided for them, and that an admirable and important nursery for salmon and shad is entirely destroyed by the refusal of one man to comply with the laws of the Province. What makes this matter more strange is the fact that there are no peculiar difficulties in the case; a fish-way can be constructed at no great cost, and without the least detriment to the interests of the mill. I consider the construction of a sufficient fish-pass in this dam of the highest importance, and would strongly recommend that immediate compliance with the law be enforced. The moral effect on other mill-owners will be most salutary, and would deprive them of what is at present a strong excuse for their own neglect. "Why don't you make Gibson do it?" is a question I have been asked a score of times, and I must confess I have never been able to give it a sufficient answer. There is a vast quantity of slabs, edgings, saw-dust and other mill rubbish thrown into the stream, and compliance with the law in this respect is much to be desired. Other mill owners are obliged to burn their saw-dust, and I see no reason why this should be an exceptional case, especially as it is very prejudicial to the river.

The *Oromocto* is a considerable river, entering from the westward. It is navigable for small vessels and steamers for a distance of about twenty miles, when it separates into two branches, both flowing from lakes. There are two dams on the North Branch, one owned by the Hon. Wm. Todd, of St. Stephen, the other by Jeremiah Tracy, Esq., who resides in the neighborhood. Previous to the erection of these dams shad and gaspereau ascended to the lake, which was a famous spawning place for these fish, while the whole length of both streams was the spawning ground of salmon. As there are no fish-ways in the dams, the stream above is depopulated, but numbers of each species are still caught below. Suitable fish-ways in the dams would effectually restore this river to its former state, and the necessity of their speedy erection is urgent. There is much mill rubbish in the river, and the abatement of this nuisance is much needed. There is not much netting in this river, but, as usual, the deadly spear makes sad havoc among the fish that still ascend.

After visiting this river I had an interview with Charles Burpee, Esq., the Member elect for the County of Sunbury, to the Parliament of the Dominion, formerly Warden for this District. With regard to the dams on this river and the Nashwaak, he informed me that the disposition on the part of Members of Government to favor large mill-owners, and the lumbering interest generally, rendered it almost impossible to get the law enforced. He had repeatedly notified the owners, but no attention was paid to the matter. He stated that the 18th section of the Act regulating the Fisheries, which provides that no salmon shall be taken after the 31st August, was evaded in his district. The law does not say that *nets shall be taken up*, consequently they remained set, under the excuse that they were intended to take *bass*. The exception in this section, in favor of *killock nets*, is taken advantage of, and almost all nets remained set on Sundays as well as week days, consequently there is no *close time* observed. As this is a matter of great importance, the section should be so amended that all nets *be taken up* at the appointed time, and the weekly close time, from Saturday night to Monday morning should be made obligatory on *all nets*, whether *killock* or picket nets. He found the same difficulty that Mr. Harrison experienced in enforcing section 5 of the General Regulations, because there was no penalty attached to its infraction. Mr. Burpee was of opinion that the whole subject required revision, and a more stringent enforcement of the laws and regulations.

A narrow and deep channel, called the *Jemseg*, connects the Grand Lake with the Saint John, into which it flows from the eastward about three miles above Gagetown. Salmon, shad and gaspereau pass through Grand Lake to Salmon and Gaspereau Rivers at its head. There is a dam at the mouth of the latter, which prevents the ascent of fish; but the passage up the former is unobstructed, and large numbers of salmon, shad and gaspereau ascend it a long distance; they are often taken as far up as the Richibucto Portage. As is the case on all our rivers, the fish are here destroyed in every