

ago. Pound-nets have done a great deal of harm to the fisheries. These nets kill all fish large and small. A great many young fish are killed before they are large enough to breed, they are thrown away. With seven canoes and fourteen Indians they caught in 1892 only about one ton of fish altogether. Ten or twelve years ago one canoe with two men would each take a ton of fish.

The Commission then closed proceedings for the want of further evidence with the view of returning to Ottawa.

NOTE.—The attached letter from P. Sullivan and Sons, was received at Ottawa, and it is inserted here to show the extent of damage resulting from the towing of saw-logs over the fishing grounds in the north channel of Lake Huron.

SPANISH STATION, 24th November, 1893.

In regard to the number of rafts which left here this summer there was two hundred and ten millions logs came down the Spanish River. Out of that there was about thirty millions manufactured in this district, and there is still on hand about twenty millions rafted up in store booms to leave here the first thing in the spring, that leaves one hundred and sixty millions which were towed to the other side this season. As near as I can ascertain these logs left here in about forty or forty-five rafts, and would cover from twenty to twenty-five square miles of water.

COOK'S MILLS, DISTRICT OF ALGOMA, 4th Dec., 1893.

MR. WILMOT,
Chairman of the Fishery Commission.

DEAR SIR,—I have ascertained the above facts as near as I am able respecting the number of logs passing between Spanish River and the Georgian Bay. There are eight different streams and each one used for the flowing of logs. The French River, I am told, passed even more logs than the Spanish, and my opinion is that the bottom of the whole lake from Georgian Bay to Mississauga is teeming with bark. It is eighteen miles across to the Manitoulin, and rafts pass in three different directions, so that the bark is spread every way. This bark in the course of time rots and forms into a kind of slime and fish will not stay on that ground. There were five skiffs fishing from here four years ago, since then they have left, as fish so scarce, and in a very short time I believe there will be no fish at all.

On September 26th of this year I had thirty-six pieces of net utterly destroyed by this bark. Each piece of net was 180 yards long, and was loaded so heavily with bark as to break the web. I also had six other pieces similarly loaded the last week in October. I am sending you a sample of net as we took it out in October.

My loss in September was about \$350, and again loss of six weeks fishing from \$150 to \$200 at the least.

I have stated my affairs as plainly and correctly as I am able, and without giving any offence to Mr. Elliott. I should be glad if you could aid me in getting two or three pound-net licenses for next year.

I am, sir, yours obediently,

P. SULLIVAN & SONS.