

own observation compel me to corroborate Mr. Harrison's assertions, and the total absence of fish-ways in all the mill-dams in the Province fully verifies it.

I called and examined this dam, and had some conversation with Mr. Smith, one of the owners, who admitted that the apology for a fish-way was quite useless. It was generally choked up with mill rubbish, and even when clear of this it is quite inadequate to meet the requirements of the law. I told him of the necessity of complying with the Regulations for the protection of the Fisheries; he admitted their justice and promised to do his share towards rectifying the evil. I did not succeed in finding Mr. Davis, the owner of the grist mill on the same dam, and was obliged to defer seeing him on the subject. It is a matter of great regret that this fine stream has been so long closed to no fewer than three species of valuable fish; and this fact is the less excusable, because the dam is very low, and offers every facility for the erection of a fish-ladder at a very trifling outlay, without the least detriment to the mills.

*El River* is a fine large stream flowing in from the west, with a dam and grist mill a few hundred yards from its mouth. There was no fish-way, although there was waste water enough to supply several. On enquiry I was informed by Mr. Moore, an old resident of the place, that previous to the erection of this dam large numbers of salmon and shad were caught at the mouth and up the river, but of late years they have all been very scarce. He said they still came every season to the foot of the dam and made abortive efforts to get over. This dam is very low, and a small sum would place a sufficient fish-way in it. I called at the house of Mr. Dow, the owner of the mill, but as he was then in Fredericton, I regret that I had to leave without seeing him.

At the mouth of the *Shogamoc*, a small and unimportant stream not resorted to by migratory fish, there is a large saw-mill, and quantities of saw-dust and mill rubbish have accumulated in the neighborhood to the great injury of the river.

The *Meductic*, the *Pekiok*, and the *Narkawikak* are small streams not frequented by fish. Below the mouth of the latter I found a net set, although the time for legal netting had expired eight days previously. I called at the nearest house and enquired for the owner. I was told that he lived four miles further up the river. I asked him if he was aware that the time for legal fishing had expired. He pretended total ignorance of any law on the subject, and said that he had never heard of any Warden on that part of the river; he said, however, that he would send word to the owner, and have it taken up before noon. This man gave his name as George Thornton, and I am convinced he was himself the owner of the net, and knew perfectly well that he was acting contrary to laws he well understood. I met several instances of this denial of ownership and pretended ignorance, and I think the rule requiring all nets to be legibly marked with the owner's name, as required in the General Regulations, should be rigidly enforced.

From Woodstock to this part of the river (about 30 miles above Fredericton), I found pickets set at every turn of the stream, and at every place at all favorable for the purpose. At this particular place there were pickets extending from several islands and bars which from the length of their line, I feel quite certain stretched beyond the legal limits of one-third of the width of the channel. I think the Northumberland Regulations, which prohibit nets from being set from islands or bars, could be beneficially applied to the St. John.

The *Nashwaak*, which flows into the River St. John from the eastward, was formerly considered the best of all its tributaries as a salmon river, and was also frequented by large numbers of shad. It is now and has been for many years all but closed to them by a dam about three miles from its mouth. That a few fish have, from year to year, been able to accomplish the passage over this dam is happily evidenced by the fact that some still ascend to the dam and are often seen to leap over it. As the salmon returns only to its native stream to spawn, there is no doubt this remnant would soon restock the river, if a free passage were provided. But this is another instance in which the lumbering interest has been allowed to override all others. For years attempts have been made to get a pass in this dam, and our late Governor, the Hon. A. H. Gordon, made a special effort to accomplish this much desired result, but, strange to say, without success. I cannot clearly understand how the owner, Mr. Gibson, has so long succeeded in evading the law on this