

Marine and Fisheries—Fisheries Branch.

APPENDIX No. 13.

REPORT OF THE FISHERIES PROTECTION SERVICE OF CANADA BY COMMANDER O. G. V. SPAIN.

OTTAWA, 31st December, 1898.

The Honourable Sir LOUIS DAVIES, K.C.M.G.,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

SIR,—I have the honour to report on the work performed by the Fisheries Protection Service of Canada under my command during the past season.

The vessels forming the fleet were :

“ Acadia,” Commander O. G. V. Spain.

“ Curlew,” Capt. J. H. Pratt.

“ Constance,” Capt. Geo. May.

“ La Canadienne,” Commander W. Wakeham.

“ Petrel,” Capt. E. Dunn.

“ Dolphin,” Capt. G. Pearson.

“ Kingfisher,” Capt. W. Kent.

“ Osprey,” Capt. C. T. Knowlton, and

“ Quadra,” on the Pacific coast, on several occasions, Capt. Walbran.

The patrols of these vessels were generally as follows :—

The “ Acadia,” general supervision of the fleet employed in cruising along the whole coast of the maritime provinces, from Cape Sable Island to Gaspé, in the province of Quebec, with two trips up the River St. Lawrence and the north shore in search of smugglers.

“ Curlew.”—The patrol of this vessel is in the Bay of Fundy properly, but she has been engaged principally in stopping illegal lobster fishing in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. Capt. Pratt has given a great deal of attention to this.

“ Constance.”—This vessel has been used entirely in the revenue service, making trips to various parts of the provinces. She has been under the control of Mr. F. Jones, Chief Preventive Officer, who also had the fisheries cruiser “ Stanley,” and tug “ Gladiator ” at his disposal.

“ La Canadienne.”—This vessel works independently of the rest of the fleet. She is operated under the control of the officer in charge of the Gulf division of fisheries, and is mainly employed on the Quebec coast and the Canadian Labrador, looking after the interests of our fishermen. A report of this vessel's work will be found among the inspectors' reports.

“ Petrel.”—Employed on the great lakes, with headquarters at Port Stanley or Amherstburg ; principally, her work is patrolling the boundary line, although she does excellent work looking after our own fishermen also.

“ Dolphin.”—A small tug, extremely old and slow, and not particularly seaworthy, employed among our own fishermen in Georgian Bay.

“ Kingfisher.”—Patrolling Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island, with headquarters at Souris or North Sydney, employed largely in preventing illegal lobster fishing, which she has managed to do very successfully.

“ Osprey.”—Employed on the south-east coast of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, with headquarters at Canso and Sydney, employed in preventing illegal fishing, a troublesome business, which has been carried out by the captain of the vessel to my satisfaction.

“ Quadra.”—Employed on the Pacific coast for fishery matters, on occasions.

A report of the particular work of each of these captains will be found herewith.