

1st February to 1st May; fine \$40, and any one is empowered to kill any dog found hunting within the prohibited time. No one is allowed to kill more than two Moose within a period of 12 months; \$12 for each offence. The killing, except for food, is prohibited; and leaving the carcass in the woods subjects the offender to a fine of \$20. Partridges are not to be killed between the 1st March and 1st September. There was an Act making it unlawful to kill Deer on the Island of Grand Manau for a period of three years, but it expired June 8, 1868. The Fishery regulations are the same as these of Quebec and Ontario, except that the close season for Salmon is, for net fishing from the 15th August to 1st March, and fly-surface-fishing 15th September and 1st March.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Chap. 92 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia has also been amended, and now reads that no Moose shall be killed between the 1st January and 1st September; no Cariboo between 1st March and 1st September. The close time for Partridge is from 1st January to 1st September; and for Woodcock and Snipe from 1st March to 1st September. The prohibitions respecting the killing of Cow Moose, and the limitation of the number allowed to be killed have been removed. Pheasants are not allowed to be killed. The export of Moose and Cariboo hides is prohibited; fine from \$20 to \$50, and forfeiture of the game or hides. Otters, Minks, and Muskrats are not allowed to be killed between the 1st May and 1st November, under a penalty of \$8. It is absolutely forbidden to kill Robins, Swallows, Sparrows, &c., and birds of song. Penalty \$1 for each bird so killed.

The anomaly of the Game Laws being dealt with by the various Provinces in detail is strikingly apparent when the close seasons are considered, e. g.: In Ontario the legal time for killing Deer ends on the 1st Dec.; but in Quebec it is lawful to kill until the 1st Feb. The same with regard to Ducks: In Ontario the sportsman is debarred from knocking them over after the 1st March; but his Quebec brother can pop away at them until the 20th May; and so in other instances. This causes, and will continue to cause, a great deal of trouble to secure convictions against parties for illegally killing game. These Provinces being only separated by the River Ottawa, makes it difficult to establish the fact of the illegal killing. Would it not be well to have a convention of sportsmen, agree on close seasons that would answer for all the Provinces, and press the adoption of them in their respective Legislatures? Of course, there are difficulties in the way; but these could easily be got over if sportsmen would only approach them in a candid and conciliatory spirit.

THE OTHER PROVINCES.

The Game Laws of Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and British Columbia are still as given in the *Year Book* for 1868, page 91.

INSURANCE.

To place the business of Insurance in Canada on a sounder basis than it has heretofore occupied, and to obtain statistics respecting the nature and extent thereof, Parliament has passed an Act relating to the subject (31 Vic. cap. 48*), which came into operation on the 1st of August last, under which all Insurance Companies must obtain a license before doing business.

To obtain a license, Fire, Life, Accident, Guarantee, or Inland Marine Insurance Companies must deposit at least \$50,000 with the M. F., but Canadian companies may make the deposit in three instalments. They must make it for each branch of business, except when accident is combined with life, and inland marine with fire business. The deposit is to bear interest at 6 per cent., being placed in the Government books as "Dominion Stock." In cases where a company's deposit is less than \$100,000, it must deposit yearly the amount of its premiums, less 25 per cent. for office expenses, and less the losses paid, (excepting those which confine their business to the Province in which they were or are incorporated,) and also add the interest on the amount deposited until it reaches that sum. This rule applies to Canadian companies only after the three years allowed for payment by instalments. The deposits of Canadian securities already made by fire companies shall count as part of this deposit, and other securities deposited by them under previous Acts may be held for two years as part of it, the Government receiving the interest as increase of deposit. The deposit for other kinds of insurance business may be prescribed by the M. of F. British or foreign companies whose charters do not allow them to invest in Canadian securities, may make the deposit in such securities as may be a legal investment, at the current market rate, and making good any future depreciation, which may be held for three years, this time being allowed them to get disabling laws or by-laws repealed; but at the expiration of these three years such securities must be replaced by cash, or the license returned. The interest on the deposit, when complete, is paid over to the companies, unless notice of a judgment or order of a court to the contrary be made known to the Receiver General. Every company before doing business must also deposit with the clerk or prothonotary of either of the superior courts in the other provinces; and in Quebec, in the office of the prothonotary of the superior court in

* By this Act, stock insurance companies, or mutual fire insurance companies which take no cash premiums, must take out a license from the Minister of Finance before they can do any new business except ocean marine insurance. The Act, however, does not apply to companies incorporated by the late or present Provincial Legislatures, so long as they confine their business to the Province in which they were or are incorporated, unless they desire to take advantage of its provisions.