

32 permits for salmon angling on Nepisiguit River, N.B., were issued, and 1,185 season permits for inland waters in Ontario, making the total number of licenses 3,412.

FISHERY OFFICERS.

The staff of Fishery officers employed in the outside service now numbers 601, divided as follows:—

Ontario.....	87
Quebec.....	95
Nova Scotia.....	243
New Brunswick.....	114
Prince Edward Island.....	34
Manitoba.....	1
British Columbia.....	1
Gulf of St. Lawrence, Commander and Crew of <i>Lady Head</i>	28

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The regular staff receives aid from lock-masters on canals, lighthouse keepers, &c., which saves employing other officers at separate salaries.

The number of persons and vessels employed in the fishery in 1877 was, by Provinces:—

	Vessels.	Tonnage	Boats.	Men.	Value.
Prince Edward Island.....	12	509	1,474	4,285	\$77,426
Nova Scotia.....	761	28,417	10,308	25,859	1,504,141
New Brunswick.....	240	3,639	3,690	8,307	235,747
Quebec.....	436	28,679	16,449	11,775	1,139,724
Ontario.....	20	291	1,247	3,867	63,286
Manitoba.....	247	304	2,070
British Columbia.....	3	70	158	1,219	11,110
	1,472	61,605	33,568	55,616	3,038,004

The salmon caught by anglers under leases of angling privileges was 2,637, a few less than last year. The hot weather and lowness of the water interfered with the sport. The young salmon are reported very abundant by the fishery overseers.

FISH CULTURE.

No new establishments were opened during 1877. There are now seven; two in Ontario, three in Quebec, one in New Brunswick, and one in Nova Scotia. The number of young fish distributed during the spring of 1877 was 13,489,000, viz:—

Salmon.....	5,915,000
Speckled Trout.....	24,000
Whitefish.....	7,950,000
	13,489,000

38,000,000 fish ova were placed in the establishments to be ready for distribution in June, 1878, viz:—

Salmon.....	6,350,000
Sea and Brook Trout.....	150,000
Whitefish.....	31,000,000
Salmon Trout.....	1,300,000

Both the Lobster and Oyster fisheries require more strict preservation, and Fishery regulations for British Columbia and Manitoba should be adopted.

SAWDUST AND MILL RUBBISH.

A careful examination of the Ottawa River below the city of Ottawa was made by Mr. Mather. The burning of the sawdust and refuse in furnaces constructed for the purpose, is recommended by him. The cost of each furnace is estimated at a little over \$100,000, and the annual cost of working at \$42,147. Between Ottawa and Grenville every year 12,300,000 cubic feet of sawdust is deposited in the Ottawa, but in 143 soundings taken by Mr. Mather, sawdust was only brought up from the bottom in 26; in 117 soundings the matter was pure sand, gravel or clay, and in only 7 places was sawdust found in the navigable channel of the river, and navigation is in no way affected by it between Ottawa and Grenville.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The receipts during the fiscal year, from rents, fees, fines, &c., were \$13,365 and the total Fishery expenditure \$96,347, divided as follows:—

Fishery overseers' salaries and disbursements.....	\$55,251
Fish-breeding establishments.....	24,037
Fisheries protection vessel.....	17,059
	\$96,347