

472. The kinds of fish, of which the largest quantities are taken, are cod, lobster, herring, mackerel and salmon; of these, there was an increase in the value of cod and lobster taken in 1885 as compared with 1884, and a decrease in the value of herring, mackerel and salmon. The falling off in mackerel represented a money value of \$479,270. There was a general increase in the catch of lobsters, amounting altogether to an increase of 1,369,755 lbs., but there was a marked decrease in the size of the lobsters caught, and in order to protect this fishery from ultimate injury, it is proposed to lengthen the close season and increase the gauge from 9 to 10 inches. The smelt fishery also is overdone, the fish yearly decreasing in size, and more stringent measures are required to save this industry from permanent injury. There was an increase in the catch both of whitefish and salmon trout in the Province of Ontario.

473. The following is a table of the close seasons in the various Provinces, together with a synopsis of the fishery laws.

THE FISHERY LAWS OF THE DOMINION.
TABLE OF CLOSE SEASONS ON 1ST JANUARY, 1886.

Kinds of Fish.	Ontario.	Quebec.	Nova Scotia.	New Brunswick.	P. E. Island.
Salmon (net fishing)		Aug. 1 to May 1.	Aug. 15 to March 1.	Aug. 15 to March 1.	.....
do (angling)		Sept. 1 to May 1.	Sept. 15 to Feb. 1.	Sept. 15 to Feb. 1.	.....
do do Restigouche River.....		Aug. 15 to May 1.	.....	Aug. 15 to May 1.	.....
Speckled Trout (<i>Salmo Fontinalis</i>)...	Sept. 15 to May 1.	Oct. 1 to Jan. 1.	.....	.....	Oct. 1 to Dec. 1.
Large Grey Trout, Lunge and Win- ninish .....	.....	Oct. 15 to Dec. 1.	.....	.....	.....
Pickrel (Doré).....	April 15 to May 15.	April 15 to May 15.	.....	.....	.....
Bass and Maskinongé.....	April 15 to June 15.	April 15 to June 15.	.....	.....	.....
Whitefish and Salmon Trout.....	Nov. 1 to Nov. 30.	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whitefish .....	.....	Nov. 10 to Dec. 1.	.....	.....	.....
Sea Bass .....	.....	.....	.....	March 1 to Oct. 1.	.....
Smelts .....	.....	.....	April 15 to May 15.	April 15 to May 15.	.....
Lobsters.....	.....	.....	Bag net fishing prohibited, except under license. Aug. 20 to April 20.	Aug. 1 to April 1. (west coast) Aug. 20 to April 20. (north coast)	Aug. 1 to April 1. (south coast) Aug. 20 to April 20. (north coast)
Sturgeon .....	.....	.....	.....	Aug. 31 to May 1.	.....
Oysters.....	.....	June 1 to Sept. 15.	June 1 to Sept. 15.	June 1 to Sept. 15.	June 1 to Sept. 15.

NOTE.—The fishery laws only partially extended to British Columbia and Manitoba. Close seasons in the latter Province are: Whitefish, from 20th October to 1st November; and speckled trout, from 1st October to 1st January.