

525. Between the years 1869 and 1893, the principal commercial fisheries yielded as follows :—

Cod..	\$94,949,417
Herring..	46,111,052
Lobsters..	42,178,370
Mackerel..	35,216,567
Salmon..	34,778,635
Haddock..	11,765,832

526. The commercial value of the fisheries was nearly \$21,000,000 in 1893, an increase of \$1,745,490 on the yield of 1892. This does not include the value, probably amounting to two millions, of the large quantity of salmon and other fish consumed by the Indians of British Columbia, Manitoba and the North-west Territories.

527. Engaged in the fishing industry of Canada there are nearly 68,000 men using vessels, boats, nets and other gear, valued at \$8,781,557.

528. In order to ensure the development of this industry, the Government of Canada enforces efficient measures of protection. These consist of laws and regulations carried out (1) by a large staff of officers stationed at every place where fishing is carried on ; (2) by armed cruisers, employed on the Atlantic coast and on the great lakes ; (3) by the establishment of close seasons, intended to protect the fish at the most critical period of their existence—the spawning season ; (4) by a system of leases and licenses, through which the Government is enabled to regulate fishing in accordance with local requirements ; (5) by fish-breeding establishments, fourteen hatcheries being now established in various sections of the country ; (6) by a fishing bounty of about \$160,000 a year ; (7) by prizes awarded for the best models of fishing vessels, with a view to encourage a superior and safe class of deep-sea fishing schooners ; (8) by Fishing Intelligence Bureaux, inaugurated in 1889, by means of which the movements of bait and of fish can be daily ascertained and reported by telegraph communication, at the principal stations. Fifty-five of these bureaux were in operation in 1893.

529. For the purpose of protecting the sea-coast and inland fisheries, the Government employs six steamers and two fast-sailing schooners, and about 400 permanent officers, and 200 temporary guardians engaged at certain periods of the year, chiefly when the fish are spawning.