

777. A lobster hatchery was established at Bayview, Pictou county, N.S., in 1891. The report of the officer in charge for 1894 states that during the season 160,000,000 young lobsters were distributed along the coast, from the Straits of Canso, and in Prince Edward Island. About 88,000,000 of lobsters were captured during the season of 1894 to fill the 13,333,693 cans put up; 7,565 tons were shipped alive or fresh.

778. In addition to the lobster hatchery, 13 fish hatcheries were in active operation during 1894. From these there were distributed 94,919,000 fry of salmon, trout, whitefish and salmon-trout. These were planted in many of the rivers and lakes in the Atlantic provinces, in the great lakes of Ontario and in the waters of British Columbia.

779. The work of establishing and restocking oyster beds at Shediac, N.B., and Tracadie, N.S., has been undertaken by the Government and placed under the superintendence of an expert from Great Britain. Preliminary work was done in 1892. In 1893 several hundred barrels of oysters were planted.

780. The fisheries of Hudson Bay are considerable, but they are not included in the statements of the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

The Hudson Bay Company have established salmon fisheries along the lower parts of the several rivers discharging into Ungava Bay. The fishermen employed are all Esquimaux. Trout are taken in large quantities and of great size, the largest reported weighing 14 pounds, and the average being from 6 to 7 pounds.

781. The fisheries of the great lakes are the most extensive lake fisheries in the world. In these waters are found the whitefish, salmon-trout, herring, sturgeon, bass, pickerel, &c.

The latest statistics published by the Department of Marine and Fisheries show that 75 tugs and schooners and 1,187 boats, manned by 4,155 men, were employed on the great lakes during the season of 1894; 1,682,265 fathoms of gill-nets, and 7,610 fathoms of seines, 359 pound-nets and 323 hoop-nets were used, the whole representing an invested capital of \$702,822. This amount does not include the value of freezers, ice-houses, fish-cans, piers and wharfs. The value of fish caught was \$1,660,000.

782. The total quantity of fish caught in the great lakes during the 12 years, 1883 to 1894, amounts to 293,707,000 pounds, valued at \$17,660,000.

The principal kinds of fish caught in the period named were:—

Herring.....	97,000,000 pounds.
Whitefish.....	62,000,000 “
Salmon-trout.....	63,000,000 “

783. The fisheries of British Columbia are probably the richest in the world. During recent years they have developed rapidly. In 1876 the value of the catch was given at \$104,697; in 1880 it was \$713,335; in 1885, \$1,978,038; in 1890, \$3,481,432; in 1893, \$4,447,083, and in 1894, \$3,950,478.