

1887

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES.

To the Honorable James Mitchell, Surceyor General, New Brunswick.

Sir,—I beg to report that I have this season visited the following Rivers in my official inspection, viz.:—The Restigouche, Quatawankedgewick, Upsalquitch, Jacquet, Nepisiguit and Tracadie.

RESTIGOUCHE.

I proceeded up the Restigouche a distance of about eight miles above the mouth of the Quatawankedgewick, but saw no Salmon in any of the pools, and I have now come to the conclusion that none enter those waters until about the middle of August. A good many then go up and spawn on the bars. Last season (1886) Mr. Mowatt put a large number of young fish from the Restigouche Hatchery into the waters at the Forks, about fifteen miles above the Kedgewick, and if this could be continued for a few years it would doubtless be a great help to the whole river and would soon make this portion as valuable as any of the waters below. I placed one Guardian on this stretch on July the first, and he will remain on until first November. In future I think no Guardian need be placed here before the fifteenth of August.

QUATAWANKEDGEWICK.

I have not been able, up to the present date, to ascertain the number of Salmon killed this season on the Kedgewick. The Lessees have had two Guardians on this river and it has been well protected. They have also one Guardian on the Patapedia. The whole Restigouche from Kedgewick down to Matapedia has been most thoroughly guarded at an expense to the Lessees and some of the Riparians of nearly five thousand dollars. The fishing this season on the lower waters has not been up to the average of the past two years; whilst above the catch has been very fair. Mr. Rogers, Lessee of the river from Kedgewick down to Tracy's Brook, writes me that his party had