

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Board of
Fish and Game Commissioners

OF THE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,

For the Year ending October 31st,

1902.



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1902

STATE OF NEW YORK

Board of Fish and Game Commissioners

STATE OF NEW YORK

for the Year ending October 31st

1902

ALBANY: JAMES BRADY, STATE PRINTER, 1902.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

*To His Excellency, Franklin Murphy, Governor, and to the Members
of the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

In accordance with the provisions of law we herewith submit the annual report of the doings of the Board of Fish and Game Commissioners for the year ending October 31st, 1902.

Very respectfully,

HOWARD P. FROTHINGHAM, *President,*
WILLIAM A. HALSEY,
BENJAMIN P. MORRIS,
RICHARD T. MILLER,

Commissioners.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the Board of Directors of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, for the year ending October 31, 1907.

- HOWARD L. FROST
- WILLIAM A. WALKER
- URBAN W. WALKER
- STANLEY W. WALKER

List of Fish and Game Commissioners Holding Office at the
Date of this Report.

HOWARD P. FROTHINGHAM, PRESIDENT,
POMPTON LAKES, N. J.

WILLIAM A. HALSEY,
NEWARK, N. J.

BENJAMIN P. MORRIS,
LONG BRANCH, N. J.

RICHARD T. MILLER,
CAMDEN, N. J.

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**List of Fish and Game Wardens Holding Commissions at
the Date of this Report.**

EMANUEL C. SHANER.....	Mays Landing.
HOWARD MATHIS.....	New Gretna.
GEORGE RICARDO.....	Hackensack.
WILLIAM GUTHRIDGE.....	Camden.
JAMES HUNT.....	Camden.
GEORGE PHIFER.....	Manumuskin.
FREDERIC S. CONNER.....	Bridgeton.
GUS HILTON.....	Anglesea.
A. W. MULLER.....	Almonesson.
JOHN KERR.....	Harrison.
HENRY E. PARK.....	Whitehouse Station.
ANS B. DECKER.....	Lake Hopatcong.
HARRY J. COOK.....	Trenton.
JAMES M. STRATTON.....	North Long Branch.
CHARLES AYRES.....	Metuchen.
ANSON J. RIDER.....	Tuckerton.
LOUIS E. FOULKS.....	New Egypt.
ALEXANDER HUGHES.....	Paterson.
JACOB B. HENDERSHOTT.....	Newton.
EDWARD R. DAVIS.....	Salem.
THOMAS J. TORTON.....	Pennsgrove.
GEORGE H. MILLER.....	Somerville.
C. M. HAWKINS.....	Elizabeth.
EDWARD HILL.....	Rocksburgh.
GEORGE RILEY, Fish and Game Protector, Telephone 2313, Newark.	

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Board of Fish and Game Commissioners of the State
of New Jersey for the year ending October 31, 1902.

STOCKING OF LAKES AND PONDS.

This very important work has been conducted this year up to the extent of our facilities, and we think the results will soon become apparent.

The experiment of bringing native fish from the Great Lakes has proved to be an unqualified success, for the simple reason that most of the fish thus obtained were adults; hence, the natural process of multiplication was in no way retarded. The prosecution of this work has been conducted under many difficulties on account of the great distance that it was necessary to convey the fish; however, your Commission was determined to overcome all obstacles, and we feel that we have succeeded beyond our most sanguine expectations. Wall-eyed pike are now frequently being taken from the various lakes in which we have placed them in the last two years, weighing from two to five pounds. Numbers of channel catfish are also being taken at Greenwood lake. The calico bass is another new and valuable fish introduced in our waters during the past year, and, as it is an excellent food-fish besides being very gamy, it will be a very welcome addition to the angler. The demand for bass and pickerel is very great in all parts of the State and is far beyond the supply, as we have to depend almost entirely upon the Delaware and Raritan canal for our supply, which we secure during January and February. The cold weather and ice greatly retard this work. Your Commission greatly appreciate the privilege granted them by the canal company, as it enables us to stock many lakes with bass, pickerel and perch.

As the State becomes more populated and the interest in angling increases, it becomes necessary for us to use greater exertions in not

only fully protecting but in continually restocking our lakes, ponds and streams. Experience has taught us that before stocking many of the lakes and ponds with game or food fish, it is necessary first to plant in these waters a sufficient number of bait fish to supply the necessary food. The number of fish that can be maintained in any body of water is, by natural laws, regulated to the amount of food there present. It would be just as irrational to place a herd of cows in a field that contained little grass as it would be to place bass in a pond that contained few minnows or bait fish. It is a well known fact that bass and pickerel require a large amount of food, and if the normal supply is reduced, they are compelled to eat their own young. It is manifestly just as important that the food should be supplied as well as the fish. This we have been endeavoring to do. Arrangements have been completed to make three trips to Lake Erie about November 1st, for the purpose of procuring various varieties of food and game fish, as well as to obtain as large a supply of bait fish as possible, to be placed in the several lakes where they are known to be needed. The stocking of our ponds and streams with food and game fish is a matter of no little importance to thousands of our citizens, affording, as it does, healthy recreation as well as sport. We think that a liberal appropriation should yearly be made to permit us to continue this work. We find that it is necessary to occasionally take some of the fish from one pond and place them in another, thus preventing too much interbreeding and deterioration of the specie. This we have been doing for several years past, and reports show that it has a very beneficial effect. Lake Hopatcong and Greenwood lake have, for years past, received our careful attention. Thousands of adult fish, embracing wall-eyed pike, channel catfish, white bass and calico bass, have been placed in these extensive bodies of water. The results have been highly gratifying and fully warrant a continuance of the work. Every county in the State contains either lakes, ponds or streams that are suitable to the growth and multiplication of many varieties of food and game fish, and as the citizens become more interested, the applications for fish for stocking purposes become more numerous. After each application is received, the water proposed to be stocked is examined to ascertain if it is suited for the variety of fish applied for. If found to be so, the application is filled as soon as the supply of fish is obtained. This necessarily entails a large amount of work and considerable expense, but we feel that the results fully warrant both. Through the efforts of your Commission, during the past few years,

many of our lakes and ponds that have been almost entirely depleted, now afford excellent sport to the angler.

The following is a list of the lakes and streams stocked during the past year, with the number of fish placed in each :

Hopatcong Lake, 640 calico bass.
 Culver Lake, 200 calico bass.
 Pompton Lake, 725 bass.
 Budd's Lake, 500 bass.
 Hutchinson Lake, 100 bass.
 Spring Lake, 100 bass.
 Kirby Lake, 100 bass.
 Millstone River, 450 bass ; 150 perch ; 192 pickerel.
 Freehold Lake, 150 bass ; 200 perch.
 Ross Lake, 100 perch ; 100 bass.
 Blackford Lake, 1,000 perch.
 Higsby Lake, 1,000 perch.
 Almonesson Lake, 1,000 perch.
 McMurtry Lake, 500 catfish.
 Hopley's Lake, 500 catfish.
 Mountain Stream, Sussex county, 2,000 trout.
 Potter's Brook, Sussex county, 2,000 trout.
 Pond Stream, Sussex county, 1,000 trout.
 Greenwood Lake, 1,000 wall-eyed pike ; 50 channel catfish ; 400 white bass.
 Hopatcong Lake, 1,250 wall-eyed pike ; 200 white bass ; 400 calico bass ; 50 channel catfish.
 Freehold Lake, 50 calico bass ; 50 wall-eyed pike ; 50 white bass.
 Ross Lake, 50 white bass ; 20 wall-eyed pike.
 Cranbury Lake, 800 wall-eyed pike ; 300 calico bass ; 300 white bass.
 Bennet's Mills, 25 calico bass ; 25 white bass ; 25 pike.

QUAIL.

We are sorry to have to report that we were unable to procure any quail for stocking purposes during the past year, as the government agents refused to allow us to transport these birds from the Indian Territory, from which place we have heretofore procured our supply. This seems to be a foolish and uncalled for federal restriction, and is neither in the interest of protection or preservation of game. We fail to see any good reason why a State should be prevented from bringing within its borders quail or any other game bird or animal to restock its depleted woods and fields, unless such birds or animals are detrimental to the public welfare. It would seem that a mere interchange of game birds for stocking depleted covers should be a matter of mutual interest to all States who desire to restore the former abundance of game. One of the objects of the Lacey act is

"to aid the restoration of such game birds in those parts of the United States adapted thereto, where the same have become scarce or extinct," &c. How this act is to produce any good results, if the government agents continue to act as they have in our case, is utterly beyond our comprehension. We are, however, pleased to report that the quail procured and liberated throughout the entire State in 1901 have multiplied greatly and seem to have interbred with our native birds. All reports tend to show that more quail have been seen during the summer and early fall than for a number of years past, but on account of the increasing extent of cultivated lands, the constant reduction of natural cover and the yearly addition to the number of hunters, it will be necessary for us to procure from time to time a reasonable number of quail for stocking purposes.

WOODCOCK.

Every year shows a decrease in the numbers of this noble bird, and it has now become absolutely necessary that some effective means be used to prevent its total extinction. The open season for woodcock in July is a serious error and this law should be promptly repealed. It is also the opinion of your Commission that a closed season should be placed on this bird for a period of not less than three years, and that the number then killed to a gun should be strictly limited. Woodcock shooting has always been regarded as a noble sport, but on account of the high market price and great demand for this bird, it has been a constant mark for the pot hunter, and the results are now only too apparent.

PHEASANT.

Our native pheasant (ruffed grouse) we are pleased to say has increased somewhat in numbers during the past few years, owing to the fact that the wholesale snooding of this bird has been almost entirely broken up. Twenty-five or thirty years ago the swamps in Burlington, Ocean and Monmouth counties were literally alive with pheasants, but as the demand in the city markets for these birds grew, the professional market hunters loaded the branches and swamps with thousands of wire snoods, and as high as a barrel full of these birds were shipped in one day as a result of the work of one man from snoods set the previous evening. Up to four years ago, in this same district, it was very rare for a hunter to shoot more than one or two pheasants in an entire day's hunting trip. On account of this bird's peculiarity of

always running in and out of a swamp, following a regular path, it has always been an easy mark for the snooder. Outside of the vigilance of the wardens, the law prohibiting the shipping of these and other game birds and animals from the State, has also had a tendency to discourage the work of trapping and snooding for the market.

We are pleased to note that the sentiment of the general public has been yearly growing more and more against trapping and snooding of any game, while the prompt prosecution of some of the most notorious of these violators, we think, will soon entirely break up this destructive and unmanly work, which some people are pleased to term, "sport."

RABBITS.

We have received reports from all parts of the State that rabbits are very numerous, far more so than for a number of years past. Hunters generally agree that this is the result of the law preventing dogs from running at large in the woods and fields. This law has received the unqualified approval of citizens generally and is regarded as one of the most valuable game protective laws ever passed by our Legislature. It not only protects the game but the farmer as well. Worthless dogs running at large do great damage, especially to the fields of growing grain. They are also a great annoyance, as well as a menace, to the general public.

BARNEGAT BAY.

Barneгат bay has an extent of about forty miles, being from one to six miles in width. It is wholly within the limits of Ocean county, and, together with the other various smaller bays, makes one continuous stretch of water from Bay Head to Cape May. This bay has long been noted as being the best place for the angler and hunter along our entire coast. Tom's river, Metedeconk river, Forked river, Beaver Dam creek, Cedar creek, as well as many smaller streams, are tributary waters and are noted for the fine pike fishing they afford. In the spring large numbers of herring are caught in these fresh and brackish waters, while thousands of pounds of perch are netted in all parts of the upper stretch of the bay. Very few people realize the value of the fish yearly taken from Barneгат bay or the large amount of money yearly brought into that section by visiting anglers and gunners from adjoining States. Many large hotels are solely supported from this source. Hundreds of our citizens residing along the bay and

its rivers make a good living during the spring, summer and early fall, by taking out in their yachts, to the fishing grounds, numerous visiting anglers. Then, when the duck season opens, these same industrious natives, on account of their accurate knowledge of the best points and "stands," are eagerly sought by the duck hunters, who flock to the bay in almost as large numbers as the ducks and who are ever ready to pay these local experts for their services as guides and attendants.

Take away the present excellent angling and hunting furnished by Barnegat bay and you would close many hotels, as well as utterly ruin hundreds of our worthy citizens. This is, however, only the sporting side of the question, valuable though it is.

Let us now consider the regular fishing, that is, the net and seine fishing. The gill and seine fishermen begin operations, according to our present laws, the first day of November and continue until the last day of June. Thousands of pounds of white perch, selling at from seven to ten cents per pound, are caught and marketed by these hardy citizens. Last April four men, in charge of a seine who were fishing above Mantoloking, got in one haul one thousand six hundred pounds of white perch, netting them seven and a half cents per pound, not to mention the herring and other fish taken at the same time. This is not, by any means, an unusual thing. Even when the bay is frozen over, these energetic citizens cut holes through the ice, pushing the net from hole to hole until they complete a circle, then drawing the net up through the large opening made at the joint of the circle. It requires both ingenuity and experience to successfully prosecute this hazardous work, as the brackish water makes the ice very rotten at times and it frequently happens that the fishing crew take an involuntary bath, yet with no bad results, as these men are inured to such hardships and take such things more in the light of an expected diversion than a serious accident. Large numbers of white perch are taken in this way and on account of the great demand and consequent high price, as a rule, fully repay these seemingly reckless fishermen for their exertions. A very conservative estimate places the value of white perch taken yearly from Barnegat bay at not less than \$200,000. This does not include the other varieties of fish taken and marketed.

WATER WILD FOWL SHOOTING.

During the late fall, winter and early spring a stranger might well imagine that a battle was in progress, from the almost continuous roar of guns from one end of the bay to the other. Thousands of

ducks, geese and brant are shot in almost all parts of the bay, affording good sport to the visiting gunners as well as some profit to the local residents. The Commission is pleased to report that the shooting of ducks from sailing vessels and night shooting, the complaints against which have been very numerous in past years, have now been almost entirely stopped, partly on account of prompt prosecution of offenders and continuous vigilance of our wardens, and partly because the gunners begin to realize that the ducking laws are made and enforced solely for their own good and not to unnecessarily restrict the sport. Some effort was made last year by a few, possibly well-meaning, though surely misguided people, to have a law passed to permit the erection of blinds out in the bay. If such a law were passed, it would, without any doubt, in a few years utterly ruin duck shooting on this great body of water. If ducks or geese are disturbed on their feeding grounds they will not long remain in that locality. This is a well known fact to every experienced duck hunter. In many other important ducking waters the local laws only permit shooting on certain days each week. Our present laws regulating the time, method, &c., of shooting wild water fowl are far more liberal than other States, where ducks are more numerous. We are, therefore, of the opinion that to make any change which would tend to increase the number killed would be a grievous error and one that the gunners themselves would deeply regret.

DELAWARE RIVER FISHERIES. 1902

SHAD.

Alosa Sapidissima (Wilson).

The shad is found on our Atlantic coast from Florida to Newfoundland, its center of abundance being from North Carolina to Long Island. The principal shad rivers are the Potomac, Susquehanna and Delaware. It is an anadromous fish which passes most of its life in the sea and enters our rivers in the spring for the sole purpose of reproduction. Little is known of its life in the sea or as to its food. In the spring it ascends to suitable spawning grounds, which are always in fresh water, and much depends on weather conditions as to the time; a late, cold spring, with an abundance of melting snow-water from mountain streams, often retards the ascending fish or forces them to remain in the warmer tide-water.

Shad fishing on the Delaware has been an important industry for

nearly two hundred years, and at the present time it is worth over \$500,000 annually. Government reports show that among all economic fish of the United States only the cod and chinook salmon exceed the shad in value. During the past season the shad catch of the Atlantic seaboard numbered 14,241,360, and worth to the fishermen \$1,860,620. The Delaware catch has not been as large this year as usual, but, on account of higher prices, the fishermen have realized about the usual amount of money. The shad, on the average, have been larger this season than in any other year of this important industry.

The hatching and distribution of young shad by the United States Fish Commission has much to do with keeping up the supply. Owing to the delicate nature and numerous natural enemies of this fish, only a very small percentage ever reach maturity, and in view of this your Commission has instructed the wardens to use the utmost vigilance in preventing violations of the laws regulating the taking of shad. The present law prohibits the use of any net in the Delaware from sundown Saturday night until twelve o'clock Sunday night. This permits only a limited number of shad to reach their spawning grounds and it therefore seems only a question of time when this closed period must be extended or artificial propagation conducted on a larger scale; otherwise the present supply cannot be maintained.

While a large majority of those engaged in taking shad realize the fact that your Commission has only the proper protection of this valuable industry in view, yet the arrests made and the number of illegal nets seized during the past season, demonstrate the necessity of maintaining constant vigilance, that the rights of the law-abiding fishermen may be preserved.

ALEWIVES, OR RIVER HERRING.

Herrings are the most abundant food fishes inhabiting the rivers of the eastern coast of the United States, and next to shad are commercially the most valuable fishes of these waters. Government reports show the value of the herring catch of the Delaware river for the past six years to be about \$30,000 per year. This estimate, however, does not show the actual value of the fish taken, as it is based on reports received from fisheries engaged almost exclusively in the taking of herring. Hundreds of thousands of these fish are yearly caught by individual fishermen, who sell direct to the farmers living near the river, for the purpose of salting for winter use. Herring being such prolific breeders, and as the young are far more hardy than shad, few, if any, laws are required for their protection. As herring

usually precede the first run of shad by two or three weeks, and as they are carted through the surrounding country and retailed at ten to twelve cents per dozen, they furnish a cheap and healthy food to many who could not afford to purchase the higher priced fishes, besides giving employment to hundreds of our worthy citizens engaged in netting, salting, smoking and marketing the yearly catch.

STURGEON.

Acipenser sturio (Linn).

Two varieties of this fish are found in the Delaware river, the common sturgeon (*A. sturio*) and the short-nosed sturgeon (*A. brevirostris*), but only the former is regarded as of commercial value. These fish attain a large size, frequently ten feet and over in length, while the short-nosed sturgeon rarely exceed three feet. The steady decline of the sturgeon fisheries of the Delaware river has attracted the attention of fish culturists throughout the United States, and unless some solution to this heretofore difficult problem is quickly found, this valuable industry will be a thing of the past. One reason of the present serious condition is a simple result of indifference on the part of our legislators in past years, who, thinking the supply unlimited, failed to pass any restrictive laws regulating the catching of these valuable fish. If the present laws had been enacted and strictly enforced twenty years ago, we would not now have to face a serious fact in place of an exploded theory. Thousands of the young of the common sturgeon have in past years been caught and sold by the fishermen, perhaps in ignorance, under the impression that they were the short-nosed variety. The fishermen, as well as those charged with the enforcement of the laws, should be fully instructed in this matter so the fish may be quickly recognized. In the common variety the color of its young is usually diagnostic. The young of the common sturgeon is never dark colored, while the characteristic dirty olive-green or brownish, with a shade of green in it, is always seen in the common sturgeon at all stages of its growth. The color of the short-nosed sturgeon is dusky or even dark above, paler below. By far the most valuable part of the sturgeon is the roe, from which is prepared the commercial product called caviar. As few are familiar with the mode of preparation of this most valuable product, we append the following description, taken from facts furnished by the United States Fish Commission:

PREPARATION OF CAVIAR.

"After the eggs have been removed from the fish they are placed in large chunks upon a stand, the top of which is formed of a small meshed screen.

"On the underside is arranged a zinc-lined trough, about eighteen inches deep, two feet wide and four feet long. The operator gently rubs the eggs back and forth over the screen. The mesh is just large enough to let the eggs drop through, and as they are separated from the membrane by the rubbing, they fall through into the trough and are thence drawn off into tubs by means of a sliding door at the end of the trough. After all the roe has been separated, the tub is removed and a certain proportion of the best Luneberg (Germany) salt is added to the roe, after which the operator carefully stirs and mixes the mass with his hands. The most delicate part of the whole operation is in the manner of mixing. After adding the salt, the mass of eggs first dries up, but in ten or fifteen minutes the strength of the salt draws from the eggs their watery constituents and a copious brine is formed, which is poured off when the tub becomes too full. The salted eggs are poured into very fine-meshed sieves, holding about ten pounds each. In the caviar house are usually arranged sloping boards with narrow strips nailed on each side. On these the sieves are placed and left from eight to twenty hours, in order to thoroughly drain. The eggs have now become the caviar of commerce, and are transferred to small casks of either oak or pine, which have been steamed to prevent any possible leakage. The casks are covered and allowed to stand until the gas escapes and the eggs settle. The vacant space caused by the settling is then filled up and the cask headed and put in a cool place until ready for shipment. The casks cost about \$1 each and hold about one hundred and thirty-five pounds, selling last season at \$172 per cask.

"In 1885 the same size cask sold at from \$9 to \$12. Thirty years ago sturgeon sold in Philadelphia markets at from three to four cents per pound, with very little demand, while last season the small supply of flesh was quickly purchased at from thirteen to fifteen cents per pound."

Your Commission think that this is ample evidence to prove the great value of our sturgeon fisheries to this State, as well as the need of doing everything possible to bring these fisheries to their old-time standard.

The work of propagating sturgeon last season, we are sorry to report, was not fully a success, owing partly to the fact that on account of adverse climatic conditions, the attempt was made too late in the season, as well as too far up the river. We have since ascertained that the spawning grounds are further down the river, and every effort will be made during the coming season to obtain satisfactory results. The Pennsylvania Fish Commission, as well as the United States Fish Commission, are just as deeply interested and are in hearty accord with this work, while the men operating the fisheries fully realize that the future of this heretofore very important industry depends solely on the results of artificial propagation.

OTHER FISH INHABITING THE DELAWARE THAT AFFORD BOTH SPORT, FOOD AND PROFIT.

WHITE PERCH.

Morone Americana.

This is a fish that anglers at one time delighted to talk about and, sad to relate, to even lie about; but unfortunately it has also suffered from the operations of the pot hunter. Fifty years ago it was a common thing to catch white perch weighing a pound and over, as far up as Burlington; but such a thing is unknown at the present time. It is true that our present laws prevent the ruthless destruction of this most valuable fish, yet it must needs be many years before the result of these laws will become apparent. The white perch is purely an American fish, and is found in all the brackish streams on the north and middle Atlantic coast. This fish, unless transplanted, is seldom found beyond the reaches of the tide, yet at the same time it can live and multiply in inland streams and ponds where the water is cool and fresh. Your Commission has therefore been using all possible means to introduce these fish in waters deemed suitable to their growth and multiplication. 'As the Delaware river and its various tributary streams in the lower part of the State have, for over a half century, been noted for perch fishing, we have used our best efforts to enforce such restrictive laws as would tend to elevate white perch fishing to its former high standard.'

YELLOW PERCH.

Perca flavescens.

The yellow perch, or "yellow ned," as it is frequently called, is quite numerous in the Delaware river, more especially in the lower tributaries. It is an excellent pan fish and always brings a good price in our markets. As a game fish it is almost equal to a black bass of the same size and weight. This fish is one of the most hardy known, as it seems to be able to thrive in almost any pond or stream and under the most adverse circumstances. During the past two years your Commission has taken large numbers of these fish from the canals and lower rivers of the State and placed them in our inland ponds, lakes and streams that did not before contain this variety of fish. The success of this work has been such as to warrant more extended operations in the future.

As under our present laws this fish may be taken with a hook and line at any time of the year, it has great interest for the general angler as well as the ordinary fisherman who simply goes out once in a while to "get a mess of fish." The yellow perch is so hardy, as well as very prolific, that little protection is required; your Commission has, therefore, simply endeavored to introduce it into our inland lakes and ponds, where it has been previously unknown, and where it will make a welcome addition to the limited varieties of native fish.

STRIPED BASS.

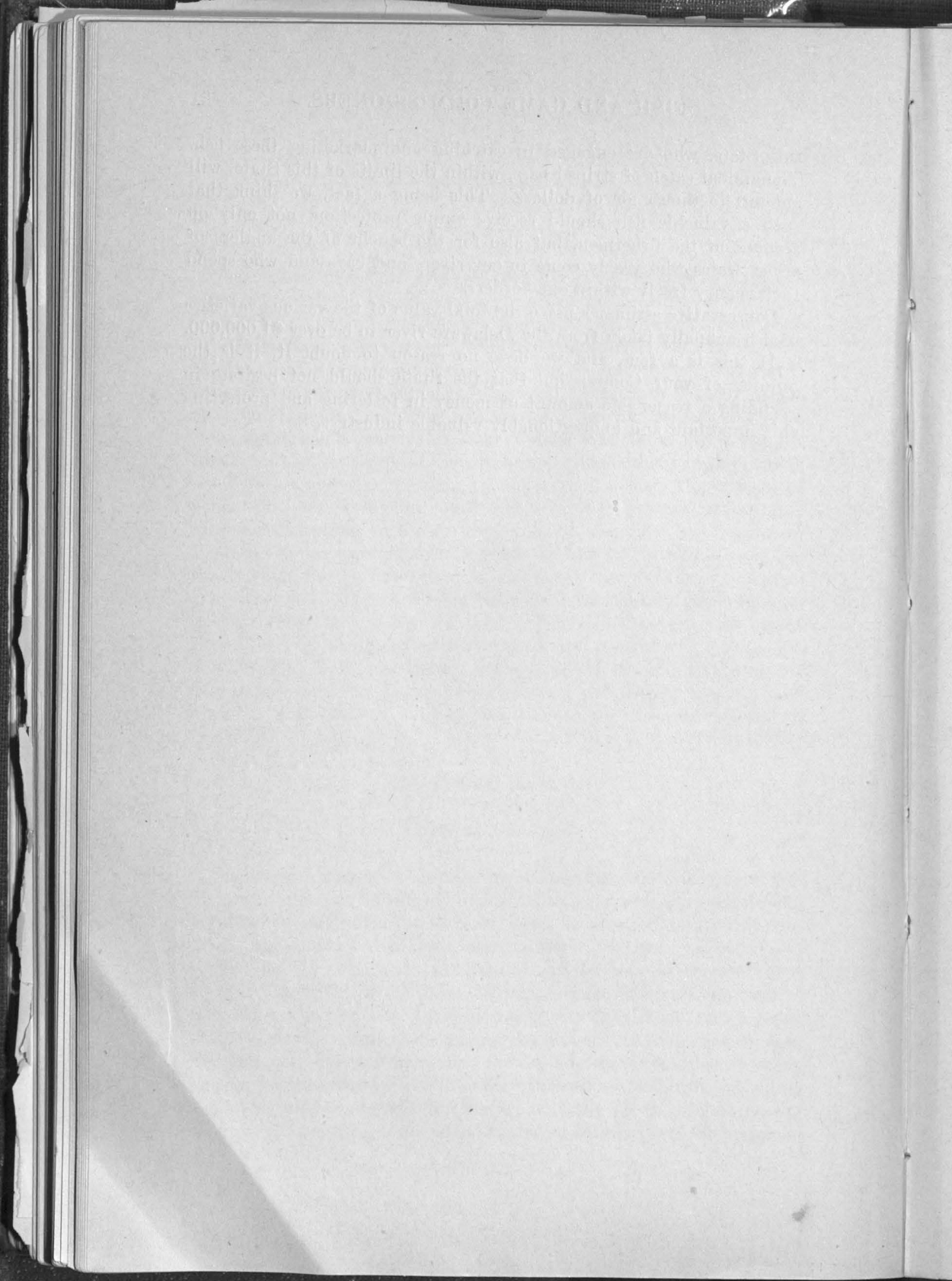
Roccus Lineatus.

The striped bass, or "rock fish," as it is frequently called, is another important game and food fish of the Delaware river. It is a fish very prominently mentioned by the early settlers in letters to their friends in the old country. In 1893, one thousand five hundred pounds of striped bass were taken at one haul of the net at a fishery near Burlington. In 1840, in the lower Delaware, these fish were so plentiful that fishermen frequently caught more than they could find a ready market for. This fish ranks among the best in the quality of its flesh for table use, and as a game fish for the angler, is regarded by many as next to the salmon. It is a very important food fish, providing employment to many of our citizens, not only on the Delaware, but on our bays as well as the Atlantic coast within the jurisdiction of

this State, who are engaged in catching and marketing these fish. The annual catch of striped bass, within the limits of this State, will amount to thousands of dollars. This being a fact, we think that such a valuable fish should receive ample protection, not only on account of the fishermen, but also for the benefit of the anglers of other States who yearly come to our rivers and bays and who spend their money freely within our borders.

Conservative estimates place the total value of the various varieties of fish annually taken from the Delaware river to be over \$1,000,000.

If this is a fact, and we have no reason to doubt it, it is the opinion of your Commission that the State should not hesitate in spending a reasonable amount of money in fostering and protecting this important and unquestionably valuable industry.



RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

It is a very difficult thing to frame laws governing the taking of fish and game in a State like New Jersey, where the conditions are so varied and the general interests and welfare of thousands of our citizens are involved. We have, from year to year, offered suggestions as to alterations and additions to our fish and game laws as in our opinion, formed only after due consideration and free consultation with representatives of those most interested, were the best calculated to subserve the interests of the general public, while keeping fully in mind the necessity of, in some cases, seemingly harsh restrictions.

The habitual violator of any law, rule or regulation has little or no respect for the rights of others; hence it is often a matter of self protection to have laws more strict in their provision than would otherwise be required, solely to prevent the unscrupulous from taking an undue advantage. Again, there are others who, without any intention of harm and solely through lack of knowledge on the subject involved, must, to a certain extent, be restrained in their actions for the common public good.

Fish and game legislation is not by any means a matter of sentiment, especially in this State, where the fishing industry alone represents a sum not less than \$2,000,000 a year. Tens of thousands of dollars are annually brought into our State by the visiting anglers, who not only spread along our seacoast, but spend days and weeks in our inland districts seeking pleasure fishing in our lakes and streams. They spend their money freely and our citizens naturally reap the benefit. Thousands of acres of salt meadows, inhabited by mud hens, yearly attract sportsmen from adjoining States. Barnegat bay is noted far and wide as the duck hunter's paradise.

The importance of regulating the taking of fish and game being a subject on which there can be little controversy, it seems therefore only necessary to arrange our laws that the greatest benefit may be derived therefrom. Through lack of effective legislation in the past, many game birds and animals of the United States have now become almost extinct. Only a few years ago millions of wild pigeons could be found in this State, but at the present time it is an exceedingly

rare thing to see one of these beautiful birds; in fact there are now very few left in the entire country.

As the conditions change it becomes necessary, from time to time, to modify or add to the laws regulating the time and method of capture of various game birds, animals and fish. After due consideration, we desire to offer the following suggestions as to changes which we feel are actually required:

SHAD.

The closed period in each week during the season for the Delaware river extends from Saturday night at sundown until Sunday night at twelve o'clock. We would recommend that this closed period be extended, viz., from Saturday morning at sunrise until Sunday night at twelve o'clock. This would permit more shad to run up to their spawning grounds and would not interfere with the fishermen's supply of the Saturday market with shad to any appreciable extent. The gain would be far greater than the loss.

The Commission has received a communication from the Forest, Fish and Game Commission of the State of New York, calling attention to the fact that the laws of the States of New York and New Jersey, relative to shad fishing on the Hudson river, are not in harmony, in so far as the New York law compels the shad fishermen to raise their nets Friday night and not reset them again until Monday morning, thus giving the shad an opportunity to ascend to fresh water to breed, while the New Jersey law makes no such provision. In view of the fact that such a law is essential for the proper protection of this fish, your Commission recommends that such legislation be enacted as will make the New Jersey laws conform with the New York laws in this respect, and thus give the proper protection to shad in the entire river.

STRIPED BASS OR ROCK FISH.

The present law prohibits the selling or offering for sale of any striped bass less than eight inches in length. A striped bass of this size is entirely too small to be taken from the water; it is too young to spawn, and is, therefore, a direct draft on the future supply; it being a common sense rule that no variety of fish should be caught before it is able to perpetuate its kind. The size should be not less than ten inches, and the law should prohibit *possession* as well as sale and offering for sale. Striped bass should not be confused with black bass, yet many unthinkingly do so.

WHITE PERCH.

There is no law at present placing a limit on the size of this valuable food fish, yet on account of the numerous well founded complaints received from Barnegat bay, as well as other waters where thousands of pounds of these fish are yearly caught, and where the fishermen themselves are the complainants, we would recommend that a law be passed regulating the size of a white perch that is sold or offered for sale, or had in possession, to be not less than six inches in length. Hundreds of pounds of these fish are yearly shipped from this State that are less than five inches in length. Perch of this size do not spawn, and as the supply is not unlimited, we believe it imperative that proper protection should be afforded.

PIKE AND PICKEREL.

These fish are the most common ones found in our lakes, ponds and streams. The chain pickerel, so-called from the chainlike marks on its sides, is by far the most numerous; in fact there are very few true pike within the limits of this State, various claims to the contrary notwithstanding. There is at present no limit to the size of pike or pickerel. This is decidedly wrong. It is certainly not good judgment to liberate these fish in our streams and then permit them to be caught before they are old enough to spawn. This, however, is the present status of affairs. There is no authority to show that any pike or pickerel of six or seven inches in length, is capable of reproducing its kind. We would, therefore, recommend that a law be passed prohibiting the possession, sale or offering for sale of any pike or pickerel less than twelve inches in length. The pike-perch is a very similar fish in size, general appearance and habits, yet our present laws place the legal limit of pike-perch at twelve inches.

Some people would doubtless object to this suggestion of restriction on the grounds that pike and pickerel are more or less plentiful; but if we continue to permit them to be caught when only six or seven inches long, it will only be a very short time when constant restocking will have to be resorted to.

WOOD-DUCK.

The wood-duck is the most beautiful of all species and has always been in great demand for mounting purposes. This is no doubt why, at the present time, so few are left in our State. The opinion of our

hunters generally seems to be that some steps should be taken to save this bird from total extinction. To this end, we would recommend that a closed period be established on wood-duck of not less than three years. The wood-duck begins to breed the latter part of April, yet as our present ducking laws permit shooting until the first of May, these fowl are practically killed on their nests.

GENERAL DUCKING LAWS.

Section 7 of our present laws, relating to water wild fowl, reads as follows: "It shall be unlawful for any person hunting or gunning after geese, ducks, brant or other web-footed wild fowl, to place the boat, sink-box or other vessel or construction in which such person may lie in wait to kill such geese, ducks, brant or other web-footed wild fowl, at a distance of more than one hundred feet from ice, or from marsh or meadow, bar or bank or *heaped seaweed* not covered with water at high tide, and every such boat, vessel or other structure so used shall be attached securely to such ice, marsh, meadow, bar or bank, or heaped seaweed by a line, and it shall be unlawful for any person or persons, with intent to capture or kill geese, ducks, brant or other web-footed wild fowl, to hunt after or pursue the same in any manner except only between one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset, under a penalty of twenty dollars for each offense." This should be amended so far as to striking out the words "*heaped seaweed*," as experience has shown that this provision is frequently taken gross advantage of to the injury of more conscientious hunters, who believe in living up to the spirit of the law. Barneget bay, as well as the entire stretch of water from Bay Head to Cape May, contains hundreds of acres of flats or shallow grounds. These flats are the natural feeding places for ducks, geese and brant. It is a very easy matter to heap up seaweed on these flats which will not be covered at high tide, for the simple reason that the seaweed being semi-buoyant will raise with the tide. If a stake is driven through the heaped seaweed it will remain where originally placed. The plain intention of the law is to prevent gunners from placing their boat, blinds, sink-box or other contrivance more than one hundred feet from marsh, meadow, bank or bar out into the bay, thus protecting the feeding grounds of the ducks, geese, &c. The words "*heaped seaweed*" defeat the very object aimed at and it is our opinion, backed up by the knowledge and experience of the resident gunners, that this section should be so changed as to strike out the above noted words.

Section 9 should be amended to agree with section 8, striking out "or other web-footed wild fowl" and inserting "or any kind of water wild fowl."

DOVES.

This beautiful and absolutely harmless bird is now being exterminated and steps should be taken to prevent its total destruction. Many States have taken it from their game lists. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Delaware, District of Columbia, West Virginia, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Wyoming and Arkansas now prohibit the killing of doves at any season of the year. In Ocean county it has long been the custom of sowing grain in open places in various spots in what are known as "the Pines." By the time the season opens, all the doves for miles around congregate at these stands or feeding places and are there slaughtered by the hundreds, while in the surrounding country it is impossible to find a single bird. This is a grievous wrong and should not be permitted. Georgia, years ago, enacted a law prohibiting this kind of work. It is the opinion of your Commission that doves should either be stricken from our game list or a closed period established for three years and that the establishment of stands or feeding grounds, for the purpose of drawing the birds to these spots, be strictly prohibited. The very men who follow this practice have freely expressed themselves as heartily in favor of such an enactment. The season for shooting should not come on before September 1st, as birds were killed last August with eggs still in them.

HERRING FISHING.

(*Barnegat Bay.*)

Section 2 of a supplement to an act regulating fishing with seines in Barnegat bay, as amended March 22d, 1900, reads: "Provided, that it shall and may be lawful to haul seines in the several tributary rivers, creeks, streams and coves of said bay and in that portion of the bay proper, which is within the present limits of the Township of Brick, for the purpose of taking herring therefrom, during the months of March, April, May and June, yearly and every year, the smallest meshes of which said nets shall not be less than two inches in size." The above section should be amended by adding: "Provided further, that all pike or pickerel, white perch and other fish found

in such nets, shall at once be returned to the water without injury." Numerous complaints have been received that many of these seine fishermen have been taking thousands of little perch in their hauls for herring and would simply shake these fish out on the beach to rot. Wardens were sent to investigate these complaints and found them true in every particular, but under the present law we did not see our way clear to enter prosecution. We therefore recommend that this section be changed as above outlined.

THE SALE OF GAME.

The sale of certain game, such as quail, pheasants and woodcock, should be prohibited at all times. We see no good reason why the market hunter should have full sway at the expense of others. Thirty States now prohibit the sale of certain game at any season of the year.

THE LIMIT OF GAME BAGS.

The number of certain varieties of game birds or game animals that are killed in one day, or during the season, is now limited by twenty-nine States, and every year adds to the constantly growing list. This is the only way by which you can reach the "game hog" and the market hunter, viz., by limiting the amount of game that he may kill or have in his possession in one day. It is not by any means the sportsmen who deplete our covers but the unscrupulous pot hunter, whose only desire is to obtain as large a quantity of game as possible, and by any means that he can use, giving no thought whatever to maintaining future supply. We are, therefore, of the opinion that the number of quail, woodcock or pheasants permitted to be killed or had in possession in one day, should be strictly limited.

POUND FISHING.

Those engaged in taking fish along our coast by the means of pounds are yearly extending the field of their operations until at the present time, it has become a positive menace to the continued supply of our valuable food fish. At present there is absolutely no restriction on these wholesale fish-taking devices. They can use any

size mesh that their greed may dictate, and not being content with one pound at any given place, they now have as many as four, reaching from the beach a mile or more out into the ocean, one starting where the other ends. Millions of young blue fish are yearly destroyed by these murderous devices, on account of the small mesh used, while the hundreds of line fishermen are compelled to go farther and farther off shore each year in order to take any fish, thus adding greater dangers to an already hazardous vocation. Those engaged in pound fishing along our coast are arrogating to themselves rights that neither common sense nor justice will accord. The Supreme Court of the United States has already decided that each State has an absolute right to regulate the taking of fish along its coast to the extent of three nautical miles at sea. Our present laws require a license from the menhaden steamers that fish within the three-mile limit, yet the pound fishermen, who daily ship carloads of fish to New York and other cities, pay nothing whatever to the State for this valuable privilege. We firmly believe that the time has come when this State should take this matter in hand before the damage done is beyond repair. The supply of fish in the sea is not by any means inexhaustible, as time has already shown. We therefore offer the following recommendations: that no pound or similar device shall extend more than six hundred yards out into the ocean; that no such device shall be erected within one mile of any inlet along our coast; that no pounds or similar devices shall be erected along our coast within one mile of each other; that the size of mesh of any part of any such pound shall be not less than four inches; that any person wishing to erect a pound or similar device along our coast, shall first procure a license from the Board of State Fish and Game Commissioners at a cost of \$100 per year for each pound or similar device; that the money so received shall be used in the protection and propagation of fish and game, and in the purchase of fish for stocking purposes.

GENERAL REMARKS.

It has long been the desire of those most deeply interested in the preservation and proper protection of our various game, song and insectivorous birds, to induce other States to adopt, as nearly as possible, a uniform code of co-operative legislation, to the end that migratory birds passing from one State will be accorded the same protection in the other States entered. It seems difficult to make the general public appreciate the fact that migratory game must receive

at least as much protection as is accorded to resident game, if it is to be saved from extermination. Some have suggested a national law, but that would be impossible, as the protection, regulation of the time, method of capture, possession, &c., of game birds and fish is solely within the jurisdiction of the States. Five years ago the United States Supreme Court plainly declared that "the power of the State to control and regulate the taking of game cannot be questioned." The remedy therefore lies in concerted action on the part of those interested in neighboring States, who should all work for the attainment of a common object.

Bulletin 16, United States Department of Agriculture, says on this subject: "In such a movement the Provinces of Canada have shown their willingness to join by making their laws conform in many respects to those of adjoining States.

"The Province of Ontario has even gone a step further to provide in its Game Protection act of 1900, that when any migratory game bird is in danger of extinction and its killing and sale have been prohibited in two or more States lying south of the Province, one being New York, Pennsylvania or Michigan, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may extend the same protection to Ontario for the same period during which the bird is protected in such States."

THE HALLOCK CODE.

In an address before the National Game, Bird and Fish Protective Association, Mr. Charles Hallock advocated a code of co-operative legislation, in accordance with which the United States was to be divided into three "concessions" (called concession because based on compromise and reciprocity), in each of which the laws were to be as uniform as possible, the open season identical, and protection was to be accorded to insectivorous birds, but withheld from a few species considered injurious. This division was made by placing all the region south of latitude $36^{\circ} 30'$ (except part of southern California) in one division. All the States east of the Rocky mountains belong to the northern or southern concession, while California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington form the Pacific. For a simple division this seems to meet all requirements fairly well, and while it may not be practicable to secure identical laws in all the States in each group, a strong effort should at least be made to have the close seasons correspond as nearly as possible.

INSECT-EATING BIRDS.

Too much cannot be said regarding the proper protection of our song birds. While some sentiment is involved in this proposition, yet it is one also of dollars and cents, as without these birds the pursuit of agriculture would be practically impossible. Countless millions of harmful insects are daily destroyed by these indefatigable little workers, hopping from tree to tree, and plant to plant, constantly searching for bugs and worms that are a bane to the farmer and fruit grower. These birds are the police provided by nature to patrol our fields, gardens and orchards during the spring, summer and fall months. Then later on we have various varieties of seed-eating birds that live solely on the seeds of noxious weeds, thus saving the farmer much laborious work in the spring. Some unthinking people have said, "why robins and catbirds eat cherries and other small fruits."

Yes, that is very true; but can you expect these birds to faithfully labor for you the greater part of the year without any pay whatever?

The fruit or berries eaten by our song and other birds during the year is so small in value as hardly to be worth consideration, more especially when you confront yourself with the fact that without the work of these same birds you would be unable to grow either fruit or berries, or in fact it would in a very few years be impossible for you to grow anything if all these birds were destroyed. In speaking of the "flicker" (golden-winged woodpecker) and hairy and downey woodpeckers, the United States Department of Agriculture says in one of its reports: "The flicker eats a smaller percentage of insects than either the downey or the hairy woodpecker, but if eating ants is to be considered a virtue, as we have endeavored to show, then surely this bird must be exalted, for three-fourths of all the insects it eats, comprising nearly half of its whole food, are ants. Judged by the results of the stomach examinations of the golden-winged, downey and hairy woodpeckers, it would be hard to find three other species of our common birds with fewer harmful qualities. Not one of the trio shows a questionable trait and they should be protected and encouraged in every possible way."

The same report says in speaking of cuckoos: "An examination of thirty-seven stomachs has shown that these cuckoos are much given to eating caterpillars, and unlike most birds, do not reject those covered with hair. In fact cuckoos eat so many hairy caterpillars that the hairs pierce the inner lining of the stomach and remain there, so

that when the stomach is opened and turned inside out, it appears to be lined with fur."

In speaking of the kingbird, the report says: "The kingbird manifests its presence in many ways. It is somewhat boisterous and obtrusive, and its antipathy for hawks and crows is well known. It never hesitates to give battle to any of these marauders, no matter how superior in size, and for this reason a family of kingbirds is a desirable adjunct to a poultry yard. Song birds that nest near the kingbird are similarly protected."

Some farmers have complained that among other birds, the brown thrasher is one that pulls up young corn. Careful investigations do not sustain this charge to any extent. The above-quoted government report has the following to say in regard to this bird: "The food of the brown thrasher consist of both fruit and insects. An examination of one hundred and twenty-one stomachs showed 36 per cent. of vegetable and 64 of animal food, practically all insects, and mostly taken in spring before fruit is ripe. Half the insects were beetles and the remainder chiefly grasshoppers, caterpillars, bugs and spiders. A few predaceous beetles were eaten, but, on the whole, its work as an insect destroyer may be considered beneficial. Grain, made up mostly of scattered kernels of oats and corn, is merely a trifle, amounting to only 3 per cent., and though some of the corn may be taken from newly-planted fields, it is amply paid for by the May beetles which are eaten at the same time. Taken all in all, the brown thrasher is a useful bird."

We mention the above facts simply to show that the birds protected by our laws are of known value to the farmer, nothing being left to guesswork or mere sentiment, though few people are devoid of a natural love for our feathered songsters or would permit their destruction without some just and reasonable cause.

Your Commission desire, with some degree of pride, to point to the fact that New Jersey has at the present time the most effective system of fish and game protection of any State in the Union. This has been made possible only after much time and labor spent by your Commission, who have only the general welfare of the service at heart. Recent legislatures have been reasonably liberal in their appropriations, thus permitting us to purchase a fair supply of fish and game to stock our depleted lakes and covers.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW.

The just and proper enforcement of any set of laws must always be attended with rough work, exposure, as well as some personal danger, by those engaged in seeking out the lawless violator. Many of our wardens have to be out on our bays and rivers at all hours of the night and in all kinds of weather, in order to prevent illegal fishing, while others have to perform the same service on our inland lakes and ponds. During the past year these officers have proved themselves both faithful and vigilant. In numerous cases, where the poverty of the offender or other circumstances seemed to warrant it, your Commission has had the sentence suspended on the payment of costs. Justice has on all proper occasions been fully tempered with mercy, and we do not think that any prosecutions have been made during the year just closed, in which the offender was not plainly guilty and the sentence well deserved. The following is a correct list of all prosecutions conducted during the past year:

PROSECUTIONS.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT.
Hudson	Wardens Kerr and Hawkins.....	Pola Rosa	Killing robin.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Camden	Warden Guthridge	W. B. Wright.....	Dog running at large.....	Acquitted.
"	"	Fred. A. Berry.....	Removing game from State	Fined \$20 and costs.
"	"	Wm. Dukes.....	" " " "	" " " "
Hudson.....	" Hawkins.....	Harry Thomas.....	" " " "	" " " "
"	"	John S. Draker.....	" " " "	" " " "
"	" Kerr	Frank Brastrum.....	" " " "	" \$40 " "
"	Wardens Hawkins and Kerr.....	Howard Van Zile.....	Fyke fishing.....	" \$20 " "
"	" Kerr and Hawkins.....	"	Taking stripe bass in fyke.....	" " " "
Warren	Constable Paul.....	Richard Roe.....	Sunday gunning.....	" " " "
"	"	John Doe.....	" "	" " " "
"	Warden Hill.....	Jacob H. Freck	Possession of rabbit.....	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Passaic.....	Wardens Ayres and Miller.....	Geo. Colfax.....	Sunday gunning.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Bergen.....	Deputy Lussen.....	Thomas Scott.....	Killing grey squirrel	" " " "
Monmouth ..	Warden Stratton.....	A. J. Parker.....	Sunday gunning.....	" " " "
"	"	Geo. Willhide.....	" "	" " " "
Mercer	" Cook.....	Wm. Walsh.....	Dog running at large	" " " "
Sussex.....	" Hendershott.....	Lawrence Holmes.....	Hunting with ferrett.....	Unsettled.
Passaic.....	Wardens Miller and Ayres	Wesley Conklin.....	Sunday gunning.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Somerset.....	Warden Miller.....	James Cummins.....	Pursuing rabbits on snow.....	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Hunterdon ..	" Park	John Castner.....	Sunday gunning... ..	Fined \$20 and costs.
Camden	" Guthridge.....	Winfield Baker.....	Taking game out of State	" \$40 " "
Bergen.....	" Ricardo	Larry Sarso.....	Possession of rabbit	" \$20 " "
Monmouth ...	" Stratton.....	Frank Layton.....	Sunday gunning.....	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
"	"	Edward Conklyn.....	" "	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Sussex.....	" Hendershott.....	Ira Harding and others.....	Hooking fish.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Burlington ...	" Cook	Leon Carty.....	Pursuing rabbits on snow.....	Dismissed.

PROSECUTIONS—Continued.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT.
Burlington	Warden Cook	Thos. P. Miller	Pursuing rabbits on snow	Dismissed.
"	"	Herbert Zolley	" " " "	Dismissed.
Mercer	"	Florance McCarty	" " " "	Fined \$20 and costs.
Camden	" Guthridge	Howard Bacon	" " " "	" " " "
Warren	" Hill	Clark Sarson	" " " "	Dismissed.
"	"	Clayton Sarson	" " " "	Dismissed.
Sussex	" Hendershott	Rudolph Travis	Killing quail on snow	Fined \$20 and costs.
Hudson	" Hawkins	Jas. S. Walling	Removing game from State	" " " "
"	"	Aug. Rhinegold	" " " "	" " " "
"	" Stratton	E. Cline	Sunday gunning	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Sussex	" Hendershott	Geo. Berg	Removing game from State	Fined \$40 and costs.
Cumberland	" Conner	Frank Shepperd	Pursuing rabbits on snow	" \$20 " "
Atlantic	" Shaner	Samuel Smith	Possession of pickerel	" " " "
Ocean	" Foulks	Geo. B. Dunfee	Trapping rabbits	" " " "
Monmouth	Deputy Stevens	Chas. Hulshart	Pursuing rabbits on snow	Acquitted.
Union	Warden Hawkins	American Copper Co.	Polluting Rahway river	Fined \$200. Appealed.
Essex	" Kerr	L. Peterman	Possession of pickerel	Fined \$20.
"	"	L. Rosenbaum	" " " "	Fined \$20 and costs.
"	" Hawkins	D. Jasepson	" " " "	Dismissed.
"	"	J. Finkelstein	" " " "	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Camden	Wardens Guthridge and Ware	Robt. Wetherson	Dog running at large	Fined \$20 and costs.
Hudson	" Kerr and Hawkins	Abram Post	Possession of pickerel	Appealed.
"	" Hawkins and Kerr	John Orlando	" " " "	Fined \$40 and costs.
Essex	Warden Ayres	Morris Sasner	" " " "	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Warren	" Hill	Wesley Swartz	Spearing fish	Fined \$20 and costs.
"	"	Walter Swartz	" " " "	" " " "
"	"	Jacob Boyle	" " " "	" " " "
"	"	John Quick	Dog running at large	" " " "

PROSECUTIONS—Continued.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT.
Union	Warden Hawkins.....	Tony Cantello.....	Killing blue bird.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Camden	" Guthridge.....	Thos. Wetherson	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
Warren	" Hill.....	Daniel Vliet	Hooking fish.....	" " " "
Cumberland..	" Phifer.....	Leonard DeLukes..	Killing one quail.....	" " " "
Camden	" Guthridge.....	John H. Olt	Possession of squirrel.....	" " " "
"	Wardens Guthridge and Hunt.....	Wm. Pierman.....	" " bass.....	" " " "
Bergen.....	Deputy Engle.....	Harry Grechen.....	Killing insectivorous bird.....	" " " "
Camden.....	Wardens Hunt and Guthridge.....	Julius Seiff.....	Taking pickerel.....	" " " "
"	Warden Guthridge.....	Chas. S. Kane.....	" "	" " " "
"	Deputy Fowler.....	August Grebe.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
"	" Ware.....	Han Benchelt.....	" " " "	" " " "
Burlington...	"	Geo Tippenhouse.....	Taking pickerel.....	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
"	Warden Guthridge.....	Howard G. Anderson	Dog running at large.....	
Camden	Deputy Ware.....	Hillman Rowand.....	" " " "	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Passaic.....	Wardens Hughes and Kerr.....	William Holt.....	Sunday gunning.....	
"	" " "	Clyde Allen.....	" " " "	" " " "
"	" " "	Chas Hagenbottom.....	" " " "	" " " "
Camden.....	Deputy Fowler.....	Carmon Pastorall.....	Dog running at large.....	Ten days in jail.
"	Wardens Guthridge and Fowler.....	Frank Pens.....	" " " "	Fined \$20 and costs.
"	" " "	Dominick Riggers.....	" " " "	" " " "
Burlington }	Warden Guthridge and Deputy	} Richard Wells.....	} Possession of mammoose.....	} " \$10 " "
" }	Sarr			
" }	Warden Guthridge and Deputy	} Samuel Waddington	} " " " "	} " \$20 " "
" }	Sarr			
Bergen	Wardens Ricardo and Myer.....	William Dawson.....	Net fishing	" " " "
"	" " "	Jacob Neighmond.....	" " " "	" " " "
Gloucester...	Warden Muller.....	Isaac Sands.....	Possession of mammoose.....	" \$10 " "
Burlington...	Mathis and Foulks.....	Patrick Flynn	Illegal shad fishing.....	Sixty days in jail.
"	" "	John Hunter.....	" " " "	" " " "

PROSECUTIONS—Continued.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT.
Cumberland..	Warden Conner.....	Chas. Steward.....	Dog running at large.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Mercer.....	" Cook.....	Geo. Forman.....	Killing robin.....	" " " "
"	" ".....	William Holman.....	Net fishing.....	" " " "
Ocean.....	" Foulks.....	James A. Irons.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
"	" ".....	William Kline.....	Possession of bass.....	" " " "
Salem.....	" Torton.....	Harry Lovelin.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
Ocean.....	" Foulks.....	John Norcross.....	" " " "	" " " "
Warren.....	" Hill.....	Andrew Lutz.....	Fishing with fyke.....	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
"	" ".....	Oliver Cortright.....	" " " "	
Morris.....	Wardens Hawkins and Lester.....	Jas. Vogel.....	Set-line fishing.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
"	" ".....	Carl Meyer.....	" " " "	" " " "
Salem.....	Warden Torton.....	Jas. Moore and Jas. Dolbar.....	Possession of mammoose.....	" \$10 " "
Hunterdon...	" Park.....	Johnson Amerman.....	Set-line fishing.....	" \$20 " "
Camden.....	Deputy Whorton.....	Henry O'Brien.....	Gill net fishing.....	" " " "
Monmouth...	Warden Stratton.....	A. J. Allen.....	Net fishing.....	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
"	" ".....	Albert Woolley.....	" " " "	
Morris.....	Wardens Hawkins and Ayres.....	James Helion.....	Possession of bass.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Salem.....	Warden Torton.....	Chas. Loper.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
Middlesex...	Wardens Ayres and Miller.....	Salva Bougaions.....	Sunday gunning.....	" " " "
Mercer.....	Warden Cook.....	William Cherry.....	Set-line fishing.....	" " " "
"	" ".....	August Ashbrand.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
Burlington...	Wardens Foulks and Mathis.....	Harry Schuman.....	" " " "	" " " "
Sussex.....	Warden Hendershott.....	Edgar Hunt.....	Fyke fishing.....	" " " "
Camden.....	" Guthridge.....	Geo. Waller and A. Grimster..	Illegal shad fishing.....	Sixty days in jail.
Ocean.....	" Foulks.....	Riley Southard.....	Dog running at large.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Atlantic.....	" Shaner.....	Samuel E Smith.....	Net fishing.....	" " " "
Camden.....	Deputy Ware.....	A. Chaferwear.....	Set-line fishing.....	" " " "

PROSECUTIONS—Continued.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT.
Somerset.....	Warden Miller.....	Phillip Glass	Dog running at large..	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
"	"	John Valyko.....	Poisoning fish...	
Morris.....	Wardens Hawkins and Lester.....	Henry Tesormis.....	Set-line fishing.	} Fined \$20 and costs.
Union.....	"	Max Kalwiski.....	"	
Burlington...	" Mathis and Foulks	Clarence Bowers.....	Dog running at large.....	"
Morris.....	Deputy West.....	John Dukes.....	Net fishing.....	} Fined \$20 and costs Ap- pealed.
"	"	William Dukes.....	"	
"	"	Thomas Larty	"	} Fined \$20 and costs. Ap- pealed.
"	"	H. Burnett...	"	
Burlington...	" Saar.....	Geo. Baggs.....	Dog running at large	} Fined \$20 and costs. Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
"	"	John Kimiski.	Fyke fishing.	
Cape May....	Warden Hilton	Wesley Hughes.....	Dog running at large..	} Fined \$20 and costs.
"	"	James Coapman.....	"	
"	"	Frank Larkins	"	"
Camden	Deputy Ware	John Effinger.....	Set-line fishing.....	"
"	" German.....	Chas. Hinchman.....	Dog running at large.....	"
Sussex.....	Warden Decker.....	Edwin Dunn...	Using more than three hooks.....	"
"	"	A. W. Dunn	"	"
Hunterdon...	" Park.....	J. W. Hoffman.....	Killing swallow.....	"
Warren.....	" Hill.....	John Quick.....	Dog running at large.....	"
"	"	C. W. Wells.....	Spearing fish.	"
Somerset.....	Wardens Ayres and Miller.....	Nick Forget.....	Sunday gunning.....	"
Camden	Deputy Bates.....	Dominico Volfe.....	Dog running at large.....	"
Essex.....	" Dane.....	Fred Schill	Taking bass under nine inches.....	"

PROSECUTIONS—Continued.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT.
Camden.....	Warden Guthridge.....	Geo. Logan.....	Gunning without license.....	Fined \$25 and costs.
Ocean.....	" Foulks.....	John Fleming.....	Dog running at large.....	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Salem.....	" Davis.....	E. Sanderlin.....	" " " ".....	
".....	" ".....	John A. Weaver.....	" " " ".....	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Ocean.....	" Foulks.....	Frank Greenberry.....	" " " ".....	
Union.....	Deputy Crann.....	Jas. Danmar.....	Sunday gunning.....	Thirty days in jail.
".....	" ".....	Elias Moodda.....	" " " ".....	Fined \$20 and costs.
".....	" ".....	Frank Nozza.....	Possession of bluejay.....	Dismissed.
Hunterdon.....	Wardens Miller and Ayres.....	Geo. Field.....	Killing woodpecker.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
".....	Deputy Leggett.....	J. Q. Holcomb.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
".....	" ".....	Chas. Doudy.....	" " " ".....	" " " "
Camden.....	" Whorton.....	Russell Henry.....	" " " ".....	" " " "
".....	Warden Guthridge.....	Joseph O'Hara.....	" " " ".....	" " " "
Burlington.....	Deputy Saar.....	O. Hendrickson.....	Bird nesting.....	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
".....	" ".....	W. Bestridge.....	Dog running at large.....	
Mercer.....	} Wardens Ayres, Miller and Deputy Leggett.....	Ely M. Snook.....	" " " ".....	Fined \$20 and cost.
Camden.....		Deputy Saar.....	Geo. Fitzpatrick.....	Fishing with more than three hooks.....
".....	" ".....	J. Flood.....	Fishing with more than three hooks.....	" " " "
".....	" Whorton.....	Geo. A. Van Hart.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
Cape May.....	Warden Hilton.....	Ernest Wonredure.....	Robbing quail nest.....	" " " "
Cumberland.....	" Conner.....	Asbury Cobb.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
".....	" Phifer.....	Patrick Haney.....	Killing rabbit.....	" " " "
Monmouth.....	" Stratton.....	Edward Pernel.....	" ".....	" " " "
Warren.....	" Hill.....	Lemuel Howell.....	Dog running at large.....	} Sentence suspended on payment of costs.

PROSECUTIONS—Continued.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT
Warren.....	Warden Hill.....	John Spansenberg..	Taking after nine o'clock.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Union.....	" Hawkins	John Mintel	Killing grey squirrel.....	" " " "
Salem.....	" Davis	Frank Haas.....	Gunning without license.....	" \$25 " "
"	"	Albert Haas.....	" " " "	" " " "
"	"	Geo. McNeeley.....	" " " "	" " " "
Atlantic	" Shaner.....	Robert Trespen.....	Attempting to shoot ducks.....	" \$20 " "
Hunterdon ...	Deputy Leggett.....	J. Monroe Snook	Dog running at large.....	Acquitted.
Camden.....	Warden Guthridge.....	Walter J. Nelson	Killing cedar bird.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Morris	" Decker.....	Geo. Leborio.....	Snaring rabbits.....	" " " "
"	"	Guissipo Greco.....	" "	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Bergen.....	Deputy Gundlah.....	Nicholas Spadola.....	Sunday gunning.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Warren	Warden Hendershott	Wm. Stimits.....	Set-line fishing.....	" " " "
"	" Hill.....	Frank Bruyler.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
Essex.....	Deputy Dane	Diamond Yannozi	Killing thrush.....	" " " "
Bergen.....	Wardens Ricardo and Meyer.....	Phillip Millits.....	Net fishing.....	" " " "
Ocean.....	Rider and Mathis	R. S. Petty.....	Possession of four ducks.....	" \$80 " "
Warren.....	Warden Hill.....	Stewart Wise.....	Dog running at large.....	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
"	" "	Mike Pendency.....	" " " "	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Gloucester ...	" Torton	John Malerey.....	Gunning without license.....	Fined \$25 and costs.
Sussex.....	" Hendershott	A. Byram.....	Set-line fishing.....	" \$20 " "
"	"	Z. Price.....	" " " "	" " " "
Atlantic	Wardens Mathis and Rider.....	James Miller.....	Sunday gunning.....	" " " "
Hunterdon ...	Deputy Leggett.....	Geo. W. Kennedy.....	Dog running at large.....	Acquitted
Salem.....	Warden Torton.....	J. Newcomb.....	Net fishing.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
"	"	W. Newcomb.....	" "	" " " "
Cumberland..	" Conner.....	Henry Seibert	Sunday gunning.....	" " " "
Salem.....	" Davis.....	Walter Johnson.....	" "	" " " "

PROSECUTIONS—Continued.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT.
Camden.....	Deputy Ware.....	Frank Eiting.....	Possession of bass under nine inches.....	Fine remitted.
Bergen.....	Warden Kerr.....	Paul Capoli.....		Sunday gunning.....
Union.....	Warden Hawkins and Deputy Lester.....	Nic Marzulla.....	Killing thrush.....	" " " "
".....		Warden Hawkins and Deputy Lester.....	" ".....	Gunning without license.....
Hudson.....	Wardens Kerr and Ricardo.....	Anthony Capano.....	Killing bluejay.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
".....	" Hawkins and Kerr.....	Geo. R. Ackerman.....	" ".....	" " " "
Burlington...	Warden Cook.....	Harry Haines.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
".....	Deputy Saar.....	Henry Fahe.....	" " " ".....	" " " "
".....	" ".....	Edward Clinton.....	" " " ".....	" " " "
".....	" ".....	Chas. Krause.....	Gunning without license.....	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
".....	" ".....	William Seblar.....	Dog running at large.....	
Camden.....	" ".....	Luke Armstrong.....	Fishing with more than three hooks.....	Suspended sentence on payment of costs.
Burlington...	" ".....	Alfonso Fresco.....		
Bergen.....	Wardens Ricardo and Kerr.....	Peter Camponemo.....	Killing thrush.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
".....	" ".....	Charles Angelo.....	" bluejay and cedar bird....	" \$40 " " "
Cumberland..	" Conner.....	Walter McDowell.....	Gunning without license.....	" \$25 " " "
Monmouth...	" Stratton.....	Pasquale Sheri.....	Killing robin.....	" \$20 " " "
Middlesex...	" Ayres and Miller.....	Anton Dinkle.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
Monmouth...	" Stratton.....	J. P. Raynor.....	Taking menhaden without license.....	Sentence suspended on payment of costs.
Sussex.....	" Decker.....	Hudson Maxium.....		
Cumberland..	" Phifer.....	Albertis Cambrow.....	Dog running at large.....	" " " "
Gloucester...	" Muller.....	James M. Richardson.....	Shooting ducks from launch.....	Unsettled.
Union.....	Warden Hawkins and Deputy Lester.....	Herman Sauer.....	Dog running at large.....	Fined \$20 and costs.

PROSECUTIONS—Continued.

COUNTY.	COMPLAINANT.	ACCUSED.	CHARGE.	JUDGMENT.
Union.....	Warden Hawkins and Deputy Lester.....	Henry Marrietta.....	Killing finch.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
".....	Warden Hawkins and Deputy Lester.....	Amello Russo.....	Killing cedar bird.....	" " " "
Middlesex.....	Wardens Ayres and Miller.....	Louis Shiel.....	Killing grey squirrel.....	" " " "
Morris.....	Warden Decker.....	Joseph Lynch.....	Sunday gunning.....	" " " "
Cumberland..	" Phifer.....	Peter Battesteen.....	" ".....	" " " "
Essex.....	" Kerr.....	Gustavo Mattea.....	Killing robin.....	" " " "
Middlesex....	" Ayres.....	Louis Buckalew.....	Trapping rabbits.....	" " " "
".....	".....	Richard Sutherland.....	" ".....	" " " "
Camden.....	Deputy Ware.....	Frank Eitting.....	Taking bass less than nine inches..	Thirty days in jail.
".....	".....	Gus Ferera.....	Killing two chewinks.....	" " " "
".....	Warden Guthridge.....	Tony Schanine.....	Gunning without license.....	" " " "
Passaic.....	" Hughes.....	John B. Guttin.....	Possession of two rabbits.....	Fined \$40 and costs.
Warren.....	" Hill.....	Chas. Wysta.....	Possession of one rabbit.....	" \$20 " "
".....	".....	Louis Caski.....	Killing deer.....	" " " "
".....	".....	John Palabbyira.....	" ".....	" " " "
Mercer.....	" Cook.....	Frank Cubery.....	" ".....	Fined \$100 and costs.
".....	".....	Joseph Cubery.....	" ".....	In default of fine, ninety days in jail.
Bergen.....	" Ricardo.....	Tony Gannilla.....	Killing one robin.....	Fined \$20 and costs.
Union.....	Warden Hawkins and Deputy Lester.....	Arthur Grant.....	Killing grey squirrel.....	" " " "
".....	Warden Hawkins and Deputy Lester.....	John Williams.....	Killing one rabbit.....	" " " "

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Receipts and disbursements under an act entitled "An act to provide means to increase the fish production of the waters of this state," approved March 21st, 1895.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., November 1st, 1902.

The Board of Fish and Game Commissioners of the State of New Jersey,

In account with HON. J. WILLARD MORGAN, *Comptroller.*

	<i>Appropriation.</i>	<i>Amount Paid.</i>
Appropriation for salaries of the Fish and Game Protector and Wardens for year ending October 31st, 1902.....	\$15,600 00	
Amount expended by the Commissioners from November 1st, 1901, to October 31st, 1902, under the act approved March 21st, 1895.....		\$15,550 00
Returned to State Comptroller unexpended balance....		50 00
		\$15,600 00
Appropriation for expenses of Fish and Game Protector and Wardens for year ending October 31st, 1902...	5,100 00	
Amount expended by Commission from November 1st, 1901, to October 31st, 1902, under the amendment to act approved March 21st, 1895, which amendment was approved May 4th, 1897.....		5,100 00
Appropriation for expenses of the Board of Fish and Game Commissioners for year ending October 31st, 1902.....	1,000 00	
Amount received from the Comptroller and credited General Expense account of the Commission.....		1,000 00
Appropriation for stocking of waters and distribution of game.....	4,000 00	
Amount of appropriation expended for purchasing fish..		4,000 00
	\$25,700 00	\$25,700 00

GENERAL EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Receipts.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., November 1st, 1902.

*The Board of Fish and Game Commissioners of the State of New Jersey,*In account with HOWARD P. FROTHINGHAM, *Treasurer.*

Balance on hand November 1st, 1901, to credit of Menhaden account (transferred to Stocking account).....	\$2,975 00
Balance on hand November 1st, 1901, to credit of Stocking account....	168 07
Unexpended appropriation for propagation of sturgeon in the Delaware river.....	750 00
Received from sale of sturgeon.....	45 55
Received from license fees to steamers and sailing vessels to catch menhaden (transferred to Stocking account).....	2,400 00
Received from County Clerks for licenses issued by them to non-resi- dent gunners, from April 22d, to October 31st, 1902 (transferred to General Expense account).....	2,770 00
Received from fines collected for violations of the Fish and Game laws, for the year ending October 31st, 1902, being one-third thereof, as provided by law (transferred to General Expense account).....	1,175 07
Received from Hon. J. Willard Morgan appropriation for salaries of Fish and Game Protector and Wardens	15,600 00
Received from Hon. J. Willard Morgan appropriation for expense of Fish and Game Protector and Wardens.....	5,100 00
Received from Hon. J. Willard Morgan appropriation for stocking of waters and distribution of game.....	4,000 00
Received from Hon. J. Willard Morgan appropriation for expenses of the Commission.....	1,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$35,983 69

Disbursements.

Paid for salaries of Fish and Game Protector and Wardens.....	\$15,550 00
Returned to Hon. J. Willard Morgan unexpended balance of appro- priation.....	50 00
Paid for expenses of Fish and Game Protector and Wardens.....	5,100 00
Paid for purchase of fish for stocking purposes and distribution of same..	2,070 08
Paid for propagation of sturgeon in the Delaware river	119 69
Paid for legal expenses in prosecution of cases.....	806 11
Paid Ricketts & Banks for analysis of waters.....	129 90
Paid Frank J. Lore, for detective services, expenses, &c, in prosecution of terrapin cases	646 64
Paid for justice fees.....	135 44
Expenses of the Commission for clerical assistance, &c.....	741 98
Expenses for postage.....	87 00
Expenses for office rent.....	100 00
Expenses for telephone, Fish and Game Protector.....	48 40
Expenses for stationery.....	105 80
Expenses for printing game laws, game cards, non-resident license blanks, permits for taking carp, &c., and distribution of same.....	865 02
	<hr/>
	\$26,556 06

FISH AND GAME COMMISSIONERS.

Forward.....		\$26,556 06
Balance in Paterson National Bank, credited as follows:		
Sturgeon account	\$675 86	
Stocking account	7,472 99	
General Expense account.....	1,278 78	
		<u>9,427 63</u>
		\$35,983 69

The Commission has awarded contracts, amounting to \$7,000, for supplies of trout, bass, food fish and birds, for distribution throughout the State during the months of November and December.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSIONERS.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., November 1st, 1902.

*The Board of Fish and Game Commissioners of the State of New Jersey,*In account with HOWARD P. FROTHINGHAM, *Treasurer.*

Receipts from license to catch menhaden, to steamers and sailing vessels, under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to regulate fishing by steam and other vessels with shirred or purse seines in the waters of the State of New Jersey and to require license for such fishing," approved March 26th, 1896.

STEAMERS.

Licensee.	Name of Vessel.	Date of Issue.	Amount Paid.
The Fisheries Co.....	Quickstep.....	July 8th.....	\$125 00
The Fisheries Co.....	Alaska.....	July 12th.....	125 00
The Fisheries Co.....	Montauk.....	July 12th.....	125 00
The Fisheries Co.....	Joseph Church.....	July 28th.....	200 00
The Fisheries Co.....	Falcon.....	July 28th.....	125 00
The Fisheries Co.....	George W. Humphrey.....	July 28th.....	200 00
The Fisheries Co.....	Ranger.....	July 28th.....	125 00
The Fisheries Co.....	George Curtis.....	July 28th.....	125 00
J. C. Fifield & Sons Co.....	Nellie E. Rawson.....	July 28th.....	100 00
Newport Fertilizer Co.....	Active.....	Aug. 14th.....	100 00
Newport Fertilizer Co.....	Adroit.....	Aug. 14th.....	125 00
Newport Fertilizer Co.....	Ardent.....	Aug. 14th.....	125 00
Wilcox Fertilizer Works.....	Annie L. Wilcox.....	Sept. 18th.....	125 00
The Fisheries Co.....	Arizona.....	Sept. 22d.....	200 00
The Fisheries Co.....	Seaconnet.....	Sept. 22d.....	200 00

SAILING VESSELS.

Harrison Vail.....	Swan.....	May 20th.....	25 00
T. J. Eastman & Co.....	Fenella.....	June 3d.....	25 00
J. Feeney and F. M. Redmond.....	Ruth E. Pemberton.....	June 3d.....	25 00
John J. Hines.....	S. W. Truslow.....	July 3d.....	25 00
George W. Lynch.....	Sir Knight.....	July 17th.....	25 00
Charles F. Warner.....	V. Koon.....	July 18th.....	25 00
George M. Tilton, Jr.....	J. E. De Blois.....	July 22d.....	25 00
Fred. Bishop.....	Lucy Bell.....	July 28th.....	25 00
Miller Longbotham.....	Lady Elgin.....	Aug. 4th.....	25 00
Caleb Post, Jr.....	Frank C. Barker.....	Aug. 11th.....	25 00
John F. Raynor.....	Coming.....	Oct. 20th.....	25 00

 \$2,400 00

FISH AND GAME COMMISSIONERS.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., November 1st, 1902.

The Board of Fish and Game Commissioners of the State of New Jersey,

In account with HOWARD P. FROTHINGHAM, *Treasurer.*

Receipts from County Clerks for licenses issued by them to non-resident gunners, under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to require non-residents to secure license before hunting or gunning within the State of New Jersey, and providing penalties for violation of its provisions," approved April 22d, 1902.

County.	Number of Licenses Issued.	Amount Paid.
Atlantic.....	1	\$10 00
Burlington.....	1	10 00
Camden.....	239	2,390 00
Gloucester.....	12	120 00
Hudson.....	3	30 00
Mercer.....	2	20 00
Monmouth.....	3	30 00
Salem.....	14	140 00
Sussex.....	2	20 00
		<hr/> \$2,770 00

