

from the report of an expert against the going to quote as an expert against the other gentlemen) that all these fish are after the spawning season.

To resume what I was saying, the effect of stopping the catching of the fish at season when they are bad and really suitable for food will be that we shall have a better fish supply.

all over the United States, and an increased market for them and an increased supply, because the catch of sound mackerel will be largely increased. Then I urge this bill, not only on behalf of my constituents, but on behalf of all the people of the United States.

Gentlemen may ask, "What people are keeping out?" and among the cries raised in opposition to this bill is this: "You may wait until these fish get up along the coast of Maine, so that your people can catch them."

The fish proceed northward, and want to shut us out until after the first of June, when they will have commenced spawning that you can catch the whole of them. I have seen a great many of them, but not enough to attempt a steal of that kind (Laughter). What is the fact? Why, the fact is that of the one hundred and eighty-four vessels that are engaged in the mackerel fishery, which we have outside of this harbor, only one is outside of a solitary vessel can be found in Maine and Massachusetts waters. So we have a monopoly. Now, but the truth about it is that, as Captain Collins says in this report, when the fish get well on with spawning in June they dive down or

to accomplish the work. Then the lobster  
another difficulty. When the lobster  
the warm water about the Gulf Stream,  
the lobster and the mackerel muddled together,  
this pursuing them with purse-nets, break-  
them up and drives them way off and  
scattering as well as destroying them.

Why, look at it. In the face of a violent  
authority, to make a mistake to say can  
can have that the destructive agency of m  
will extirpate the whole mackerel tribe fr  
the face of the earth; but I will say that  
every man on the New England coast kno  
that the lobster has almost disappeared.

12 inches long, and I can remember when the ordinary size of the lobsters caught was pretty nearly twice that size; and, according to Mr. Everts there are affidavits on record of the fish being 18 pounds, although I believe the lobster of that weight was not procurable at the time the affidavit was made. [Laughter.] We know that the supply of halibut is not unlimited, and that the Government has regard to a great many other kinds of fish. I am aware that Professor Huxley says there is no proof that the herring has been diminished by the agency of man. But I am not at all about to deny the possibility, I say all the considerations put together render it exceedingly desirable that this experiment

Should be tried.

I hold in my hand the printed statement which I think is probably as conversant with this subject as any other man. He can present it to the committee with the emphatic recommendation of Professor Baird, who has been employed specially to regard the question of conservation and whatever information Professor Baird may have has been derived largely from this gentleman, and I think there is no doubt that that would be great improvement in the quality of our conservation work and that he should be very much urged upon the question of clearing up very much as I have done.

Member.—Who is he?

Mr. Baird.—Maine.—J. W. Collins, a geologist.

One other consideration. Why is it that our people, having complete possession of this fishery, wish it to be closed as proposed in this bill? I have given you one of the reasons, and I think another. It represents a fishery of so poor a character that it does not pay; yet nevertheless we are forced into it, and why? From the same peculiarity of human nature that sustains the Louisiana Lottery. For one hundred and eighty-four years engaged in this fishery three or four make large hauls, and find the business profitable; the others expect the

It may do the same, and if he gets it, it may go into it. Now, all these things will be passed. Let me recapitulate what the bill is a trial proposition for five years to the spawning season, from March until the end of the year, and the value of the fish which will be distributed to the people of the United States. If I have made these points a clear statement, and if you stand in your own mind that this is a matter of serious import to the people. They are deeply concerned in the question, and I know of no opposition to this measure that has not its origin in

other. We propose to stop the catching of these fish during the period named by stopping the importation and sale; and the United States being the only place where the fish will not be caught, their sale here at this time will not be caught.

There is another class of fishermen represented by my friend from New Jersey (Mr. Buchanan), a class with which I confess have sympathy; and I hope, when I proceed to handle this question, to be able to obtain their assent to it; if not, I shall have to submit the vote of the House on that question. I states that the people on the New Jersey

coast are interested in fishing carried on in rowboats; and that this measure, without regard to the interests of the sportsmen from some degree of sustenance during the period to which the prohibition will apply I sympathize with the gentleman's position; for the consideration he presents is of similar character to that presented by the bill for the protection of the game laws of my people. It may be, however, that we can not arrange a close season without injuring somebody. But I trust I have shown the counterbalancing advantages to be so great that this House will not hesitate to give the fishermen of this country what they all demand.

## THE STATE.

### ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY.

The Lewiston Journal says: "Up-  
 Weld, Clerk Cloutier of the board of over-  
 seers of the poor stopped up an outlet for the  
 city money. A family named Piper had  
 been helped by the city funds for a number  
 of years past. Last year it was to the  
 amount of \$114, of which \$11 went to New  
 and \$4 to Portland. Mr. Cloutier says that  
 he has found out that Piper never gained  
 residence in Lewiston, but that he kept mo-

**AROSTOOK COUNTY.**

George Finnegan, a farmer of Hodgdonville leading an unruly horse to water Saturday afternoon, was thrown down and, it means of the halter becoming entangled around his neck, dragged a long distance receiving injuries which resulted fatal Monday. He was 33 years of age, and leave a widow and one child.

**HANCOCK COUNTY.**

A Bar Harbor correspondent of the Bangor Commercial says that there are only two cases of diphtheria there, and those are very light ones.

LINCOLN COUNTY.

Some of the East Boothbay mackerel fishermen are doing well this spring. Capt. L. McKown took \$3,000 in eight days, says the Lincoln County News.

Lincoln and Sagadahoc Conference will hold its annual session with the Congregational church at North Edgecomb, June 8 and 9, says the Damariscott Herald. Re-

The friends and pew-holders of the Congregational church at Washington voted to expend \$1,000 in repairs on the building, with the addition of a tower at the bell, says the Lincoln News.

PENOBSCOT COUNTY.

The anniversary exercises at Bangor Theological Seminary occur Tuesday and Wednesday next, June 1st and 2d.

The parties who bought the wreck of the steamer Canby last short time ago for \$1.00 are making very good money.

securing the different portions of the machinery. The chains, anchors and condensa have already been hauled up and several efforts have been made to hoist the boilers, which will probably be successfully accomplished, it is thought.

The Winona, the new steamer building for Mr. Charles S. Pearl, will probably be completed in about ten days. She is for use on the lake and will probably be a very fast little boat.

SAGADAHOC COUNTY.

The State Conference of Congregation churches will assemble in Bath, June 10.

June 15th. Rev. G. W. Field, D. D., of Bangor is to read a paper before the conference.

SOMERSET COUNTY.

Hartland on Saturday voted unanimously to subscribe \$18,000 toward the proposed railroad to Pittsfield. There is a good chance that the ultimate route will be toward a connection with the Canadian Pacific at Moosehead Lake. The depth of the interest in the project may be realized from the fact that 201 votes were thrown, and every one is the affirmative. It is thought that this action will secure the necessary amount of money to build the road to Pittsfield on the Maine Central.

WALDO COUNTY.

Geo. E. Brackett of Belfast, Secretary, of the Good Templars of Maine, started Thursday for Richmond, Va., to attend the annual session of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge which is the head of the order in the world and corresponded with the Grand Master, Thompson, Esq., a well known citizen of Knox, died Friday night. Mr. Thompson was a successful school teacher and served the town for many years as school supervisor and committee. He was a leading member of the North Montville Free Baptist church.

The death of Joel Dorman Steele Elmira, N. Y., a prominent scientific author is announced. He died from rheumatism the heart.