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Facts About the Lobster.

Last June, when the American Fisheries Society met at the World's Fair, in Chicago to elect officers for the ensuing year and to discuss the various matters relating to fish, fisheries and fish culture, Fred Mather presented some interesting remarks on the common lobster, as a result of the observation of himself and others. The following is what he said:

"Within a few years much has been learned of the life history of our common lobster that we did not know before. We knew that the female carried the eggs after extrusion, attached in masses to the so-called swimmerets under the abdomen, which is improperly called the 'tail,' and that they hatched there. In Bell's 'British Crustacea' it is said that the mother cares for the young after hatching and can recall them for protection. My own observations are that the young scatter and find protection in the rocks.

"I am satisfied that the lobster carries her eggs all winter, and that all those laid after the middle of July, in Long Island Sound, will not hatch the same year, but eggs taken late last year afford a chance to give some figures which may be of value. On August 11, 1892, we took from twelve lobsters forty-three fluid ounces of eggs, which by actual count measured 6,000 to the ounce, and on August 16 took from thirty-three lobsters ninety-four ounces, making in all 822,000 eggs or 18,266 per lobster. We could not keep these eggs all winter, and they showed only slight development a month later.

"No work that has occupied the attention of fish culturists compares with what may be done in replacing the lobster industry on the footing which it held in comparison to the population of the country forty years ago. Then a lobster of five pounds was a small one, now one-half of that weight is large, and the numbers have decreased in even greater proportion. The only things that approach the importance of lobster culture in economic importance is the hatching of white fish on the Great Lakes, and the shad in the rivers; the trout and salmon will not compare with the lobster in value, if the latter can be increased as the former have been.

"It is possible to bring this neglected branch of fish culture to a point where it will, on the seaboard, at least, overshadow the other branches in which we have been engaged.

"After making notes about lobsters carrying their eggs all winter, when laid after July 15, I received the following letter from Prof. Samuel Garman, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass., dated August 30, 1892:

Mr. Fred Mather: DEAR SIR:—I am very glad to get your reports and to know that you are pushing inquiries into the life-history of the lobster and the fishes which you propagate. I take pleasure in sending you a little report of my own on the lobster.

Very truly, S. GARMAN. "To say just how I rejoiced to find that Prof. Garman's studies confirmed my own crude observations is beyond my power. It is pleasant to have one's ideas confirmed by any one who has studied the subject more than he has; but I will quote Prof. Garman's paper entire:

REPORT ON THE LOBSTER—BY S. GARMAN. MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY, CAMBRIDGE, MASS., Dec. 17, 1891.

The Hon. E. A. Brackett, Massachusetts State Fishery Commissioner:

SIR.—Yours, with inquiries regarding the conclusions reached in the study of the lobster is at hand. While unavoidable delay in the drawings prevents placing the complete matter in your hands, it is quite

possible to give you in a few words a general idea of the results and their bearings, such as will no doubt sufficiently answer your questions.

According to the arrangements made, some of the eggs from berried lobsters kept for the purpose were sent me at regular intervals through an entire year. These eggs were at once examined to note their progress in development, and they were then preserved by various methods for future studies and comparisons. After their young were hatched the females themselves were dissected, to observe the condition of their ovaries, and to determine the time when another lot of eggs might be expected from them. As our work began in mid-winter it was necessary to follow certain specimens up to the hatching, and then to take others to complete their series for the laying. Eggs supplied me as freshly laid were so far advanced as to indicate that fertilization had taken place before they were placed under the tail of the lobster bearing them. The time and process of fertilization has not been discovered; but in all likelihood the marine lobster does not differ greatly in these respects from its fresh water relatives, the cray-fishes. In the case of the latter the male seeks the female some time before the egg are laid and deposits the fertilizing matter on the upper side of the body, near the external openings of the oviducts, where it adheres for a time as a whitish mass. How the fertilizing elements, the spermatozoa, came in contact with the eggs and enter them, has not yet been observed. The development of the embryo in eggs laid on August 7 or 8 was so rapid that on September 3 the eyes were visible as thin crescent-shaped spots. As the water grew colder the progress retarded, until the changes were very slight indeed. This condition was maintained throughout the winter, and it was only when the summer temperature was reached that rapidity of advancement was again to be noted. The young began to hatch on the 14th of July; all of the eggs on a female seeming to be about equally advanced, the entire brood emerged at very nearly the same time. Examination of the ovaries, after their young had left, showed that the females would not have laid eggs again for a year; that is, not before the summer following that in which they had hatched a brood. In other words, the dissections proved that the lobster lays only once in two years, hatching a brood one summer and laying eggs the next following summer for another brood. The time required in the development of the embryo is so long as to preclude hatching the eggs under ordinary circumstances during the summer in which they are laid. Artificial conditions might readily be brought about, by heating the water in which the specimens are kept, which would hasten the progress and greatly shorten the period between laying and hatching; but normally the winter temperature induces an almost complete suspension of advancement.

By the small number of specimens kept, it was not possible to fix the lengths of either the laying or hatching periods. This, however, may be approximately done in connection with observation made by the United States Fish Commissions. It must be borne in mind, in this connection, that the seasons south of Cape Cod begin earlier and last longer than in Massachusetts Bay, and that further north they will be still more contracted. Variations must also be expected in different years, as the seasons are earlier or later, and in different localities as the waters are warmer or colder. Though the bulk of the laying or hatching in any particular year occurs within periods of two or three weeks, probably four-fifths of either is finished in less than a fortnight; to make allowance for the early years and for the late one and to include the early and the belated individuals, it becomes necessary to considerably extend the general periods. From all that has been gathered we may summarize as follows: (1) The female lays eggs but once in two years, the layings being two years apart; (2) the normal time of laying is when the water has reached its summer temperature, varying in different seasons and places, the period extending from about the middle of June till about the 1st of September, and (3) the eggs do not hatch before the summer following that in which they were laid, the time of hatching varying with the temperature, and the period extending from about the middle of May till about the 1st of August. I have the honor to be very respectfully yours, S. GARMAN.

"This represents all that is known of the life history of the lobster to-day. Our plants from the eggs taken July 8, 1892, were made on July 12 and 20, and was probably the last of the eggs laid the summer before. I do not believe that the lobster lays eggs all the year round, as has been said. The animal leaves the 'cravels' in cold weather and seeks a depth where the temperature is higher, and the

lobstermen shift their pots in accordance with this migration."

"When it is remembered that the eggs which we get would be sent to market, boiled with the lobsters and thrown away with the shells, it will be seen what may be done in lobster culture with proper facilities. The lobster is easier to catch than a rabbit, for it has less sense, and when it sees a lobster pot with its bait, it seems to have found its heaven of rest, and it has."

The decrease of the number of lobsters from Newfoundland to New Jersey has been accompanied by a decrease in size and a corresponding increase in price per pound. In proof of this I will quote from the Scientific American: "The depletion of the lobster fisheries has been especially noticeable in Canada. The report of 1888 showed a decrease in the value of exports of \$350,000 as compared with the previous year, although there had been an advance in price of 25 per cent. The value of the Canadian lobster fishery in 1888 was \$1,483,388; in 1886, \$2,638,394; in 1885, \$1,613,731."

"Could figures speak plainer than these?"

Up to June 11, this year, we have planted 85,350 young lobsters, and have on hand 510,000 eggs. We cannot keep the young many days, because they are cannibals, and as they moult about three times in the first ten days and are then soft their brethren devour them. I have fed them crab and lobster meat, clams and beef, with the hope of bribing them to refrain from eating their fellows, but did not succeed. They are persistent cannibals, and must be put out at a few days old on rocky bottom, where there are always hiding places for a soft lobster to remain until his skin hardens into a new and larger shell."

AFFLICTED FROM INFANCY.

A Lad who had been Dropped from His Childhood Cured by Doid's Kidney Pills—the Remedy that Never Fails.

McINTYRE, Ont., June 4.—The young son of Hugh Lamont of this place has been afflicted with dropsy from infancy. He was bloated and swollen all over. His parents were at their wits end to find some cure for him when they read of Doid's Kidney Pills. Mr. Lamont got six boxes of the pills and the boy began taking them. Before the sixth box was finished he was cured. It doesn't matter whether the patient is young or old, the pills will effect a cure of any kidney disease or of any disease arising from disordered kidneys.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION COLUMN.

All Communications to this Column Should be Addressed to Mrs. J. Stevenson, Secretary W. C. T. U., Richibucto.

"Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief as a law."—Psa. 94:20.

The Stupendous Failure of High License.

By A. G. WOLFENBARGER, Esq. The high license craze has run its course in the United States and has been subject to the most crucial tests that can be applied to any policy of legislation. It has been tried twelve years and its history may now be impartially written.

THE FIRST HIGH LICENSE STATE.

The state of Nebraska, of which I am now, and have been for nearly fourteen years, a citizen and resident, was the first to adopt high license as a general law. It was adopted as a compromise to defeat a prohibitory measure. It was not until after the practically accomplished defeat of prohibition in the Nebraska legislature of 1881, that Hon John B. Finch, the great national leader of the prohibitionists, consented to try high license as a partial remedy for the appalling evils of intemperance. All the intelligent world of reformers know how deeply Mr. Finch regretted that he ever had anything to do with the statute, which literally "justifies the wicked for reward and takes away the righteousness of the righteous from him." In 1885 Mr. Finch said: "I know I was terribly mistaken in my theories. Many of the delusions urged in defense of high license have been exploded by the trial of the law."

A NOTABLE OPINION.

Hon. W. H. Hardy, ex-mayor of Lincoln, is commonly known as the "Father of High License." He was a co-laborer and warm personal friend of Finch. Mr. Hardy assisted in putting the law to the most favorable tests, only to find that it was the most stupendous failure of the age as a remedial agent for the wrongs and outrages of the liquor traffic. He has for many years widely proclaimed his conversion, resulting from practical experience with the law.

He discovered and called attention to the fact that high license does not decrease the unlicensed drinking places. There were at one time in Omaha ninety-one persons holding United States government permits to sell liquors, who had no license from any city or state authority whatever. In the city of Lincoln there were seventeen of these prima facie illicit vendors. Yet Omaha then had 276 regularly licensed saloons, paying \$1,000 each for the privilege of running openly, Lincoln then had thirty-two such at \$1,000 license each.

It must not be forgotten that the lowest license fee for selling any intoxicating beverages in Nebraska is \$500 per year. In cities containing 10,000 or more population, the minimum license fee is \$1,000 to be paid in advance (as are all liquor licenses) into the local treasury for the benefit of the school fund. Ex-mayor Hardy, in 1890, after nine years trial of the law, wrote:—

"There is now no longer any excuse for being deceived as we were. The fraud has been tested and found wanting. I was first elected mayor of Lincoln in 1877, and again re-elected at the close of my first term. I thought at the time I had done a good thing to reduce the number of saloons from 22 to 5, but when I found it did not lessen the curse, I saw my mistake. There are just as many stabbings, shootings and pounded noses as ever there were, just as many broken homes, crying wives and ragged children. It is no great consolation to a houseless, hungry, crying wife to tell her that her husband got drunk on High License whiskey. High License is one of the Devil's best devices to deceive good temperance people. Then to think I was his first agent on Earth to start it! Don't you think I ought to do something to atone for such conduct?"

THE POLITICAL FATHER OF THE LAW.

The Nebraska law was presented and championed by Hon. C. B. Slocumb, a man who really desired to witness the best results of the measure with which his name was historically and politically linked. He lived to see it tested and said to a friend as he lay on his deathbed: "I was honest in this matter, but it was the mistake of my life. The law as a temperance measure is an utter failure."

RELIGIOUS BODIES CONDEMN THE LAW.

The Baptist Convention of Nebraska, Nov. 2, 1888 declared: "We condemn the High License system of Nebraska as morally wrong, and a compromise with the powers of darkness, under which the liquor traffic has been fostered and developed, until it has become a united and mighty power of evil, and a controlling influence in the politics and legislation of our State."

The Presbyterian Synod of Nebraska, the same year, declared:

"We have no faith in compromise, no faith in license, high or low. In the name of God and humanity, we demand that the saloon be made an outlaw in the State and in the nation. We want no fellowship with the untruthful works of darkness. We want no blood money to pay our taxes, and to educate our children. We want no legal enactment to protect this national nuisance from the vengeance of an outraged people."

The Methodist Episcopal Conference of Nebraska in 1888 adopted the following by an overwhelming vote:

"That we will adhere to and support only that party which is entirely committed to the principle of the complete legal prohibition of the traffic in alcoholic drinks as the duty of civil government." (TO BE CONTINUED.)

Don't Delay.

It is your duty to yourself to get rid of the foul accumulation in your blood this spring. Hood's Sarsaparilla is just the medicine you need to purify, vitalize and enrich your blood. That tired feeling which affects nearly every one in the spring is driven off by Hood's Sarsaparilla the great spring medicine and blood purifier.

Hood's Pills become the favorite cathartic with everyone who tries them.

Branded Pies—A True Story.

A lady writing to the Episcopal Recorder vows for the truth of the following story:

One cold winter's night a reformed man with his wife and daughter, who lived in the country, visited some friends at a distance. After spending a pleasant evening, they arose to leave, when they were urged to take some freshly baked mince-pie. After some hesitation they consented. When they were seated in the sleigh, the man turned to his wife and said, "Wife, I am lost; that piece of pie has aroused the demon of drink in me." He stopped his horses at the first tavern, and insisted on getting out for a drink. Of course, the wife and daughter were helpless; the second and third taverns were reached, and again the temptation was yielded to. Remonstrance was in vain. They reached home, and instead of putting away the horses he drove to the nearest tavern, and spent the rest of the night in a drunken

debauch. The next morning he was found dead by the roadside. His poor suffering wife died of a broken heart, and his daughter ended her days in an insane asylum. One piece of braided mince pie and this the result—for these are facts.

Another case was that of a young girl who had contracted the habit of drinking but had reformed. She was to be married at a certain time if she would keep her pledge. Her mistress insisted upon her putting brandy in the mince meat. She did so. In a short time she disappeared, and some time afterward it was ascertained that she had become drunk, and in utter despair of ever being able to stand had drowned herself.

RELIEF IN SIX HOURS.—Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE." This new remedy is a great surprise and delight on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is your remedy. Sold by W. W. Short.

Fenced His Wife Here.

On one occasion Judge Andrew Elison was trying an important case at Macon City, Ga., and was desired to rush it through in order to make way for another case coming up next morning, says the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The court instructed the jury and court officials to return after supper that night, as it was intended to hold a night session. At 7 o'clock all the officers, numerous witnesses and the jury, with one exception, were promptly on hand. Of course, nothing could be done without the absent jurymen. The minutes ran into hours, and still the prodigal didn't return. At a late hour court adjourned without having accomplished anything. Next morning sharp at 9 o'clock the twelve jurymen were in the box. His honor scanned the crowd, and asked for the truant. He was pointed out, and the court ordered him to stand up.

"Mr.—" said the judge, addressing the delinquent, "didn't you understand the order of the court last night requiring the jury to be on hand after supper?"

"Yes, your honor," said the jurymen, explaining, "but you see I live quite a ways out of town, and my wife gave me an order prior to the court's order, and her order was that I should not stay in town over night. I considered the matter and concluded it was safer to risk your honor's displeasure than her's, because," he added, earnestly, "I know her!"

The court looked solemn a moment as if weighing some mighty problem, then a smile started across his face, and the bar, court officers and spectators broke out in tumultuous laughter. The jurymen was forgiven; there were many there who could, perhaps, appreciate his position.

R. S. CROWE, Esq., PLEASANT STREET, TRURO, N. S., writes: "It is with pleasure I testify to the great merits of K. D. C. which is undoubtedly worthy of the name, 'The King of Cures.' I have been troubled for over a year with acidity and flatulency and heartburn, and now after using but three packages of K. D. C., I am happy to state that I am completely free from these troubles. A cured man."

Free sample mailed to any address, K. D. C. Co., Ltd., New Glasgow, N. S., and 127 State Street, Boston, Mass.

They Want Names.

Frank S. Taggart & Co., 89 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario, desire the names and addresses of a few people in every town who are interested in works of art, and to secure them they offer to send free, "Cupid Guides the Boat," a superbly executed water-color picture, size 10 x 13 inches, suitable for framing, and sixteen other pictures about same size, in colors, to any one sending them at once the names and addresses of ten persons (admirers of fine pictures) together with five three-cent stamps to cover expense of mailing, etc. The regular price of these pictures is \$1.00 but they can all be secured free by any person forwarding the names and stamps promptly.

Note.—The editor of this paper has already received copies of above pictures and considers them really "Gems of Art."

A BOON TO HORSEMEN.—One bottle of English Spavin Liniment completely removed a curb from my horse. I take pleasure in recommending the remedy, as it acts with mysterious promptness in the removal from horses of hard, soft or calloused lumps, blood spavin, splints, curbs, swellings, stifles and sprains.

GEORGE ROSS, Farmer, Markham, Ont.

Sold by W. W. Short.