

The accompanying account will shew the particulars of the receipts and expenditure from 1st January 1852 to 1st January 1853.

Respectfully submitted.

1st January 1853.

CHARLES SIMONDS,
THOMAS ALLAN,
Commissioners of Police in the Parish of Portland.

Charles Simonds appeared before me and made oath that the foregoing Report is just and true.

THOMAS ALLAN, J. Peace.

1st January 1853.

Audit Office, 24th January, 1853.

Report upon the Account of the Honorable Charles Simonds and Thomas Allan, Esquire, Commissioners of Police in Portland, for the year 1852.

The Commissioners state this sum to have been in their hands on the								
1st January 1852, ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	£261 17 9
They received during the year,								
From Jacob Allan, Esquire, ....	....	....	....	....	....	£129	9 0	
“ H. G. Simonds, ....	....	....	....	....	....	131	17 6	
“ F. S. Jones, ....	....	....	....	....	....	454	10 8—	715 17 2 .
								<u>£977 14 11</u>
They disbursed during the year,								
Salary of Magistrate, ....	....	....	....	....	....	£100	0 0	
Sitting Magistrate, 78 days, at 15s. ....	....	....	....	....	....	58	10 0	
Wages of Police, ....	....	....	....	....	....	386	10 6	
Gas and Candles, ....	....	....	....	....	....	85	18 8	
Stationery and Blank Books, ....	....	....	....	....	....	11	6 8½	
Fuel, ....	....	....	....	....	....	11	0 7½	
Rent, ....	....	....	....	....	....	18	0 0	
Assessors' fee, ....	....	....	....	....	....	16	10 0	
Clerkship, ....	....	....	....	....	....	5	0 0—	700 12 0
								<u>£277 2 11</u>
Balance in Commissioners hands December 31, 1852, ....	....	....	....	....	....	£277	2 11	

The Account is correctly made up, but unaccompanied by vouchers; it is sworn to by Commissioner Simonds, and is accompanied by a Report and a Letter from the Commissioners, which are herewith furnished.

F. P. ROBINSON.

FISHERIES.

REPORT FROM FISH WARDENS IN THE COUNTY OF CHARLOTTE.

Campo Bello, N. B., February 24, 1853.

SIR,—We beg to lay before you the following short Report on the Fisheries in the district under our control:—

As we consider Grand Manan the most important Station, both with regard to its Deep Sea and In-shore Fisheries, we would strongly recommend that the Law passed 19th March 1827, and which has been renewed from time to time, and which Law expired May 1852, be revived, with the alterations suggested by us last year, and which were forwarded to the Hon. John H. Gray in due course.

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In consequence of the expiring of the above mentioned Act, there were no Overseers had any authority to act, and it left the Wardens virtually without power to enforce some of the most necessary regulations for the protection of the Fisheries.

We would beg to instance two of the most important evils, viz. the Gurrie Grounds, and the regulation as to the size of Gates in Weirs. We took the matter in hand, although we had no Law to guide us, and for the time being established Gurrie Grounds and regulated the size of Gates in some Weirs, in consequence of hearing that large bodies of Fish had died in them from the insufficiency of the Gates to give them egress. We were however unable to prosecute for want of a law.

The Southern Head Spawning Grounds have been well preserved this year by the praise worthy exertions of Captain Kynaston, of Her Majesty's Ketch Nettly, and if persevered in, will be of lasting benefit to the Herring Fisheries. Even this year a marked increase has been felt in the catch of Herring for smoking, a large and increasing branch of the Fisheries. It is our belief that the large quantity of small Herring on our Coast, and especially in Quoddy River, where they have been in large quantities this season and up to this date, is mainly attributable to the preserving of the Southern Head Spawning Ground, and would strongly recommend that the Law be still kept in force. That the Cutter, or whatever vessel may be stationed for its preservation, be allowed the use of a net to supply the inhabitants of the Head with bait, at the Captain's or the Warden's discretion.

We have also paid due attention to the River Fisheries in the district, and believe if the present Law is kept in force, and parties rigorously prosecuted for the infraction thereof, will be the means of restoring those all but lost Fisheries.

We would call your attention particularly to the evil of throwing slabs and edgings into the streams, believing that the penalty for this infraction is quite inadequate. Many places now in the Saint Croix River, where a vessel could formerly lay afloat and take in cargo, is now dry at low water. We have conversed with many influential persons on the American side of the River, who coincide in our views of the matter, who say that the Fishery Committee who are all-powerful there, will coalesce with us in any measure for the preservation of the Fisheries. Seeing that it will be for their interest to carry out our views on the subject, as, apart from the Fishery question altogether, if the throwing of slabs and edgings into the River is persisted in a few years longer, will become a serious obstacle to the navigation, and we would strongly recommend a heavy penalty, and that the Mill-owners and Lessees be the responsible parties for the infraction of the Law.

We are happy to state that there are Fish-ways in all the dams on the Saint Croix River; this has been accomplished with much trouble but little litigation.

There are no streams now, that we are aware of, that fish have been in the habit of frequenting in any quantities, but what have Fish-ways in them.

This is now the second year that we have fulfilled the duties of Fishwardens to the best of our abilities, for which we have received no remuneration. We have spoken to several of the Magistrates of this County on the subject of the moiety to be paid by them, but up to this time have received no satisfaction, and we understand that it has never yet been brought before the Sessions; and we would request that you may take measures to insure the payment of the sum named in the Act as a remuneration for our services, as well as reimbursing us for expenses incurred in the execution of our duties. All of which we respectfully submit, and have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble servants,

JOHN ALEXANDER,
JAMES BROWN,
Fish Wardens, County Charlotte.

His Excellency Sir E. W. Head, Bart., Lieut. Governor,
Province of New Brunswick.