

II.—REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES FISH COMMISSION STEAMER LOOKOUT FROM MARCH 31, 1881, TO NOVEMBER 20, 1882.

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The following is a report of the operations of the United States Fish Commission steamer Lookout while under my command.

On the 31st of March, 1881, I relieved Mate James W. Baxter, the vessel then lying in Baltimore Harbor:

Left Baltimore on the 6th of April with a large scow in tow loaded with lumber and arrived with it at Saint Jerome's Creek on the afternoon of the 7th. The next day we proceeded up the Potomac to Washington, where we lay refitting until April 20.

On the 20th got under way for a cruise to the hatching grounds in Albemarle Sound and intermediate points.

We left Albemarle Sound on April 26 and reached Washington again on the 30th, having touched at Fisherman's Inlet, Virginia, Saint Jerome's Creek, Maryland, and several of the Potomac fishing shores on the way up.

On the 3d of May commenced making daily trips to the fishing shores collecting eggs and carrying them to the hatching-house at the Washington navy-yard. The work was interrupted on the 8th to make a trip to Saint Jerome's. Returning to Washington on the 10th resumed the collection of shad eggs. On the 22d took from the hatching station at Gunson's Cove about 1,000,000 shad fry, carried them across the Chesapeake and deposited them in the headwaters of the Choptank River. Arrived back at Washington on the 24th and continued the shad work until the 31st. Then commenced refitting and overhauling preparatory to a cruise on the New England coast.

Left Washington on the 22d of June, touched at Saint Jerome's, Mob Jack Bay, Cherrystone Inlet, Fortress Monroe, Norfolk, Va., and left the Bay bound north on the 29th. Arrived in Newport on the 3d of July, touching at New York and New London on the way. Then cruised on the New England coast until the beginning of October, going as far north as New Brunswick.

We left Newport October 4 for Baltimore, touching at Wilmington, Del., and Havre de Grace. We left Baltimore on the 17th of October for Yorktown, Va., returning to Baltimore on the 21st.

Sailed for Saint Jerome's on the 25th and arrived in Washington on

the 28th. We left again on the 11th of November, bound for Havre de Grace, with a scow and other stores for the fishing battery on board; arrived there on the 13th, and remained until the 26th, the crew being employed in various ways at the Battery Island.

On the 26th loaded with lumber for Saint Jerome's, waited for orders three days in Annapolis on the way down, arrived November 30 at Saint Jerome's, and December 1 in Washington.

We left again for Saint Jerome's on the 6th, dredged oysters for several days, and then proceeded to Havre de Grace, arriving there on the 11th of December. On the 13th went to Annapolis, Md., and on the receipt of a number of carp carried them up the Severn River and let them go near Indian Landing.

Left Annapolis on the 19th, arriving at Washington on the 21st, having touched at Saint Jerome's on the way round.

Remained at the Washington yard, overhauling and preparing hatching outfit for the coming season, until March 4, when we left for Saint Jerome's and Havre de Grace, arriving at the latter place on the 7th. On the 11th we ran down to Baltimore, returning on the 14th. On the 15th started for Annapolis with a delegation of citizens of Port Deposit and Havre de Grace, landing them at Annapolis that evening.

Remained at Annapolis until the 23d, when we started for Washington, arriving on the 24th. Remained until April 2. On that day made a run down as far as Potomac Creek to see what shores were fishing and with what success.

Returned to Washington on the 3d, and left again same day, with launch No. 55 in tow, for Havre de Grace, arriving on the 5th; remained until the 11th, with the crew employed on shore; then proceeded to Washington, touching at Baltimore and Saint Jerome's on the way.

On the 18th of April, 1882, commenced the spring shad work on the upper Potomac, the hatching-house at the navy-yard having also been placed under my control, with Masters W. C. Babcock and A. C. Baker as assistants.

This work was carried on until the 1st of June, the Lookout making daily trips to the fishing shores and bringing the eggs to the hatching-house to be hatched. A detailed report of all this work has already been submitted.

On the 3d of June the vessel went onto the marine railway at the navy-yard for repairs, and was launched again on the 12th. On the 15th it left for a cruise on the lower Chesapeake, touching at Saint Jerome's, Fort Monroe, Norfolk, Newport News, and returning to Washington on the 23d, where we remained until the 8th of July, when we again ran down to Saint Jerome's, returning on the 11th.

On the 17th left Washington at 10.11 a. m., bound for New York, and arrived there at 6.20 a. m. of the 19th, making no stops en route.

Left New York on the 21st of July, and arrived at Block Island on the 23d, having touched at New London on the way. The remain-

ing portion of the summer cruised on the New England coast; left Newport, R. I., bound south, September 30, arriving in Baltimore October 6, having been delayed several days in New York by break in the canal.

Left Baltimore October 31 for Havre de Grace, arriving there the same day; returned to Baltimore again on the 7th of November, and after coaling proceeded to Washington, touching at Annapolis, and arriving on the 9th.

Got under way on the 15th for Havre de Grace, touching at Saint Jerome's, and arriving on the 16th. On the 20th of November, 1882, I turned the vessel over to Chief Quartermaster William Hamlen and proceeded to Washington to take command of the Fish Hawk.