

At the time of my visit at Bedford the river was extremely low, consequently no fish could pass up it; a short time previous, during a rise of the water, some thirty or forty salmon had passed up the dam, and were caught in the weir fitted up for that purpose. These fish were kept confined in the small race-way near by, and were held to be the product of the first year's hatching from this nursery.

In corroboration of this opinion it may be stated that quite a number of small-sized salmon were reported by the fishermen to have been taken in the Basin during the season, a circumstance not hitherto known.

The operations at this establishment since its commencement have been very satisfactory in the rearing and distribution of large numbers of salmon fry; while at the same time it has laboured under greater difficulties than the other hatcheries in getting its supplies of eggs, as they have to be gathered at long distances from the site of the institution.

This method of getting supplies of ova must necessarily incur considerable expense, which in part might be lessened by building a pond alongside the Bedford works, just at the head of tide-way, and a number of salmon might be caught in the basin or bay below during the summer season and safely kept in this reservoir. Natural facilities are at hand for doing this work cheaply, and a little expense would easily accomplish this end.

The numbers of breeding-fish captured for the use of this hatchery were considerably less than in the previous year. This is accounted for by the high state of the water, which prevailed at the time of netting them. The total number taken was three hundred and fifty-eight, of which two hundred and twelve were females. These gave *one million nine hundred and fifty thousand ova*, being a trifle over nine thousand eggs from each fish.

Two small lots of these eggs were transferred to the newly-erected hatcheries in Prince Edward Island, and St. John River, N.B., leaving about *a million and a-half* for the Bedford House. A quantity of these met with a heavy loss, some four hundred and fifty thousand proving useless. This, it is alleged, was caused by exposure to extreme cold during transportation. A considerable number of those sent to Prince Edward Island and St. John River suffered in a similar manner.

The latest accounts from Bedford report the balance of nine hundred and forty thousand left on the trays. These are showing the embryos within them quite plainly, and giving evidence of a fruitful crop of fry for the coming season.

The quantity of young fish hatched out at this nursery last season was very large, and their transportation to the several points chosen for their future growth was accomplished with much satisfaction.

One million seven hundred and forty thousand young salmon were distributed from the Bedford establishment, in no less than thirty-five of the most important rivers of Nova Scotia, in the following counties, namely, Halifax, Hants, Kings, Cumberland, Pictou, Colchester and Annapolis.

Total number of salmon fry turned out of this nursery, spring of 1879, was.....	1,740,000
Total number of eggs laid down, fall 1879.....	1,400,000
Grand total of fry turned out since erection of hatchery...	4,535,000

PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

DUNK RIVER FISH-BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT.

This newly-constructed hatchery received due notice at the opening of this report, consequently the reference now made to it will be brief, and only relate to the numbers of salmon that entered the reception-house and the mode of capturing them, and to the numbers of vitalized eggs that were laid upon the hatching-trays.