

The success in removing all the young fish was very great. I went myself to Grand River with 25,000, and travelled two nights, changing the water as often as we deemed necessary; and, on arrival at Grand River, I took a scow and went six miles up the river; it was satisfactory to find that only about 60 fish had died in the two casks. This trip was made as an experiment, and proves that salmon-fry can be carried long distances by land with care and attention. Another season I will endeavour to transport them by steamer to Grand Pabos and Grand River, being less expensive, but not so reliable in case of rough weather.

On 25th May, a net was set in Dartmouth River, and by the 8th June, forty-two salmon had been caught; next day, 9th June, we were compelled to raise the net, on account of a heavy rain fall. It was put out again 15th June, and, fortunately, we were not forced to remove it again until 22nd July, when all was taken up, river rising fast, with heavy rain storm, by this time 232 salmon had been captured. There was no chance of setting our net again in July or August on account of continual wet weather. I am pleased to have to state that these salmon, 232 in number, did remarkably well in Pond No. 2, only four died during the season.

Seventeen fish were purchased from net fishermen, and placed in Pond No. 1. Out of these two died, and two others leaped the floom, as only 13 could be found in October; these all looked very healthy and well.

At spawning time there were 147 female fish, and 81 males, at Pond No. 2, also eight females and five males below, making in all of 155 female salmon, and 86 male—total 241.

The work of manipulating these fish commenced on 12th October, and was completed the 1st November. The number of ova obtained, and successfully placed in the hatching-house, was 1,650,000, all at present looking very well, and I trust a large number of young fry will be the result of our operations.

Indispensable repairs were made at the upper dam of Pond No. 2, which, although considered safe last year, gave way this spring, but is now, I hope, as safe as it can be made against freshets. Scows, and all apparatus used for fishing, have been secured for winter, and the establishment banked with sea-weed.

In order to prevent the possibility of fish escaping at the lower pond, a good wooden railing has been placed all along the dam.

The troughs were all properly dried and varnished, as also the trays; the posts and outside of the troughs were painted, and the outside of the building was covered with fire-proof paint.

Galvanized iron stovepipes were procured from Quebec, and some necessary repairs made to the stove. Three and a-half tons of coal have been purchased.

The flow of water, and the working of the establishment is at present in a very satisfactory condition.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

PHILIP VIBERT,

Fishery Officer in charge of the Gaspé

Fish-Breeding Establishment.

RESTIGOUCHE ESTABLISHMENT.

MATAPEDIA, 31st December, 1878.

To the Hon. JAMES C. POPE,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa.

SIR,—In accordance with Mr. Wilmot's instructions the auxiliary dam at Indian House was thoroughly repaired and gravelled, and the work has proved most satisfactory, now being able to raise a head of six feet of water.