

Mr. Charles Gauthier had some 19,000 fish at his different stations, and was going to remove all these fish alive to his pond at "Petit Coté." As Mr. Wilmot was determined to get eggs for the house, he told me to see Mr. Gauthier and make arrangements with him for spawning the fish as they were removed to his pond, and I bargained with Mr. Gauthier to allow him at the rate of (\$10) ten dollars per hundred fish for all the spawning fish and for those we might kill in handling.

In spawning the fish we killed eight hundred out of the nineteen thousand, and got in the neighbourhood of eighteen millions of eggs, at this date a very large proportion are shewing the embryos. We never can hatch as large a percentage of eggs, especially when they are taken so late in the season and from small fish. In this second lot of eggs the percentage was about the same as usual up to the 20th of the month. We lost a large number about the 23rd; since then I cannot see that we have lost anything of much importance. I had two cans of eggs expressly picked out at that date (23rd December) to see how many would go bad, and have only lost in the two cans, containing each 100,000, about 4,000 eggs, and have come to the conclusion that we will have no further loss of any importance this season.

The fish caught here this season were much smaller than the usual run of whitefish of the Detroit River. There were hundreds of young whitefish caught that would not weigh more than half a pound.

I hope your Department will see proper to lay down at least sixty million eggs next season. To do this we will require a larger supply pipe from the river, and also a larger engine. I also hope your Department will allow a trial to be made to hatch a quantity of the pickerel eggs here in the spring, as they will not interfere with the hatching of the whitefish. Mr. Gauthier says the pickerel eggs can be got in millions near Port Huron.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES NEVIN,

*Officer in Charge.*

---

### GASPE HATCHERY.

GASPÉ BASIN, 31st December, 1879.

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

SIR,—I beg to submit to you an account of the operations connected with the Fish-breeding Establishment here during the past year.

The salmon ova in the building last winter did remarkably well; the loss was trifling throughout the period of hatching.

The young fish commenced hatching out on the 9th of May, and came out rapidly after that date.

The distribution of the fry commenced on the 3rd of June, and ended on the 30th, and the result was successful.

On the 16th of June, I removed thirty-five thousand young fish to Grand River in large cans with patent covers for ice. I left by steamer "City of St. John" at 4 o'clock, a.m., and landed inside the mouth of the river at 8.35 the same morning. I took a scow, three men, and horse, and went up stream seven miles and had the satisfaction of finding that the fish had carried splendidly; they were planted at different places in the river. Finding the lessees' guardian going up river with his canoe three miles further, I sent one can of fish with him to be placed above, as we could get no further with the scow.