

the 31st I despatched my son with 600,000 eggs for the hatchery. On November 1st he returned with the empty cases to take the balance of what ova I required to stock the house. On the 4th of November I left Carleton for home with 600,000 more eggs, making a total of 1,200,000 eggs for the St. John River hatchery. I left Mr. Mowat in charge of the remainder, to be taken to Bedford hatchery. We handled, in all, at the pond, 440 salmon, 333 females and 107 males. We finished stripping the fish in an unprecedented short time this season, which I believe to be in a great measure due to Mr. O'Brien's exertions, having everything in readiness for us to begin work immediately we arrived at the pond; there is now a neat packing house, with sufficient space for storing all the necessary appliances used in the operation. The stairs that have been built for the purpose of ascending and descending to and from the spawning house are also a very great convenience for us and our assistants, and a protection from mishap when carrying the eggs from the pond to the packing house. The salmon were in first-class condition, healthy and strong.

It appears that salmon have been pretty plentiful in St. John harbour and in St. John River the past summer, and it is generally concluded by the anglers and fishermen that they are young fry that have been planted in our waters from this hatchery. We had several grisle amongst the large fish in the pond this fall.

I respectfully submit the foregoing brief report.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

CHAS. McCLUSKEY, *Officer in Charge.*

4. MIRAMICHI HATCHERY, NEW BRUNSWICK.

SOUTH ESK, N.B., 25th Nov., 1898.

TO PROF. E. E. PRINCE,
Dominion Commissioner of Fisheries,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present herewith, the annual report of operations in connection with the fish hatchery under my charge.

During the past year the work has been carried on with continued success—the different branches of the work having been satisfactorily conducted under the personal supervision of myself and the assistant officer. During the year the hatchery has been visited by a great many persons desirous of obtaining information on the work, and anxious to show their appreciation of the beneficial services being done the waters of our rivers by the department, in carrying on the work at this hatchery.

By reference to my last annual report, it will be seen that the number of ova obtained and placed in this hatchery in the autumn of 1897 was 2,020,000. Of this number, 603,000 were transferred to the St. John River hatchery, leaving a balance of 1,417,000. From these there was an approximate loss, from time of gathering until distribution, of 110,000, leaving 1,307,000. In addition to this number of native Miramichi fry, 250,000 ova were received from the Restigouche hatchery, just previous to hatching, to fill an application of the late Senator Adams—making a total of 1,557,000 fry to be distributed in the rivers directed by the department, as follows :—

Name of River.	Miramichi Fry.	Restigouche Fry.
North-west Miramichi River.....	450,000	200,000
Main South-west Miramichi River.....	200,000	
Little " ".....	385,000	50,000
Sevogle River.....	175,000	
Renous River.....	75,000	
Stewart's Brook.....	22,000	
Totals.....	1,307,000	250,000