

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

MIRAMICHI FISH-BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT.

This hatchery was visited in the latter part of the month of July. The general arrangements were satisfactory. The dam, raceway and buildings were in good repair, and the internal apparatus cleanly and well cared for.

Orders were given to Mr. Sheasgreen, the officer in charge, to cut out and clear away some dead trees and other obstructions in the body of the pond, the appearance of which was not only unsightly but formed a lodgment for filth.

To prevent the loss of parent fish in the future during excessive high tides, which prevail on the Miramichi River at times, it will be necessary to raise the embankment of the main dam some few feet higher. The officer reports the extraordinary high tides of last autumn having risen two feet above the dam, causing the escape of a number of the parent salmon from the pond. It is important that this work should be performed during the early summer months.

There were turned out from the Miramichi Hatchery last spring *one million and twenty-five thousand young salmon*; they were safely conveyed to the following rivers:—North-West Miramichi, South-West Miramichi, Little South-West River, Napan River, Black River, Shediac, Tabusintac, Sevogle, Renous and the Hatching House Brook.

The number of spawning fish caught last September and October and put into the pond, was three hundred and ninety-nine; a portion of these, as previously stated, escaped with the unprecedented high tide, in October last. The balance gave eight hundred and fifty thousand eggs. An additional supply of one hundred and sixty thousand ova was obtained from fish caught in the South-West River. In all *a million and ten thousand* impregnated eggs were laid on the hatching trays. These, from accounts just received, are in a healthy condition and shew the young fish within them.

The total number of young fry turned out in the spring of 1879, was.....	1,025,000
Total number of ova laid down in fall of 1879.....	1,010,000
Grand total of fry distributed since erection of hatchery.	2,280,000

ST. JOHN RIVER FISH-BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT.

As mentioned in the early part of this Report, this hatchery was built during the summer of 1879, and as no ready means were at hand by which a stock of eggs could be secured for it in the St. John River, a small lot was got from the River Phillip in Nova Scotia, where it was represented a supply might be easily obtained. The number transferred was three hundred and twenty thousand, and although this lot was much less than was counted upon, there will nevertheless be a sufficient number in the hatchery to thoroughly test the working of the establishment with its new apparatus, and to ascertain its adaptability for more extensive operations in the future.

Mr. W. H. Barber, the officer in charge of this nursery, reports everything in connection with it, to be in first-class order and working admirably. He also states the eggs to be healthy, with a good percentage well vitalized.

Total number of eggs laid down in this hatchery, fall of 1879, was 320,000

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

BEDFORD BASIN FISH-BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT.

This hatchery was found to be in good order. No special improvements were required. The hatching-troughs and trays were in preparation for revarnishing and painting, and the breeding-room was being cleansed.