

All of the black bass were for the Marquis of Exeter, he having borne all the expense of the experiment. Most of the fish were placed in a lake belonging to his lordship called Whitewater, near Stamford. Not any of them have been caught yet. From what I could learn they would be about half-a-pound each in weight, so that they had done very well. The first lot that were put in will be three years old in April, when they are expected to commence breeding."

For merely shipping from one lake or river to another where the distance is comparatively short it is not necessary to adopt more than the usual precautions observed in shipping any other live fish. It is very advisable that as few as possible adult fish be placed in one tank or barrel, as bass are provided with sharp spines, and are apt to seriously wound each other if too closely confined. Twice as much room should be allowed for bass as for species whose fins are soft-rayed. To transplant bass all that is necessary is to procure the adult parent fish from fishermen or otherwise and transport them alive to the waters to be stocked.

This plan can be readily carried out by arranging with fishermen who are in the habit of netting these fish, telling them to be careful in taking them from their nets without injuring them and placing them in cribs sunk in the water near by until found convenient to transport them to their intended destination; this can be done quite safely if the distance is not too great by putting say 10 or more bass in the ordinary sized water barrels, say 30 or 40 gallons three parts filled with water. If they are to be carried short distances, spring wagons or sleighs may be used, for longer distances shipment by railway.

Numbers of bass have been transported in this way from Belleville on the Bay of Quinté up to the Newcastle Government hatchery, where all of them except those which had been severely injured by the nets arrived safely and large numbers of fry were hatched and reared in the natural way in their circumscribed inclosures or ponds.

With ordinary care and attention given to the netting, cribbing, transporting, and planting of black bass in new waters success is ensured. Little need be said of the transporting and planting of black bass fry. They should be collected soon after the period of parental guardianship and may be netted in schools by means of a fine meshed dip-net, or a seine. Black bass 2 to 4 inches long are very suitable for the purpose, and they attain that size in the fall of their first year. Black bass 5 to 6 inches long are about a year old, but when first hatched they are barely  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. in length. In a 15 gallon cask 1000 yearling bass have been shipped a distance of 500 or 600 miles: but the fewer that are placed in each can or cask the more likely is success to be secured. In the late autumn bass can be carried most safely, but many successful cases of transplantation have occurred which took place in July and August. The Department of Marine and Fisheries in 1896 sent a small consignment of black bass to British Columbia from Western Ontario, and a proportion of them arrived on the Pacific coast in good condition, as stated in last year's report. Through an accident and detention in the Rocky Mountains, many of the fish, however, died on the way. Small black bass are very cannibalistic, and those of fairly uniform size only should be placed in the same pond.

On the whole the transference of adult fish is the most practical and successful plan, and 40 or 50 such fish placed in a pond of moderate dimensions will in the course of a few months in summer rear many thousands, 50,000 to 100,000, young fry and thoroughly establish themselves.