

and got crosswise of the main part of the dam, and the gate on the other side, so that when the ice came down it had no other place to run only through the reception house, and the consequence was that, a very large quantity got piled up against it, and the gates had to go, as they could not stand the great pressure. This could be prevented in future by prohibiting parties from cutting and falling trees across the river, or by placing a strong boom across the pond. With regard to the cost of repairing the dam it can be done for three hundred dollars (\$300) and made stronger than ever. If the dam is repaired again we will require some new troughs and trays for the hatchery.

HENRY CLARK,

Officer in charge, Dunk River Hatchery.

5.—ST. JOHN RIVER HATCHERY.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Report from the Officer in charge of the St. John River Hatchery.

I beg to transmit herewith a report of the operations during 1888, at the St. John River Fish Hatchery, in the Province of New Brunswick, under my charge.

As already reported, on the last day of October, 1888, I collected on the Tobique and Serpentine rivers 625,800 salmon eggs, which were successfully placed upon the trays in the hatching troughs in excellent condition. They continued to do well the entire winter, and hatched out about 85 per cent. of well developed young salmon in the spring. In the month of March a consignment of semi-hatched fish eggs were received from the Newcastle Hatchery, in Ontario. I met them at St. John, and had them conveyed to the hatchery. They were in fair condition, and they did very well for the balance of the season. In the month of May, a more than usual loss occurred in the salmon-trout ova; with this exception the results were very good. At the unpacking of the ova at the nursery I found they had been packed with care and judgment, a fact that fully accounts for the good results that followed.

Distribution of Young Fish.

On the 30th April, I commenced to distribute the whitefish, and continued, with some slight intermission until the work was finished. During the time of planting the whitefish the operation was somewhat interrupted by the instructions from the Department of Fisheries, at Ottawa, to stop any further distribution of fry, until further orders. This delay caused quite a loss in the young fry then on hand, because, as it is well known, the whitefish fry will not suffer to be kept for any length of time in the nursery, after they are hatched out. The consequence was, that I was unable to comply with the order when it came, as the distance to the lake designated in the instructions was too far away, and the fry too old to bear carrying so far with safety; therefore, in order to save the fish, I was compelled to plant them in more convenient places. I beg to suggest, that persons wishing to get fry should be told to make their application earlier in the season, so that the officers would be in a position to fill the orders at the proper time, when the fry would be in the fittest state for removal. I desire to state here, that several persons have already made inquiries about young fry for next spring, more especially salmon, and salmon-trout, and I regret, that from present appearances, I cannot give satisfactory answers. I think this is very unfortunate, as already a great deal of dissatisfaction exists amongst the people in the adjoining and lower counties, particularly the Counties of Carleton, York and Charlotte, regarding the apparent difficulty in getting parent salmon for stocking this hatchery with ova. The universal cry is, why not get them at the St. John harbor. I will refer to this matter further on in this report, and now give a statement of the planting of fry last spring. On the 22nd of July last,