

The Bay of Chaleur is the great salmon emporium of the Maritime Provinces and the Resougoche River (with its tributaries) is the key, and notwithstanding the assertions and cold water thrown by some fishermen and others on artificial fish-breeding, I am thoroughly convinced that the great and continuous increase of salmon in this bay and estuary, is mainly due to the abundant supply of ova hatched since 1873 from this establishment.

Owing to the continual settling of the hatchery, combined with the action of the frost on the foundation, difficulty is experienced in keeping the troughs level, and it is *absolutely necessary*, if fish-breeding is to be continued here, that provision be made for a new building.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JOHN MOWAT.

Officer in Charge.

MIRAMICHI HATCHERY.

SOUTH ESK, MIRAMICHI, December 31st, 1879.

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

SIR,—The numbers of salmon fry hatched out at the Miramichi Hatchery in the spring of 1879, are as follows: 1,020,000. They were distributed in the following rivers as stated below:—

North Miramichi.....	200,000
South “.....	150,000
Little South-West.....	120,000
Napan River.....	75,000
Black River.....	75,000
Shediac River.....	50,000
Tabusintac River.....	60,000
Sevogle River.....	60,000
Burnt Church River.....	60,000
Bartibog River.....	60,000
Salmon River.....	40,000
Canaan River.....	30,000
Renous River.....	40,000
Total	<u>1,020,000</u>

During the summer season all necessary repairing was done about the house and ponds.

In the fall of 1879, three hundred and ninety-nine parent salmon were procured, all of which were placed in the pond, but owing to the high tide on the 29th October last, a large number of them escaped, as the tide raised two feet over the dam, thus making it impossible to save the fish. However, I succeeded in getting from those fish remaining in the pond 850,000 healthy eggs, and having laid them down in the troughs I started for the Main South-West River, where I succeeded in getting fifty-two salmon, which gave me 160,000 more good eggs. I carried the eggs home in a waggon and found great difficulty in keeping the eggs from freezing on the way to the hatchery, but having arrived there I found them all right. This lot was also laid down in the hatching-troughs, making in all upwards of one million healthy eggs in