

thus do away with the purchase altogether from fishermen and give a more healthy class of parent salmon to procure eggs from. A conviction has set in with the large majority of fishermen, causing them to advocate the usefulness of artificial fish-culture as a sure means of supplementing the natural laid ova, by which the Ristigouche River and its estuary fisheries have now become so prominent with anglers and fish-dealers in Canada and the United States.

(8.) *Gaspé Hatchery, Province of Quebec.*—This nursery distributed in the Dartmouth, St. John, and York Rivers 800,000 salmon fry. They were deposited in these waters in good condition. The number of parent salmon secured in the retaining pond was only 49, being much less than usual. Owing to very high water in the Dartmouth the nets could not be set until the middle of June, when the principal run had passed. To obviate a like occurrence in the future it is recommended that the stock of salmon for this nursery be netted in Gaspé Basin, where greater reliance could be placed for getting increased numbers from the earlier and larger runs of salmon, and where the heavy freshets from the river would not affect the nets. Some better method than the present is necessary in order to give certainty for stocking the hatchery with eggs beyond the small quota of the past years. Of the 49 fish obtained last season 36 were females; they gave 35,000 eggs, with an average of 9,700 to each. These eggs are reported as progressing quite favorably. The building is in fair repair, but is sadly in want of a coat of paint to preserve it.

The anglers and canoeemen report a heavier description of salmon taken on the St. John River during the past few years—the former average being about 15 lbs., whilst of late they have reached a general average of some 18 lbs. This is attributed to the putting of large numbers of Dartmouth River fry, from the Gaspé Hatchery into the St. John River. The Dartmouth family of salmon have always been known to be larger than the St. John River fish, and differing somewhat in their resemblance.

(9.) *Tadoussac Hatchery, Province of Quebec.* There were successfully hatched and distributed from this hatchery in 1888, fry to the number of 850,000, the greater proportion of these were put in the rivers and small lakes which empty into the Saguenay; and 15,000 were carried to the St. Ann River, below Quebec, without the loss of a single fish, to the great astonishment of the proprietor of that river and several witnesses who saw them. There were laid down in this hatchery last fall 1,685,000 healthy salmon eggs; they were taken from 160 females, each averaging 10,000 ova. Total number of males and females captured in the government net and safely kept in the salt water pond, at Tadoussac, from May till November, was 244. Only one salmon was lost of this number by accident, in being caught in the iron gate of the reservoir. After spawning these salmon, they were turned out in the Saguenay River in a strong and active condition. Some evil-disposed persons made attempts to let the salmon out of the pond by cutting the ropes; and on two occasions the nets were cut. The watchmen discovered them in time to prevent serious loss.

The lower part of the building needs repairing, the superstructure is sound, but the foundation part being exposed to moisture has become decayed; other repairs about the wharf are required, some flooring and shingling is absolutely necessary. The estimated cost for full repairs is \$500. The smolts (*young salmon*) grown from the fry put into the Tadoussac Lake, above the hatchery, are seen in great numbers; likewise at the Mowats Lake, where it empties into the St. Lawrence, great numbers of young salmon have been seen and caught there. This small lake gives the most indubitable evidence of the rapid growth of hatchery bred fry to the smolt stage. It is a mountain lake wholly inaccessible by parent salmon, it was prospected and recommended by the gentlemen whose name it bears as a suitable depository for the growth of the salmon fry, and was largely stocked with them from the Tadoussac Hatchery in 1886, and with additional annual supplies since. The little lake just above the hatchery is another positive evidence of the certain and healthy growth of hatchery bred fry during the transitory periods in their life as parrs, as smolts, and grilse, prior to their reaching maturity in the ocean. This