

The Rockwood Review.

trapping season, they have no cause to fear him. Such preparations as that of taking the animals out in a boat so that they may be killed over water seem rather absurd, the more so when pressed by hunger they will even devour the skinned bodies of their own species. One piece of information desired, as to whether or not the foxes would wander off on the ice floes when they were being fed, has not yet been obtained, because curiously enough, during the two years that the experiment has been made the ice has not happened to touch St. George.

Incidentally, Mr. Judge has made observations on the food, size and condition of foxes and has shown that the pelt does not improve with age, as has commonly been stated, but that the yearlings and two-year-olds have the best

fur. As for weight, the smallest fox weighed a little over eight pounds, the largest over a trifle more than fourteen, the great majority weighing in the vicinity of ten pounds. The outcome of these experiments will be awaited with much interest and if by a little little artificial selection and environment a naturally monogamous animal can be rendered polygamous, the supply of blue fox furs will be materially increased. The table appended gives the results of the catch for the season of 1898-99 and the total number of animals must seem rather surprising to one familiar with the island. It only remains to add that the greatest number taken in any one evening was 245, of which 61 were killed; the second best night's work was 211, and of these 57 were killed.

Foxes taken on St. George during the season of 1898-99:

Male blue foxes trapped and killed.....	334
Male blue foxes otherwise killed.....	34
White foxes killed, male and female.....	18
Male blue foxes trapped and released.....	110
Female blue foxes trapped and released....	389
Total.....	885

