

centage had hatched and died, so that the package smelled "fishy." They were washed and put into water at 34°, and a few of them hatched within twenty-four hours.

I considered it desirable to keep them at the hatchery, if possible, until the ice should be out of Eagle Lake and the steamers running to Mount Desert. So I continued until April 19 the use of the coldest water at command, which was below 34°. Upon that day the eggs were about half hatched, and I took one 20-gallon can of young fry and went to Mount Desert to make arrangements for the reception of the whole number. I left the hatchery at 6 a. m. and arrived at the lake at 10 p. m. I found it beginning to thaw out around the shores, and turned in the fish all in good order.

From the 19th to the 26th of April the temperature of the water rose to 37° and the rest of the eggs hatched.

On the 26th, at 7 a. m., we started with all the fry in fourteen tin cans, and four small casks which had received two coats of shellac upon the inside and were provided with perforated covers. We arrived at the lake at 9 p. m. The fish in the cans were in good condition, but we lost all that were put in the casks. I had no way of ascertaining definitely any of the losses, but up to the time of transportation they were small. I judge that of the 1,000,000 which left Michigan something over 700,000 were turned into Eagle Lake in good condition.

The fry taken down upon the 19th were liberated upon the north side of the lake, about one-fourth of a mile westward from the outlet. Those liberated upon the 26th were taken up the eastern shore in boats as far as the ice permitted and scattered along shore as much as practicable, most of them from one-half to three-fourths of a mile from the outlet, and all upon rocky bottom.

PORTLAND, ME., *June 4, 1883.*

109.—EXPERIENCE OF A MENHADEN-OIL MANUFACTURER IN NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

By WILLIAM R. POLK.

[From a letter to Prof. S. F. Baird.]

For the past three years I have been engaged in fishing for menhaden to make into oil and guano or scrap. Last season I had at this place seven sailing gears, and one steamer fishing in the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean.

I had my steamer, the J. W. French, seized by the authorities of Elizabeth City County, Virginia, while fishing last July in the Chesapeake, although it had a United States fishing license. It was a few miles inside the capes, but several miles south of that county, and in the waters of Princess Anne County. At the trial the judge confiscated steamer and nets, and I have appealed to the United States courts.

. FAIRPORT, VA., *October 12, 1882.*