

62.—ACCLIMATIZATION OF SALMO QUINNAT IN FRANCE.**By Prof. VALERY-MAYOT.**

[From a letter to Raveret-Wattel, secretary of the National Acclimatization Society.]

I deem it proper to bring to your knowledge some details regarding the results of the acclimatization of the California salmon which you had intrusted to my care during the three years, 1879, 1880, and 1881.

As you will remember, I planted the first and third hatch of salmon in our little river Lez, near its source, whilst the second hatch was planted in the river Hérault, near the city of Ganges, in the heart of the Cevennes Mountains.

The catch of which I have already informed you comprised fish one and two years old, of normal size, some of which were caught in the neighborhood of Ganges, some kilometers above the city and above all the weirs, and others near Montpellier, below the last great weir of the river Lez. As far as I know, no fish were caught in 1883, neither in the Lez nor in the Hérault; but I must state the interesting fact, that at three different times there were caught in the river Aude, whose mouth is near Narbonne, salmon measuring 25 to 30 centimeters in length.

It is, therefore, probable that the salmon from the Lez and the Hérault, finding it very difficult to clear the numerous weirs which cross these rivers, to a certain number ascended the river Aude, half of whose course lies in the mountainous region of Corbières, and which has not so many weirs.

Do you not think it would be useful to make new attempts to acclimatize salmon higher up the river Aude—at Quillan, for instance? I am entirely at your service, if you desire that some such experiment should be made.

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE,
Montpellier, November 11, 1883.

63.—DEPREDACTIONS TO OYSTER BEDS BY STAR-FISH.

[From the Evening Register.]

It was reported yesterday that between November 1, 1883, and the close of navigation in December, there were caught on oyster-beds adjoining the Bridgeport public beds about 15,000 bushels of star-fish. Since October 1 they have destroyed over 900 acres. From six to ten steamers have been catching star-fish during the past six months, at an expense of \$5,000.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., *April 5, 1884.*