

70—ACCLIMATIZATION OF SALMO QUINNAT IN FRANCE.

By Dr. MASLIEURAT-LAGÉMAR.

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

In the month of November, 1879, you sent me a box containing eggs of the *Salmo quinnat*. One hundred of the fry, well formed, after having remained five or six weeks under the ice, owing to continued frosts, were, in favorable weather, placed in the river Gartempe. Did these little fish survive, and would they find their way up here? I am happy to say that I can answer both these questions in the affirmative.

Yesterday I caught one of these salmon, which was three years old last spring. Its lean condition showed plainly that it had spawned in the river; and it must be presumed that it was not the only one. It weighs 1 kilogram. In summer, when it had its full weight, it must have weighed 3 or 4 pounds. I have no doubt that it was one of those which we had placed in the river in 1880. These salmon, which are exceedingly valuable on account of their fecundity and their rapid growth, have therefore been acclimatized in our rivers; and this result ought to encourage the efforts of your society.

GRAND BOURG, December 17, 1883.

71.—NOTES OF A TRIP IN THE GULF OF MEXICO.

By BARNET PHILLIPS.

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

Further south we found swarms of mullet (cf. p. 135), and on several occasions killed enough for table use by shooting a charge of fine shot into the schools. I have some idea that mullet oil might be a useful product if proper plants were put up. I left an order to have some smoked mullet sent me; such roes as I ate on the coast were badly put up and hardly edible. In a fishery sense, the west coast of Florida is not developed at all.

What struck me as remarkable was to see the shoals of porpoises sailing in very shallow water, just enough to float them, and feeding on the fish which swarm there. The feature of all the bays and creeks is that they are shallow. The struggle for life must be continuous. In some of the fresh water creeks, as those on the Caloosahatchee, we took a number of large water-turtles, the biggest about 12 pounds. What was strange about them was that fully 75 per cent. of them had lost a foot or a leg, evidently taken off by a gar or an alligator. I wrote something about the sheeps-head being considered unwholesome at certain seasons, but this would require further investigation. At Punta Rassa a 6-pound sheeps-head is used to bait a hook for shark.

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