

F. Mather for transmission to Europe as follows:	
For Herr von Behr, Germany.....	40,000
For Tay Fishery Board, Scotland.....	20,000
For National Fish Culture Association, England.....	30,000
	90,000
Enfield, Me., for Maine commission.....	58,000
Total.....	608,000

A few of the shipments have been heard from, and these all reached their destinations safely.

BUCKSPORT, ME., *March 31, 1885.*

110.—INJURIES CAUSED BY GILL-NETS TO WHITEFISH.

By D. Y. HOWELL.

[From a letter to M. E. Dunlap, Erie, Pa.]

The gill-net is far more destructive to whitefish than any other apparatus, for the following reasons: 1. Gill-nets are fished during every month of the year when ice does not prevent, and the meshes having been reduced to such size that millions upon millions of small young whitefish, no larger than herring, are taken, and on account of their size are unmarketable. 2. A very large percentage of whitefish taken in gill-nets are not fit for food when taken out, for the reason that they are strangled and immediately begin to bloat, and in many instances are rotten or nearly so when brought to market; whereas when caught in pound-nets they are all alive and healthy, and while in the nets have had a chance to deposit their spawn (if ripe), thus saving at least a portion of spawn, which is utterly impossible while strangled and rotting in a gill-net. As pound-nets are only fished in comparatively shallow waters, few if any small whitefish are taken, as they inhabit the deep waters until mature, and not until then do they seek their spawning grounds or such localities where pound-nets are fished. We have fished for about thirty years, and have never discovered any falling off in the catch of whitefish, taking the average one year with another, until the last few years, or since the lower end of Lake Erie has been filled with gill-nets, covering nearly every rod of it, until the time when the fish start for their spawning grounds, when they are closely followed by the netters, and few are left to reach there, they not only destroying the adult fish but the greater portion of the small fry, which are yearly produced at great expense by the State hatcheries, few of which live long enough to reproduce; and there is no gill-net, however small, but destroys more fish ten times over than any pound-net, and not more than one-tenth of the fish so destroyed are fit for food, which is simply a criminal waste.

TOLEDO, OHIO, *March 31, 1885.*