

123.—PUTTING BASS INTO CARP PONDS.**By MAX VON DEM BORNE.**

[From a letter to Col. M. McDonald.]

I am much delighted that the large carp ponds of Peitz were of interest to you, and I am convinced that fish ponds for carp, trout, and other fish would pay very well in America if they could be drained entirely. The last is the great secret of fish-breeding in ponds.

I am convinced that you are perfectly right that black bass will be valuable for carp ponds. Will it not be the same in all pike waters, where coarse fish are plentiful, and neither salmon nor trout are to be found? Von Behr is much afraid of the bass, but I think he is mistaken, because more than nine-tenths of all our waters in Northern Germany are only pike and coarse fish waters.*

BERNEUCHEN, GERMANY, *September 7, 1884.*

124.—EDIBLE QUALITIES OF SMOKED KINGFISH (SCOMBERO-MORUS CAVALLA, Cuv.)†**By Capt. J. W. COLLINS.**

All who have tasted it in my presence have conceded that the kingfish, as an article of smoked food, is as good or better than halibut prepared in the same manner. Some have compared the kingfish to salmon, while the majority think it excels halibut, because it is free from the rather rank taste that the latter has.

Captain Martin distributed some of the kingfish among the members of a club at East Gloucester, giving each a taste. He tells me that it met with great favor, the consensus of opinion being that it is superior to halibut as an article of smoked food.

We are under obligations to Messrs. William H. Wonson and Son for their kindness and courtesy in smoking the kingfish, free of charge, as well as for the extraordinary pains they have taken to cure it in the best possible manner.

GLOUCESTER, MASS., *May 9, 1885.*

*I have suggested the introduction of black bass into ponds with three or four year old carp, with the view of keeping down the minnows which multiply in such ponds and take away the food of the carp.—MCD.

†The following opinion was received by the Commissioner from Hon. William C. Endicott, Secretary of War, May 12, 1885:

"I have tried it twice. It is very palatable, and I should think it a good fish for commerce. It is not so good as the smoked halibut or the best of the herring, but much better than alewives. I have thought that our people do not eat smoked fish as much as formerly."