

1884, 600,000. A very large run of salmon came into the lower part of the river in September and October, but, owing to low water, did not come up as far as the hatchery.

Last year we distributed 85,000 Lake Superior fry, and this year we purchased 200,000 eggs, but unfortunately they were packed with green water-weeds, which fermented and raised the temperature to about 85°, which destroyed all the eggs. As we can purchase no more, I asked you for as many as you can spare us.

I have in the breeding ponds two or three hundred California trout, but not old enough to yield us any eggs this year. I impregnated some brook-trout eggs with the milt of the California trout last week. Should you desire to get a supply of the eggs of the whitefish, called pound-fish in Maine, you can obtain any amount you may want in Lake Winnepesaukee, a few miles from here.

PLYMOUTH, N. H., *January 7, 1885.*

142.—STATISTICS OF THE FISHERIES OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR 1884.

By GEORGE PITTENDRIGH,

Inspector of the Fisheries.

Number and value of vessels engaged in the different fisheries during the year 1884.

10 steamers and steam auxiliaries, from 3 to 96 tons.....	} 892 tons	\$63, 850
21 schooners, &c., from 5 to 80 tons.....		
878 fishing boats	}	42, 755
198 canoes		
65 flat-boats		5, 700
999 salmon nets, 295,770 yards.....		119, 635
39 herring seines		4, 980
5 herring nets, 700 yards		2, 500
78 fish seines, 6,800 yards.....		6, 800
3 oolahan nets		75
		246, 295
25 salmon canneries, estimated value.....		\$444, 500
1 oil factory, Skidegate, Queen Charlotte's Islands.....		10, 000
1 oil and scrap factory, Burrard Inlet		45, 000
1 floating cannery and oil factory.....		60, 000
Various salting stations		11, 000
		570, 500
		816, 795
Sailors.....		85
Fishermen	1, 585 }	1, 881
Native hunters, with sailing fleet.....	296 }	
Shoremen.....		1, 315

Yield and value of the different fisheries in the year 1884.

Kind.	Quantity.	Value.
Salmon:		
Salted.....barrels..	5,630½	\$50,728 50
Fresh.....number..	173,056	51,916 80
Canned, cases 4 dozen 1-pound cans.....	141,242	776,831 00
Smoked.....pounds..	367,000	51,380 00
Sturgeon, fresh.....do..	352,900	17,645 00
Haddock, whiting, &c.....do..	240,700	9,028 00
Halibut.....do..	150,000	9,000 00
Herring and smelt:		
Fresh.....do..	34,550	1,727 50
Smoked.....do..		6,500 00
Fish assorted.....pounds..	58,400	3,504 00
Trout.....do..	76,050	5,323 50
Oolachans:		
Fresh.....do..	37,500	2,250 00
Salted.....do..	33,000	2,640 00
Smoked.....do..	28,000	2,800 00
Fur and hair seal skins.....		156,419 00
Oolahan oil.....gallons..	43	43 00
Black shark and dogfish oil, refined.....do..	45,000	24,800 00
Dogfish oil.....do..	10,000	3,500 00
Salmon oil.....do..	1,452	580 80
Clams, canned, cases 4 dozen 1-pound cans.....	300	1,800 00
Fish sold in markets, not including New Westminster.....		110,000 00
Fish cured for private consumption.....		8,000 00
Salmon and other fish: Estimated consumption by Chinese and other laborers on the Central Pacific Railway, not specially recorded.....		60,000 00
Eastern oysters imported and planted on beds.....barrels..	10	200 00
Native oysters.....barrels..	210	1,050 00
Total.....		1,358,267 10
Estimated consumption by Indian population as per previous computation:		
Salmon.....		4,375,000 00
Halibut.....		180,000 00
Sturgeon and other fish.....		250,000 00
Fish oils.....		80,000 00
		4,885,000 00
Grand total of approximate yield, 1884.....		6,243,267 10

Comparative statement of yield of the years 1883 and 1884, exclusive of Indian consumption:

Total, 1883.....	\$1,644,645 42
Total, 1884.....	1,358,267 10
Decrease 1884.....	286,378 32

143.—PETITION TO PROHIBIT THE SEINING OF BLUEFISH.

By FRED. W. DICKINSON.

[Letter to Prof. S. F. Baird.]

The firm in which I am partner (H. & J. Crosby & Co., Osterville, Mass.) and four hundred other petitioners from Cape Cod towns are soon to be granted a hearing by our legislative committee on fisheries on a petition to prohibit the seining of bluefish in the waters of Vineyard Sound controlled by the State of Massachusetts, between Wood's Holl and Chatham. Our reasons for asking the legislation are:

(1) In former years when bluefish were seldom taken except by hook and line or in weirs the fishermen had no difficulty in catching a full fare within a mile of shore, but within the past two years a great many