

149.—NOTES FROM THE CARP PONDS.**By RUDOLPH HESSEL.**

In the ponds the fish are looking well, the ponds themselves have good water, and everything around the whole place is in excellent condition. I often have to change the water in the smaller ponds, and to supply the larger ponds (the west, north, and south ponds) with fresh water, on account of the high temperature. Snakes are almost all gone or killed; I have not seen one during the last eight days. The marsh-hens and cranes cause considerable loss by their frequent visits.

For the 19th or 20th of July a shipment was ordered of about 20,000 young carp to Mr. E. G. Blackford at New York. I tried to get them for that time, but without any success. I was convinced that all the young fish would die if taken out of the ponds. These fish are a great deal larger than those we sent some weeks ago, when about 2,000 were lost. The young fish in the ponds now cannot be shipped before fall.

I have observed something interesting about the young shad in the western part of the west pond. Some days ago I saw a small school of about 200 to 300. Yesterday I saw another one of about 3,000. One that I caught and put in alcohol was about 2 inches long. I am convinced that not many hundreds are in the ponds, but plenty of them for investigating the matter of their growth.

Pond No. 6 now has the richest growth of nelumbiums I ever saw. The vegetation is even with the wire fence and the flowers are about 1 foot higher, making the growth fully 7 feet high. I counted this morning about 350 open flowers of nelumbiums in this pond. All the nelumbiums in this pond got some bone-dust this spring, and the insects (moths) are almost all destroyed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *July 26, 1885.*

150.—EFFORTS TO RAISE TROUT.**By S. B. SMITH.**

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

Having obtained a copy of Thad. Norris's works, I determined to experiment in trout-culture. Three years ago I cleaned up a small swamp adjoining my spring-house and excavated four small ponds, ordered 1,000 fry from Dr. A. Garwood, of Cassopolis, Michigan, and a few weeks later 4,000 of the fry, 115 yearlings, 30 two-year-old, and 9 three-year-old trout of J. H. Annin, Caledonia, Livingston County, New York. A few