

**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

weeks after I got them the screens were accidentally left up a few inches, and nearly all of my yearlings escaped, going down the ditch into Mad River, about a mile below my ponds. Last year some were caught in the Macocheek, near the residence of Col. Donn Piatt. This fall they, or at least some, came back into the ditch, and I captured 19 very beautiful ones, weighing from three-fourths pound to  $1\frac{2}{8}$  pounds, showing that they had done better in Mad River than in my ponds, although I had fed those in the ponds daily.

Our county (Logan) is the highest in the State, containing many brooks, all having their sources in the county; therefore I feel confident that by stocking them with trout fry instead of lake pickerel (as has been done to no advantage whatever, none having been caught as yet), within a short time there will be great benefits derived. I have now a hatching house and have succeeded in hatching 3,000 within the last two weeks, and think I have capacity for 500,000. In my ponds (or one of them) there are 10,000 yearlings doing well. As far as I can learn, I am the second person in the State who has attempted to hatch or raise trout; and I have had the usual troubles and losses.\*

ZANESFIELD, OHIO, *January 23, 1885.*

#### 151.—PROPAGATION OF TROUT BY THE SOUTHSIDE CLUB.

By H. R. CLARKE.

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

I send with this a female rainbow trout that died at the South Side Club day before yesterday. It weighed when taken from the water close to  $4\frac{1}{4}$  pounds and is from the original gift of eggs you sent us four years ago last spring. We have left now about 80 of the first lot that were hatched from your 500 eggs, about 800 that are of the next generation, weighing from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 pounds, and between 5,000 and 6,000 yearlings that will weigh one-half pound and over. I send you the fish to show to inquiring legislators in case they doubt your success in fish-raising. Our *fontinalis* are through spawning, and we have in the hatchery 900,000 eggs in fine condition, with about 20,000 already out. We have as yet no rainbow-trout ova, but appearances indicate that we shall commence stripping some before long. Last year we got 1,000 eggs by December 20. They are later this year, and perhaps may continue to spawn later and later until they come back to first principles and spawn as late as they do in California.

237 EIGHTH STREET,

*Jersey City, N. J., January 3, 1885.*

\* On September 19, 1885, Mr. Smith wrote: In May, 1884, I obtained 68,000 rainbow-trout fry from Michigan; 5,200 of these were placed in the Blue Jacket, a tributary of the Miami River, and some have been caught there weighing over one-half pound each.