

61.—AMERICAN FISH BEING ACCLIMATIZED IN FRANCE.

By C. RAVERET-WATTEL.

[From his annual report on the doings of the French National Acclimatization Society in 1883.*]

Two valuable species of American fish are in process of acclimatization in France. One is the *Salmo fontinalis*, which is now increasing rapidly; the other is the *Salmo quinnat* (California salmon), a species that is also increasing and that has been found in many of our watercourses. Thanks to the kindness of Prof. Spencer F. Baird, it has been possible for us also to continue during the past year certain interesting experiments in acclimating other species. Indeed we are indebted to Professor Baird for generous shipments of the eggs of three fish, whose acquisition in our inland waters would be very advantageous. These are the American Great Lake trout (*Salmo namaycush*), whitefish (*Coregonus albus*), and lake salmon (*Salmo salar* var. *sebügo*). The *Salmo namaycush* is a trout of very rapid growth, as has already been stated; the *Coregonus albus*, with its delicate and firm flesh, could advantageously take a place beside the *fera* and the *lavaret*; and the lake salmon or landlocked salmon, as it is called in the United States, which is a non-migratory fish, would especially suit for stocking our inland waters; and perhaps even it could be used for restocking rivers obstructed by dams unprovided with fish-ways. In spite of the length of the voyage the different lots of eggs reached us in the best possible condition, which good result must be attributed largely to the excellent care bestowed upon the shipments by Mr. Fred Mather, who was kind enough to attend to packing the eggs.

While these shipments of fish eggs put us under new obligations to Professor Baird, other gifts were generously made us by the German Fishery Association. The president of this association, Von Behr, forwarded to us some eggs of different species of salmon, such as the grayling (*Salmo salvelinus*), the Lake Garde trout, known under the name of *carpione* (*Salmo carpio*), and two-species of whitefish (*Coregonus marana* and *C. albula*), which must be classed among the best food-fish.

A medal of the second class was granted to Professor Valery-Mayet, of the National School of Agriculture at Montpellier, who has given us most useful co-operation in spreading and popularizing American salmon. These fish from the New World are more appreciated every year, and, thanks to Professor Valery-Mayet, are now found in the Mediterranean. †

* *Bull. Mens. de la Soc. Nat. d'Acclimatation de France*, May, 1884, pp. 117 and 134.

† For report on salmon caught in the rivers Aude and Hérault, see Prof. Valery-Mayet's statement on page 260 of this volume.—EDITOR.