

and anchovies. Scarcely any mussels or oysters were taken, but shellfish abound plentifully. The total capture exceeded 11,000,000 pounds.

As a general rule, the coast of Algeria yields abundance of fish. Fishing is particularly good in the Gulf of Oran and Arzew, but from these points to Castiglione, a distance of over 1,200 miles, fishing is little followed, for the lack of a market along the sea-coast.

Algiers and its neighborhood is a very important center for fish; so is the Bay of Callo and the town of Phillippeville. At Bone and La Calle there is less animation, but sedentary species are here caught which are not found elsewhere. Coral-fishing is special to Algeria, 40,000 to 45,000 pounds of coral being the annual product. La Calle is the central point of this industry, occupying yearly 160 boats and from 1,200 to 1,300 men. The coral yield of 1882 represented a value of \$190,000.

Coral is obtained by means of a wooden apparatus in the shape of a cross, having in its center a leaden slug or stone for ballast. Nets, the meshes of which are loose, are hung on the bars of the cross and dragged at the bottom of the sea and among the nooks and crevices of the rocks. These nets, winding about the coralline plant, break up or off its branches, which adhere to the meshes. The apparatus is drawn up by the fisherman whenever he thinks it sufficiently laden. There is also a net provided with large iron nails, having thus great force, to break the coral, but this apparatus is prohibited. The *scaphandre*, or cork jacket, is used only in exceptional cases. Algerian fisheries would no doubt become more productive if greater facilities were afforded for communication with the interior.

I cannot close without again urging the importance of encouraging our home fisheries. It is an industry of twofold importance. It is followed by a class of brave and hardy men, from which, as in other countries, may be recruited our best sailors. In the near future, when our merchant marine will once more assume the importance it possessed before the late war, this class may give us the force we shall then require, and American sailors sail American ships once more.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE, LYONS, *October 24, 1883.*

204.—DISCUSSION AT THE DRESDEN CONFERENCE IN 1883, OF THE KINDS OF FISH EGGS TO BE OBTAINED FROM THE UNITED STATES.

In general the conference agreed that the experiments in acclimatizing American fish have been accompanied by many valuable results.

Mr. Haaek and Mr. Schuster did not strongly favor the California salmon (*Salmo quinnat*), because experience had taught them that at

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the time of sexual maturity this fish had not proved hardy, and because they also thought that its meat did not have as delicate a flavor as that of other species of salmon. Dr. Staudinger stated that in the region of the Danube, where the migratory salmon (*Salmo salar*) is not found, there were many who desired to see the California salmon introduced.

No special desire was expressed for American lake trout, but Dr. Staudinger suggested, and was in this unanimously supported by the conference, that, considering the great value of the American whitefish (*Coregonus albus*), and the favorable results of hatching experiments, more eggs of this fish should be imported, particularly with the view to continuing the experiments which had so far proved successful, and which could be called thoroughly successful only if continued on a large scale. It is desirable to well stock such alpine lakes as the Walchen Lake, Ammer Lake, &c., with this species.

As regards the American brook trout (*Salmo* [*Salvelinus*] *fontinalis*) Von Belr stated that quite a quantity of eggs of this fish had already been produced in Germany, and that he would see to their proper distribution. Dr. Staudinger thought that the *Salvelinus fontinalis* would certainly flourish in the brooks of the alpine and subalpine regions. In these regions no trout are found, and for this very reason people took great interest in seeing the *Salvelinus fontinalis* acclimatized. For this purpose Dr. Staudinger, supported by Mr. Schuster, considered it very desirable to continue the importation of the eggs of this fish from America. The conference approved and recommended that the eggs should be furnished, especially to those hatching establishments where successful attempts had already been made to raise the *Salvelinus fontinalis*.

Messrs. Haack and Schuster warmly advocated the importation of eggs of the rainbow trout (*Salmo irideus*). Mr. Haack considered this species of fish the most valuable and promising of all the fish introduced from America. Mr. Schuster also stated that the eggs and fish of this species are particularly valuable, although he was not quite so enthusiastic on the subject as Mr. Haack. The conference recommended to acquire as many eggs of the rainbow trout as possible, and to carefully distribute them.

As regards the American landlocked salmon it seemed to be the prevailing opinion that for the present no more eggs should be asked for. It was thought that this fish would offer no greater advantage than our own German lake-trout, and it was not deemed desirable to mix too many species of closely related fish.

The importation of eggs of *Trutta carpio* from Garda Lake, in Italy, did not meet with favor. On motion of Mr. Staudinger, however, 20,000 to 30,000 more eggs may be obtained for Ammer Lake, which seems well adapted to it.

MUNICH, May 16, 1884.