

218.—BRIEF NOTES UPON FISH AND FISHERIES.

By CHAS. W. SMILEY.

[Mainly extracts from the official correspondence.]

THE FISHERIES OF SYRIA.—The fisheries along the coast of Syria are neither extensive nor important, the fish caught being of inferior quality. Roach, mullet, and tunny are the principal varieties, and may be taken in all seasons of the year. Fishermen are few, and the amount of capital invested in boats and fishing tackle is small. The fisheries controlled by the governor of Beirut are leased to the highest bidder annually, who receives 20 per cent. of the value of all fish caught in his district. Last year the lessee paid \$3,280, which sum forms part of the sum appropriated to defray the expenses of the court presided over by the local governor. The value of the fish is estimated at \$20,000. A coarse sponge is found near Beirut, but little attention is given to sponge-fishing on the Syrian coast. (From reports of the consuls of the United States on the commerce, manufactures, &c., of their consular districts, page 641.)

CARP FOR SALE.—Mr. L. H. Pigg, editor of the Pittsylvania Tribune, Chatham, Va., writes under date of September 6, 1884, that he has 150,000 young carp for sale at the following prices:

For 100 carp, 2 to 5 inches long	\$5
For 500 carp, 2 to 5 inches long	\$20
For breeders, per pair	\$2 to 5
For a five-gallon transportation can	\$1

Mr. Pigg obtained 25 carp from the United States Fish Commission November 11, 1881, and 20 more November 8, 1882.

THE FISH-CATCHING BLADDERWORT.—Prof. A. S. Minot, of Boston, states that he has observed young fish trapped by *Utricularia* when at large in the natural condition.

Mr. C. J. Bottemanne, of Bergen-op-Zoom, Netherlands, calls attention to the following record on this subject: In the "Physiologie of Plants" of Prof. Hugo de Vries, Amsterdam, C. L. Brinkman, 1880, I find, page 205, that *Utricularia vulgaris* "if a small water animal swims against one of the bladders it is caught at once;" and page 206, "if a branch with leaves of *Utricularia* is put in a glass of water with plenty of animal life, after a few hours every bladder has caught one or more of them."

He adds: Ever since, I have taken the *Utricularia* as eaters of fish embryos, as I call the newly hatched fish till they have got their proper form and are able to care for themselves, and was under the impression every one knew it, as the book was printed for the use of the higher class of schools (viz, *Uoogere, Burgerscholen*).