

tices are now prohibited by law. A few years ago a department of fisheries was organized, which regulates and controls all the fishing industries.

For a number of years the shore codfishery has been showing serious symptoms of decline, owing to reckless modes of fishing which caused the destruction of vast quantities of immature and spawning fish. To restock the partially depleted waters the department initiated a few years ago a system of artificial propagation of cod. A hatchery, under the direction of the Superintendent of Fisheries, was erected on Dildo Island, Trinity Bay. In four years the total number of cod ova hatched and planted in the water was over 423,000,000.

The artificial propagation of lobsters has been carried on upon a still larger scale in twenty-three stations at different parts of the island. The success has been striking. In four years, 1890-93, the number of ova hatched and planted in the different bays has been 1,909,656,000. In 1893 the number of "berried" lobsters from which ova were obtained was 26,036, which yielded 602,244,000, out of which 85 per cent were hatched and planted. But for this process all these life germs would have been destroyed in the factories.

368. Newfoundland ranks high as a copper-producing country. From 1854 to 1891 the total value of copper ores exported was \$9,193,790, and the total value of all ores exported during the same period was \$9,594,717. In 1891 the export of minerals was as follows:—copper ore, 7,060 tons; regulus (copper), 3,626 tons; ingots (copper), 1,139 tons; total value of copper ores, \$565,850; iron pyrites, 19,150 tons, value \$57,900; antimony, value \$1,000. Total value of ores exported in 1891, \$624,750. In 1892 the export of minerals was as follows:—copper in ingots, 899 tons, value \$213,288; regulus (copper), 5,744 tons, value \$342,720; green ore (copper), 20,000 tons, value \$134,000; iron pyrites, 35,176 tons, value \$316,584. There are extensive coal beds around Bay St. George and in the neighbourhood of Grand Lake, but they have not yet been worked.

369. Agriculture is as yet carried on upon a small scale. The census of 1891 shows that there are 64,494 acres of improved land and 20,524 acres in pasture. This backward condition of agriculture has arisen from several causes. Fishing has always been the principal employment of the people, who are sprinkled round the shores in small towns and settlements. Till recently there were few roads and no railways to open up the fertile lands of