

Tower Hill

Boyle

Co. Roscommon

June 20 1915

My Dearest Henderson

I promised to write a few lines about the fishing here, so here it goes. The fly started to rise in small number on 18<sup>th</sup> May when I saw about 20 in Rinnban. They gradually increased every day but never remained on the surface owing to still, hot fine weather so the fish never came on the green. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> a few spent gnats appeared on the water but no fish came on the feed until the 24<sup>th</sup> when there was a good show of blacks in Brick and a good many fish feeding in flat calm deep water.

25<sup>th</sup>, a good show of spent gnat came on water in Rinnban and fish fed far out in an oily streak. Rose a lot but failed to hook them, the experience of all dry fly men that day and I only got two, 3 1/2 and 2 1/4. There was a good rise of green on the 26<sup>th</sup> a very hot day and I got two fish on it, 4 1/2, 2 1/2 off long island. After this

date there was a good rise of greens and a good show of blacks killing.

Very hot on the 28<sup>th</sup> I got two fish 7 3/4 & 2 3/4 off Lytles island on greens. Next day was bitterly cold and very stormy with hail showers and I fear most of the fly was killed and nothing moved until the 31<sup>st</sup> when the fish came on fairly well on the blacks at 2pm.

I got a few fish on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, a terrible storm which seemed to kill most of the fly left, and this day was a great rise of greens but all got killed I fear.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> a smallish rise of greens, I got eight fish - 22lbs - 4, 2, 3, 3, 3 3/4, 1 3/4, 1 1/4, 3 1/4.

Kingston got 5 that day 7 1/4, 5 1/4, 4, 2 3/4, 2. After that the fishing fizzled out and by the 7<sup>th</sup> was all over. The fish never came on the green owing to the fine weather at the beginning and then when there were blacks on the water, wouldn't look at them except on a few occasions. Since the 7<sup>th</sup> the weather has been very hot and cloudless, a fair lot of blacks on water at times but no fish moving.

My total 41 fish, Kingston 72, Greenfield about 23 I fancy, Percival 27 & Brooks ?, very few others.

My big one was a beauty, I have photo'd him, 25 1/2 inches long, 15 1/2 girth. Lovely colour and white belly. I hooked him and lost

him nearly an hour before I killed him, lightly hooked in mouth, the hook came out and foul hooked him in shoulder but after a terrific rush it cut out and when I killed him, there was the wound still bleeding. I knew it was the same fish as he fed in the same place and same way, showing his tail each time he rose. The day before I had lost a fish 4 1/2 pounds off long island and caught him an hour later in same spot. The fly a parfaït flat iron hook had cut out of his tongue. My next fly was also in his tongue alongside the bleeding cut (in tongue also) made by parfaït hook.

Gardiner send all [indistinguishable] of message and [indistinguishable] Kingston goes to Liverpool Hospital tomorrow. What a lovely place Kilronan is.

Yours

F.B Hinchcliff