

Über dieses Buch

Dies ist ein digitales Exemplar eines Buches, das seit Generationen in den Regalen der Bibliotheken aufbewahrt wurde, bevor es von Google im Rahmen eines Projekts, mit dem die Bücher dieser Welt online verfügbar gemacht werden sollen, sorgfältig gescannt wurde.

Das Buch hat das Urheberrecht überdauert und kann nun öffentlich zugänglich gemacht werden. Ein öffentlich zugängliches Buch ist ein Buch, das niemals Urheberrechten unterlag oder bei dem die Schutzfrist des Urheberrechts abgelaufen ist. Ob ein Buch öffentlich zugänglich ist, kann von Land zu Land unterschiedlich sein. Öffentlich zugängliche Bücher sind unser Tor zur Vergangenheit und stellen ein geschichtliches, kulturelles und wissenschaftliches Vermögen dar, das häufig nur schwierig zu entdecken ist.

Gebrauchsspuren, Anmerkungen und andere Randbemerkungen, die im Originalband enthalten sind, finden sich auch in dieser Datei – eine Erinnerung an die lange Reise, die das Buch vom Verleger zu einer Bibliothek und weiter zu Ihnen hinter sich gebracht hat.

Nutzungsrichtlinien

Google ist stolz, mit Bibliotheken in partnerschaftlicher Zusammenarbeit öffentlich zugängliches Material zu digitalisieren und einer breiten Masse zugänglich zu machen. Öffentlich zugängliche Bücher gehören der Öffentlichkeit, und wir sind nur ihre Hüter. Nichtsdestotrotz ist diese Arbeit kostspielig. Um diese Ressource weiterhin zur Verfügung stellen zu können, haben wir Schritte unternommen, um den Missbrauch durch kommerzielle Parteien zu verhindern. Dazu gehören technische Einschränkungen für automatisierte Abfragen.

Wir bitten Sie um Einhaltung folgender Richtlinien:

- + *Nutzung der Dateien zu nichtkommerziellen Zwecken* Wir haben Google Buchsuche für Endanwender konzipiert und möchten, dass Sie diese Dateien nur für persönliche, nichtkommerzielle Zwecke verwenden.
- + *Keine automatisierten Abfragen* Senden Sie keine automatisierten Abfragen irgendwelcher Art an das Google-System. Wenn Sie Recherchen über maschinelle Übersetzung, optische Zeichenerkennung oder andere Bereiche durchführen, in denen der Zugang zu Text in großen Mengen nützlich ist, wenden Sie sich bitte an uns. Wir fördern die Nutzung des öffentlich zugänglichen Materials für diese Zwecke und können Ihnen unter Umständen helfen.
- + Beibehaltung von Google-Markenelementen Das "Wasserzeichen" von Google, das Sie in jeder Datei finden, ist wichtig zur Information über dieses Projekt und hilft den Anwendern weiteres Material über Google Buchsuche zu finden. Bitte entfernen Sie das Wasserzeichen nicht.
- + Bewegen Sie sich innerhalb der Legalität Unabhängig von Ihrem Verwendungszweck müssen Sie sich Ihrer Verantwortung bewusst sein, sicherzustellen, dass Ihre Nutzung legal ist. Gehen Sie nicht davon aus, dass ein Buch, das nach unserem Dafürhalten für Nutzer in den USA öffentlich zugänglich ist, auch für Nutzer in anderen Ländern öffentlich zugänglich ist. Ob ein Buch noch dem Urheberrecht unterliegt, ist von Land zu Land verschieden. Wir können keine Beratung leisten, ob eine bestimmte Nutzung eines bestimmten Buches gesetzlich zulässig ist. Gehen Sie nicht davon aus, dass das Erscheinen eines Buchs in Google Buchsuche bedeutet, dass es in jeder Form und überall auf der Welt verwendet werden kann. Eine Urheberrechtsverletzung kann schwerwiegende Folgen haben.

Über Google Buchsuche

Das Ziel von Google besteht darin, die weltweiten Informationen zu organisieren und allgemein nutzbar und zugänglich zu machen. Google Buchsuche hilft Lesern dabei, die Bücher dieser Welt zu entdecken, und unterstützt Autoren und Verleger dabei, neue Zielgruppen zu erreichen. Den gesamten Buchtext können Sie im Internet unter http://books.google.com/durchsuchen.

This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

Google books

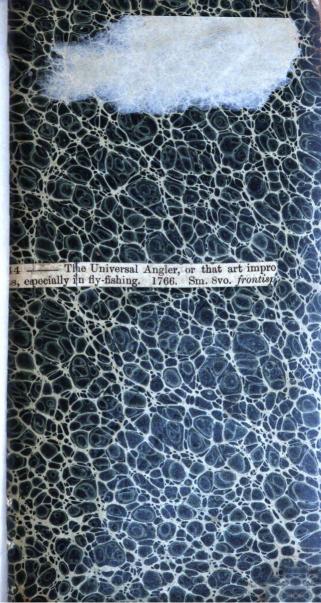


https://books.google.com

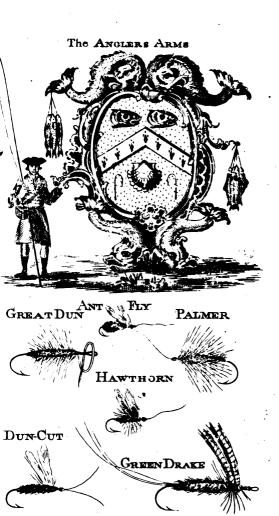








Markongh. #_ Universal Craft ell white of frickhowell, speaking of Bawlker; art of angling, says: "whis scientific healest has been un. juilly printed 1768/1766, unan the litte of Ilmousue augler", with the addition of but ofthe Sout from Jor of Karokner, and observations on the Flournder in Ma Levern. The present work in infuct an approfesiation of Bowlhers, with a few mixigantown? ahauges. (P) lized by Google



Universal Angler;

O R,

That ART Improved,

IN ALL ITS PARTS,

ESPECIALLY IN

FLY-FISHING:

DESCRIBING

The several Sorts of Fresh-water Fish, with their properest EAITs.

A L S.O,

The Names, Colours, and Seasons of all the most useful Frizza

TOUETHER

With Directions for making each FLY Artificially, in the most exact Manner.

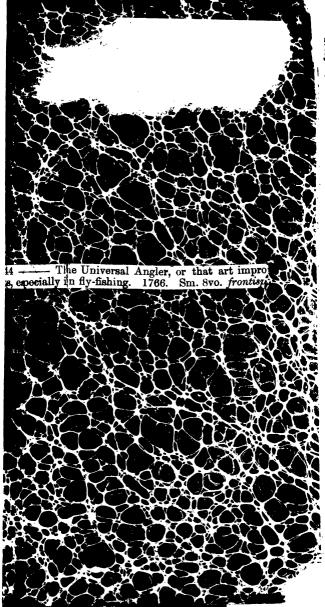
The whole Interspersed with many Curious and Uncommon Observations.

Adorned with CUTS of the several FISH herein treated on.

LONDON Printed;
And fold by all the Bookfellers in Town and Country.

MDCCLXVI.

Digitized by Google



#-7. westween Marker S. S. Varrerol And 321 ell white of frickhowel, speaking of Bawker; art of anclong, says: "whi; scientific healest has been onjustly printed 1768/1766, unau the like Of Universal augler", with the addition of but offer Sunt from for it Karoknor, and observations on the Floringer in Mu Levern. The present work is in fact an ap-Andriation of Bowlkers, with a few mayantound ahouses. (10) ed by Google

•

The Anglers Arms GREAT DUN ANT CONTROL PALMER Hawthorn Dun-Cut GREEN DRAKE

Universal Angler;

O R,

That ART Improved,

IN ALL ITS PARTS,

ESPECIALLY IN

FLY-FISHING:

DESCRIBING

The several Sorts of Fresh-water Fish, with their properest HAITS.

L S.O,

The Names, Colours, and Seasons of all the most useful Frizza!

TOUETHER

With Directions for making each FLY Artificially, in the most exact Manner.

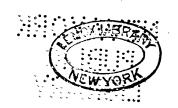
The whole Interspersed with many Curious and Uncommon Observations.

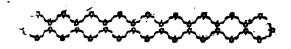
Adorned with CUTS of the feveral FISH herein treated on.

L O N D O N Printed;
And fold by all the Bookfellers in Town and Country.

MDCCLXVI.

Digitized by Google





GENERAL

Rules and Cautions.

I. WHEN you have hooked a fith, never fuffer him to run out with the line; but keep your rod bent, and as near perpendicular as you can; by this method the top plies to every pull he makes, and you prevent the firaining of your line. For the fame reason,

name reason,

II. Never raise a large fish out of the water by taking the hair to which the book is fast end, or indeed any part of the line into your hand; but either put a landing net under him, or for want of that your hat: you may indeed in fly fasting, lay hold of your line so draw a fish to you, but this must be done with caution.

III. Your si'k, for whipping hooks and other fine work, must be very small; use it double, and wax it (and indeed every other fort of binding) with shoemaker's wax; if your wax is too slift, temper it with

tallow.

IV. Inclose the knots and joints of your line in a little pill of wax, pressed very close, and the super-suities pinched off; this will soon harden, and pre-

vent the knots from drawing.

V. If for strong fishing you use the grass, which, when you can get it sine, is to be preferred to gut, remember to soak it always an hour in water before you use it: this will make it tough and prevent its kinking.

yı.

VI. Whenever you begin to fish, wet the ends of the joints of your rod; which, as it makes them swell,

will prevent their loofening. And,

VII. If you happen with rain or otherwise to wet your rod, so that you cannot pull the joints asunder, turn the ferrel round a few times in the slame of a candle, and they will easily separate.

VIII. Before you fix the loop of britle to your hook in order to make a fly; to prevent its drawing befare to finge the ends of it; do the same by the

hair to which at any time you whip a hook.

IX. Make flies in warm weather only; for in

cold your waxed filk will not draw.

X. In rainy weather, or when the feason for fishing is over repair whatever damage your tackle has fustained.

XI. Never regard what bunglers and flovens tell you, but believe that heather in your tackle, and a nice and curious hand in all your works are absolutely necessary

XII. Never fish in any water that is not common without first obtaining leave of the owners, which

is seldom denied to those who delerve it.

Lastly. Remember that the wit and invention of man were given for greater purposes than to ensure filly fish: and that, how delightful soever Angling may appear, it ceases to be innocent when used otherwise than as mere recreation.

CONTENTS:

CONTENTS.

JUMBER of RIVERS in England	P. 3
Names of the several fresh water Fish	7
Of the SALMON, the Spawning-time and Fee	ed ibid
His Haunts	8
Of the SAMLETS, SALMON-PINKS, or S	HED-
DERS; the LAST SPRINGS, and GRA	VEL-
LAST-SPRINGS	10
Of the PIKE	13
The Spawning time	, 15
The different Methods of taking the PIKE	ibid
Of the Trout	2 I
The Spawning-time	22
His Haunts —	23
Best Months for Angling for TROUTS	25
Of the GRATLING, his Season, and Shap	e 26
His Spawning-time	27
His Haunts —	ibid
How to take the GRAYLING -	28
Of the PEARCH, his Spawning-time & Sha	pe 29
How to take the PEARCH	30
Of the Tench	32
The Spawning time and Season -	33
His Biting time and Baits -	ibid
Of the CARP, his Shape and Colour	35
The Spawning time	36
His Haunts -	37
Hs Biting-time and Baits	ibid
Observations on the Breeding of CARP	39
, ·	Hain

vi CONTENTS.

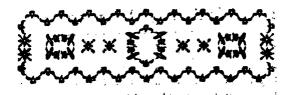
How to preserve and feed Fish in Pools	41
Of the BREAM	44
The Spawning time	45
Their Haunts	i bid
How and with what Baits to take the BREA	
Of the FLOUNDER	
His Haunts	53 ibid
His Biting time and Baits	54
Observations on the Severn Flounder	i bid
Of the BARBEL	56
The Spawning-time	57
His Haunts	ibid
His Biting time and Baits	58
Of the Chue, Chevin, or Botling;	their
Spawning time, Season, and Shape	59
Their Haunts	. 60
Their Biting-time and Baits	61
Of the ROACH and DACE	63
Their Spawning time	64
Their Haunts -	ibid
Their Biting-time and Baits -	ibid
Of the Gudgeon -	67
His Haunts and Spawning-time -	68
His Biting-time and Baits	ibid
Of the RUFF or POPE	70
His Haunts and Spawning time —	71
His Biting time and Baits	ibid
Of the BLEAK	72
Of the CHAR and GUINIAD -	73
Of the EEL	75
His Manner of Breeding or Spawning	77
His Biting-time and Baits	77 81
Of the Minnow or Pink	84
	\sim

CONTENTS.	¥'n
Of the LOACH	85
Of the Bull's HEAD or MILLER'S-THUMB	86
Of the STICKLE BACK or JACK SHARP	87
Of the Lamprey	88
Of the SHAD	89
Of FLY FISHING	01
Of the several Sorts of Fliks and their Seasons	92
The RED FLY	94
The Blue dun Fly	95
The Brown Fly or Dun-drake	96
The Cow dung Fly The Stone Fly	97
The STONE FLY	98
The GRANAM FLY or GREEN-TAIL	99
	100
	roi
	02
	bid
The YELLOW SALLY FLY	103
The Canon Fly	04
The Shorn Fly	05
	106
	801
The ORLE FLY	115
	bid
	116
The FERNFLY	17
	81.
The Blue GNAT i	bid
	19
	bid
	20
The LITTLE RED and BLACK ANT FLIES I	
	bid
•	the

wiii CONTENTS.

The LITTLE PALE BLUE	122
The WILLOW FLY	ibid
The Dragon Fly	
The King-fisher or Peacock Fly	125
The Brown Night Fly	126
The White Night Fly	127
The WHITE NIGHT FLY	128
The Manner of Making and Using the ART	
CIAL FLY	129
of Bottom fishing	132
The COD BAIT	ibid
How to Use the COD-BAIT	133
The GRASS-HOPPER -	134
The CABBAGE WORM or CABBAGE GRUI	3 1 3 6
of Minnow-Fishing	139
Of MAGGOT-FISHING —	14 E
Of WORM-FISHING	147
The Flesh-colour'd Red Worm	ibid
The BRANDLING	148
The LITTLE GILT TAIL or TAG WORM	ibid
The PEACOCK RED WORM	149
The LOB WORM or DEW WORM -	ibid
The WHITE WORM or MARL WORM	150
The Dock WORM or SQUIRREL TAIL	151
The SEDGE WORM	i bi d
The Cow-dung Bobb	152
TROUT-FISHING with the WORM —	ibid
Of PALMER WORMS	
Of the BEETLE —	154
O) ING DEBLUE	156

THE



THE

Art of Angling;

O R,

COMPLEAT FLY-FISHER.

A deservedly reckoned one of the most innocent and delightful recreations of the sportsman: it gives the mind a very agreeable and amufing entertainment, and at the same time contributes not a little to the health and vigour of the body, by the moderate and gentle exercise it requires, as well as by the wholsome and refreshing air that plays upon the water. The design of the following sheets, is to contribute what I can towards the improvement and persection of this

Digitized by Google

this excellent Art, particularly of that de-lightful branch of it, Fly-fishing, wherein the reader may be affured, that the directions he will meet with are not the trite and common ones frequently taken upon trust from others, and generally found unsuccessful upon trial: but they will be, for the most part, new and uncommon, sounded upon repeated observations of my own, and confirmed by many years prac-

tice and experience in the Art.

THE manner in which I intend to treat this subject will be this. After mentioning the rivers (at least the chiefest of them) which are the scenes of the Angler's diversion, to describe the different kinds of fish their inhabitants: their several natures and qualities: their haunts, and places of feeding and retirement: the various kinds of foods and baits adapted to each particular kind of fish, together with the most proper times and seasons of using them: and more especially the great diversity of flies which nature produces for them, in a wonderful, yet regular succession: with directions for making the artificial fly, and a particular account of the necessary materials, as feathers, furrs, &c. requilite to make every fort of fly in such manner as to have the nearest resemblance to the natural.

THE Number of our Rivers in England are by some reckoned to be three hundred and twenty-five, most of the principal of which are as follow;

Thames. Dove. Nyd.Tine. Severn. Dun. Ouse. Teft. Orwell. Trent. Dart. Teme. Thryn. Eden. Onny. Humber. Medway. Eamon. Parret. Tees. Tweed. Eavenlode. Plim. Ver. Wye. Petterel. U/k. Ex. Frome. Rotber. Avon. Ware. lss. Are. Reck. Wever. Itchen. Rbea. Arun. Weland. Iddle. Roden. Wensbeck. Blithe. Ribble. Wey. Kennet. Breton. Waveney. Calder. Lea. Rumney. Witham. Line. Stour. Cherwell. Swift. Windrush. Churner. Lavant. Wash. Chelmer. Lon. Stroud. Willey. Lowther. Coln. Sow. Clun. Lug. Sherburn. Crouch. Mersey. Swall. Youre. Salwarp. Dee. Monnow. Yare. Nen. Tame. Derwent. Nadder. Deben. Tamer.

B 2 . THAMES,

The ART of Angling;

THAMES, the chief river of the island, is composed of two rivers, Tame and Isis; the former rising in Bucking-hamshire, the other about two miles west of Cirencester, in Gloucestershire; and uniting their streams with their names near Dorchester, in Oxfordshire, make a sine beautiful river; from thence is called by the above single name of Thames; which stowing and journeying on through the several counties of Berks, Buckingham, Middleser, Surry, Essex, and Kent, joins the Medway in the very mouth of the British Ocean.

SEVERN is also a large and beautiful river, which, for the length of its navigation, may rival or even exceed the former. It has its rise in Plinlimmon-hill, in Montgomeryshire, and is capable of carrying large boats and barges in the same county. It washes in its course the walls of Shrewsbury, Worcester, and Gloucester, and several other places of less distinction, and at last disembogues itself into the Bristol Channel about seven miles below that city.

TRENT.

TRENT, so called from its producing thirty kinds of fish, or from its reception of thirty lesser rivers, has its sountain in Staffordshire, and slowing through the several counties of Nottingham, Lincoln, Leicester, and York, augmenteth the turbulent river Humber, the most violent current of all the island.

HUMBER is not properly a distinct river, as not having a spring-head of its own, but is rather the mouth or receptacle of divers other rivers, especially the Derwent, Ouse, and Trent, here confluent and meeting together.

MEDWAY is a Kentish river, remarkable for harbouring the royal navy.

TWEED is a river on the north-east bounds of England, dividing it from Scotland; on whose banks stands the Arong and memorable town of Berwick.

which runs with a winding course through the counties of Brecknock, Hereford, Monmouth, and Gloucester, and at last falls into the Bristol Channel. There is B 3 another river of the same name in Dorsetshire, (though differently spelt) upon the mouth of which stands the town of Weymouth, so called from its situation. It is not unusual to have several rivers called by the same name, sometimes three or four; as is remarkable in the names Avon, Stour, Ouse, and some others, of which there are several so called in different parts of England.

THERE may possibly be some rivers omitted in the preceding catalogue as considerable as many of those there set down. There are also innumerable brooks and rivulets (too many to be particularly taken notice of) that afford the sportsman as much diver-sion as many of the larger rivers. By this means England enjoys the advantage of being better watered than most parts of the world; which greatly adds to the fertility of its soil, the beauty of the country, and by the great plenty and variety of sish here produced, to the delight and convenience of mankind. These I shall in the next place proceed to describe.

THE

THE Names of our Fresh-water Fish, are,

Salmon.	Flounder.	Eel.
Salmon-Pinks		Minnow, or
Or	Chub, or Bot-	Pink.
Last-Springs.	ling.	Loach.
		Bullbead.
		Stickle-back, or
		Jack-Sharp.
		Stad.
Tench.		Lamprey .:
Carp.		Lampern.
		Carame Charles

First of the SALMON; the Spawn-

THE Salmon is accounted the king of all fresh-water fish, and always breeds in rivers that have an immediate communication to the sea we get so high or distant from it as not to admit any salt or brackish tincture. He is a fish of prey, has his teeth in his mouth, as other fish of prey have: when in season, he is adorned B 4 with

with a row of small, round, black spots, along the middle of his sides from head to tail. The Salmons are of several sorts, and different appellations: but, for a nice taste, the Thames Salmon are reckoned to exceed those of any other river. In the river Severn the spawning time is in the month of May. The Severn Salmon are likewise excellent in their kind, and are first in season of any river I know of in England; which is from February to the latter end of April.

It is said that they dig a private hole in the gravel, and there leave their eggs, which early in the following spring become Last-Springs, or Salmon-Smelts. After they have spawned, both melter and spawner hasten to the sea before winter: but if any are stopped by slood-gates, wares, or mills, and so consined to the fresh-water, they become lean, consume, and die within a year or two at most.

His Haunts.

IN the Spring he returns from sea into the fresh rivers, where he fattens; the sea adding greatly to his growth and goodness.

ness. The Salmon delights to prey and sport in swift violent streams and large rivers; especially in such waters that have peobly, gravelly, and, fometimes, weedy bottoms: is ever restless, coveting to get near the spring head; when off prey and fport, he swims in the deep broad parts, and, generally, in the middle of the river, near the ground.

Of bis Feeding Time and Baits.

THE Salmon is to be taken with the trout's baits. They commonly lie in the middle of a rough, and upper part of a gentle stream, when on prey. Their best feeding time is from fix to nine in the forenoon, and from three in the afternoon till fun-fetting, in a clear water, when the wind blows moderately against the aream. The only months for him are, from the beginning of March to the end of August. He is to be fished for with the small Lastfpring, fly, or worm bait; but the first is the best: you must trole for him in the same manner you do for pike, which is particularly described in the following sheets. When struck, he begins to leap B 5

10 The ART of Angling;

and plunge, but runs not to the end of the line, as the trout will. Some use a ring on the top of the rod, through which the line may run to its extremity; though a wheel about the middle of the rod, or nearer the hand, is more convenient.

***}**{*}{*}{*}{*}{*}

Observations and Remarks on the little SALMONS, called SAMLETS, SALMON-PINKS, or SHEDDERS: and also on the LAST-SPRINGS, and GRAVEL-LAST-SPRINGS.

THESE small Salmons being found in our rivers of several sizes, and going under different names in several places, may be a reason why some have thought that the above small fry of the Salmon are different species or sorts of sish: but I conceive them to be all one and the same species, only they grow not to compleat Salmons, or sull proportion, under two years and a half: and the reason for my opinion is, because I could never find any spawn in any of those of lesser

SALMON



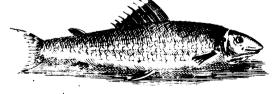
PIKE



TROUT



GRAYLING



And the second of the second o

The factor of the second of th

The mapped the design of the control of the mapped the design of the control of t

*.1,

• •

 $GXXX_{QD,0}$

lesser size before they came to be Salmon; which most certainly they would have had

if of a different species.

THE Last-Springs, Shedders, or Gravel-Last-Springs, (so called in some countries) are but one fort or species of fish. They are very plentiful in the rivers Severn, Wye, and Dee, from the latter end of March to the latter end of November, and are much like the Salmon-fry; only the Salmon fry return to the fea in March and April, whereas the Shedders and Last-Springs never leave the fresh-water.

THE little Gravel-Last-Spring is a species of itself, which in the rivers Wye and Severn spawn in the latter end of August and September, and at that time those rivers abound with them: there are some of them at all times of the year, but at the latter end of August I have caught ten or twelve dozen of them in an afternoon. had the curiofity of opening fome of them, and found them to be full of male spawn near shedding, but never could perceive any female spawn, therefore am certain this must be a species of itself, as having spawn, but cannot account for this fish having no female spawn which may be discerned.

MANY

12 The ART of Auguing:

Many have been of opinion that they are the spawn of the sick Salmon, which cannot get out of the fresh rivers to fea; and being the offspring of a weak feed or generation, is the reason of their diminutive size, and incapacity of breeding again: but I take this to be an error, because the Salmon ever spawn when in perfect health only, before their time of going to leas and spawn no more till their return to the fresh-water; for unless they return to sea, thereby to be purged and cleanled by the falt-water, they pine away and die in their imprisonment, either by excessive cold in fresh-water, or for want of purgation, or both. Now the purging of the falt-water may as well be a reason why Salmon grow so fast, as the want thereof, the cause why they pine away and die fo foon, when confined to fresh-waters; for Salmon being fish of prey, and great feeders, nature directs them to faltwater, as physick, to purge and cleanse them, not only from their impurities after spawning, but from all their muddy and gross humours, acquired by their excessive feeding all the summer in fresh rivers, and hardens their fat and flesh, which makes them not only grow the faster, but also become

become the more wholesome food, savoury and grateful to mankind.

Of the PIKE, or LUCE.

HE Pike is of a long and roundish body, has a plain smooth head, is covered with small scales of a whitish colour, and the body sprinkled with yellowish fpots; the young ones are more green; the upper and lower jaws are full of teeth, and three rows of teeth upon the tongue. He's the tyrant of fresh-water fish, and reckoned a longer liver than any other fish, except a carp. He is very chargeable to his owners, his chief subsistence being upon other fish, even those of his own species. He will bite at a dog or any other creature he sees in the water, of which many instances might be given: a very particular one I shall relate, as follows:

My father caught a Pike in Barn-mere, (a large standing water in Cheshire) was an Ell long, and weighed thirty-five pounds, which he brought to the lord Cholmondley.

14 . The ART of Angling :...

ley. His lordship ordered it to be turned into a canal in the garden, wherein were abundance of several forts of fish: about twelve months after his lordship drawed the canal, and found that this overgrown Pike had devoured all the fish, except one large carp, which weighed between nine and ten pounds, and that was bitten in several places. The Pike was then put into the canal again, together with abundance of fish for him to feed upon, all which he devoured in less than a year's time, and was ob-ferved by the gardener and other workmen there to take the ducks and other waterfowl under water; whereupon they shot magpies and crows, and threw them into the canal, which the pike took before their eyes. Of this they acquainted their lord, who thereupon ordered the flaughter-man to throw calves bellies, chickens guts, and fuch like garbage for him to prey upon, but being foon after neglected, he died, as fupposed, for want of food.

It is the general opinion that no other fish will affociate themselves with this water-tyrant, for he always swims alone, and is the most bold and daring of all our freshwater fish, knowing no other pleasure, as

we conjecture, than prey or rest.

Of

And Compleat FLY-FISHER. 15



Of the Spawning Time.

HE spawns but once a year, which is usually about the end of February or beginning of March, at which time they go out of the river into some ditch or creek, and all the while the spawner is casting her eggs the milter hovers over her but never touches her. The best of these fish are those that breed in rivers, and the semale much preferable to the male. Their chief season is from May till Candlemas; his feeding is generally upon sish or frogs, there being a great antipathy between him and them: sometimes he feeds upon pickrell weed.

There are Four Ways of taking a Pike.

THE first is with a ledge-bait, which is a bait fixed to a certain place. It is best to have your ledge's-bait living, whether it be a fish or a frog; and to keep them alive the longer, observe this method. If it be a fish, as a roach or dace, which I think are most tempting, (though a pearch lives the longest upon the hook) having cut off the fin on

16 The ART of Angling)

on the back, which may be done without hurting, make such incision between the head and the fin as you may put the arming wire of your hook into it, taking care to hurt the fish as little as may be; there carrying the wire along his back, into or near his tail, between the skin and the body, draw it out at another incifion near the fail; then tie him about with thread, but no harder than just to hold him to the wire, so avoid hurting the fish. Some use a probe to open the passage, for the more easy entrance of the wire; but without so much trouble a little experience will make you perfect in this matter. When your bait is a frog, it may be either a land or a water-frog: chuse the yellowest you can get, for that the Pike likes best, and between the months of May and August they are the most beautiful. To preserve them long alive, manage them thus: put your hook in at his mouth and out at his gills; then with a fine needle and filk few the upper part of his leg, with one stitch only to the arming wire; or, if you tie his leg fast above the upper joint, it will do as well. Having thus prepared your ledge'sbait either with a fish or a frog, fasten your hook to a line, which must be twelve

or fourteen yards at least in length; then fix the line to some bough or other rest next to the water, near to the hole where you guess the Pike to be, then wind up your line on a forked stick, with a notch in one end to keep your line fixed to the length you intend, that when the Pike comes he may the more easily run off with the remaining part of the line to his hold, and swallow the bait.

The Second Way of Taking a PIKE,

IS what we call taking them at fnap. For this purpose your rod must be at least twelve feet in length, very strong and taper, but not too beavy, with a substantial Joop at the end to put your line into, which must be as long, within a foot, as your rod. When you bait for the snap you must make a hole in, the fish's side you intend for the bait, as near the middle as you can with the end of your book or probe; put in your armed wire, and draw it out of the fish's mouth; then sow up his mouth. When, you fish thus for the Pike, before you strike let him run a little, and

and then strike contrary to the way he takes. It is best to use a double spring-hook in this fort of fishing, being much preserable to any other, and never fails: This manner of angling is only proper to be practiced in March, for then the Pike is fick, and bites shy.

**** The Third Way of Taking a PIKE.

IS by fnaring, or haltering: and the chief time of the year for this is from March to July, and in the hottest part of the day, when the fish appear, as they all do, on the top of the water. When you have spied a Pike, fix your eye ftedfastly upon him without looking off, which will make him the quieter, and have your fnare with you ready fixed, after this manner: Take a strait taper pole, that is stiff and strong enough, but not too heavy, off about four yards in length: falten to the leffer end a small piece of hard twisted whip cord, about a yard long, more or less according to the depth of the water, and to the end fasten a well nealed brass wire, made into a noose or fnare, like a hare-gin, or let it be all of nealed 1.3

nealed wire, with no cord: then, having opened the noose wide enough to slip over his head without touching him, let it down with your pole into the water, even in depth with the Pike, two or three yards before him, and guide it very gently towards his head, fixing your eyes full upon him, till you have put the snare over his head and gill-sins, but no further: then immediately with a strong jerk upright, hoist him instantly to land. Keeping your eye as much as you can upon the Pike, will cause him to look upon you the more and mind the snare less. Besure your pole be not brittle or rotten.

In the same manner you may halter other fish; as carp, eels, trout and tench.

The Fourth Way of Taking a Pike,

IS by trolling, and very pleasant: the lines and other tackle for this purpose are now so accurately and exactly made, and so commonly sold, that I need not trouble you with a description of them. It is best angling after this manner in a clear water and especially in a windy day. Some prefer

fer a fingle before a double pike hook, and bait with a minnow as well to catch pearch as Pike by trolling. When you are compleatly fitted up with all materials, and your nook is baited, cast your fish bait up and down in such places as you know the Pike frequents, letting him sink a considerable depth before you offer to pull him up again. When the Pike comes, if it be not funk too deep, you may fee the water move, at least you may feel him: then slack your line, and give him length enough to run to his hold; whether he will immediatiy make, and there paunch and swallow the bait. Thus let him lie till you see the line move; when you may certainly con-clude he has fwallowed the balt; and is ranging about for more: then with your trole wind up the line till you think it is almost strait, and with a nimble jerk hook him, and bring him pleasantly to land.

The Pike loves a still, shady, unfrequented water, with a sandy, chalky, or clay bottom. His best biting time is early in the morning, or late in the evening, in a clear water and gentle gales: he takes all forts of baits, except slies, but the most principal are large galescape specifical principal are, large gudgeons, small roaches

ruaches and dace, large minnows, bull-heads, bleaks (in July), young frogs, or falmon finelts: fome use fat bacon in winter months: a young trout, jack, or pearch are allo good. Take care that all your fish baits are fresh and sweet when von use them.

Of the Train of the second

THE Trout is a fish highly valued in this and foreign nations; he feeds clear and purely, and in the swiftest streams; and may claim a preservace to all fresh-water fish. The shape of it is rather long than broad, like the salmon: it has a short roundish head, a blunt shout, and in many respects resembles the salmon; his mouth is also filled with teeth as the salmon's is.

THE best trouts are either red or yellow, though lome are white, and yet good, but these are rarely found. The female has a leffer head, deeper body, and is usually better meat than the male. It is observed observed that a hog-back and a little head to any fort of fish, either trout, falmon, or other forts, is a sign that such fish are in season.

THERE are several sorts of Trouts, tho' they all go under that general name, which differ in their bigness, shape, and colour; and in some rivers they are sooner in season than others; and in some longer before they go out of season. There is a fort of small trout which will never come to any bigness, but breeds much more than those of a larger size.

李春春春春春春春春春春春春春春

The Spawning Time.

THE Trout, a little before they spawn, make up the river to the spring-head, and to admiration will get through mill, wares, and slood-gates, and up such high and swist currents and places as is almost incredible; and spawn in October or November, (but in some rivers a little sooner or later, like the salmon; contrary to the natural course of most other sishes, which spawn in warmer weather.

AFTER Trouts have spawned, they waste, look big-headed, are sick, lean, become

become insipid, are loufy and unwholfome, till spring comes to restore them to their pristine health; except some of the semales who are barren, and continue good all the winter: and such are to be found in divers of our rivers; as in Arrow, in Herefordshire: and also in the river Teme that arises in Radnorshire: and in Chinwater, in Shropshire. In this respect they may be compared to the barren does, that come in season about the middle of November, and go out the beginning of February.

ককককককক

His Haunts.

IN February, when the weather be-comes warmer, Trouts leave their winter-quarters in the deeps, to fcour, cleanse, and recreate themselves in shallower waters and streams, and to prepare themselves for their fummer delights; and as they gather strength advance still higher up the river, till they become fettled in their summer habitations; many of them getting as high as they can towards the spring-head of rivers, as in the preceding section. In their travels they settle for the most part in whirl pools, and holes into which swift streams, sharps, and shallows fall: and growing strong, feed in the largest and swittest currents, especially in the sides and deepest parts of them, near to their holds. If they be large fish they commonly lie under hollow banks, worn so by the streams bearing upon them; under roots of trees, boughs, and bushes; and behind great flones, blocks, and banks that jet forth into the water, on which Areams pressing hard, cause an eddy or whirling back of the water; and they also delight themselves in all such places that are shaded with any bush, or covered over with froth, bank, or other thing; conftantly waiting and watching for the stream to bring something down to feed upon, or for some small fish which they often make their prey. Sometimes they take up their station under bridges; and between two streams that run from under double arches of bridges, in the returns of the streams, where the water feems to boil and roll up and down. In deep still waters, they chiesly lurk under hollow banks and roots of trees; and for want of such hiding places, abscond under seggs or weeds, the better to surprise their prey, especially in the beginning

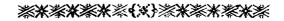
ginning of the year, before they become healthy, but at the latter end of the year, when declining in through, they lie in the tails of streams, and when in their very prime, is mill beads or dams, and at the upper end of mill-pools, under planks and timber, and in other deep fwift ffreams, as locks, flood-gates, and wates. Thus by knowing their most frequented haunts, the angler may beg in the next place, more eafily directed in the various ways of sporting for them.

The best Months for Angling for TROUTS,

THE best four months of angling for Trouts are, March, April, May, and June. You may begin in February if the weather be open and mild; but the chiefest months are those four first mentioned. In March and Aprilit is best angling for Trouts with a worm in the forenoon, and with a fly or minnow all the rest of the day: but in the month of May, you must use the minnow or codbait in the forenoon, till the slies come down. In March, if the weather be hot,

26 The Art of Angling;

hot, still, and bright, and the water clear, angle for them in the swiftest streams, and most strong part of the river with minnow or worm only; and in the deeps, mornings and evenings, very early and very late; that is, if the weather proves very clear and bright. In my opinion the Trout is best in Season about the beginning of May; before he has filled and gorged himself with the May-sly, for that sly makes the belly thin, and the slesh slabby.



Of the GRAYLING, his Seafon and Shape.

OME are of opinion that the Umber and Grayling differ only as the herring and pilchard do: but I think they are both the fame fish, only different counties give them separate names. He seeds like a trout, but he is of another shape; for he is hog-back'd, and his fins standing upon his back like those of a pearch, his mouth and belly touch the ground together, which makes me believe he feeds most at bottom.

As to his fize he never exceeds twenty four inches in length; is good and palatable all the year, but the principal Season is from September till Christmas; at which time he is black about his head and gills, and down the back; his belly is of a dark grey dappled colour, with beautiful black spots on his sides; is of a delicate shape; his flesh white and firm; his teeth grow round his upper jaw, as fine as any file, and his mouth is so tender on each side, that he often breaks the hold when taken; therefore it is best angling for him with a fine hook.

፟፟፠፠፠፠፠፠ቚ His Spawning Time.

HE spawns about the latter end of March and beginning of April, at which time he lies in sharp streams and brows, and is very apt to rife at the artificial fly; but you seldom take a spawner: the milter will, at that time, take a worm freely.

--*-*-*

His Haunts.

HIS Haunts are the same as those of the trout, and he is usually taken with the fame دارد ود

fame baits, and after the same manner. He will take a fly, worm, or maggor, but the last most freely, but is very gamesome at the fly or worm; being much simpler, and therefore bolder than a trout: He will rise two or three times at a fly, if you miss him. He lurks close all the winter, but about the latter end of April, swims very nimbly in the middle of the stream, is then extremely active and brisk, but dead hearted and cowardly after he is hooked.



How to take the GRAYLING.

HE feeds upon codbait and stonebait, and all other little infects that gather husks to preserve them from the coldness of the water, which are composed of gravel and sand: for the Grayling plows and routs up the gravel to seek his food, as natural as the hogs plow for theirs. I have often seen half a dozen Graylings at a time routing the gravel up, and catching at every thing that was like food. When you fish for him within water let your bait or shot drag upon the ground, for he will rather take it from the bottom than ascend; there-

therefore, when you angle particularly for him, use a cork-float rather than a running line. Indeed I cannot but think a trout much inferior to the Grayling for angling or eating.

Humber, which runs through part of Yorkshire, produces more of this sort of fish than any other river in England; and therefore, what we in most other parts of the kingdom call Grayling, they there (by a resemblance of the name with that of the river) call the Golden-umber: which epithet they give him because he feeds on those stony and gravelly infects that gather up the dust, which is very fine, which dust, when mixed with the sime in the fish's belly, shines like gold.

英文义英文兴英文)米(英文)米(英文

Of the PEARCH, his Sparoning Time, and Shape.

THE Pearch is a very good and bold biting fish; is one of the fishes of prey, carrying his teeth in his mouth, which is very large; he is very ravenous and a great

great devourer of his brethren; has a hogback, and armed with sharp prickles: his skin is covered over with thick, dry, hard, scales, having two fins at his back. The Sea-pearch has but one fin on his back, and is esteemed a much better fish. He spawns in May. As to his shape, he's deep bodied, about fourteen inches in length, oftener less, though there have been seen of them two seet long,



With what Baits, and how to take the PEARCH.

THERE are several baits which will take him, but he bites as freely at the three following as at any or all other whatever; that is, the worm, minnow, or little frog: and of all worms I take the dunghill-worm, called the red-worm, to be the best, when well scoured in moss or sennel.

Is you rove for a Pearch with a minnow, let it be alive, and flick your hock in its back fin, or upper lip, and let him swim up and down in midwater, or a little lower, with a cork, which ought not to be very fmall, and you must be sure to lead your line

Digitized by Google

line within nine inches or a foot of the hook. for that will keep the bait under water, else; he will come to the top when tired. This is as good a bait for the trout as any.

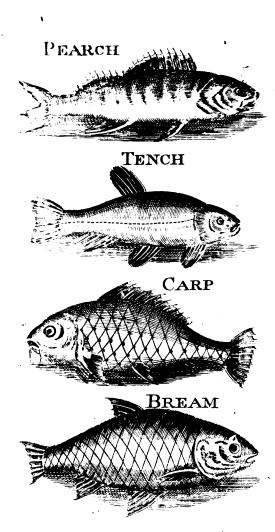
WHEN you fish with a frog, you must put the hook through the skin of his back, for then he will swim without interruption.

WHEN either trout or Pearch bite, befure you give him line enough, that he may gorge the bait; or elfe the hook, being covered with the bait, will flip out of his mouth. This way of fishing for Pearch is best in the months of May and June, for then they are roving about for the spawn of roach and dace.

THE best way of gathering these fish to-gether is to take half a dozen clay-balls, about the size of a penny loaf, of the stiff-est fastest clay that can be had, and make them round and full of holes; but you should first have ready a large quantity of lob-worms; then put one end of every worm into each hole, and close the clay fast upon them. Thus having filled and stuffed all the balls, take them to the pool, pond. or river, where you intend to angle; throw two or three balls in a place, at about a yard's distance from each other: these worms in the balls being alive, twist and rwine C₄

in pond or river, bait the place first with the same balls directed for the pearch or carp; and be sure, if you have maggots, throw in a few at the taking of every fish, for that will keep them together. The fize of your hook must be from number six to number three, whipped on a strong seagrafs or filk-worm gut: two or three shots at the line for pond-fishing will be enough, with a swan or goose-quill float. The same fishing-tackle will serve for carp, pearch, and Tench.

Hrs striking time, or hours of motion, aferabout eight, twelve, and four, night or day in the three hot months. If you can whate the pit or pond where carp and Tench lase, west may fir the mud with your feet or with any instrument till you make the water very muddy; which will throw every fish up to the top of the water, and make them put their noies out of the water for air, (this I have experienced in Chefine) and themyou may take out what fize you please that this must be done in very hot weather. The muddy water makes them very lisk for the prefent, but in half an hour's time, they will recover, and retire to the bostom again.



aure both himself and others; and yet lovies to feed in very foul water, and amongst weeds. It is a general acceptation that when any other fills receives wound or hurt, he will fearch for the Tench, and endeavour to rub himself against him; which - proves a certain cure, by virtue of the bala fam or flime that is naturally upon the Tench.

>= 5 通令事中重中医中医中医中医中医中医中毒中毒中

The Spawning Time, and Seafon.

HE begins sto spawn in June, and in fome ponds not till the latter end of July, and fives fome time out of water; and is best in season from the latter end of Sepcomber to the latter end of May.

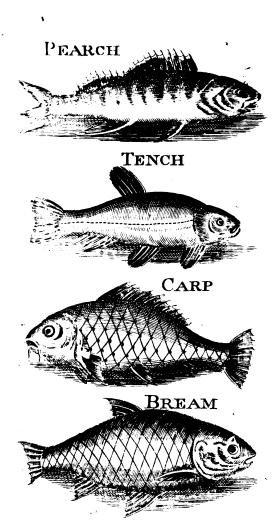
· **电**电影影响电影电影电影电影

His Biting Time and Baits.

HE will bite no carefull foured dedniwarm, od imaggot, nai young wafp-grib boiled, or a green worm from the boughs of the trees. I reckon these four the best fores of baits that are. His bicing season is from the beginning of April to the latter and of May. Whether you angle for him in

in pond or river, bait the place first with the same balls directed for the pearch or carp; and be sure, if you have maggots, throw in a few at the taking of every fish, for that will keep them together. The fize of your hook must be from number six to number three, whipped on a strong seagrass or filk worm gut: two or three shots at the line for pond-fishing will be enough, with a swan or goose-quill float. The same fishing-tackle will serve for carp, pearch, and Tench.

His striking time, or hours of motion, afe about eight, twelve, and four, night or day, line the three hot months. If you can ciwade the spit los pond where carp and Tench lase, you may fit the mud with your feet or with any instrument till you make the water very muddy; which will throw every fifth up to the top of the water, and make them put their notes out of the water for air, (this I have experienced in Chefine and then you may take out what flize you pleases; but this must be done in every hot weather. The muddy water makes them very lick for the prefent, but in half an hour's time, they will recover, and retire to the bottom again.



Description of the second of t

The second of th

Section Configuration

The section of the section o

、動物による。 Compagnet American Compagnet American

e ne meta sient in de la communication de la c

Digitized by Google

Of the CARP, bis Shape and Colour.

HE Carp is a very flately and subtle sish; stiled the fresh-water fox. He is originally of foreign growth: his back rises from his head somewhat sharp and edged, is covered with very large, strong, broad scales: is of a yellowish colour, especially when arrived to an age: the younger fort are more inclined to a dusky colour: his head is short, in proportion to his body: has no teeth: and swims with broad fins: his tail is broad and forked, of a colour between red and black, as is also the last fin: neither hath he apy tongue, but instead thereof nature hath given him a stelly palate to relish his food.

He is observed to breed several months in the year, contrary to the nature of most other sish. To strengthen this conjustive, you shall seldem take a male Carp without a milt, or a semale without much spawn; especially all the summer season. She breeds more naturally in ponds than in running water, (if she breeds there at all), but the river Carp for eating is preserved to all C 6

others. He is very difficult to take, and there is a necessity of exercising the virtue of patience when you sport for him: for I have known the best of anglers we their utmost art and diligence for many hours to take him. In some pends they are as diffisult to take as in a river; that is, where they have a store of feed and a clear water. He is to be ashed for early and late; you cannot gove an exareme in either.



Of the Spawning Time.

when a female Carp goes to cast her spawn, and three or four milters followher, and, she diffembling a boynes, force her through weeds and flags, where the drops her spawn, which flicks fast to the weeds: then the male performs his office, and all the spawn formilted upon, in vailhort time become living fith. They begin to spawn at four years old. The Carp and tench are the : 6My two filli that ought to be put in a pond together, and thrive best in clay or marle bottoms.

His Haunts.

THERE is scarce any fort of fish that loves a cold hungry water, but fach water as comes off rich fat soils, and is very soft: in this, all forts of pool-fish delight and thrive. It is imprident to keep any other fish with Carp and tench, offecially reach and date, for they destroy the earp's food. There are pike, pearch, roach, date, bream, and sate, the most fit to keep company together.

of his Biting Time and Baits.

HE bites at a well scoured red-worm, maggot, wasp-grub, or the green-worm from trees, boughs, or bushes; which last is a very natural bait. There are many forts of pastes that are mentioned for taking of Carp and other fish, but I look upon them to be very ordinary; the four forts of baits abovementioned being the best I have experienced for the taking of Carp, tench, or pearch, by reason you can raise quantities of them to bait your holes; which will certainly draw them together,

you do it a day or two before you begin to angle; but in case the fish are shy, you must continue to bait the holes for a fortnight or three weeks together, once a day; then you may depend on sport. But if the pool or pond be well stored with these sort of fish, you need only bait where you purpose to sport an hour or two before hand. Your worms must be of the red and white fort, not too large, and well scoured. There are many other baits; but shele, with diligence and patience, will take a Carp sooner than any other I ever tried.

He is generally caught at the bottom, where the line and lead is not discovered as it is in mid-water. Baiting the holes before you fish for him, and he tasting your baits without disturbance or treachery, makes him feed bold, and not apprehensive of being betrayed. Use a long rod and quill float, keeping out of fight as much as you can whilst angling: when you strike him, give him play enough, otherwise he will break your tack, for he is not only a strong fish but a great struggler; and, if he is a large fish, as soon as he takes the bait will run immediately to the other side of the river or pond.

HE is a leather-mouth'd fift: his age is variously determined, but most think that he commonly arrives to the age of forty or fifty years. He is best in season in March and April.

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

Observations on the Breeding of.

UNLESS gentlemen take more care than they have done of late years, it will be impossible to have large Carp; because they overstock the pool with them, which keeps the fish lean, and causes them to breed in abundance, and when they once begin to breed, they will never growlto any fizhiafterwards: neither will the spawn of little Carp ever grow to be large; for when they take to breed at two or three years old, the -filliof such formin willinever grow to be clarges change them into even to many wasters infor it is as much impossible techave large fish from the spawn of small one's, as it is to expect a large breed of fowls from a Guiney cock and hen; for when the Carp breed so young, they may properly be called of the dwarf kind. Now if gentlemen themea are defirous to breed their fish large, let them pick out the males and females of such fort of fish they delight in of the dargest size when put them into the breeding pans or pools, but be sure to cleanse the same first of all other sish. Thus in two or three years time you will have the right store Carp. Then take the males and females of these sish, and put them into your pans or pools, and in a few years they will become large eating sish.

By thus managing and shifting your fish, you will have a constant stock; but then you dught once in three years to ex-

amine if the water agrees with them.

Bx fure that your fifth for breeders are ceach four or five pounds weight at leaft, and as much bigger as possible; for the fry of a large fish will grow to as large a fize in four or five years time, as those of a small fize will in ten years: contrary to the judgment of most gentlemen, who believe that the water and feed add to the growth of the Carp, and therefore regard not what sized fish they breed from, which is a very great error.

How

How to Preserve and Feed Fish in Pools.

WHEN you intend to flock a pool with Carp or tench, make a close ethering hedge across the head of it, about a yard distant off the dam, and about three feet above the water, which is the best refuge for them I know of, and the only method to preferve pool fish; because, if any one attempts to rob the pool, muddies the water, or disturbs it with nets, most of the fish, if not all, immediately fly between the hedge and the dam to preserve themfelves. And in pools where there are such shelters and shades, the fish delight to swim backwards and forwards, through and round the same, rubbing and sporting themselves therewith. This hedge ought so be made chiefly of orls, and not too close, the boughs long, and straggling to-wards the dam; by which means you may feed and farten them as you pleafe.

The best baits for drawing them toge-

ther at first, are maggots or young wasps, the next are bullocks brains and lob-worms chopped together, and thrown into the pool in large quantities, about two hours

'before

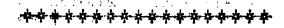
before sun-set, summer and winter. thus using these ground-baits, once a day for a fortnight together, the fish will come as constantly and naturally to the place as cattle to their fodder: and to fatisfy your curiofity, and convince you therein, after you have baited the pool for fometime as directed, take about the quantity of a two-penny wheaten loaf, cut it into flices, and wet it, then throw it into the pool where you had baited, and the carp, will feed upon it: after you have used the wet bread three or four mornings, then throw some dry bread in, which will lie on the top of the water, and, if you watch out of fight of the fish, you will presently see them swim to it, and suck it in. I look upon wheaten bread to be the best food for them, though oaten or barley bread is very good. If there be tench or pearch in the same pond, they will feed upon the four former baits, and not touch the bread.

INDEED there is no pool-fish so shy and nice as a Casp, as I have before observed; for when the water is disturbed they will by to the safest shelter they can: which I one day observed, when affisting a gentleman to fish his pool; for another person disturbed the water by throwing the casting-

ing net; but caught never a Carp: whereupon two or three of us stripped and went into the pool, which was provided with fach a fost of a hedge in it as is before de-fcribed, whither the carp had fled for fafe-ty; then fishing with our hands on both fides the hedge, that is, one on either fide, we caught what quantity of Carp was wanting.

CARP are a hardy fish, and will live longer out of water than most others. I shall conclude with a particular observation on this head, as given by a late ingenious author: 46 Carps, fays he, will live out of water, in an open place, only with much air, as is manifest by the method of fattening them in Holland, and " which has been practiced here in Eng-16 lar, or forme cool place, on wet moss, in " a small net, with their heads out, and a packthread through the upper fin to keep them upright, and thus feed them with white bread and milk for many days. This, adds our author, was told me by a man very curious, and of great honour and eminency, whose word, if I might name him, nobody would question." Indeed I myself have feen

feen this experienced; and as it is an inflance of the respiration of fishes, very singular, and somewhat out of the way, I have, for the reader's diversion, taken notice of it.



Of the BREAM,

THE Bream is a broad fish, with a fmall head, and sharp fnout; the top of the head somewhat broad and smooth; the back bending and edged, rising sensibly from the head like a swine: the colour of his back is betwirt blue and black, his sides and belly white, especially in those that are young and lean, but the sides of those that are full grown shine of a gold colour, and their belly is red: the mouth, in proportion to his size, is very small, and without teeth: the palate is soft and sleshy, like that of a carp: and his stell fost, and clammy. This fish greatly resembles a carp, being very broad, with a forked tail, and his scales set in excellent order: he has large eyes; but a small sucking

facking mouth. The milter is oblered to have two large milts, and the spawner two large bags of spawn. The best parts of this fish for eating, are his belly and his head.

IT is said that Breams and roaches will mix their eggs and milt together, by which means there is, in many places, a bastard race of breams, which never grow to be large, are very numerous, but not good for eating.



The Spawning Time.

BREAMS spawn the latter end of June and beginning of July, and are best in season a little before they spawn; though some think them best in September, having then had their fummer's feed.

፞ፙፙፙፙፙፙፙ

Their Haunts.

THEY swim in shoals, or great companies, delighting most in gentle soft streams; sandy or clay bottoms; in the deepest, broadest, and middle parts of ponds; and in

in the deepest, broadest, and most quiet places in rivers near unto weeds.

THE Bream and roach are fish that live and delight as well in rivers that are dead and heavy waters, as in pools; especially in . a river called Avon, in Warwickshire and Worcestershire, where are plenty of them.



How, and with what Baits to take the BREAM.

THERE are many forts of baits wherewith to take him, viz. red-worms well scoured; but they like gentils and and the young wasp-brood best, which last should be boiled in a pot or kettle, or dried on a tile-stone before the fire, which makes them not unlike gentils; or else a worm, like a maggot, which is found at dock roots, flags, sedges, or rushes, in watry places; he will also bite at a grass-hopper in June or July; or at feveral flies under water, found on flags that grow near the water fide.

water fide.

THERE are several other good forts of baits, but this following, communicated to me by an excellent angler, I prefer to 1.1

them all, either for carp or Bream, that is, Take the largest red-worms you can get without a knot, which are to be found in great numbers, in an evening, in garden walks or chalky commons, after a shore of rain. Keep a quantity of them by you in anearthen pot, in clean moss, well washed, picked, and squeez'd as dry as possible: renew the moss every fourth day for three weeks or a month longer, then your bait

will be in perfection.

HAVING thus prepared your baits, have your fishing tackle ready after this manner: take three long angling-rods; three or four silk, or silk and hair lines, and as many large swan or goose-quilt floats: then fasten leaden plummets to the lower end of your line, about a foot or ten inches distance from the hook, but befure the lead is heavy enough to sink the float, and not the float bear up the lead; the lower part of your line next the hook may be smaller than the rest, if you dare venture, for fear of taking the pike or pearch, who will certainly visit your hooks till they are caught, as I shall shew hereaster, before either carp or Bream will come near to bite: when the worm is well-baited, it will crawl and work itself as far as the lead will permit,

which much ineignth the fifth to bite without

fulpicion.

Your baits being this ready, and your tackling fitted, repain to the rivere; where, at three or four a clock in a hot furnmer's afternoon, you may see them swim in shoals, and, which is easily discerned, watch their going out and coming back to their holes, for they return about those hours, most of them feeking food at the bottem, yet one or two most commonly lie on the top, rolling and tumbling about, whilst the rest are at the bottom under them: thus will you will ever observe one or more keeping centry. Then observe where they play most and keep longest, which is common-ly in the deepest and broadest part of the river. Then chuse where is a clear bottom and convenient landing-place; take one of your angles, and found the bottom, and let it be eight or ten feet, and about two yards from the bank is best. Consider next if the water will rife or fall by next morning, by reason of any water mills near, and according to discretion take the depth of the place where you intend to call your ground-baits, and fish to half an inch, that the lead lying on or near the ground-baits,

the top of the float may only appear upright, half an inch above the water.

Thus having fixed your place, and found the depth thereof, return home, and prepare your ground-baits as follows: take a peck of sweet ground barley malt, boil it in a kettle, then strain it through a linner bag into a tub: and when the bag and malt are almost cold, take them down to the water side, about eight or nine o'clock in the evening, and not before: throw in about one half of the ground-malt, squeezed hard between your hands, it will sink presently to the bottom: take care that it lodge in the very place you intend to angle. If the current run hard, or move a little, throw the malt in handfulls the higher up the stream: befure you squeeze the malt so hard, that the water will scarcely part it by the sinking.

fearcely part it by the finking.

HAVING thus baited and prepared your fifting tackle, leave the bag with the ground-baits and other materials near the fporting place all night; and about three or four o'clock in the morning visit the water-side, but not too near, for these fish are very watchful: take one of your three rods gently up into your hands, bait your hook, then cast it over the ground-bait, fofily

30 The ART of Angling;

fostly and secretly draw it to you, till the lead rests about the middle of the ground-bait; east in your second line about a yard above, and the third (both baited) a yard below the first. Fix the rods in the ground, but be fure go fo far from the water-fide that you perceive nothing but the floats, which you must watch very diligently; for when the fifth bite, you will fee the float fink fuddenly into the water; yet run not too hastily to the rod; till you observe the line drawn clear away: then creep gently to the water-fide, and give as much line as possibly you can; for it it be a carp or Bream, they will go to the other fide of the water then strike gently, and hold your rod Roping for a little white, for if you both pull, you are fure to lose the game; either line, hook, or hold, will certainly break. After you have overcome them, they will make fine sport, but are very shy to be landed. The carp is more

frong and mettlesome than the Bream.

It pike or pearch breed in the same river, they will bite sirst, and must be first taken: for the most part they are very large, and will repair to your ground bait; not that they will eat it, but they will feed and sport themselves amongst the young fry

fry that gather about, and hover above the bait.

THE way of discerning and taking the pike, if you mistrust the Bream-hook, is thus: take a small bleak, roach, or gudgeon,, bait with it, and fet it alive among your rods, two feet deep from the cork, with a little red-worm on the point of the hook; then take a handful or two of maggots, or fome of the ground-bait, and firmkle it gently amongst your rods: if the pike be there, the little fish will skip out of the water, whereby your living bait will certainly be taken.

Thus continue your sport from four in the morning till eight: and if it be gloomy and windy they will bite all day; but that is too long to stand in one place, and may spoil an evening's diversion, which should be thus prosecuted; about four in the afternoon repair to the baited place, throw in one half of the remainder of the ground-bait, standing out of sight of the water, whill the file gather of fight of the water, whilft the fish gather together; and after some short time of abfence, bait your rods again, and put them in, as directed in the morning, and you will be sure of excellent sport till eight in the evening: then cast in the rest of your ground-

ground-bait, and, at four next morning, visit them again for four hours, which will be the best sport of all.

THEY are in their prime from St. James's till Bartholemew's day; being always fat-test after their summer's feed.

Observe lastly, that after three or four days fishing, your game will grow very shy and timerous, and you will scarcely have a bite at a baiting; then desist for two or three days: and, in the place where you last baited, and intend to renew your baits, take a turf of short grass, about the bigness of a round trencher, and with a needle and green thread, fasten, one by one, as many little red worms as will almost cover the turf; then make a hole in the middle of a broad round trencher, and place the turf thereon; put a cord through it, and tie it to a pole. Let it, thus managed, fink down to the bottom of the water, for the fish to feed upon without difturbance for three or four days; and after that time, when you have drawn it away, you'll find sport almost beyond expectation.

Of the FLOUNDER.

HE Flounder is originally a fea-fish, without scales, which wanders very far into fresh rivers, and there dwells and loses himself, growing twice his length, and about as broad again, as when he quitted the sea. He is a very wholesome fish, and nutritive. The best are distinguished by red Spots. This fish affords much sport to the Angler.

϶ʹϳͼϲʹϳϸ·ϲϔͽϲϔ·ϲϔ·ϲϔ·ϲϔ·ϲϔϼ·ϛϔ<mark>϶ϲϔ·ϲϔ·ϲϔϲͼϔ·ϲ</mark>ϼϔ·ϲϔ·ϲϔϲϲϔͼ

His Haunts.

HE commonly frequents gravelly fandy bottome; deep gentle streams, near the banks; or at the end of a stream, in a deep still place; or in a gentle stream that is somewhat brackish; and sometimes in the deepest stillest part of the river, near the bank; but not so frequent as in pretty swift or rather gentle streams.

His

54 The Art of Angling;

0000000000000

His Biting Time and Baits.

THEY will bite at any small worm found in marshy ground and meadows, which should be well scoured. He is a crafty though greedy biter, and will nibble and suck at a bait sometime before he takes it; and if he perceives the hook will fly from it: therefore, let your bait be always in motion, which will make him more eager. They will bite all day, from sun-rise to sun-set.

Observations on the Severn Flounder.

IN March and April there are large quantities caught in the Severn. Their haunts, at that time of the year, are chiefly on fand-banks, where the water makes a return, which, in fact, is an eddy: there they lie in large shoals: but, as the summer advances, they move higher up the stream. They will travel far up the river, for great numbers have been caught near Bewdly, Bridgnorth, and Shrewsbury.

But large Freshes, in the river bring them

down again.

In March and April I generally catch the largest and the best Flounders, some weighing from half a pound to a pound and, a quarter, and have caught twelve

pounds in one eddy.

The best bait for them is a well scoured red-worm. Your hook must not be large, for their mouth is very small. Your line should be twenty or twenty-five feet long. made of the best hemp twine, strong and fine; except at the bottom of the line you must have about a yard and a half of hair line, well twifted; nine hairs in each link. I always fish with three hooks to a line, and three middling bullets, one at the top of each link the hooks are hung too: let the bullets be hollow, that the line may play, and you will eafily the a bite of the Implication for you frequently catch other fish as well as flounders, such as trout, samlets, salmon spawn, gudgeons, &c.

THERE is a small brook called Hawford, which empties lifelf into Severn three miles above Worcester, in which large quantities are caught. It is a water they are fond of being very brackish, owing to the brine which overflows the pits at Dipitwich,

and

and makes them firmer and better Bavoured than those caught in the Severn.

THERE are three forts of Flounders caught here: one with a back spotted with reddish spots; another brown; and one black on both Sides, but 4 believe they are nearly equal in goodness.

I FISH generally with twelve of those lines above described, faying them at proper distances one from the other, and have been found in constant employ for several hours together, for they bite in general pretty free, and make the Angler excellent diversion.

DUNELNES

Of the BARBELLINE

barb or whattles at his mouth. He is a leather-mouth'd Fifh; large; of a fine cast, and a handsome shape; with small states, placed laster a most exact and curious mattner; but is not reckoned the hest fifth for eating, either for whole-someness or taste: the male, however, is reputed much better than the female,

And Compleat FLY-FISHER.

57

Of the Spawning Time.

THEY begin to spawn in April, and then are at the worst, but quickly become in season. They slock together like slaeep. The milter and spawner mutually labour to hide the eggs in holes, which they dig in the gravel, covering them with sand, much like salmon.

His Haunts.

HE is able to live in the swiftest waters, and in summer frequents the shallowest and sharpest streams, delighting to lurk under weeds, and feed on gravel against a rising ground, rutting and digging in the sands with his nose, like a hog; and there nesting himself. Yet sometimes he retires to deep and swift waters, bridges, shoodgates, and wares, where he will nest himself amongst piles, or in hollow places, taking such hold of moss or weeds, that be the current ever so strong, it cannot force him from the place he contends for. This is his constant practice, when he and most other living creatures sport themselves in

the fun: but, at the approach of winter, he forfakes the swift streams and shallowwaters, and, by degrees, retires to those parts of the river that are quiet and deep, in which places, about April, they spawn, and are then at the worst, but soon come into season again.

************** Of his Biting Time and Baits.

THE Barbel and chub are reckoned the worst or coarsest of fresh-water fish; but the Barbel affords the angler fine sport, being so lusty as frequently to endanger breaking the line, by running his head violently towards any covert, hole, or bank, then striking at the line with his tail to break it. He is also so cunning, as to nibble and fuck off your bait, close to the hook, yet will avoid letting it come into his mouth. He is, likewife, very curious in his baits, for they must be clean and fweet, the worms well scoured, and not' kept in four or musty mose; for he is a nice feeder. At a well scoured lob-worm he will bite as freely as at any other bait whatever, especially, if a night or two before you fish for him, you bait the place where

• •

> ! !

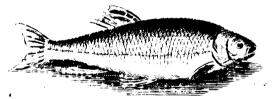
BARBEL



Снив



ROACH



DACE



The state of the s

The State of the S

Digitized by Google

1 × 1 × 1 × 1

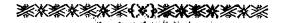
Carrin

RONGH

Dien

where you intend to angle with largeworms cut in pieces. Neither can you over-bait; the place, nor angle too early or too late, for him, Maggots, well scoured, are the best bait for him, Lastly, when you fish, for the Barbel, use a long rod, of good strength, for you will find him difficult to deal with; yet when once struck he seldom or never breaks his hold.

HE bites early, from fun-rise till ten, o'clock in the morning, and from four in the exening till sun-fet, sometimes later. Their principal biting months are, from the beginning of May till the latter end of, August.



Of the Chub, Chevin, or Bot-LING; their Spawning Time, Sea-Son and Shape.

HE Chub much resembles the carp, but only of somewhat a longer shape: his scales are very broad; his head, short, and his teeth are in his throat. He will feed upon little fish or frogs.

D 6 ABOUT

ABOUT a fortnight before they spawn, if the weather be hot, they gather together in should, and appear on the top of the water; and likewise for a week or nine days after, if the weather be hot and bright. They spawn in the month of May, but I think they are not in feason till the beginning of August, and so continue till the month of April, being in the greatest perfection in the winter months. You may flit and falt them, which makes them, in this part of the world, preferable to any falted fish whatever, as not having the quantity of hairy bones in them at that time, which they have in May, June, and July.

፟ፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙ ፞ፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙፙ ፞፞

Their Haunts.

THE Chub likes fandy or clay bottoms, large rivers, and shady streams: but their chief abode is in the angles, or deep holes where the water runs not very quick. They thrive much in ponds into which any rivulet runs.

And Compleat FLY-FISHER. 61

His Biting Time and Baits.

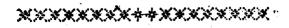
HIS biting time is from fun-rifing till ten in the morning, and from four in the afternoon till sun-set. He is caught, in the hot months, at bottom, with cow's brains, lob-worms, grass-hoppers, and cod-baits: and at the top, with the cannon, or down-hill-fly, the grass-hopper, caterpiller, may-fly, or ant-fly; these are all used in the manner of bobbing or dipping. You must be sure to place yourself out of sight behind some bush or tree, for the Chub will fly to the bottom of the water at the very shadow of your rod, being the most fearful of all fish, and will also make, instantly to the bottom at the shadow of a bird flying over the water, but will pre-. fently arise, and lie floating on the top again; at which time move your rod flowly to the Chub you fish for: let your bait fall foftly on the water three or four inches before him, and he will infallibly take it, for he is a leather-mouth d fish, having histeeth, as faid before, in his throat, out of which a hook fcarce ever looleth its hold, and therefore give him play enough before

before you offer to take him out of the water.

THERE are many baits to take a Chub; as, a black fnail with its belly flit, to shew the white; sometimes a worm; or any kind of fly, as the ant-fly, flesh fly, dor, or beetle; or a bob, which is a short white worm, like to, but bigger than a gentil, or a cod, or case-worm. He will take any of these very well; and never refules a grass-hopper at the top of a swift stream, or a young wasp-grub at the bottom. There grubs are found in the holes of banks, and discovered by the old ones going in and out; and are often found by the mowers, when cutting of grass: they must be boiled or baked before used. The Chub will likewise bite at red chetries, provided you balt the hole with them the night before you fish. You must be fure to make use of the same sized hook, and also the same fort of rod and line, as for a carp.

THE spawn of a Chub is excellent for eating. His head is the best part of him; and he cannot be dressed too soon after he is taken.

Of



Of the ROACH and DACE.

HE Roach is so called from his red fins: he is a fish not much admired for his nice taste, but the spawn is reckoned the best part of him. He is a leathermouth'd fish, having a fort of saw-like teeth in his throat. As the carp is stiled the water fox for his cunning, fo the Roach is called the water-sheep for his simplicity.

IT is observable that the Roach and Dace recover strength, and are in season, about a fortnight after spawning; the barbel and chub in a month; the trout in four months; and the falmon in the fame time; provided he returns to the fea, and comes back again into the fresh waters.

RIVER Roaches are ever preferred to those in ponds: but the latter are, usually of a larger breed. There are a fort of small bastard Roaches with a very forked tail, bred in some ponds, differing from the true Roach, as the pilchard does from the herring. The Roach make fine diversion, especially those of a larger size. They are a very healthful fish, whence comes the proverb, " As found as a Roach."



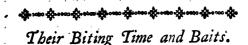
Their Spawning Time.

THE Dace or Dare spawn about the tenth of March, and the Roach about the beginning of May. These fish are best in season from Michaelmas till Candlemas, and are very ordinary eating all the fummer.

&&&&&

Their Haunts.

THE Roach and Dace love a gravelly fandy ground best; and lie in the clearest, deepest, and stillest waters, that are most shaded; and also among water-docks, and under water-lilly leaves, especially in very hot fun-shine weather.



THE Roach and Dace are to be fished for, in winter, with gentils or maggots; but but, in April, with worms, and cadis, or flies, under water, for he feldom takes them on the top; though the Date, in many of the hot months, will rife above

ROACHES may also be caught thus: take an ant-fly, fink him with a little lead to the bottom, near the piles of a bridge, or posts of a ware, or any deep place where they may lie quietly; pull your fly up very leisurely, and you'll have a Roach generally follow your bait to the very top of the water, gazing and running at it with the utmost eagerness. Thus are great store of Roach rement. Roach caught.

Roach caught.

You may take both the Roach, Dace, or Dare, with the gentils, or young wasp-grub; but, when you fish with them, you must be fure to have a large hook, a quick eye, and a nimble hand, or the bait will be lost. They will bite at annost any fly, but chiefly the ant-fly.

In the next place, I shall inform you of a winter-bait for the Roach, Dace, or chub. If, about the beginning of November, or sooner, you follow the plow when at work upon heath or fandy ground, or turning up the green-swarp, or fresh land, you will find a white worm with a red head about about

mouth'd; of a fine shape; and silver colour: both his body and tail are beautifully adorned with black spots.

His Haunts and Spawning Time.

THE Gudgeon is a river-fish, yet fometimes found in ponds that are fed by tills or fprings. He delights most in gravelly or sandy ground, and in assow stream. Though he inhabits large rivers, and oftentimes little brooks, yet he is chiefly to be found in small rivers of a fine sandy gravel bottom. In the hot months they lie in much shallower waters, but all the rest of the year, from Michaelmas till April, they dwell in the deepest places, that are most sandy.

THEY spawn in the latter end of April, or May; and, as some say, three or four

tithes in a year.

His Biting Time, and Baits,

HE is an admirable fifth to enter a young angler, being eafily taken with small worms

worms and maggots. By mudding the water, and flirring up the fand with a pole you may draw them together in shoals, and, by now and then throwing in a few chopped worms or maggots, you may take great quantities of them: your bait must

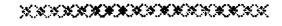
be on or near the ground.

They are usually scattered up and down the shallows of every river in the hear of fummer; but in autumn, when the leaves fummer; but in autumn, when the leaves begin to grow four or rot, and the weather begins to be cold, they keep together in the deeper parts of the water; and if you angle for them with a float or cork, your hook must always touch the ground. But many fish for the gudgeon by hand with a running line upon the ground, without a float, and is an excellent way, if you have a tender rod and as gentle a hand.

He bires all day long from March till

He bites all day long from March till Michaelmas, but will not bite in very cold weather, nor for some time after his fpawning, nor immediately after a shower or land-shood. He bites well in gloomy, warm, or hot fun-shining weather, but seldom bites before sun-rising or after sunfetting, but commonly begins about an hour, after fun rifes, and ceases, about an hour before the fun fets, fearing left he fhould





Of the BLEAK.

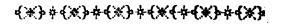
THE Bleak, which is by some called the fresh-water sprat, is a fish ever in motion, and therefore is sometimes called the river swallow: for as the swallow is observed, in summer evenings, to be in constant motion, making quick and Thort turns upon the wing, the more eafily to catch the flies in the air; so the Bleak is almost continually in action in the water, sporting himself with some little slies and infects that sport on the surface.

He is of a bright whitish colour; his back of a pleasant sea-green, and his belly

fhining, and white as the mountain snow. THE Bleak, though generally reckoned of little value, yet is a good fish, in my opinion, if dressed as soon as taken. He has been frequently used to make a fort of artificial anchovy, and is often fold for the real; but for want of skill in the management, by the common artists, he has loft much of his efteem.

THE

THE Bleak is to be angled for at midwater, with a line and five or fix small hooks, fastened at about the distance of half a foot one above the other. I have often taken four of them at one time by this means: the bait has been small well scoured maggots, than which none can be hetter. They may be taken with a very finall, fine, artificial black gnat. It is very pretty sport to whip for them in a summer evening from a boat, or standing on the bank-side, in a swift water, with a hazletop, about five or fix feet long, and a line twice the length of the rod.



Of the CHAR, and GUINIAD.

N Winander-meer, in the county of Westmorland, are caught a very singular fort of fish, called Char, which are found no where else in England or Ireland; but are said to be in two lakes at Snowden, in Wales.

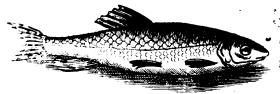
In a small but rapid river, called the Petterel, that runs near Carlisle, in the E adjoining

adjoining county of Cumberland, are caught trouts about the same size with the Char; that is, from a foot to eighteen inches: which are as fine in colour, and, when potted, are not easily distinguished in taste; and are frequently, by the inhabitants, sent to London, and sold as Char. They take the May fly of both forts, the whirling dun, and indeed all the other flies in their season, This river falls into the Eden, about a mile, north-east from the city of Carlifle: and about the same distance from the city, westward, the river Gauda falls into the Eden. The trouts in this river are much larger than those in the Petterel; in which is a particular species of trout, called the whiting, or white trout: he has no spots, but is of a beautiful fine colour, and his flesh as red as the falmon; I believe he never exceeds twenty inches in length, for I never caught one shove that length, nor did never converse with a brother sportsman that did. The whirling flies to be used in fishing for him cannot be too gay; they should be ribbed with gold or filver twift, and the cock's hackle over all, as rough as you please. In this river, as well as in the main river Eden, above the falmon fishery, is a fort of

GUDGEON



BLEAK



EEL



Loach



Groce on

Branke

Ti gam

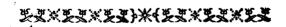


Loven

of trout, called the brandling, clouded on the back like a mackerel, which never grows to be above seven or eight inches in length, and seems very much to resemble that fort of fish called gravel last-springs in the rivers Wye and Severn. In the east riding of Yorkshire is a small but rapid river called Dussield Beck, in which are the finest trouts, for size and quantity, of any water I ever fished in; being seldom less than two pounds, and often five or six pounds in weight.

THE river Dee which rifes in Merionethshire, runs through Pemble-meer, in Cheshire, which is a large water, and abounds with a kind of fish called a Guiniad, as the river Dee does with salmon: and yet it is remarkable, that there never are any salmon caught in the meer, nor

any guiniad in the river.



Of the EEL.

the Silver Eel, the Green Eel, and the Black Eel. The Silver Eel has a fine E 2 dark

GUDGEON



BLEAK



EEL



Loach



out, lasted the property of the control of the a property of the last of the control of the cont

The river five which reference of the over the strong in Propose who is referenced which is a term of a few a Propose a Propose of the over its with a kind of the condition of Propose of the river five engages and five and the condition of the five condition of the condition of

and a middle in the river.

"是因其他的是是是是是是是是是是

Of the Eat.

A HUERT are three forts of Ech.

L the Silver Ed., the Green hel, and

Thack hel. The Silver Ed has a

E 2

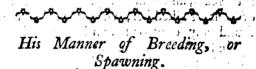
26 . The ART of Angling;

dark brown back, and white belly; his head very small and spearing. The Green Eel has a back of a dark green colour, the belly of a whitish green; his head is broad and flat, like the beak of a duck. The Black Eel has a black back, yellow belly, and larger head than the two former; and is not reckoned very wholesome food, especially those found in muddy pools.

velly, fandy, or ftony bottoms; they begin to come up the rivers in the beginning of April, if the weather be warm, where they will bite very well all the fummer, till August, and continue till their return, which is between Michaelmas and Allhollantide, according to the falling of the rains, and rising of the rivers and brooks; which disposes them to take their winter-quarters in the sea, or falt waters.

It has been thought that Eels, having once tasted the sea water, never return back again, and therefore it is imagined that whatever numbers of them are taken at mills and other places, at their going down, can be no prejudice to the rivers; but this probably may be a mistake, for I have conversed with many millers and others.

others, whose business it is to catch Eels in their wheels and fisheries, who affirm that about twenty years ago they could take five times the quantity that they can now, which must be owing to the great numbers that have been taken of late years at the time of their running downwards. Those that happen to escape in their journey to the falt water, remain there till their time of breeding, which I take to be about the middle of April, or sooner.



THERE has been a great variety of opinions about the breeding of Eels; some imagining that they are produced from the dew which falls on the waterfide in the months of May or June, which being influenced and enlivened by the rays of the fun, is gradually formed into little Others have fancied, that when Eels grow old, they breed out of the cor-ruption of their own age. But that and other such idle notions are exploded and justly ridiculed by naturalists; who, however.

ever, are not agreed among themselves whether the Eels breed in the oviparous or viviparous manner; that is, whether they proceed from spawn, (or eggs) as most other sish do, or whether the semale produces them alive. To satisfy the curiosity of some of my readers, I shall give them the best information I could get in regard to this matter.

Being acquainted with an elderly woman, who had been wife to a miller near fifty years, and much employed in dreffing of Eels, I asked her, whether she had ever found any eggs or spawn in the Hels she opened: she said, she never had observed any; but that she had sometimes found living Eels in them about the bigness of a small needle; and, particularly, that she once took out ten or twelve, and put them upon the table, and found them to be alive; which was confirmed to me by the rest of the family. The time of year when this happened was (as they informed me) about a fortnight or three weeks after Michaelmas; which makes me of opinion that they go down to the sea or salt water, to prepare them for the work of producing and propagating their young.

To this I must add another observation of the fame nature, which was made by a gentleman of fortune not far from Ludlow, and in the commission of the peace for the county of Salop, who going to vi-fit a gentleman, his friend, was shewn a very fine large Eel that was to be dressed, about whose sides only he observed a par-cel of little creeping things, which made him suspect it had been kept too long; but, on a nearer inspection, they were found to be perfect little Eels, or Elvers. Upon this it was immediately opened in fight of feveral other gentlemen, and, in the belly of it, they found a lump about as big as a nutmeg, confisting of an infinite number of shose little creatures, closely wrapt up together, which being put into a bason of water, soon separated themselves, and fwam about the bason. This has been often told to several gentlemen of credit in his neighbourhood, from whom I first received the account: but I have lately had the satisfaction of having it from his own mouth. Therefore I think this may serve to put the matter out of all doubt, and may be sufficient to prove that Eels are of the viviparous kind.

E 4 DURING During the winter months, they never flir up or down the rivers or pools wherein they usually are, but get into the soft earth or mud, where many of them bed themselves together, the better to desend them against the severity of the weather, and there live, without feeding upon any thing (as is generally supposed). They seldom appear in the day time at other seasons of the year, unless the water be mudded, and raised a little by rain, but are usually

caught in the night.

They are esteemed a very delicious sish for eating, and are in season all the year, but in their prime in May, June, and July. They have been known to live out of the water sive days, the temperament of their bodies being very moist, as is that of many other sish whose shape and nature are very much like the Eel, and frequent both the sea and fresh rivers; as the lamprey, or lamper-eel, and also the large conger, or sea-eel, which are differently esteemed according to the difference of their taste. The large conger-eels are often taken in the Severn between Tewkesbury and Gloucester; and below Warrinton, in Lancashire: but the river Stour, in Dorsetshire, the Aukam, in Lincolnshire,

and Irk, in Lancashire, have the pre-emisnence above their neighbouring streams for producing the best Eels.

The Severn, and most navigable rivers that have a communication with the sea abound with infinite numbers of small Eels or Elvers, which come up the river sides early in the spring, as soon as the sun begins to warm the water. These are taken in large quantities, particularly in the Severn, and are made up in little cakes, and sold in the markets. They call the coming up of these little Eels, (which is very exact and regular as to time) the Elvers running. This little fry is, without doubt, produced in the salt water, by the Eels that retire thither in autumn.

O O O O O O O O O O O O O O

His Biting Time and Baits.

THERE are four forts of baits for taking Eels at bank-hooks, viz. the lob-worm, loach, minnow, and bull-head. The best season for this is from the middle of May to the latter end of July; when the weather cannot be too warm, nor the night too dark. One very good way for this fort of sport is, to have a strong line E 5

that will reach across the river or pond; then take several hooks, with links to them about three quarters of a yard in length, and tye them to your line about two yards distance. When your hooks are baited, fasten one end of your line to the bank, near the river, with a hooked stick; then having a peice of lead or stone fastened to the other end of the line, cast it across the tiver or pond, and let it lie all night. With any of these three baits, if sweet and fresh, you will infallibly have sport. Or, you may use any of the above-mentioned baits, with a line about a yard long, fastened to the small end of a hooked stick, and the book of it fluck into the bank; and this method is indeed most properly called bank-hook fishing. Or esse, you may make tyes of three or four yards in length, to be thrown in at the tops and bottoms of streams, with a stone at each end and baited in the fame manner as the former.

THERE is another method to take Eels, which is called proaching, and is to be used from four o'clock, after a hot day, till fun-fet. For this purpose, you must have a strong top rod, about a yard long, with a goose-quill put over the end of it, leaving the extreme end of the quill whole: whole: then take a large and strong needle, and a cat-gut for the line; whip it very fast from the eye of the needle to the middle: then taking a large well scoured lob-worm, run the eye of the needle all up the worm, till it comes to the very head; so that the point of the needle may come out at the middle of the worm; then put the point of the needle into the top of the quill, and take the top rod and line both in your hand together. Thus you may guide your bait under any hollow wall or stone very gently, and if there be any Eel he will bite at it. Give him time enough till he has gorged, and then you may be fure of him, if you do not attempt to pull him out of his hole fuddenly; for he lies enfolded therein, and will, with the help of his tail, break off, unless you give him time to be wearied with pulling; and when he is so, you may pull him slowly and gently out.

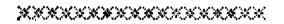
THE best way of taking Eels by common angling, is to take a well fcoured red-worm, and a hook of the fize N°. 4, with a float-line a foot fhorter than the rod; and having fixed upon some still quiet place, with the most sandy bottom you E 6 can

84 .The ART of Angling;

can find, take with you a confiderable quantity of wasp-grubs boiled, or bullock's brains chopped fine, to bait your hole with. You must not forget to take another rod and line, and bait the one with the worm, and the other with the wasp-grub; by which means you will be sure to find which they take best.

There are a great many baits to take

There are a great many baits to take Eels, but I look on these I have mentioned to be as good as if you tried an hundred forts. This is all I shall say of the Eel.



Of the Minnow, or Pink.

THE Minnow when right in seafon, and not sick, which happens only just after spawning, is of a fort of dappled or waved colour; his sides inclining to a greenish and sky-colour, his belly milk white, and his back almost black.

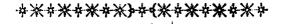
These little fish are all without scales, but for excellency of taste may be compared with any of the larger sized. They are usually full of eggs or spawn all the summer

fummer months; for they bred often, and quickly arrive at their full growth and perfection. Their numerous and frequent breeding is very necessary on account of their being a prey and baits for other fish.

He is a very eager biter at a small worm; and, in hot weather, makes excellent sport for young anglers, boys, or women that love the recreation. He appears first in March, and continues to Michaelmas, and then betakes himself to mud, weeds, or wood in the rivers, to fecure himself from floods and fishes of prey.

His biting time is from an hour after fun-rifing, till an hour before fun fetting. His chief bait is a small worm, either at mid-water or near the bottom. Use a float

in angling for him.



Of the LOACH.

HE Loach is of a delicate tafte, and very wholesome: he breeds and feeds in little, clear, and fwift brooks or rills

rills, living on the gravel, and in the

sharpest streams.

His growth is not above a finger's length, and his thickness proportionable. He somewhat resembles the eel in shape; has a beard or whattles, and a mouth formed like the barbel; he has two fins on his sides, four at his belly, and one at his tail, and is dappled with many black and brown spots.

This fish is usually full of eggs or spawn, and is esteemed very nourishing, and grateful to the palate and stomach of

fick persons.

He is to be fished for with a very small worm at the bottom, for he seldom or never rises above the gravel.

Of the Bull-HEAD, or Miller's-

THE Bull-head is a fish of no pleasing shape, and resembles the the sea-toad fish. His head is large and slat, very disproportionable to his body; his mouth wide, and usually gaping; he has

has no teeth, but his lips are rough like a file: he has two fins near his gills, which are roundish or crested, two under his belly, two on his back, one below the vent, and the tail fin is round. He is speckled with whitish, blackish, and brownish spots.

They are generally full of eggs or spawn all the summer, which swell their vents almost into the form of a dug, and they begin to spawn about the beginning

of April.

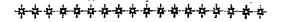
They hide themselves in holes, or among stones in clear water, and are easily seen upon any stat stone, and on the gravel, at which time the most inexpert angler may take them with a small worm. They are more commended for their taste and nourishment, than for their shape or beauty.

Of the STICKLEBACK, or JACK-SHARP.

THIS is a very small infignificant fish. His body is fenced with several little prickles, which are very sharp

sharp and pungent, and from whence he has his name.

This fish is mentioned only because he makes up one of the number of fresh water fish, being too inconsiderable to afford the angler any sport, unless it be to serve as a bait for a trout, to be used with a swivel line, for which purpose he is equally good as the minnow.



Of the LAMPREY.

HIS fish comes up out of the falt water about the same time as the shad, and is of little service to the diversion of the angler, refusing all kinds of baits: and is usually taken in wheels or baskets, made of twigs, and sastened to the bottom of the water for that purpose.

THE Lamprey may very properly be faid to be the fresh water viper, from the uncommon highness and delicacy of his slavour; for which reason they are commonly sold at an excessive price at their first coming, and, when stewed or potted, are greatly admired by the curious.

HE

He is commonly of the fize and length of a large eel, but somewhat rounder and suller in the body. His back and sides are clouded and variegated like the mackrel. He has a roundish open mouth, of a disagreeable form, though necessary for the purpose of his subsistence, which is by suction, for which reason he has several large round holes on each side, for the reception and emission of water. They are very plentiful in the Severn about Gloucester and upwards, as far as Worcester.

THERE is another fort, which are commonly taken about November, called Lamperns, which are exactly of the fame form and shape, but much less, not exceeding the thickness of one's thumb: they are generally thought to differ from the Lamprey in the same manner as the samlet does from the salmon

Of the SHAD.

THE Shad is a fish that comes up out of the falt water early in the fpring into the large rivers that have a commucommunication with the sea, and is very differently esteemed according to the rivers he comes into. In the Severn he is a very delicious good fish, especially the large ones, and, by some, not reckoned inserior to the salmon: whereas in the Thames, about London, he is disregarded as a coarse fish, good for little, except the brightness of his scales, which are frequently made into necklaces, pretty near the resemblance of pearl.

He has a small head in proportion to his size; a thick back, and a deep broad body growing taper towards the tail: and is in season from the time of his coming up till the middle of May, when the heat of the weather makes him lean and full of small

bones.

He affords the angler no sport, taking no bait that I know of, otherwise would have deserved a description among the best kinds of fish. There is an instance of a gentleman who caught one with an artificial fly in the river Teme, near Worcester, but I imagine he took it more out of wantonness than hunger.

O F



O F

FLY-FISHING;

With Directions for making the

ARTIFICIAL FLY.

A M now come to the most entertaining and delightful part of the sportsman's diversion, Fly-sishing; of which nothing can be said too much in commendation. If the other branches of angling are both pleasant and profitable, this is much more so on many accounts. It is the cleanest and neatest that can possibly be imagined, being quite free from the trouble of baiting your hook, or souling your singers. The exercise it requires you to take is moderate and gentle, not being confined long to any one part of the river, but moving from stream to stream. The fish that are caught in this manner, are of the best and most delicate sorts, and when the weather and water are favourable, commonly in large numbers. Even the preparation of the materials for the artificial fly, and the skill and contrivance in making them, and comparing them with the natural, is a very pleasant amusement. The manner of the fifthes taking them, which is by rifing to the top of the water, and sometimes out of it, gives the angler a very agreeable furprise, and the length of the line, greatly adds to the pleasure of tiring and killing them after they are hooked. But I hasten to the art itfelf.

፠**}**፞፞፞፞፞፠}፞፞፞፞፞፞፞፠፞፞፞፞፞፞፞፠፞፞፞፞፞፞፠፞፞፞፞፞፞፞፠፞፞፞፞፞፞፠፞፠፞፞፞፞፞፞፞፠

Of the several Sorts of FLIES, and their SEASONS.

THE Red Fly. Black Guat. Blue dun Fly. Black Caterpillar Fly. Brown Fly. Iron-blue Fly. Cow-dun Fly. Sally Fly. Stone Fly. Canon, or Down-bill Granam Fly. Fly. Granam Fly. Fly. Spider Fly. Shorn Fly.

May Fly
Gray Drake.

Orl Fly
Sky-coloured Blue Fly.

Cadis Fly.

Fern Fly.

Red Spinner.

Blue Gnat.

Large Black Ant.

Large Black Ant.

Little Red Ant.

Little Black Ant.

Little Wbirling Blue.

Willow Fly.

THESE are all very tempting and certain Flies, which the angler may depend upon for sport, and which I shall presently describe in their regular seasons. There are many other Flies taken notice of in some treatises of angling, which may possely be of use in some rivers; the principal of which I shall just mention to satisfy the curiosity of my brother anglers; but I never think it worth while to make any of them artificially.

The Dun fly.
Raddy fly.
Black flySandy-yellow fly.
Moorish fly.
Twine fly.
Wasp fly.
Shell fly.

Dark drake fly.
Dark brown fly.
Prime dun fly.
Black May palmer
worm.
Camlet fly.
Oak fly.
Owl fly.

Brown

94 The Art of Angling;

Brown gnat. Hearth fly. Green shining flesh fly. Badger fly. Harry long legs. Yellow-dun fly.

These are mentioned, as I faid, only for curiofity or variety; therefore, I proceed to the description of those in my first catalogue.



The RED FLY.

OMES down the latter end of February, and continues till the middle of March.

He is made of a dark drake's feather; and the body of a red hackle, and the red part of a fquirrel's fur. He has four wings, and they lye flat on his back.

HE comes on very plentifully in cold flormy days.

The

The Blue-Dun Fly.

OMES down in the beginning of March; and will kill fish, in the forenoon, till the middle of April.

HE is made of a blue duck's feather, or starling's wing, with a blue cock's hackle; the dubbing, yellow mohair,

mixed with the blue fur of a fox.

As he swims down the water, his wings stand upright on his back: his tail is forked, and of the colour of his wings. He comes down about ten o'clock, and continues till twelve, in great quantities: but is always thickest on the water in cloudy gloomy days.

You may fish with a worm in the morning till the flies come down, which will not vary above half an hour, or an hour, from the time mentioned; and then, if the water be in order for the fly, is your

time to begin to use it.

The

96 The ART of ANGLING;

EZXEZXKEZXXEZXÈZ

The Brown Fly, or Dun Drake.

BEGINS to come down about the middle of March, and continue till the middle of April if the weather be

favourable.

He is made of a partridge or pheafant's feather; the body of a partridge's hackle, with hair's fur under it, ribbed with yellow filk. This fly was formerly made of a dun drakes feather, with hare's fur only, which, in my opinion, is not the colour

of the fly.

THE red fly, the blue fly, and the Brown Fly, frequently appear upon the water all at one time; but there is no necessity of fishing with the red fly after they have tasted the blue fly. They take the blue fly in a morning, till the Brown Fly comes on, which he does about eleven, and then they take the Brown till two or three o'clock. In this order they continue till the latter end of the month.

THERE are four or five forts of flies in April which I shall mention immediately; only observe in general, that the fly which

comes

comes first according to the month, is the first fly that is to be used that day, and then you will see the other slies coming on according to their time; and you may observe the fish take the former, and leave the latter. Thus they continue their fuccession in their several days, weeks, and months.

etanto x etanto etanto x etanto

The Cow-Dung Fly.

NOMES on about the middle of March, and continues till the latter end of April, but it is not to be fished with unless it be a cold windy day.

His wings are made with the blue feather of a hen tipped with yellow; they lie flat on his back: his body is made of lemon colour'd mohair, with a yellow feather about it.

HE is to be made in the fame form as the large horse ant fly.

The

EXTEXTEXTEXTEXTEX

The STONE FLY. .

OMES in the beginning of April, and continues to the latter end of May. He is chiefly to be fished with from about the break of day till seven in the morning: likewise from seven in the evening all night long (if thought proper) either in the natural or artificial way.

THEY are found in little stony brooks, and must be fished with (in the natural way) upon a small worm hook, and drawn upon the shank of it, with a line about a vard longer than the rod, and used in a

middle water.

3

This fly is made of the brown feather of a hen. His belly is of a dirty yellow, and his back of the dark brown. His body is made of a yellow or brown spaniel's hair, or Mohair, with the grizzled hackle of a cock round it.

This fly, natural or artificial, is to be fished with in deep rapid streams.

The

The GRANAM FLY, or GREEN TAIL.

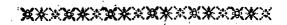
of April, if the weather be mild: they appear upon the water in great quantities in bright mornings; but in cold flormy days there are but few of them to be seen: and then is the time to use the brown fly. The Granam Fly is tender, and unable to endure the cold; its continuance on the water is not above a week or nine-days.

This fly is made of a feather out of the wing of a pheafant, which is full of fine fhades, refembling the wings of this fly, which lie flat on his back as he fwims down the water: his body is made of the black part of hare's fur, with a peacock's harl over it, and the grizzled hackle of a cock wrapped twice round, under the butt of the wings.

Some frequently make this fly with a green tail, which I could never find to be of any service. The green tail fly is the semale, which loses its tail as soon as it

100 The ART of Angling;

lights upon the water. I take this to be the egg of the fly, for I have caught two of them which have been joined together, and put them into a box for twenty-four hours: upon opening the box, I found they were parted, and that one of them had a small lump of green at its tail, about the bigness of a pin's head; this I kept twelve hours longer, when the green part came from it like an egg. This induces me to think it is the female fly; and I presume that most other flies breed after the same manner.



The SPIDER FLY,

OMES about the middle of April, if it be a favourable fpring.

THE wings are made of a woodcock's feather, that lies under the butt end of the wing; the body of lead-coloured filk, with a black cock's hackle wrapped twice or thrice round: the body must be made in the shape of the ant fly.

This fly appears in bright and warm days, and comes out of beds of gravel by the

the water-side, where you may find them in bunches from the middle to the latter end of the month, in warm fun-shining days; but in cold and stormy weather they disappear.

During their season, they are found covered up in beds of gravel, and all engendering, in order for their production

next year.

This fly is never feen in any month of the year but April.

The BLACK GNAT.

E begins to appear about the mid-

His wing is to be made of a light fky coloured blue hackle; the body of an oftridge's feather. "

This gnat is to be used in cold stormy days, and continues till the latter end of May.

·! - * * # # 5 5 5 3 6# 8 # Calle L. Marcae Fy Carry C. (27)

102 The ART of ANGLING;

KX38KXXXXXXXXXX

The Black Caterpiller Fly,

OMES about the middle of April, if the weather be warm.

His wings are made of a jay's feather, one part blue and the other part black; and his body of a feather out of the top of a plover, with a dark hackle over it. The body of this fly is of a fine shag like velvet, which the plover's feather makes incomparably well.

He continues till the middle of May, and is to be fished with after warm mornings, provided there come winds and clouds; for then they grow weak for want of the sun, and fall upon the water in great numbers.

The LITTLE IRON BLUE FLY,

BEGINS to come down early in May, and is in greatest perfection about the middle of the month. There

are few of them to be seen in warm or hot weather, but in cold or ftormy days they

come in great quantities.

THE wing of this say is made of a cormorant's feather that lies under the wing, in the same form as those of a goose: the body is made with the furr of a wount or mole, or rather a water-rat's furr, if you can have it, ribbed with yellow filk, and a grizzle hackle wrapped twice or thrice round. His wings stand upright on his back, with a little forked tail.

This fly is greatly admired by the grayling; and continues from the middle of

May to the middle of June.



The Yellow Sally Fly,

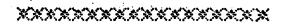
PPEARS about the middle of May, and continues till the latter

end of the fame month.

His wings are made of a yellow cock's hackle, by reason of its shining glossiness, which no dyed colour can come up to; he has four wings which lie flat upon his back:

his body is made with yellow dubbing, mixed with dark brown fur, and a yellow hackle round it.

This fly, the canon fly, and the shorn fly, are the three slies that prepare the fish to look for the yellow cadow, or May sly.



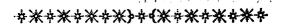
The CANON FLY,

OMES down about a fortnight in May, and is an exceeding good fly for bobbing at the bush in the natural way, or for the long line in the artificial. He continues till the yellow cadow comes down, and is to be found on the butts of oaks, and other trees near the water-side, with his head commonly downwards; for which reason he has generally obtained the name of the Down-hill fly.

His wings are made of a feather out of a woodcock's wing; and his body of a

bittern's feather.

This fly (as I have lately been informed by a gentleman of veracity) is bred in the balls that grow on the boughs of large oaks. oaks, commonly called oak-apples: this he accidentally discovered by opening feveral of these balls, (that had been gathered in the winter, and brought into the house) in each of which he found the Canon Fly fome of them, being enlivened by the warmth of the room, immediately took flight, and fixed in the window with the head downwards, the polition they observe in the trees.



The SHORN FLY.

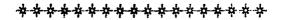
HIS fly comes about the same time with the former, and continues till the middle of June. He is frequently sound in mowing of grass, and a husky wing of a dark brown colour, with fine clear blue wings underneath, which he makes use of in his flight.

THIS fly is of the caterpiller kind: the female fly is of a dull red. They are in the greatest perfection about mowing time, for after the grass is cut few are to be seen. It is as killing a fly as any I know till the May sly comes in, yet has been taken but

very little notice of by anglers, though it is the only fly to fish with in the forenoon, before the yellow cadow comes down. His continuance on the water is the same as the yellow cadow.

The wings of this fly are made of a jay's feather, taken out of the wing, mixed with a little black and blue; and the body is made of flesh-coloured silk, and a red hackle about it.

This fly will never fail killing fish, if the water be in order.



The MAY FLY, or YELLOW CADOW.

E comes down the water about a week in May, but is not in full pertection till the twentieth, or between that and the thirtieth; and is a prodigious killing fly, as well upon standing water as upon streams.

THE wings of this fly are made of the feather of a grey drake dyed yellow; the body is made of the yellow wool of a ram

or wheather, ribbed with a dark-brown, which no feather fuits so well as the hackle of a bittern; it likewise makes the legs very artificially; his head, which is of a dark-brown, is made with a peacock's harl: his wings stand upright on his back as he swims down the water, with a long forked tail, made with the hair or wisks of a fitchow. He is a very large fly, and is to be made upon a small worm-hook, of the size commonly called by anglers N^o. 4.

This fly is most plentiful in gravelly, or stony rivers, and but sew to be seen on

dead dull waters. He and the grey drake (which fucceeds him) are the fishes chief delight above all others; for there is no other bait, either fly or infect, which the fish shew themselves at so much or so boldly: they not only take them at the top of the water, but as they come from the bottom and sides where they are bred in husks, which they quit when they rise to the top of the water.

During their season they are a most plentiful feed for birds as well as fish. They come upon the water about ten o' clock, and continue to fun-setting; and though there are hundreds of slies and in-sects on the river the same day, both fish.

F 6

and birds will forfake them all and take thefe.

IT has been an opinion generally received among my brother anglers, that the May Fly proceeds from the cod-bait; but I find by experience that this is a very great mistake, for the cod-bait produces a very different fly, call'd the cadis, or cod-bait fly, which I shall presently have occasion to describe. I have lately had an opportunity of convincing some gentlemen very curious in the art, who were of that opinion till they had the satisfaction of seeing the cadis slies produced from cod-baits: which I sent for that purpose about the time of their change. The May Fly, when in embrio, is inclosed in a longer and much smaller husk, which is sharp, and pointed at one end like a cock's spur.

The GREY DRAKE.

HE Grey Drake comes about a week or nine days after the former, if the weather be cool; but if it be hot and fultry, he will be on in two or three three days after the yellow fly: but you must not mind him, to fish with him, till four or five days after he is come, except it be in the evenings, from six o'clock to sun-setting. For, though the fish take the yellow one very well in the former part of the day, yet when they come on in great quantities in the evenings, they will not touch them.

In fishing with this fly, you must endeavour to imitate the rising and falling of him upon the water, for he never swims so regularly as the yellow one, but is generally in motion, frisking up and down; for which reason he is, in some places,

called the Tilt-up fly.

Some are of opinion that this is a very difficult fly to make; but, I think, it is not so difficult to make him as to fish with him after he is made: therefore, if possible, cast your line so as to drop directly over the fishes head, which will best resemble the method of this sly's dropping on the water, when the fish immediately fly at him: all other slies should be thrown a yard about the head of the fish, because they all swim gradually down the water.

THE wings of this fly are made with part of a grey drake's feather, mixed with the

grey

110 The ART of ANGLING;

grey part of a widgeon's feather: the body is best made of a sine oaten straw, because it is least liable to change its colour. Several make it with white cotton, but if you make it thus, there must be a good deal of silver twist with it. Besure you rib it very thick towards the tail with the the dark hackle of a bittern, and leave the body clear towards the but end of the wing. His tail is three forked, about an inch and a half long, and is made with the long hairs or wisks of a sitchow's tail: his head is of a dark brown, and made of a peacock's harl.

THE male and female fly of the yellow fort are both of the same colour, but of the grey are somewhat different: the semale is best made of the oaten straw, with a light grey drake's seather for the wing; and the male with most of the widgeon's seather for the wing, and the body of silver twist with a little cotton.

SINCE I entered upon this work, the following ingenious account of this fly has been communicated to me, by a gentleman who is a very accurate observer of the productions of nature; which, as it may be matter of curiosity and entertainment to some

some of my readers, I shall here give it them, as briefly, and as near his own words as I can.

I HAPPENED to walk by the river-side at that season of the year when the May flies, (he means the grey fort) which are a species of the libella, come up out of the water, where they lie in their husks for a confiderable time, at the bottom or fides of rivers, near the likeness of the nymph of the common small libella; but when it is mature it splits open its case, and then, with great agility, up fprings the new little animal, with a flender body, four blackish, veined, transparent wings, the upper ones having four black spots, and being much larger than the under ones; and three long hairs in its tail. The husks which are left behind float innumerable upon the water:

IT feemed to me to be a species of ephemeron, and I imagined it to be the same infect described by Goodart and Swammerdam: but a few days convinced me of the contrary, for I foon found them to be of longer duration than theirs.

THE first business of this creature, after he is disengaged from the water, is to look out for a proper place to fix on, to wait another

furprifing

112 The ART of ANGLING;

furprising change, which is effected in two or three days. The first hint I received of this operation was seeing the exuvize hanging upon a hedge: I then collected a great number of the infects, and put them into boxes, and by strictly observing them, I could tell when they were ready to put off their cloaths, though but so lately put on. I had the pleasure to shew my friends one that I held on my singer all the while it performed this great work. It was surprising to see how easily the back part of the fly split open and produced the new birth, which I could not perceive partook any thing of its parent, but left head, body, wings, and even its three hair'd tail behind on the case. After it has reposed itself a-while it slies to seek its mate.

In the new fly a remarkable difference is seen in the sexes, which I could not so easily perceive in the sirst state; the male and semale being then much of a size, but now the male was much the smallest, and

the hairs in his tail longest.

I was very careful to see if I could discover them engendering; but all that I find was, that the males separated and keeping under cover of the trees remote from the river: hither the semales resorted,

and mixed with them in their fight (great numbers together) with a very brilk motion; darting at one another, when they met, with great vigour, just as house flies will do in a sunny room. This they continued to do for many hours, and this seemed their way of coition, which must be quick, and soon performed, as they are of short duration. When the semales of short duration. When the semales were impregnated, they left the company of the males, and sought the river, constantly playing up and down on the water. It was very plainly seen every time they darted down they ejected a cluster of eggs, which seemed a pale blueish speck, like a small drop of milk, as it descended in the water; then, by the help of their tail, they spring up again, and descend again; and thus continue, till they have exhausted their stock of eggs, and spent their strength, being so weak that they can rise no more, but fall a prey to the fish, but much the greatest number perish on the waters, which are covered with them. This is she end of the semales. The males never reend of the females. The males never re-fort to the rivers, as I could perceive, but after they have done their office, drop down, languish, and die under the trees and bushes.

I observed that the semales were most numerous, which is very necessary, considering the many enemies they have during the short time of their existence, for both birds and sish are very fond of them; and, no doubt, under water they are a food for small aquatic insects.

What is further remarkable in this furprising creature is, that in a life of a sew days it eats nothing, seems to have no apparatus for that purpose, but brings up with it out of the water, sufficient support to enable it to shed its skin, and perform the principal end of its life with great

vivacity.

THE particular time when I observed them very numerous and sportive, was on the 26th of May, about 6 o'clock in the evening. It was a fight very surprising and entertaining, to see the river teeming with innumerable pretty, nimble, slying insects, and almost every thing near covered with them. When I looked up into the air, it was full of them as high as I could discern: being so thick and always moving, they appeared as when one looks up and sees snow coming down. This wonderful sight, in three or four days after the end of May, totally disappeared.

***X*X*X*X**

The ORLE FLY.

OMES down the latter end of May, or the beginning of June, and continues till the latter end of June, and is the best sty to fish with after the May slies are gone.

THE wings of this fly are made of a dark grizzel'd cock's hackle; his body of a peacock's harl, with very dark red filk. He has four wings, which lie flat on his

back as he swims down the water.

This fly is to be fished with in the warmest weather, and you may use it with success from ten o'clock till four in the afternoon, at which time the fish leave off the Orie Fly, and take the sky-coloured blue.

BOBBBBBBBBBBB

The SKY-COLOURED BLUE FLY,

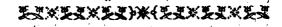
S on at the same season with the former, but never appears in the evening, atter a very hot day.

His

116 The Art of Angling;

His wings are made of the feather of a light blue hen, with a yellowish gloss: the body seems, as he slies, of a bright yellow; but is made of a light blue fur, mixed with a bright yellow, with a silver grizzel'd hackle over it.

This fly comes on about the middle of June, and continues till the middle of July.



The CADIS FLY,

W HICH I before mentioned to proceed from the cod-bait, begins to come about a week in June; and is a large fly, having four pale-yellow wings, all of one colour, and a pale yellow body, ribbed with dark brown.

The wings are made of a yellow hen's feather: the body, of a buff-colour yellow furr, ribbed with dark brown filk, and a yellow hackle three times round.

This fly continues till about a week in July before they are all gone; and is to be fished with as the clearing of the wa-

ter,

ter, after it has been discoloured, when no

other fly will do fo well.

THE dwelling place of this little creature, while in the state of a grub, is greatly to be admired; being a finall husk curiously wrought on the outside with signal bits of gravel and slime, after the manner of stucco work. The grub itself is a very choice bait at bottom fishing, as will be shewn hereafter.

The FERN FLY.

HE Fern Fly comes in about the latter end of June, and does not continue above a week. He has four wings that stand upright on his back.
His wings and body are made of a

woodcock's feather, ribbed with orange

coloured filk.

He is to be fished with in a morning, the first of any fly, till abot eleven o'clock. and then you may change your fly according to the brightness or dullness of the day, for there are many flies on at that time.

The

zzxzzxxzzxxzzxxzz

The RED SPINNER.

I E comes down the beginning of July, and continues till the middle of that month.

HE is to be fished with only in the

evenings of very hot days.

THE wings are made of a grey drake's feather, lightly tinged with a yellow gloss; the body is made of a gold twist, with a red hackle over it.

*Z*Z*Z*Z*Z*Z

The BLUE GNAT,

PPEARS at the same time as the

red spinner.

It does not avail to fish with him, unless the water be very low and fine; and then, in hot weather he is sometimes taken very eagerly.

THE wings of this gnat are made of a light blue cock's hackle, the body of the blue furr of a fox mixed with some yellow.

The

፠}{¤}{¤}{¤}{¤}{¤}{¤}{<u>×</u>}{<u>×</u>}{<u>×</u>}{<u>×</u>}

The LARGE RED ANT FLY.

S well as the black, comes in about the middle of June, if the weather be hot, and continues for about a week or nine days. Observe that these two Ant Flies that come first, are the large horse ants.

THE wings of this Red Fly are made of a feather out of the wing of a starling, of a dusky colour: the body of hog's down, died of an amber colour. He must be made very large at the tail, and small towards the wing: with a red cock's hackle wrapped twice round under the butt end of the wing.



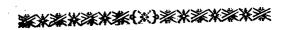
The LARGE BLACK ANT FLY,

OMES down at the same time A as the red one.

THE wings of this fly are made of the lightest sky-coloured blue feather you can

get,

get, and of the greatest gloss; of which it will be difficult to find any that can come up to the natural wing: the body is made of an oftridge's black feather, and a black cock's hackle wrapped twice round under the wing. This fly is to be made in the same form as the red one.



The WELSHMAN'S BUTTON.

HE Welshman's Button, or Hazle Fly, comes in the latter end of July. It has an outer husky wing, and a Imall blue one under it; and is round as a button, from whence it has its name.

THEY are found upon hazle-trees and fern bulhes; and as foon as the bulhes are touched they dropdown. They are as good for bobbing at the bush in this month, as

the canon, or down hill fly is in May.

The wing is made of a dark hackle feather of a pheasant; and the body of the dark part of camel's hair.

The

CENNED 4 CENNEDCENSATOCEN NED 4 CENNED.

The LITTLE RED and BLACK ANT FLIES.

of August; but very seldom appear on the water till between one and tour in the afternoon.

They are made of the same materials that the large ones are, and in the same shape, but only half so large.

The LITTLE WHIRLING BLUE.

OMES down the beginning of August, and continues about a fortnight.

The wings are made of the blue feather of a fea-gull; and the body of the red part of a squirrel's furr, ribbed with yellow, and a red hackle over it.

This fly is only to be used in the even-

ing, and in warm weather

G

The

122 The ART of ANGLING;

X中X中X中X中(X)中X中X中X中X

The LITTLE PALE BLUE.

August, and continues till the middie of September. It is a fly that the graylings greatly admire, which are in perfection at this scason, and afford the angler-much sport.

The wings of this fly are made of the lightest blue feather of a sea-swallow: the body is made of the bluest part of a fox's surr, with a very little yellow mohair mixed with it, ribbed with a straw-coloured silk, and a fine pale-blue hackle over it.

This fly continues till the willow fly comes, and afterwards till the weather grows cold.

※X*X*X*X\$X*X*X*

The WILLOW FLY.

August, or somes on the middle of August, or sometimes sooner, and continues till the dun blue comes again.

HR

He has four wings which lie flat on his back: his belly of a dirty yellow, and his back of a dark brown,

His wings are made of a dun cock's hackle a little freckled; his body of squirrel's furr, ribbed with yellow filk, and covered lightly with the same coloured nackle as the wings.

In cold stormy days you must chiesly use this sly, but in warm gloomy days you must sish with the pale blue, and these two slies carry out the season for sly-fishing.

From the latter end of May till the beginning of August, you will find sifteen or fixteen different forts of ghats and slies on the water every day: and then, if the weather be warm, you must observe it as a general rule, to sish with the first fly that comes on in a morning; and then you will see the other slies coming down gradually: and, as the sish leave off one and take another you must vary your sly according to your discretion and observation. From about the middle of August you will find most of the other slies fall off, except the little whirling blue, the pale, blue, the willow sly, and some small gnats that are of little or no signification;

and these three autumn slies I reckon to be of equal value to the three sirst spring slies, viz. the red sly, the blue dun, and the brown drake. In these two seasons, if the weather and water be favourable, you will find your sport more regular and certain than in the hotter months; one reason of which, among others, is, that in the hotter months the rivers abound with a great variety of infects, which makes the fish more difficult to be taken; and in the spring you have the advantage of having the river suller of sish, before they are disturbed with nets, &c.

The flies that I have mentioned, are found on all rivers that ever I was acquainted with; only the May fly and grey drake are much more scarce on some rivers than others; and therefore, where they are scarce, and the fish not well acquainted with them, less sport is to be expected than where they are plentiful. It is commonly said, that flies differ according to the rivers, but I will be bold to say they are all alike in their kinds, some little difference there may possibly be in their colours, arising from the nature of the soil through which the rivers run, or from the difference

difference of men's fancies; but if every river was to produce different forts of flies and infects, there would be a thousand times more than there are.

Thus have I given a full account of all the flies and gnats that are most necellary for angling, except two falinon flies, viz.

The Dragon Fly, and Peacock Fly; and two night flies, viz.

The Brown Ply, and White Fly; which yet remain to be described.

The DRAGON FLY.

TE feeds on small infects scarce difcernable to the naked eye, great numbers of which I have taken out of the thouth of one these flies: they catch them in the fame manner that swallows do, by flying at them.

THE head of this fly is almost all eyes; he has four wings of a dark brownish colour, and his body is of the same. The

bodies

bodies of fome of them are two inches and a half long.

This fly comes in about the middle of May, and continues to the latter end of June.

The KING-FISHER, or PEA-COCK FLY.,

HIS fly feeds on the fame infects with the former.

HE is called the King-fisher from the beautifulness of his colour; but I should whink the Peacock Fly to be the most pro-per name for him, for there can be nothing to like the wings and body of this fly, as the feather that grows on the neck of a peacoek.

He comes in about the fame time as the former, and continues three weeks or Pilng at them.

a month longer.

: proce the tracks at the state of the first rate

The Brown NIGHT FLY.

H E is made of the brown feather of a hen, and the body of the same colour.

This is properly a moth, which flies by night only: and is to be used (if you are inclined for night fishing) in a dark gloomy night, after a warm day. When you fish in this manner, use a line about a yard longer than the rod, and put a couple of maggots at the point of the hook, which will be of great advantage to the smelling part.

IT will take fish both in streams and standing waters, and you may hear them rise in as much perfection as if you were fishing by day. They will continue to bite till day-break, if the night be gloomy and cloudy; but if it be a moon-shining or star-light night, they will not stir at these slies, any more than they will at the day

flies in a bright day.

4

128 The ART of ANGLING;

The WHITE NIGHT FLY.

HIS fly is, in my opinion, the best of the two.

He is made of the white owl's feather, on account of the foftness of it, upon a middle fized worm hook; the body of the same colour as the wings, and as big as a

very large wheat straw.

He is in perfection about the latter end of May, and continues till the latter end of June; when, if you let out with an intent of killing a dish of fish in the day, and fail of success, you may be sure of taking them at night, if you are so disposed, and this night sly is on the water.

HAVING now given an account of the principal flies requifite to furnish out the diversion of anglers; with their feveral feasons, and the properest materials for forming them; it will be necessary, before I conclude the subject of Fly-sishing, to lay down the best directions I am able for making the artificial fly.

The

And Compleat FLY-FISHER. 129

etanto xetanto etanto etanto xetanto

The Manner of Making and Ufing the Artificial Fly.

W HEN you make an artificial fly, you must, in the first place, make choice of a hook proportionable to the fly you intend: this must be whipped on to your Indian grass, gut, or hair, in the same manner you would whip on a worm hook, only observing, that instead of sastening near the bend of the hook, (as is usual in the other way) you must fasten your filk near the top of the shank, and let it remain. Then taking as much feather as is necessary for the wings, lay it as even as you can upon the upper fide of the shank, with the butt end of the feather downwards, towards the bend of the hook, and tye it fast three or four times round with the filk: then, with a pin or needle, divide the wings as equal as you can, and taking your filk, cross it three or four times between them, bringing the filk still downwards, towards the bend of the hook: then taking your hackle feather, tie it fast at the bend of the hook with the G 5 point

130, The ART of Anoling;

point of the hackle upwards. Next, your furr or dubbing being ready, (which is to make the body of the fly) take a little of it and twift it gently round your filk, and work it upwards towards the butt end of the wings, and there fasten it: then take your hackle, rib it neatly over the dubbing, and fasten it; then bending the wings, and putting them into the form you design, bring on the butt end of your hackle towards the head, and there fasten it firm: then taking a bit of dubbing or furr, as near the colour of the head of the fly as you can, whip it twice or thrice round with the filk, and then fasten it just above the wings: so your fly is compleated.

I confess no directions can well be

I confess no directions can well be given for making a fly, the way of doing it fometimes varying according to the fly you make use of, or according to the fancy of the artist; yet these rules, with a little practice, will in some measure assist an ingenious angler; but to see a fly made by a skillful artist is the best manner of learning. It is also very necessary, as you walk by the river, to take noitce of the particular kind of fly the trouts leap at, then catching one of them, and having a bag of materials ready provided for the purpose,

try how near art can imitate nature, and though you fail at first, yet by diligent ob-fervation and experience you will soon ar-rive at perfection, and take a particular

pleasure in fly-making.

THE art of managing your rod and throwing your fly is no more to be learned by rules than that of making him; only I would advise the young sportsman, never to encumber himself with too much line, no longer at most than the breadth of the river he fishes in. In raising your line, observe to wave your rod a little round your head, rather than bring it directly backwards; and take care not to make a return of your line till it has gone to its full length behind you: otherwise you will be very apt to whip off your fly. The greatest skill is to make your line fall as lightly as possible on the water, especially in smooth gliding streams, for if it falls heavy, fo as to dash the water, you will be fure to affright, and not catch the fish. When you see a fish rise at the natural fly, the best way is to throw a yard above him, rather than directly over his head, and let the fly move gently towards him, by which means you will shew it him more naturally, and he will be the more tempt-

ed to take it. But nothing except your own experience and practice can make you a master in this art, so as to throw exactly behind trees and bushes into holes and curls of the water, for there the best fish commonly lie.



O F

BOTTOM-FISHING.

The COD-BAIT.

THE Cod bait, or Cadis, is one of the most excellent baits for bottom fishing, and therefore I shall begin with it.

They are found in gravelly and stony brooks or rivulets, and chiefly under stones. When you get them, you will observe that some of them will stick to the stones, and these are the ripest and best coloured. When you have got as many as you want, put them into a linen bag, and after you

have

have tied them up, dip them in the water, and keep them five or fix days, dipping the bag once a day, which will bring them fit for wie, making them yellow, and as

tough as earth-worms.

To distinguish the several forts of these cadis worms, to observe what sly each of them is turned to, and to know how to make use of them im both shapes, are things that shew the angler's nicest skill. They differ very much according to the soil wherein they are bred, and are produced chiefly in little rills that run into larger rivers; therefore are a more proper bait for those rivers than any other. They are a fine bait for trout and grayling.

How to Uje the Cod-Bait.

ABOUT a week or nine days in May Cod-bait fishing comes in season; which is the first bait to be used in a morning, and may be continued to the middle of the day.

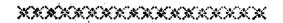
It is an excellent bait till the middle of June, and is to be used with a hook leaded on the shank, and the Cod-bait drawn on...

134 The Art of Angling;

to the top of it. It will take in deep waters as well as inftreams, by moving it up and down about nine inches or a foot from the bottom: this is commonly called fink and draw. There is another method of fishing with Cod-bait at mid-water, but then you must put a canon-fly at the

point of your hook.

This bait is as good a bottom bait as any that I know, if the water be clear; and is to be preferred to the worm at least three degrees to one, because all forts of pool fish, and even the eel are great lovers of it. This bait I always fish with myself in the morning, while the May fly is on; and I dare be bold to say, there is not any fish upon his feed that will refuse it. The Cod-bait may be made artificially, and so near to the natural, that, in the water, it is impossible to distinguish the one from the other,



The GRASS-HOPPER,

S likewise a curious fine bait, which comes in about the latter end of June.

The young ones are produced about the middle of May, and are to be found on the joints and knots of most forts of herbs and grass in the fields, in a white fermented froth, commonly called cuckow's spit. Here they are nourished for some time, and then drop down into the grass, and in about a fortnight or three weeks time after this they are in perfection. It is a beautiful fine bait to fish with, but very tender.

After the legs are taken off, it is to

AFTER the legs are taken off, it is to be drawn upon a leaded hook, in the same manner as the cod-bait, and then to be moved about a foot or nine inches from the bottom. Your line must be very fine for a yard or more above the bait, consisting of single hairs, if you have any strong enough, or else of sine grass or silk-worm guts: the reason why it must be thus fine is, on account of the quickness of its sinking; for the quicker it sinks the more freely the fish take it.

You may begin to fish with this bait about the middle of June, and continue morning fishing till the middle of August, if the water be in order, for which it ought to be very fine and low. I have caught with this bait, pike, trout, grayling, pearch, botling, roach, and dace, and am sure that

all pool fish are equally fond of it, for it is a very natural food both to pools and

rivers.

The first flight of the Grass-hoppers are all dead or destroyed by the middle of July, but they leave young ones enough behind to succeed them; these continue till the coldness of the weather destroys them, and this last flight (as I suppose) lay their eggs in the grass, to preserve the species till the next season.

EZXEZXEZ}X{EZXEZXEZ

The CABBAGE WORM, or CABBAGE GRUB.

THIS is an infect produced from the white butterfly, and may be found, about the beginning of May, on

cabbage leaves.

There is another fort of grub which is called the Sleeper, because he lies quiet and conceased in the hearts of cabbages, never appearing on the outside leaves as the speckled one does; his back is of a dark brown, and his belly of a beautiful green,

Digitized by Google

green, finely ribbed. This is found from the beginning of July to the latter end of September, in the hearts of cabbages: he proceeds from the brown butterfly, and is of a harder nature than the other.

THERE is a third fort that is of a dull green colour, which also lies quiet in the hearts of cabbages, and is the least of the three.

I have put all these sorts of grubs into a box, and found that they changed into Speckled grub was the white butterfly; the Sleeper was a dark brown butterfly; and the Green one was a light dun butter-fly, with two little circles in his wings of a different colour, refembling two eyes.

THESE are all the palmer worms that I know of which belong to abbages.

THE Cabbage Grub is to be used about the same time with the cod-bait, when it will not be improper to be prepared with them both, for the fish are as fickle in their diet as any thing I know, changing their food half a dozen times a day, botsom and top, and sometimes they will prefer the Cabbage Grub to the cod-bait.

You must fish with a line the length of the rod; the bottom of it must be fine,

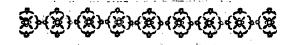
138 The Art of Angling;

that the bait may fink the quicker. Use a large fized worm-hook, very well leaded, for it is a large tough bait; and fish with it in the same manner as the cod-bait, in still waters, curls, and streams. It is a very

beautiful tempting bait.

THE first sort continue till the latter end of June; and after that there are very few to be seen till the end of August, when they are succeeded, in great quantities by the others. These grubs, and grass hoppers, are the best bottom baits till the latter end of October, and may be used till twelve o'clock every morning; and then, if you are inclined to change your bait, you may use the little pale blue sly with success, which the graylings are particularly fond of; for they love to take the Cabbage Grub or grass hopper in a morning, and to sport themselves with the slies in the atternoon.

) F



OF

INNOW-FISHI

Trouling with the Minnow

្រែស្នាម្ចាស់ សាស្ត្រី សែក្រសួងសម្នា HIS sport comes in about the beginning of March, if the water be fine and low, and continues till the latterzentlof May. .. It is a very cager sport, and aniescellent bait :at the clearing of the water; it is best to be fished with from one o'clock till fun-fetting, because at that time the flies and infects have drawn the fish out upon their feed, and then they will run very eagerly at the Minnow.

AT this sport you must have a very length of the rod, with a very large hook, long in the shank, and well covered with lead to the bend of the hook. The min-

now

now is to be drawn upon the hook, beginning at the head, and the point of the hook to come out a little above the tail. This is to be used (chiesly) in very rapid streams, which help to give the Minnow a brisk and natural motion, and thereby encourage he largest trougs to take it.

In this way of fishing it is necessary to have a swivel or two in your line, as well to help the Minnow to play, and turn freely and easily, as to prevent your line from twisting or breaking. You must likewise observe to draw your line with a pretty quick motion up the stream; and, when you see the fish run at it, as you frequently will, take care that you do not statch away the bait through surprise, which is a caution that the most experienced anglers are not always sufficiently goarded against.

vi vin aschibertari se filo I i 🍎 🗗 Kini solomon produktari senjem pa 🗗 🗗 Dord sike madam, or itseljem

KAKAKAKAKAKAKAKA OKAKAKAKAKAKAKA

O F.

MAGGOT-FISHING.

BEFORE I lay down any directions for using this bait, I shall give the best directions I can for breeding them.

For this purpose you are to take a beef's liver, lights, or lungs, or a sheep's head (but livers are the best). After it is scored with a knife, hang it up and cover it, but not too close, for the slies will blow it better covered than hanging in the open air. In two or three days after you perceive the maggots to be alive, take down the liver, and put it into a barrel or large earthen pan, and there let it remain till you think the maggots are of full growth. Then take a sufficient quantity of bran, in proportion to the size of the liver, and in three or sour days the first brood will come out of the liver into the bran, and

and there fcour themselves. Then in three or four days more take a stick and run through the liver, and hang it across the barrel or pot, when the latter brood will foon drop out into the bran, and scour themselves for your use.

This is the best method to prevent their turning to seemingly dead blackish grubs, and from thence to slies. I have known a sty-blow changed into the dead state of a grub, and from thence into a sty, which has produced other slies, in the space of sisteen days; but this was in the hotter months.

Ir you are willing to preferve Maggots all the winter, you must get two or three livers about the beginning of November; and, if it be a favourable season, the slies will blow them as strongly as in the hotter weather, in order to preserve their kind against the next summer. These are to be managed in the same manner as the other, only kept somewhat warmer till they come to their full growth; and then throw in a good quantity of bran, which will secure them from frost in winter: they are to be kept in a cellar or some dampish place, in the barrel or pot they were bred in. Thus

you may preserve them all the winter, and at any time, if the weather will permit, have them ready for use.

I SHALL, in the next place, give a particular account of Maggot Fishing, which I look upon to be the best kind of bait that ever was invented, and of most general use for killing sish, either in rivers or

ponds.

This fishing comes in the beginning of May, and continues till after Christmas: but the best time for taking the grayling in rivers, is from the middle of August to November, though these fish are not out of feafon all the winter, and will take no other bait, at that feafon, so well as the Maggot. It is in general to be preferred ten to one above any other bait that I know or ever heard of, for all forts of fresh-water fish (except salmon, pike, and shad,) will feed upon this bait in a very plentiful manner. There is not any fort of fish that I know of in the rivers Severn, Wye, and Teme, but I have taken with this bait; except the three above-mentioned. wise, if gentlemen and ladies are inclined to angle in ponds, this bait will take carp, tench, pearch, bream, roach, dace, eel, &c.

&c. It is the best bait for quickness of sport; for upon throwing in a sew handfulls of them, by little and little, before you begin to fish, you will by that means draw the fish together, and they will pick up the baits from the bottom, just as the poultry will pick up their food from the ground; so that when you come to the place to fish, they will be waiting there in expectation of more food, and you will be certain of sport.

Though there are several sorts of ground-baits and pastes recommer ded, for baiting the holes where you sish, yet none of them are comparable to Maggots, which will draw all the fish upon teed thirty or forty yards up the river. It was formerly the practice to bait the hook with the Maggot, and to bait the holes with other sorts of ground baits, which, in my opinion, could afford but little sport, for neither trout, grayling, or pearch will eat grains, slewed malt, pastes, or any such dead baits, and therefore it is necessary to bait the holes with the same you put upon your hook; living baits, when thrown into the water, being much more tempting than dead ones, and make

the fish more eager. I have sometimes lost a hook in a grayling's mouth, and in a minute's time have caught the fish again, and recovered the hook, which I found in his mouth.

To confirm this, I may add what happened to some gentlemen of great distinction, whom I attended a fishing in the river near Oakley Park; who, by the clearness of the water, plainly saw me draw the graylings and other fish about me, by throwing in, by degrees, a few handfuls of Maggots, and diffinctly observed their manner of feeding; and afterwards, when they struck away two hooks in two fishes mouths, they took notice that those particular fish never moved out of their sight till they hooked them again, and caught them, each of which weighed two pounds. This induces me to believe, there is no bait so tempting (for grayling especially) as the Maggot; for I could never find by any of my brother anglers, that there was any bait wherewith they could tempt the fish to bite again so soon and so often after they had once been hooked. I contess a grayling is the most free biting fish that I know, and the most easily taken, and therefore when I have had great success in H taking

146 The ART of ANGLING;

taking a good dish of fish, I have been suspected by some persons of using oils and allurements; whereas, in fact, they were caught by Maggot Fishing only.

This is a way of fishing as easily learnt as any I know; the greatest difficulty is to find out the most proper seeding places: for which purpose, observe in general, that all forts of fish love to lie deeper upon their feed in clear water, and shallower in muddy water. You may fish without a float, but the common method is to use one.

When you fish in rivers with this bait, you must fish with a hook from N°. 6 to N°. 9, according to the soulness or clearness of the water; your line must be siner than for pool sishing, and you must lead pretty heavy: the lower link must be a single hair, or a fine silk-worm gut; and always observe that your shot drags upon the bottom, especially in a stream.

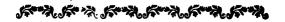
o F

New Zennewezene zamenezene New Zenewezene zamenezene

O F

WORM-FISHING.

HERE are a great variety of Worms, but I shall describe those only which are most useful to the angler.



The Flesh-coloured Red Worm,

R, as he is fometimes ca'led, the Dunghill Red Worm, is to be commonly found under old thatch, or that and dung mixed together. This small and knotted, and of a bright red. There are some to be found in most dunghills.

H 2

The

EXXEXXEXXEXXEXXEX

The BRANDLING,

Is a very beautiful worm, streaked from head to tail in round ringlets, one streak being red and the other yellow. He is chiefly found in dunghills consisting of horse dung and hogs-dung mixed together; and you may sometimes find very fine large ones among the shavings of curriers leather, mixed with a little earth: but hog's-dung and horse-dung mixed breeds the greatest quantity.

The LITTLE GILT TAIL, or TAG WORM,

Is of a pale yellow towards the tail, and shorter than the sunghill red worm, but knotted like it. He is commonly found among old horse dung, and you may probably find these three sorts in the same dunghill.

The

ciknid xeiknideiknideiknid xeiknid

The PEACOCK RED, or BLACK-

horse-dung, three parts dried, in the fields. He is to be mer with from the latter end of April to the biginning of August under cow dung chiefly, with his head an inch above ground; and I could never find any of this fort in any other places.

Peacock Red Worm, is because his head is of as fine a gloss as the harl of a peacock, and very near the same colour. Some take him to have a black head; but if they view him when he is well scoured, they will find him of a different colour. He has a flat broad tail, and is a very good worm at bottom-fishing.

The LOB WORM, or DEW WORM.

S best in season from the beginning of May till the beginning of August, and H 3 may

150 The ART of ANGLING;

may be fished with all forts of ways, fometimes at bottom, fometimes at mid water, preaching with them for eels, bobbing with them tied in knots, on filk or thread, &cc.

Los Worms are of two forts; but of the fame kind; the older are knotted, the younger without knots, which, for difficultion fake, are called Maidew Lobs, as having never bred, and are by fome called Red Lobs. Of both forts, fome have a broad spreading tail, and are more redaled than the others; they have a streak or lift along the back, and being longer and tougher, are more valued for taking large fish.

The White Worm, or Mari. Worm,

Is chiefly found in marl or clay land, and commonly after the plow tail. His head is very small, and of a pale red, and his tail is tagged with yellow. The other part of his body is nearly of the same colour with the earth he is bred in, but when he is scoured, he is of a pale white.

The

The Dock Worm, or Squirrel-

I S a fine pale red worm, without knots, which is chiefly found in moift places, near dock roots; and is best discovered by shaking the earth with a dung fork. This is the best earth worm for carp or tench of any that I know.

XXXXXXXX

The SEDGE WORM,

I S commonly found in the hollow part of sedges near the roots. He has a black head and whitish body, and is as tender as the young wasp-grub, and about an inch in length. This worm is not to be found in any other place but the roots of sedges; and is a very good bait for fish, especially in those pools were sedges grow,

The

H4

The Cow-Dung Bob,

April till the latter end of July, under cow-dung half dried. He is of a whitish yellow with a red head. It is a very tender bait, and must be used with the same line and hook as the maggot. They are to be put into some of the earth from under the cow dung where they were found, and if kept cool and moist, you may preserve them three weeks or a month.

THE usual manner of keeping and scouring worms in wet moss, is so well known, that I need not say any thing of it.

TROUT-FISHING with the WORM,

OMES in the latter end of February, and continues good till the middle of May, particularly mornings and evenings,

THE

THE best Worms that I know for this fport, are the little red worm, the brandling, and the white worm, which ought to be well cleaned. Your hook ought to be No 2 or 3, fixed to a good Indian graft or filk worm gut, and your lead about nine inches or a foot from your hock: if the water be low three duck shots will be enough; but if high, five or fix. Your line must be a soot; or a foot and a half longer than your rod, if it bean open gravelly river you fish in, but if incumbered with trees or bushes let it be a foot cr two shorter. You must always be fure, in an open river, to let the point of your rod go before your body, keeping your lead upon the gravel, for then your line fishes well; and the reason of having your line so much longer than the rod, is to keep yourself as much out of fight as possible, especially in clear water; but in a muddy water, there is no necessity of having your line any longer than the rod.

WHEN you arm a hook for Worm-falliing, keep the link on the infide, whipping a brittle along with it, and this is done to prevent your bait from slipping, other-wife it will be apt to slip down into the bend

bend of the hook and choak it up, that it cannot catch hold of the fish.

This is the best method of bottomfishing with the Worm that I can direct. There is no necessity of having the line longer than the rod for any other sort of bottom-fishing.

Of PALMER WORMS.

THE RE are several forts of little grubs and worms, of various colours, to be found in the summer time on the leaves of trees and bushes, which are called Palmer Worms.

These are best to be got by beating and shaking the boughs of oaks, crab-trees, hawthorns, or other bushes that grow over highways or other bare and open places, where you may most conveniently find them, and gather them up after they are fallen. When you have got a sufficient number of them, in order to keep them for use, you must put them in wooden boxes, each fort by themselves, and feed them with some of the fresh leaves from the

the tree they were taken from: You must feed them five or first times a week, and be fure you take the withered leaves from thems as often as you give them stesh ones, and you must observe to make hittle holes in the boxes to give them aid. At the form are very natural food for fishes, as well in tivets as ponds.

Track of these sorts are to be made artificially, viz. the Brown Palmer Worm, the Black Palmer Worm, and the Red Palmer Worm.

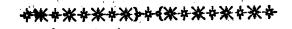
The Brown Palmer is made of a hogis down, dyed of an amber colour, ribbed with filver twift, with a red cock's hackle over it. The Black Palmer is made of an aftridge's black feather, or the feather out of the top knot of a plover, ribbed with gold twift, and covered with a black had kle. The Red Palmer is made of reddifficoloured mohair, ribbed with gold twift, and a red hackle over it.

THESE Worms are to be fished with either at top or bottome at top, you must fish with them in the same manner as with the artiscial sty; and at the bottom, in/the same manner as with the cabbage grub or grafs hopper, made artiscially upon a leaded hook.

I ALWAYS found these baits most proper to be fished with in the same manner as worms or maggots, and in this way you must angle with a pretty fine hook, about No. 4000 Ler your sleat keep the bait four or siver inches from the bottom, either in river or ponda and these

This is likewise an excellent bait for bobbing at the bush, with a fine bittern's feather wrapped about the upper end of the shank, and the bait drawn down upon the bend of the hook, and if there are any fish upon feed near it they will not refuse it.

This bait, when it first drops off the boughs, often swims down the water, by reason of the web it is involved in, which bears it up; when the trouts, which are littling under the boughs in expectation of the proy, will seldem let them cleaps.



Of the BEETLE.

yet taken notice of, and which is sometimes of great use to the angler, is the Beetle. This is of different colours,

the one quite black, the other of a dufky red. Each fort has two pair of wings, one over the other; the uppermost hairy and hard, the undermost foit and transparent, which, when expanded and stretched out, are much longer than the other, and of a bluish colour. The red ones are esteemed the best, and both may be found in horse-dung or cow dung, three or four days after it has been dropt in the fields, from the time that cattle go out to grass till about Michaelmas.

When you use them, clip off their hard wings, and hang them on your hook with their legs towards the water. Your line must be strong, and about a yard and a half or two yards long, and so bob or drop, for large trouts or bottings, under banks or bushes, in clear bright weather.

THERE is a fort of little worm or infect which I took particular notice of some years ago, and sound in prodigious numbers upon the orl trees and bushes about Michaelmas. I sometimes observed sitty or sixty of them upon a leaf; they were then about the size of a barley-corn, but, in about a fornight, they came to be near an inch long. They eat all the leaves from off

celf the orl trees for half a mile up the river, and appeared in such infinite swarms, what there was scarce a leaf to be seen on a tree or bush. When they had destroyed the leaves, they sell into the river, and I sound the trouts, graylings, and dace, had sed plentifully upon them, and were gorged with them.

THESE worms had black heads, four feet under their throats, and a black lift down their backs, with two yellow streaks on each side, from head to tail. I perceived they could hang fast by the tail, when the rest of the body was loose and ditengaged. I never before took any notice of these worms, though I had observed the intects near the river, during the course of any practice, for many years; yet, no doubt, some of them, more or less, may be found every year: but this was a fight new and surprising to me, as well as to many others who saw them.

owes its being to a male and female; and proceeds from an egg, in which is inclosed the feed and first nutriment. The semale makes choice of such place to lay her eggs in, as appears to her most commodious, and

and where the supposes there is heat sufficient to hatch them; and where her young when released from their confinement will find all convenient sublistence. And let such as are fond of novelty, and entertain the vulgar notion, that infects (all, or many of them) derive their existence from corruption, because we find worms, and sometimes flies in all corrupted matter, remember, that they thereby cast a great reslection on the author of nature, and become a reproach and dishonour to human reason. For, whoever bestows the least serious thought on infects, those diminutive creatures, whose structure is performed with fuch evident harmony and contrivance, which are provided so well with all things needful, and perpetuate their species in one form without the least variation, must either acknowledge that they are the creatures of an almighty power, or fall into the absurd doctrine of chance, and allow them to be the refult of the fortuitous concourse of some humours which have been altered and displaced. I call this abford, for it is ridiculous to the last degree to imagine that chance acts, or to affirm that she acts with any design, re-gularity, or precaution. The same all wise providence

providence that engages our admiration in the structure of a human body, is equally conspicuous in the formation of an infect: and putteraction is no more the parent of infects than of larger animals, or of man him elf.

THUS have I now given my reader a full account of all the baits, natural as well as artificial, and have laid down the best and plainest directions I am able, when, and in what manner to use them, so as to conduce most to his diversion; and shall now take my leave of him in the celebrated words of the poet;

Si quid novissi reclius istis, Candiaus imperti; si non, bis utere mecum.

FINIS.

Me uf-

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

This book is under no circumstances to be taken from the Building

JAN 16	1017	142
	*	
		113/15
		No.
form 410		

LEDOX LIBRA



Purchased in 1873.

