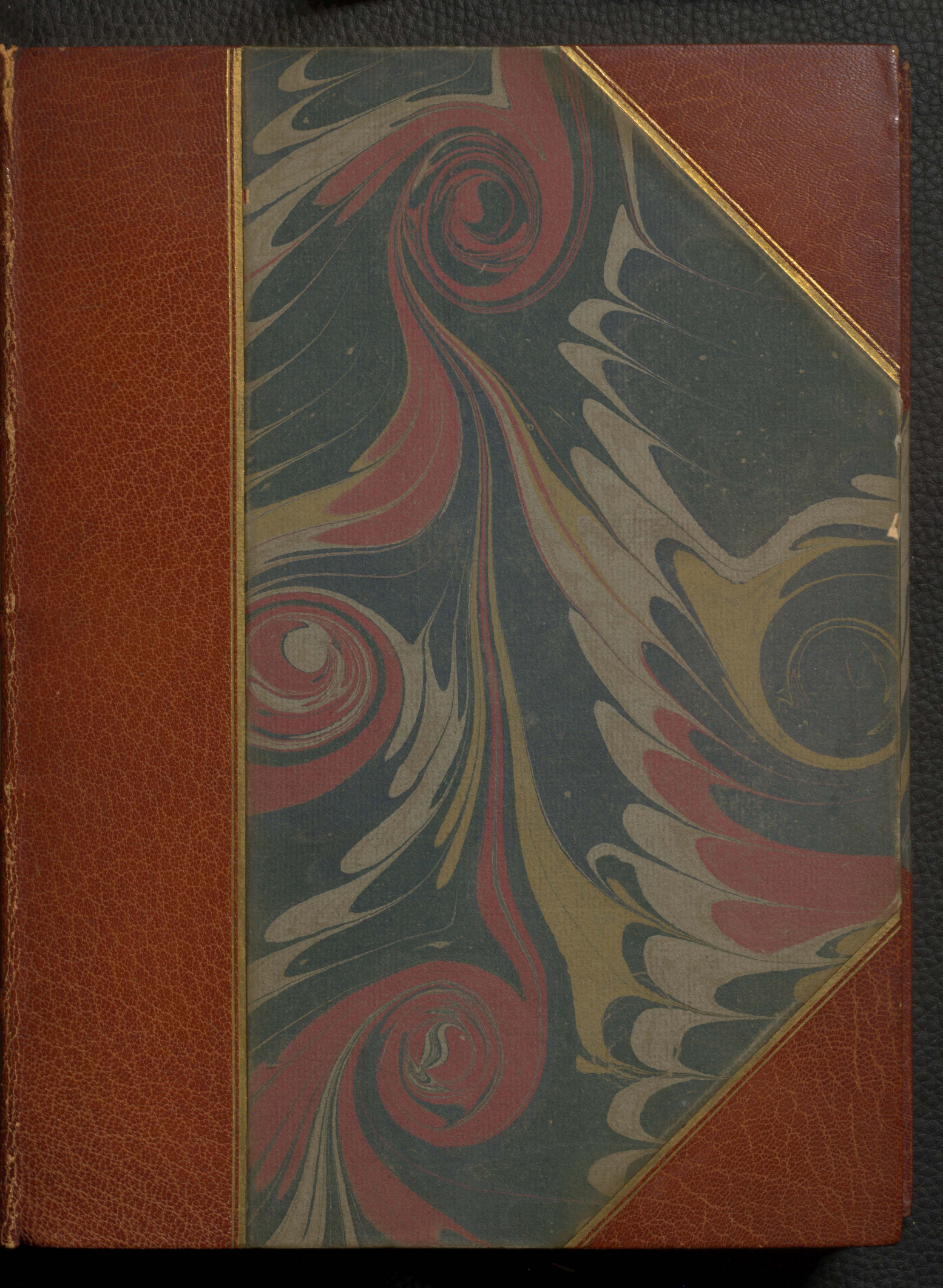

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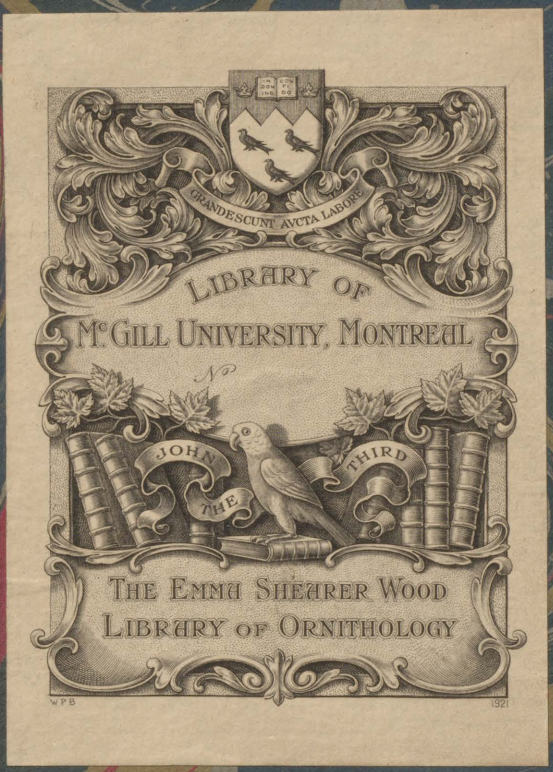
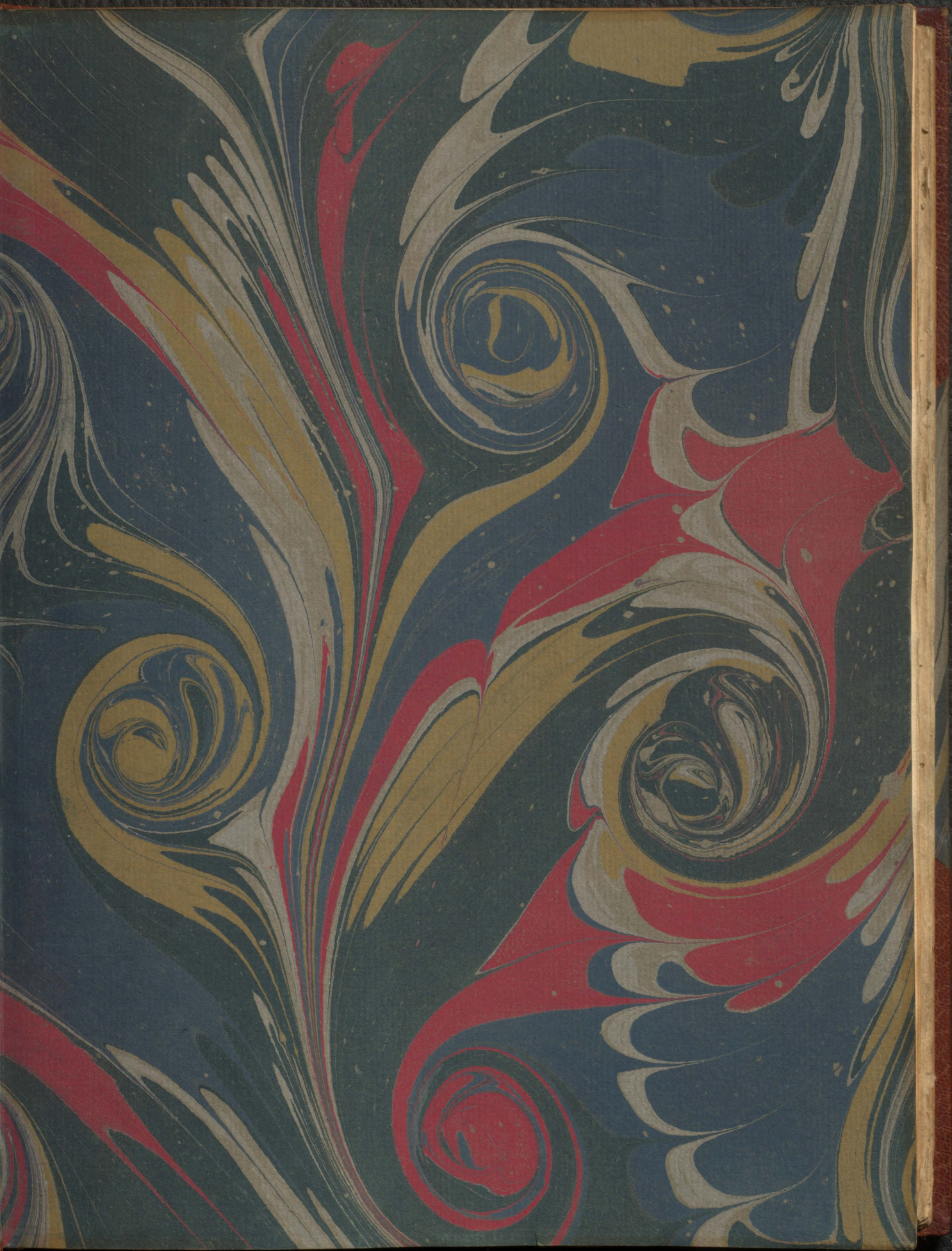




Marmaduke Innstall

of

Wycliffe.

M. S. Notes

to

Pennant's Natural History.

Vol III

Reptiles & Fishes -

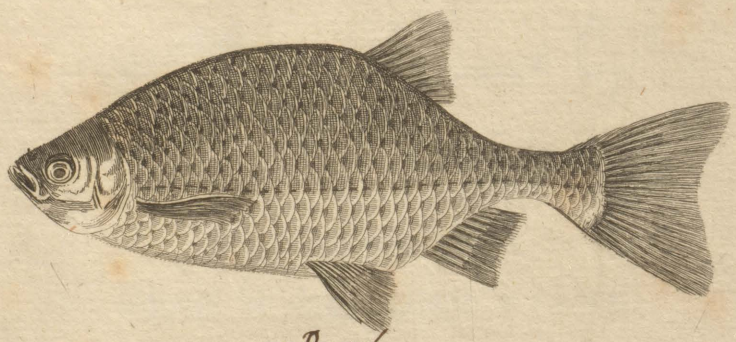
Wycliffe Hall -

1780 - 1790 -

BRITISH ZOOLOGY.

CLASS III. REPTILES

IV. FISH.



Nº 172.

Roach.

LONDON.
Printed for Benj. White,
MDCCLXXVI.

BRITISH ZOOLOGY.

VOL. III.

CLASS III. REPTILES.

IV. FISH.

By Thomas Pennant Esq.

WARRINGTON:
Printed by WILLIAM EYRES,
FOR
BENJAMIN WHITE, at Horace's Head, Fleet-Street, LONDON.
MDCCLXXVI.

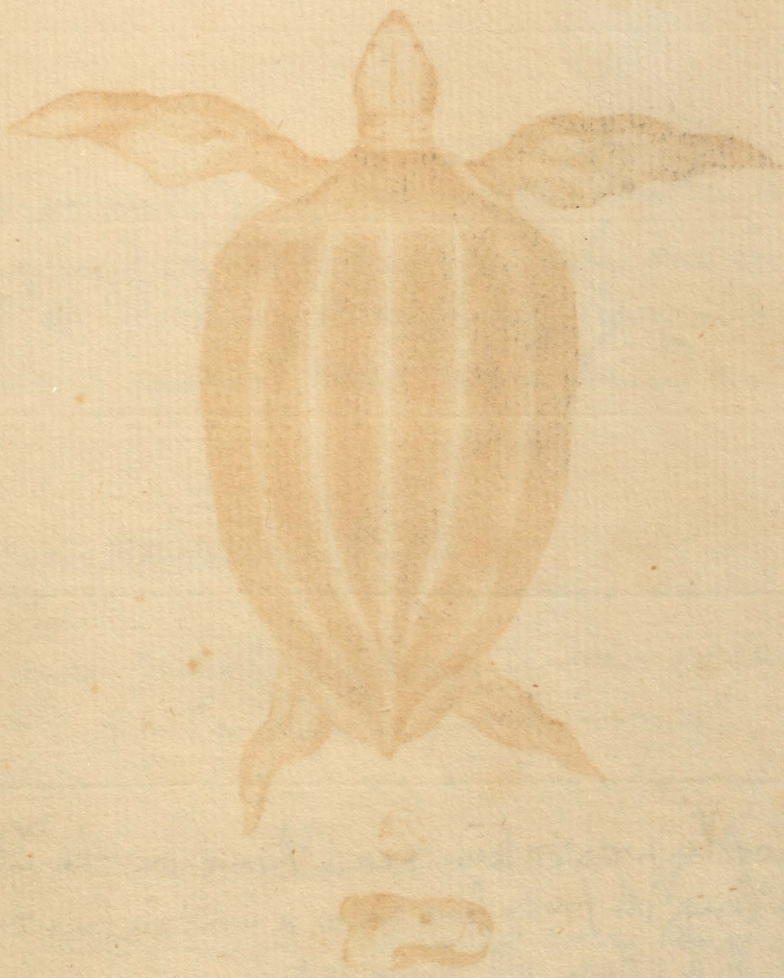
BRITISH ZOOLOGY.

In 1784 the Governor of Rio de Janeiro sent the King of Portugal a Serpent of more than 20 feet long & bigger about, than a man's arm: it is remarkable that this reptile arrived alive, though had neither eat nor drunk for 25 days; the King ordered it to be put in one of the fountains of the botanical Garden. — A particular Species of Serpent in America has a sting in its tail & coils itself before it darts it out. its sting is generally mortal: See Smyth's travels thro the united States of America, vol:1.

181918

In ~~April~~ May 1788 was a letter from Toulon dated April 24 in the Morning Chronicle giving an account of a serpent of extraordinary size being killed by a M: de Colomber at S.t Paul de Fayance about 33 leagues from Frejus, it had been the terror of the country & had made great havock among their flocks; M: de Colomber hearing of it, went in pursuit of it attended only by an English dog, he perceived it among the bushes & at the distance of ten paces fired twice & hit him on the head; he afterwards fired at him twice more, by way of precaution; the serpent died twisting himself about with such force, that he broke three large boughs of the trees with his tail; he weighed two quintals & a half; this serpent seems as yet totally a nondescript among the serpents of Europe; see farther on in this volume p.32. in a Mss note, an account of two very large serpents killed in England, one at Ladham in Norfolk, the other near Enville in Lancashire. -

The skin of a snake (of what species, or whether British or foreign, tho' most probably the latter, not said) was sent to a Mr. Boswell, leather-cutter in Norwich, in December 1789, said in the morning chronicle to be twenty feet & a half in length, but in the St. James's chronicle, twenty yards & a half! it was afterwards sold to a gentleman for his museum.—



In 1764 a Sea-Turtle was taken near Beere on the Devonshire coast, about 7 feet Long, its fore-fins were a yard in Length, its Head as Large as that of a Man, its Weight was guessed to be half a ton; the Shell of it had 5 or 6 parallel Seams or Ridges from one end to the other, it was entangled & caught in the lines of some Lobster pots: — was probably a Coriaceous Turtle or Tortoise. M.S. —

— great quantitys of the Green Turtle were imported into England in 1784, particularly one in August was presented to the King weighing upwards of 418 pounds. More than a peck of eggs were found within the shell. —

The flesh of the Mediterranean Turtle is commonly esteemed bad & unwholsome & to cause much sickness in the eaters; a ludicrous story is told of a Candidate for a borough, who sent one to the Voters, which had only the bad effect of making them sick. — The Land-tortoise, tho' not a native of England, has been frequently imported here & lived very long; one, whose shell is still preserved at Lambeth palace, was placed in the gardens there by Abp. Laud about the year 1633, which lived till 1753, & then was killed by being dug out of the ground in a very inclement season; another was placed in the Bp. of London's gardens at Fulham, by the same Prelate, when Bp. of that See in the year 1628, which died a natural death in 1753-4. how old these tortoises were, when imported, is unknown. M. T.

Dr. Rutty in his natural history of the County of Dublin vol: 1, p: 290, says, that the frog was first introduced into Ireland in 1699 by a Dr. Smithers.

see some most curious observations on the generation of frogs & of an artificial fecundation of them by Abbé Spa=
=lanzani, that eminent Italian Philosopher. M: T:—

Have heard very ~~strong~~ credible instances of young frogs in a shower being found in hatts, nor does it seem very strange, they having been carried up like the rain & when specifically heavier than the circumambient air, fall again like it M: T:..

in the time of copulation, the fore-toes, answering to ~~the~~ thumbs, by which they adhere, swell to an uncommon size, in order to help them to hold the stronger M: T:—

In the month of November 1783, the Tanks & ponds in the Island of Bombay were nearly covered with frogs, which devoured much herbage & many fish, several of them weighed from 4 to 5 pounds & measured 2 feet from the extremities: probably a very different species from the common frog, both on account of the great superiority of size, as also because herbage is part of its food, which is not of the common sort.

In July 1786, a mower working on the lands of Coolmines, between Tallagh & Rathcoole, in Ireland, cut a frog in two, which, when the parts were joined, measured 18 inches & 1/4 in circumference, crop the belly; its mouth & throat were proportionably large, & several field-mice were found in its stomach. -

Toads in Solid Rocks or growing Trees.

Some very recent instances of this fact, however incredible it may appear at first sight, have been recorded by persons worthy of belief. — Many remarkable examples are cited in Plot's Oxfordshire, as quoted in the opposite page, perhaps one of the most extraordinary, is recorded in Wallis's history of Northumberld & also in Hutchinson's view of Do. vol 1, p: 238. at Chillingham Castle the old seat of the Greys, now of the Earls of Tankerville, where a chymney piece is made of a stone in which a live toad was discovered in sawing it from the block, the nidus of it appeared, till the late Earl of Tankerville had it filled up with cement, thinking it a disagreeable sight; a painting remains of it, by which, if exact, it was of a very large size, nearly as large as a hat crown; another instance is quoted in the same place from the publick papers, of one found in a coal-mine near Sunderland in ~~[illegible]~~ 1776 alive in a solid coal, near 190 feet deep, on being exposed to the air, it instantly died. — See also Memoirs of the Royal Academy of Sciences, for those found in solid trees, as also Amb: Paré's account of one at Meudon as quoted in Memoirs for history of Languedoc, Paris 1737

Great Dog

Mr. Pennant in his account of his voyage to the Hebrides or Western Isles in 1772 Supposes this to be the Rana Bombina of Linnæus, see p: 192.

There seems in my neighbourhood to be a species of dark, ugly slow-leaping frog rather resembling a toad, which appears to be omitted by Mr. Pennant; possibly may be the Natterjack the Rana Rubeta.

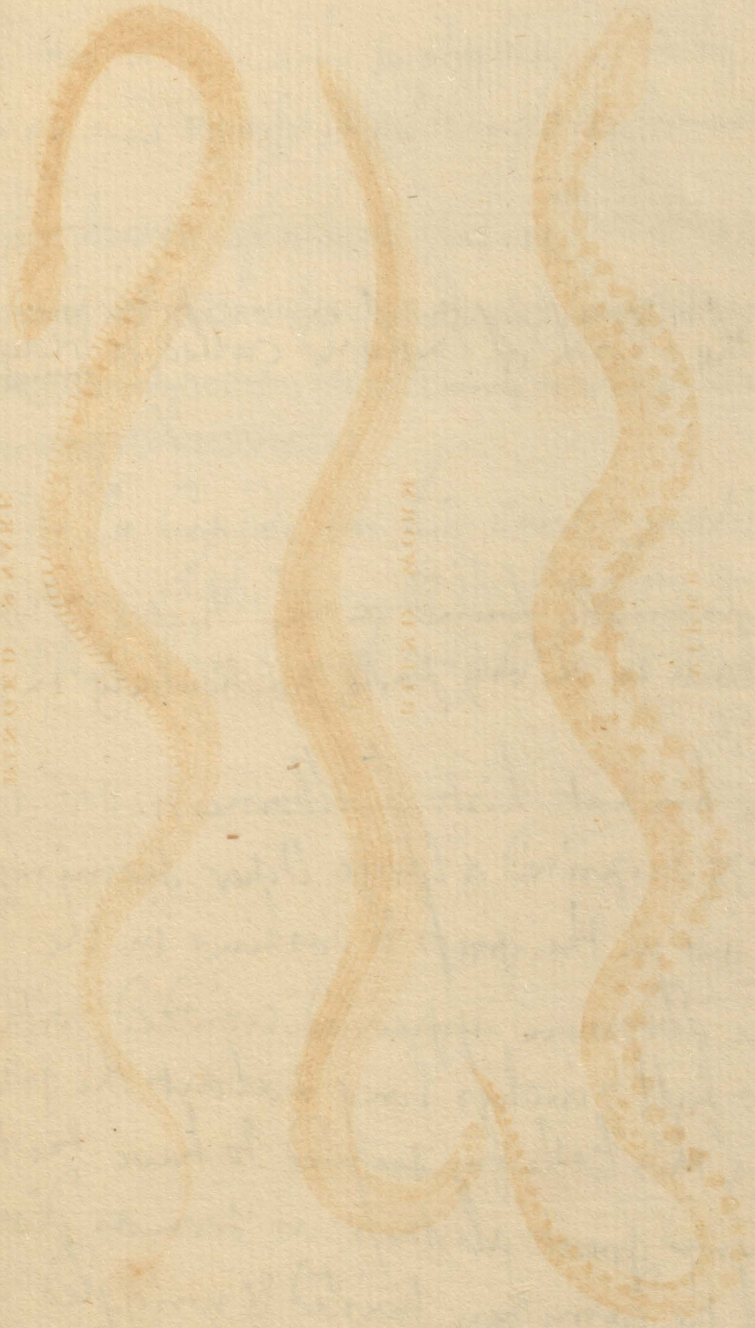
Mr. White says, many Guernsey Lizards were turned out in Pembroke College-garden, Oxford, where they lived a great while, but were never known to breed, he supposes the Guernsey lizard to be nearly allied to the Green lizard is common ~~in~~ in Provence, Spain, Portugal & over most part of the Continent of Europe. Nat: hist: of Selborne p: 64. -

Warty Lizard

A Lizard, I think of this species, was taken in the Spring of 1787, at Richmond in Yorkshire & given to me, the belly was rather orange-coloured than bright yellow & spotted with deep brown or black. M: T: — on further inspection have much doubt of its being this species. —

believe our English lizards are as yet very imperfectly known. M. T.

—The history of British Lizards seems as yet very imperfect, there being probably many species as yet unnoticed & the nature of the few known, far from being thoroughly investigated, believe something similar may be said, in a smaller degree, concerning the British Serpents or Snakes. M. J. —



Viper

by some in the North of England called a Flag-worm.

are not unfrequently found on the moors of the Northern parts of Britain in the dry parts, particularly in Lett & sultry weather. M: T:.

Mr. White in his nat: hist: of Selborne p: 210, asserts that he on Aug: 4, 1775, surprised a large Viper seemingly heavy & bloated laying in the grass & basking in the Sun; When cut up, the abdomen appeared crowded with young, 15 in number full 7 inches long & about the size of full-grown earth-worms, this little fry seemed to have the true viper Spirit & shewed great alertness as soon as disengaged from the belly of the dam they twisted & wriggled about, set themselves up, gaped very wide When touched with a stick & shewed manifest tokens of menace & defiance, tho' no manner of fangs could be found even with glasses; the dam had formidable ones

the black Viper, it is highly probably, is only a variety, either sexual or occasioned by age, mostly thought the former & to be the male. M: T.

~~The skin of a snake, of what species, whether British or exotic not said, of twenty yards & ½ long was sent to a leather seller in London, in December 1789, was mentioned in the morning Chronicle.~~

The Comte de la Cepede, in his continuation of the natural history of the Comte de Buffon, seems to be of opinion, that the black viper is a distinct species.—

The London viper-catchers assured the Hon.ble Daines Barrington that the story of the young vipers taking asylum in the bodies of their dams was a groundless fable. White's nat: hist: of Selborne, page 51.

have been informed, that serpents of some kind have been observed to climb trees in England, to get at young thrushes & other birds while in the nest. M: S: —

In the Philosophical transactions No. 376, p: 296, is an account of a Viper-catcher at Milan, who had above 60 living vipers in one room & among the rest one female big with young on his having thrown some mice among them, of which none took the least notice, but the pregnant viper ~~on~~ which after having fixed her eyes ~~the~~ upon one of them it seemed soon ~~after~~ to totally to have lost its senses as after having ~~risen~~ round it for some time, it actually with great swiftness run into its open chops: from this great excess of fear in animals at sight of a viper, proceeds the notion of a fascination, which is no more than that fear so totally deprives them of sense as to make them take no measures even in the jaws of their destroyer. Have been

informed that none but pregnant vipers, will take the least nutriment in confinement, as Mr: Pennant here relates. M: T:

A Gentleman cock-shooting in a coppice near Solihull in Yorkshire early in March 1789 in severe weather, ~~he~~ saw 4 vipers coiled together in a footway, one of which sprung & bit his dog. — as these reptiles are imagined to be always torpid till the warmth of spring comes on, the formerly circumstance may be deemed an extraordinary one. —

Sucking out the poison from a bite, by a person, whose mouth is secured from injury by being washed with oil to prevent any inflammation of the lips & tongue from the poison, has been found of efficacy with the addition of Emetics worked of with oil & warm water; but without these precautions it is esteemed dangerous to suck the wound & Matthiolus, according to Dr: Borlase, relates an account of a Man dying by sucking the blood & poison out of the wound; the same person re=
=lates a cure effected, by the prescription of a Cor=
=nish Lady on a Man bit in the breast, by the ap=
=plication of a young pigeon with the anus close to the wound, which soon swelled, sickened & died, when another was applied, which soon grew faint & died soon after. see Borlase's nat: hist: of Cornwall p: 283. —

"Its flesh has been long celebrated as a noble medicine. Doctor Mead cites from Pliny Galen & other antients, several proofs of its efficacy in the cure of ulcers the Elephantiases, & other bad complaints — — This at present used as a restorative, though we think the modern physicians have no great dependence on its virtues

Viper

This singular food did not prolong the days of Lady Digby, who died suddenly, being found dead in her bed at a very early age; he is also said to have introduced into England the large Italian snail for the same purpose & some of the breed are said still to be seen near his seat at Gothurst. M:T:. see more of this in the account of Shells farther on vol:4. —

In warm dry seasons they are very common on the moors in the North of England; in 1786 had a pointer killed by one of near two feet in length, one was killed there that year near 3 feet. M:T:. —

in the Summer of 1790, a Viper or Adder was killed near Borthwickbrae; its length was $\frac{3}{4}$ of a yard, being big in the middle, on opening it, 12 young ones living were found, about 6 inches long each.

Dreadful as the effects of its bite may be, yet its fleſh has been long celebrated as a noble medicine. Doctor *Mead* cites from *Pliny*, *Galen*, and other antients, ſeveral proofs of its efficacy in the cure of *ulcers*, the *elephantiaſis*, and other bad complaints. He even ſays he has ſeen good effects from it in an obſtinate *lepra:* it is at preſent uſed as a reſtorative, tho' we think the modern phyſicians have no great dependence on its virtues. The antients preſcribed it boiled, and to be eaten as fiſh; for when freſh, the medicine was much more likely to take effect than when dried, and given in form of a powder or troche. Mr. *Keyſler* relates that Sir *Kenelm Digby* uſed to feed his wife, who was a moſt beautiful woman, with capons fattened with the fleſh of vipers. USES.

The antient *Britons* had a ſtrange ſuperſtition in reſpect to theſe animals, and of which there ſtill remains in *Wales* a ſtrong tradition. The account *Pliny* gives of it is as follows: we ſhall not attempt a tranſlation, it being already done to our hands in a ſpirited manner by the ingenious Mr. *Maſon*, which we ſhall take the liberty of borrowing.

Præterea eſt ovorum genus in magna Galliarum *fama, omiſſum* Græcis. *Angues innumeri æſtate convoluti, ſalivis faucium corporumque ſpumis artifici complexu glomerantur*; anguinum *appellatur.* Druidæ *ſibilis id dicunt in ſublime jactari, ſagoque oportere intercipi, ne tellurem attingat: profugere raptorem equo: ſerpentes enim inſequi, donec arceantur amnis alicujus interventu**.

* *Lib.* XXIX. *c.* 3.

But

But tell me yet
From the grot of charms and ſpells,
Where our matron ſiſter dwells,
Brennus, has thy holy hand
Safely brought the Druid wand,
And the potent *Adder-ſtone*,
Gender'd 'fore the autumnal moon?
When in undulating twine,
The foaming ſnakes prolific join;
When they hiſs, and when they bear
Their wond'rous egg aloof in air;
Thence before to earth it fall,
The *Druid* in his hallow'd pall,
Receives the prize,
And inſtant flies,
Follow'd by the envenom'd brood,
'Till he croſs the cryſtal flood *.

This wondrous egg ſeems to be nothing more than a bead of glaſs, uſed by the *Druids* as a charm to impoſe on the vulgar, whom they taught to believe, that the poſſeſſor would be fortunate in all his attempts, and that it would gain him the favor of the great.

Our modern *Druideſſes* give much the ſame account of the *ovum anguinum*, *Glain Neidr*, as the *Welch* call it, or the *Adder-Gem*, as the *Roman* philoſopher does, but ſeem not to have ſo exalted an opinion of its powers, uſing it only to aſſiſt children in cutting their teeth, or to cure the chin-cough, or to drive away an ague.

We have ſome of theſe beads in our cabinet: they are made of

† *Maſon*'s *Caractacus*. The perſon ſpeaking is a Druid.

glaſs,

one of my servants found one of these Druids eggs or ~~charms~~ beads or gems on a wild moor near Richmond in Yorkshire in 1786 it resembled most the plainest here figured, but was broader & flatter & the hole smaller in proportion, it was of a pale yellow colour & was evidently a species of Glass. M: F: ——

— Mr. White asserts, that snakes have a faculty of stinking in self-defence; he says he knew a Gentleman, that kept a tame snake, as sweet as any animal while unalarmed & in good humour, but as soon as a stranger, a dog or a cat came in, it fell to hissing & filled the room with such nauseous effluvia as rendered it hardly supportable; the skunk or stonck is well known to defend itself in like manner by a horrid fetid smell. nat: hist: of Selborne p: 72.

In the morning Chronicle of Aug: 22, 1789, was an account of a remarkable conflict between a serpent of large size & a pike of eleven pounds weight in Preston-brook, Lancashire, the pike was seen to dart upon its ~~[illegible]~~ adversary with great fury & the water being clear, the contest was distinctly seen & was continued

glaſs, and of a very rich blue color; ſome are plain, others ſtreaked: we ſay nothing of the figure, as the annexed plate will convey a ſtronger idea of it than words.

Ενυδρίς. *Ariſt. Hiſt. an.* I. *c.* 1.
Natrix torquata. *Geſner Serpent.* 63.
Natrix torquata. *Raii ſyn. quad.* 334.
Anguis vulgaris fuſcus collo flaveſcente, ventre albis maculis diſtinctus. *Pet. Muſ.* XVII. No. 101.
Coluber natrix. *Lin. ſyſt.* 380.
Tomt-Orm, Snok, Ring-Orm. *Faun. Suec.* No. 288.
C. natrix ſcutis abdom. 170. Squamis caudæ, 60. *Ibid.*

13. RINGED.

THE ſnake is the largeſt of the *Engliſh* ſerpents, ſometimes exceeding four feet in length: the neck is ſlender; the middle of the body thickeſt; the back and ſides covered with ſmall ſcales, the belly with oblong, narrow, tranſverſe plates. The firſt

Linnæus

Linnæus diſtinguiſhes by the name of *ſquamæ*, the laſt he calls *ſcuta*, and from them forms his genera of ſerpents.

Thoſe that have both *ſquamæ* and *ſcuta* he calls *Colubri*; thoſe that have only *ſquamæ*, *Angues*. The viper and ſnake are comprehended in the firſt genus, the blind-worm under the ſecond; but we chuſe (to avoid multiplying our genera) to take in the few ſerpents we have by a ſingle genus, their marks being too evident to be confounded.

Descrip. The color of the back and ſides of the ſnake are duſky or brown; the middle of the back marked with two rows of ſmall black ſpots running from head to tail; and from them are multitudes of lines of ſpots croſſing the ſides; the plates on the belly are duſky, the ſcales on the ſides of a bluiſh white.

On each ſide the neck is a ſpot of pale yellow, and the baſe of each is a triangular black ſpot, one angle of which points towards the tail.

The teeth are ſmall and ſerrated, lying each ſide the jaw in two rows.

This ſpecies is perfectly inoffenſive; it frequents and lodges itſelf among buſhes in moiſt places, and will readily take the water, ſwimming very well.

It preys on frogs, inſects, worms, and mice, and, conſidering the ſmallneſs of the neck, it is amazing how large an animal it will ſwallow.

Eggs. The ſnake is oviparous: it lays its eggs in dung-hills, and in hot-beds, whoſe heat, aided by that of the ſun, promotes the excluſion of the young.

During winter it lies torpid in banks of hedges, and under old trees.

continued with much obstinacy on both sides more than twenty minutes, several times did the fish attempt to gorge the serpent, but the latter by coiling itself round it, avoided its force, at last both combatants were so exhausted as to be easily taken: N: B: the Serpent there was called an Adder or Viper, but must have been the Snake as the Viper never goes into the water. —

In 1769 a large Snake was shot in a nursery of young trees on a large common one mile from Enville in Lancashire, thought to be 60 years old, it measured 12 feet 4 inches & $\frac{3}{4}$ in length & 3 feet 1 inch in thickness, it used to come to drink at the foot of the said nursery, where two men laid in wait for it with a gun each, loaded with ball. —
A very large Snake was killed Sept: 16, 1782, at Ludham in Norfolk, by one Jasper Andrews of that place; it measured 5 feet, 5 inches in length, was almost 3 feet in circumference & had a very long snout; what is very remarkable, there were two excrescencies on the fore part of the head, which

Turn over.

much resembled horns: this creature seldom made its appearance in the day-time, but continued con= =cealed in subterraneous retreats, several of which were after discovered in the town, one near the tanning-office, a second in the premisses of the Revd. Mr. Jeffrey & a third in the lands occupied by Mr. Wm. Popple at the Hall: the skin of the above sur= =prising reptile is now in the possession of Mr. I: Garret a wealthy farmer in that neighbourhood.

— a Farmer near Hoddesdon in Hertfordshire, on the 21st of September 1788, observed a serpent rustling entangled in the bushes with erected crest & hissing, he fetched his gun, fired at it & killed it the length of it from head to the extremity of the tail was 12 feet & the circumference in the thickest part 14 inches.—

Dr. Borlase says two species or varieties of the snake have been found in Cornwall, one with a white garland round the neck & a sharp tail like the point of a rush, the other with a yellow garland & a shorter & more obtuse tail: he

also says one was killed near Kilkhampton in 1757
4 feet long. Borlase's hist: of Cornwall p: 283. –

Blind worm.

According to the Comte de la Cepede, the Continuator of Buffon, this Species is viviparous. –

have heard instances tolerably well authenticated of considerable Swellings being occasioned by the ~~bite~~ bite of the blind-worm; possibly the Species might have been mistaken. M: T: –

Dr. Borlase says, the species he had heard was venomous, is called in Cornwall the long cripple. Borlase's Nat: hist: of Cornwall p: 284. – have since heard an account of this blind-worm with a pointed tail having been certainly observed by a Gentn. in Gloucestershire, who informed Mr. Latham of it. M: T: –

A fish seemingly by its size allied to the Whale-Species, if the account may be depended on, is described by Kilburne in his Survey of Kent, tho' seems to differ in the structure of the eyes, of an enormous size in this Species, tho' small in proportion in almost all the other described Species of Whales, the account is as follows page 215-216.-

Near this place (viz Broadstairs in the parish of St Peters in the Isle of Thanet) on the 9th of July 1574, a monstrous fish shot himself on shore, on a little sand, now called Fishness, where (for want of water) he died next day, before which time his roaring was heard above a mile. his length was 22 yards, the neither jaw opening 12 feet; one of his eyes was more than a cart & 6 horses could draw, a man stood upright in the place from whence his eye was taken; the thickness from his back to the top of his belly (which lay upwards) was 14 feet; his tail of the same breadth; the distance between his eyes was 12 feet; 3 men stood upright in his mouth, some of his ribs were 16 feet long, his tongue 14 feet long; his liver was two cart-loads & a Man might creep into his nostrils. — however astonishing some part of the former account may seem, it is transcribed & seemingly judged authentic by Mr Lewis in his history of the Isle of Thanet p: 164. —

in April 1787, a coasting Pilot, being about two leagues distant from the port of Tarragona, encountered with a fish of an enormous size, which did some damage to his vessel, but having by great perseverance & address & the assistance of another Vessel taken & secured it, they drew it ashore, where it excited much wonder, was supposed to be of some species of Whale, but no one could ascertain of which, it was 37 & ½ spans in length & 17 in circumference in the thickest part, of the colour of an Elephant, it had

a most prodigious throat, sharp teeth & small eyes, suppos=
=ed to weigh about 7500 pounds. =possibly it might
have been of the Shark ~~kin~~ genus & not a species of Whale.
Mid.:-

Liſbon, Jan. 17. They write from Alcobaca, that on the 27th of November, in the morning, they heard, in the hamlet of St. Giaon, near Pederneira, a noiſe proceeding from the ſea-coaſt, which led them to imagine that ſome large fiſh had got on ſhore, and on their arrival at the place they actually found a whale, which was three vares long, and five quarters and a half in thickneſs; the ſkin of it was black on the back and white under the belly, but it had no fins; in the upper part of the head, above the eyes, was a ſquare hole, and two other ſmall openings; its muzzle was pointed and pretty large, and was furniſhed with 44 large teeth ſeparated from each other; above the back-bone, and towards the ſides, where there ſhould have been fins, there were thick rough membranes. This whale was taken and brought to St. Giaon, where it lived two days; when diſſected, the fleſh was found very white. Numbers of people flocked to view it, but none could deſcribe the ſpecies of this fiſh, and the fiſhermen of Pederneira declared they never ſaw one of the kind.

A large Whale, not mentioned of what Species, was in the latter end of the year 1789, thrown upon the estate of Sr. Neil O'Donnel in the County of Mayo in Ireland; was imagined it would prove very valuable, as it was found on trial, to contain much oil. –

Description of a curious sea monster, driven on
hore in Portleaven Bay on the coast of Cornwall,
n the 14th of Sept. 1786, by the strong westerly
winds and tempestuous weather, which continued
o a violent degree for several days successively,
and did much damage at that place and neigh-
bourhood.

This monster was first discovered by two boys,
who (agreeable to the custom of that place) went
in search of wreck soon after day break; and as
they stood on the clift which commanded a pro-
spect of a small sandy cove, they, at a distance
of about a mile, discovered something of enor-
mous bulk near the shore, and which after a
short time they apprehended to be the side or
part of an unfortunate ship which had the pre-
ceding night been broken to pieces by the extre-
mities of the shore: they immediately went to-
wards the place with sanguine expectation of
great success, and as they approached the spot
(the breaking waves at times leaving it dry) they
were both struck with the utmost consternation
to perceive such motions as convinced them it
was something which had life: they then hast-
ened with great fear to some men of their acquaint-
ance, and related what they had seen in a terrify-
ing manner:—at first their report was not cre-
dited, but after many strong and particular de-
clarations of the fact, a great number of people
soon collected themselves into a body, and de-
termined to go armed, some with large sticks
and pokers, others with hatchets, spits, &c.
which was, after some deliberation, carried into
execution. On their coming near the spot they
perceived it to be something living, as was repre-
sented, and it raised its head, which had not
before been perceived, and appeared to direct
its course towards them. All were alarmed—
some stood their ground, others possessed with
greater fear turned back: they could see no legs
to it, but it appeared to crawl on its belly, rai-
sing its body at times a little from the sand. Va-
rious were the opinions about this creature;
some said it was a Mermaid, others a Whale—
but the greater number disbelieving the existence
of the former, and adhering to the improbability
of the latter, they were all equally at a loss.
When it was agreed to examine what it was, they
all went towards it, and after an hour's beating,
stabbing it, &c. it expired wfth a groan. Its
length was found to be from the top of its head,
to the end of its tail, 48 feet, 10 inches, and its
circumference in the largest part of the body,
24 feet and a half: its head was large, and
prickly in the hinder part, and not forked much
unlike that of a man; its eyes were greenish;
its mouth large; its nose flat, and from its neck
to the naval, resembling nearest to the human
kind; its back was hard, and more difficult to
penetrate than the shell of a turtle; it had two
short fore feet, formed like the paw of a monkey,
and its hinder parts shaped like the hinder parts of
a porpoise; it had a large fan-tail, which when
spread, measured full seven feet in width at the
extent, and but five feet long. It is supposed
a large quantity of oil will be produced from it,
which with the shell of its back, and its fins, are
judged, if properly managed, to be of great value,
and will be of some considerable benefit to this
neighbourhood. No one that has seen it, knows
its name, nor has any monster like it ever been
described in record, or come within the knowledge
of this kingdom.

fish, seemingly of the cetaceous kind
paper of December 1783, dated Flushing—
hen the tide was very high, a fish
was discovered near Domburg be-
Westhaven: its length was 84 feet,
tail was 6 feet breadth: it had
its head, & 48 large teeth in its
left dry, it made a great noise
rcibly with its tail, that it was
ear it at first. after the head had
was opened, & in its belly a young
weighed 112 pounds, which was
the body of the large fish yielded.
t's weight was upwards of 8,000
lone weighed 230 pounds. —

, a Whale, of what species was not men-
e-bay in Denmark, it measured 13 ells

whose species is not ascertained, was
ghbourhood of Whitby 64 feet long, his
o feet wide, his eyes were abt. 6 inches
ts body was 62 feet, he had only 2 fins,

Lisbon, Jan. 17. They write from Alcobaca, that on the 27th of November, in the morning, they heard, in the hamlet of St. Giaon, near Pederneira, a noiſe proceeding from the ſea-coaſt, which led them to imagine that ſome large fiſh had got on ſhore, and on their arrival at the place they actually found a whale, which was three vares long, and five quarters and a half in thickneſs; the ſkin of it was black on the back and white under the belly, but it had no fins; in the upper part of the head, above the eyes, was a ſquare hole, and two other ſmall openings; its muzzle was pointed and pretty large, and was furniſhed with 44 large teeth ſeparated from each other; above the back-bone, and towards the ſides, where there ſhould have been fins, there were thick rough membranes. This whale was taken and brought to St. Giaon, where it lived two days; when diſſected, the fleſh was found very white. Numbers of people flocked to view it, but none could deſcribe the ſpecies of this fiſh, and the fiſhermen of Pederneira declared they never ſaw one of the kind.

A large Whale, not mentioned of what Species, was in the latter end of the year 1789, thrown upon the estate of Sr. Neil O'Donnel in the County of Mayo in Ireland; was imagined it would prove very valuable, as it was found on trial, to contain much oil. –

The following account of a fish, seemingly of the cetaceous kind was in a morning paper of December 1783, dated Flushing — On the 4th instant, when the tide was very high, a fish of an enormous size was discovered near Domburg be= =tind the castle of Westhaven: its length was 84 feet, its diameter 26, & its tail was 6 feet breadth: it had a hole on the top of its head, & 58 large teeth in its mouth: when it was left dry, it made a great noise & struck the sand so forcibly with its tail, that it was not possible to come near it at first. after the head had been cut off, the fish was opened, & in its belly a young fish was found, that weighed 112 pounds, which was carried to Middleburg: the body of the large fish yielded 2070 pounds of fat, its weight was upwards of 8,000 pounds & its snout alone weighed 230 pounds. ——

On the 29th of December 1785, a Whale, of what species was not men= =tioned, was taken in Odensee-bay in Denmark, it measured 13 ells in length. —

In September 1736 a Whale, whose species is not ascertained, was found near Steath in the neighbourhood of Whitby 64 feet long, his mouth opened upwards of 20 feet wide his eyes were abt. 6 inches diameter each, the girth of its body was 62 feet, he had only 2 fins,

placed on each shoulder of a thick hard substance about 2 feet long & 21 inches broad: his blast or blather which came out of his mouth was not less than 15 feet square & was no other than the tongue & lining of his under jaw, which he had power of throwing out to capacitate him to breath when asleep: the fat on the back was 9 inches thick, called the blubber, under the fat lay flesh like very fat beef: his penis was bigger than the largest ling & something resembling it, his tail was 12 feet & 4 inches over: he was sold by the proprietors to 3 tradesmen of Sunderland for 50 guineas, the Blubber & other parts for oil filled 12 pipes.

Sept.br 9, 1728 a Whale was caught in the mouth of the Humber 20 yards long & 9 yards round, as also a Sword-fish supposed to have driven it into the river.

in Nov.r 1787, a young Whale was brought into Port Glasgow by the help of a fisher's boat, it was found dead in the river abt. the mouth of the Gairlock, supposed to have pursued the herrings.

In the morning of the 21.st of August 1788 about 3 o'clock, an enormous Whale was thrown on the Kentish coast near Margate, 200 yards below the pier near Newgate it was a very extraordinary fish & appeared to be sick, but when left on the rocks for near an hour, no one could approach it for with its tail & fins, it beat & threw stones in great quantities around, it was in length 136 feet & round the girth 93. — by later accounts the dimensions of this fish were much reduced & said to be only 75 feet long 41 in breadth in the thickest part.

a young Whale was found Sept. 7, 1788 on Bennington Saltmarsh Lincolnshire, supposed to have been left by the tide 31 feet long & 18 in girth.

One of the Harpooners of the Henrietta Greenlandman of Whitby, struck a whale, when in Greenland, in the season of 1784, which ran from the boat the man was in, eighteen lines, each line containing 120 fathoms or 240 yards, being in the whole two miles, one half & 80 yards; but after holding the fish for some time, the harpoon gave way & the fish escaped. —

In December 1787, a Whale was brought into Sunderland, being found by the master of a ship near Staithes on the Yorkshire coast; 54 feet long; the mouth opened 20 feet: the bones were flat & broad & close together, the eyes about 6 inches diameter, but appeared small in proportion, the girt 62 feet; it was beautifully ridged from the shoulders to lower end of the belly; had two fins placed on each shoulder of a thick hard substance aft. 14 feet long & 21 inches broad, his blast, as commonly called, which is no other than the tongue & lining of his under jaw, which he has a power to throw out to capacitate him to breath when asleep, was 16 feet square. The ~~flat~~ fat on his back was 9 inches thick, under the fat lies flesh like fat beef, his tail was 12 feet 4 inches over, was sold to 3 tradesmen of Sunderland for 50 guineas his fat or blubber & other parts for oil filled 12 pipes. — N.B. Tho the dates differ, the description seems the same as of one over-leaf p: 44. —

In Aug: 1790 at Stornoway in the Isle of Lewis, one of the Hebrides, about 300 small whales, all alive, were thrown on shore, which were secured with little or no trouble, the same day they were put up to public sale, under the direction of Mr. Mackenzie of Seaforth's factor & brought no more than 121-8-0.—

Whales of various species are not unfrequently drove upon our shores in tempestuous weather, many have been flung upon the Holderness coast & others in Yorkshire &c as also on the Western shores; in June 1781 a prodigious large Whale entered the harbour of Whitehaven in Cumberland, it was observed by numbers of people & several balls were fired at it, but not apparently with any injury to the fish, which pursued its course to the Northward. —

in November 1782 a dead Whale was brought on shore at Holy-Island on the Northumberland coast, the length of which was 72 feet 6 inches, the girth round 48 feet, breadth of the tail 14 feet, it was said to have been of considerable value. —

— At Quimper on the coast of Britanny, the 21st of March 1784, thirty two Whales, of what sort not mentioned, were found thrown up by the sea the preceding night into a kind of Creek, whence they were not able to disengage themselves; they were taken, & the produce of their sale amounted to 200,000 livres; they were from 36 to 40 feet in length; and among them one of the monstrous length of 82 feet. — a Whale near 30 feet long, was thrown ashore on Castor-beach near Yarmouth July 7, 1784. —

— Oct: 17, 1788, a Whale 60 feet long was cast on shore near Wigton in Galloway; was claimed by S.r Sam.l Hannah Bt. of Kirkdale, was expected to prove of value. —

On the 6th of July 1786, a Whale was thrown upon the coast of Antrim, Ireland, near Red bay in the Glyns below Glenarm, having come into the bay on a falling tide, it was prevented by the rocks from making out again & shortly after the water fell, it died; the length was 80 feet, abt 14 do. in diameter & 40 in circumference in the thickest part. —

a large Whale was caught at Enver on the N: West coast of Ireland near Donegal, 62 feet long, 15 feet deep as it lay, its tongue filled 11 hogsheads, the Whalebone 9 feet long, computed to be worth between 8 or 900. —

A Whale was seen near Watterwick on the coast of Suffolk the first week in March 1788 sometimes almost on the Beach, boats went out after it, but were afraid to approach, they are a rare Phenomenon on that coast; yet in February 1763, after a hard northern gale no less than twelve were towed & brought on shore there. —

the Whale fishery seems at present rather reviving, it having been remarkably successful this year (1783) & some preceeding ones; tho thought by some to be more owing to the late improvements in the Harpoon & method of using it, than to any increase of fish in the northern Seas. M: T. —

on the 24th of July 1790, a whale was found almost dead among the rocks, along the shore of the river, abt. 2 Miles above Liverpool, it was soon brought to shore, it measured 18 feet 6 inches in length & 10 ft. 7 inches in circumference, was supposed to have been driven so far Southward by the very high winds about that time.

The tour thro' great Britain vol: 4 p: 9 mentions that Whales, (of what species is not ascertained,) frequent in abundance the Islands of Fladden, Orkney & Leaves in the Scottish seas & that in 1691, no less than 114 ran ashore on the Island of Orkney at one time. —

A species of Whale called by Seamen a Tenner, probably the Fin-fish, was caught Sep: 13, 1788 in the Humber, it measured 34 feet from the nose to the tail & 20 feet in girth, the jawbone measured 2 yards & something more & said to be worth 50 pounds; it occasioned great agitation in the water & when struck, it ran a-shore near the jetty on the Humber bank, where after a conflict of 6 hours it was at last killed. — two more fin-fish were cast on the Holderness coasts in Oct: 1788, one measuring 36 feet long upon Chemicob sands, the other, of 34 near, Patrington, they were supposed to be worth from 12 to 14 each. —

In the year 1765, a fin-fish about 70 feet long & 13 broad was left on the Island of Texel, it had a smooth back & a white belly, eyes of a particular shape & ears like a hog, a fin on its back & one on each side near the head, two blowing spouts & flesh in colour like Salmon.

In the latter end of August 1781, a Beaked Whale resembling exactly, except in Size, the Specimen taken at Maldon, came up the Thames & thro' London bridge & was taken off the Steel-yard, it measured nearly 22 feet in length, 10 in Circumference & weighed upwards of 3 ton weight; the pectoral fins were two feet long, the back fin 10 inches long; it was a female & the vulva was above 5 feet broad: although it was attacked by a number of Assailants with guns harpoons &c it resisted every effort from ten till about two in the afternoon & so violent was the concussion of the water from the strokes of its tail, that several boats were nearly overset at 50 yards distance; when killed, an attempt was made to weigh it out of the river, by one of the Steel-yard's large iron cranes, but which immediately snapped asunder by the enormity of the weight: its carcase was dissected by Mr John Hunter accompanied by Messrs Andree, Thurlock & Brookes, on examining the bowels, there were found in its Stomach a greatly quantity of substances resembling the

shells of the skuttle fish, on which it was supposed to have last fed, the great vein, called the Vena cava, was so large as to be able to contain a child of a year old, and the last rib was fixed to the body by flesh only, probably designed by nature to admit of the very great distortion of the belly, which happens in animals, that feed voraciously; tho' no teeth, it had a very large mouth & the ear was placed almost close to the eye: it was imagined to be nearly at its full growth; its bones were to be made into a skeleton. —

A whale said to be of this species or the Balona rostrata of Fabricius, Fauna Groenlandica p: 42, & which he imagines with probability to be the same as this & the Nebbe-haul of Pontoppidan, was caught on the Dogger-bank Jan: 9, 1787 & brought to shore, its weight was between 2 & 3 tons: Was after dissected by D.r John Hunter at John O'Groats house, St. George's fields near London. —

In the beginning of the year 1762, in February in consequence of the tempestuous weather to the northward, about 14 whales were driven on the coast of England & taken, (probably of this species) one being caught aground near the hope, was brought up the Thames as far as Greenland dock; the length was above 54 feet in breadth 14, lower jaw 10, Penis 8, length of tail 15 feet & the head yielded eight puncheons of Spermaceti, which with the blubber sold for 122 pounds another of the same kind, was killed near Lynn on the coast of Norfolk: these circumstances are the more singular, as Whales are seldom seen on the English shores. — see continuation to Smollet's history of England, vol: 5 p: 24. —

A Cachalot or Sperma Ceti whale was cast on shore about the year 1749 at Hauxley near Warkworth, it was 54 feet long, 36 broad, the tail was 15 feet in breadth, the teeth about 42, large solid & white, fixed in a double series in the lower jaw, the fistula or spout in the neck: another about the year 1705 was found dead at Sea & towed on shore by the Fishermen of Cresswell, the jawbone of which was 16 feet long, the nostril afterwards served for a spout to a well at Blackmore Hall, see both these accounts in Wallis's Northumb. vol: 1, p: 376. — by Dr. Schwediawer's account in the Phil: transactions vol: 73 part 1, the spout is not in the neck, but in its front & on the very edge of the head, bending obliquely on the left side, so that whenever he spouts, it is always on that side only, see as above page 241. —

Dr: Schwediawer, as quoted above, says, that the females have a power of drawing back their breasts after suckling their young, so that they hardly appear to have any prominence, when suckling, they hang out very long. —

The Dr: above quoted says also this is the only species of whale which contains the Sperma-Ceti, in which opinion ~~of~~ however he may be erroneous, as there seem to be several Cogenerous species; he says it is not found in the brain, as many assert, but is a kind of suet for some purpose not yet known, which is contained in a bony triangular cavity lodged near it & occupies nearly the whole upper part of the head, to prove it had no connection with the brain, on this part being lanced, the whale was not ~~yet~~ affected, but on lancing the brain it instantly died: it is found in both sexes but much more abundantly & of better quality in the male. perhaps after all he means not this species, he calls it, Physeter Macrocephalus, which seems to suit best with this & mentions another called Microps a synonym given to this by Mr: Pennant & Linneus, in which he says Sperma Ceti is not found. — the Dr: as above seems to be convinced that Ambergrise is undoubtedly generated in the bowels of the Physeter Macrocephalus & is only the preternaturally hardened dung or faces of this species mixed with some indigestible relics of its food, such as the beaks of the sepia &c. —

The first knowledge of Spermaceti is said to be owing to accident, a carcase of a dead Whale falling to pieces, the oil of the head floated on the water, the weather bleached it & it hardened into a flaky matter, it was found by this, that the oil in the head of this kind of Whale would make Spermaceti & soon after they found the way of doing it by art, they made the oil of the heads of other Species serve, but is at present made from that of any kind of Whale. See Watson's animal Oconomy displayed. — Some say Spermaceti was first fabricated, from a Whale taken on the Holderness coast, at Hull & the Spermaceti candles of Hull are still in much esteem. M. T. —

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* Arion riding on an incurvated Dolphin is almost always on the coin of [redacted] Tarantum in Sicily, with the name abridged thus, Taeas. M. T. –

are very frequent under the Promontories & in the deep bays upon the Northumberl.d coast according to Wallis. —

A Porpese paped thro' London Bridge October 21, 1749 & was soon after killed. —

Also October 10, 1782, a very large Porpese paped thro' the Center-arch of London bridge & immediately several boats sett out in pursuit of it; after receiving many wounds from the boathooks, it was so much irritated, as to attack the next boat to it & overturned the same, in which were two men, of whom one was unfortunately drowned: — the Porpese was afterwards killed opposite the Falcon. ——

June 4, 1744, being a great Spring-tide, a whole army of Porpeses came up Lough-Foyle in Ireland, in pursuit of Salmon; as they rolled by Londonderry the Sailors pursued them in boats up the Lough some miles, killing many & were afterwards joined by fishermen & Country-people, who with guns, swords & other weapons made a great slaughter of them in all near 600 were killed weighing from a 1000 to 1500 weight, some had young in them as big as Calves & some had from 6 to 10 Salmons in their Stomachs, their oil was very valuable. —

On the 1.st of May 1790, a Porpese was taken in the river Ouse, at Na-=burn-lock near York, it measured 11 feet in length & 9 d.o in girth, the tail measured 2 f.t 6 inches, its weight 20 stone; had been seen sometime in the river. —

Grampus.

called also Bottle-nose or great Porpess.

July 29 1763 at noon Sixty three of these Grampus's were drove ashore at Shorestone in Northumberld all then alive, 60 of which were between 14 & 19 feet long, they at first made a hideous noise, but were soon killed by the country people, who removed them one by one with 6 oxen & 2 horses & made profit by their blubber; they had been heard to roar the night before, when they found themselves in shallow water, See Wallis's Northumb. vol:1, p:377. —

a Grampus in December 1757 was drove on the Beach at Aberystwith in North Wales near 20 yards from the water & was there killed with much difficulty & danger, measured upwards of 40 feet & produced 20 hogsheads of oil.

About Oct: 1785 a Grampus, left by the Ebb of the tide between two shoals, was caught in the Dee below Chester, it was 24 feet in length & 12 in girth & weighed upwards of 4 Tons. —

October 26, 1789, a Grampus came ashore in Filey bay near Whitby, where some fishermen killed it with a hay-spade, it measured 32 feet in length & 16 in circumference. —

In the beginning of January a large Grampus, supposed to have been driven to land by a tempest, took shelter in Loughswilly, on the North West coast of Ireland; tho' several boats were after it, it evaded their skill for two or three hours, at last it became their prey & was towed in triumph to a place proper for cutting it up, it measured 32 feet from Nose to tip of tail, was expected to yield much oil &c. —

A large Grampus whale in June 1781 came on shore at Easing=ton in the Bishoprick of Durham, its length was 18 yards, the breadth of the tail 7 yards; it became the property of Mr Lambton Lord of the Manor & was purchased by Mr Green oil-merchant of Newcastle. — a small Grampus was taken on the Isle of Dogs opposite Greenwich May 19, 1782. —

A large cetaceous fish supposed to be a Grampus, was drove on shore dead on the banks of Rosslare in the county of Wexford, Ireland in a great storm July 28, 1784, which measured from head to tail 28 feet & in circumference round the middle 32 feet.

In January 1738, a Grampus 54 feet in length & every way propor=tionate was drove on shore at Hauxley ~~[illegible]~~ in Northbd. —

— Aug 11, 1744, a Grampus abt. 8 yards long came on shore near Hartley in Northbd. —

In October 1736 a large Grampus was drove ashore at Steaths near Whitby, the head was 5 yards long, the fins 4 yards each, the tail 3 & the body 17. — ~~[illegible]~~

In Octr. 1788, a small Grampus in length 20 feet & proportionably thick was drove by the tempestuous weather, on the shore, near the mouth of Lough-Swilly in Ireland.

A grampus was after much difficulty taken in the Humber & towed into Hull-Harbour Aug: 8, 1785, it measured 26 feet in length & 16 feet in Circumference & was expected to produce two tons of blubber. — .

The Fishermen at Hartley in Northumberland drawing their nets for herrings, entangled in them a grampus & caught him Aug: 16, 1744, he was 6 yards long & 3 round, his liver extended on each side from the jowl to the navel. —

In August 1790 a grampus ran ashore at Hesle on the Humber which measured 22-½ feet in length & above 15 in girth, it was brought to Hull on the 13th.

A very small species of Lamprey perhaps either of this or the preceeding Species are frequently found in some of the clear running brooks in the North of Yorkshire &c M: T:.

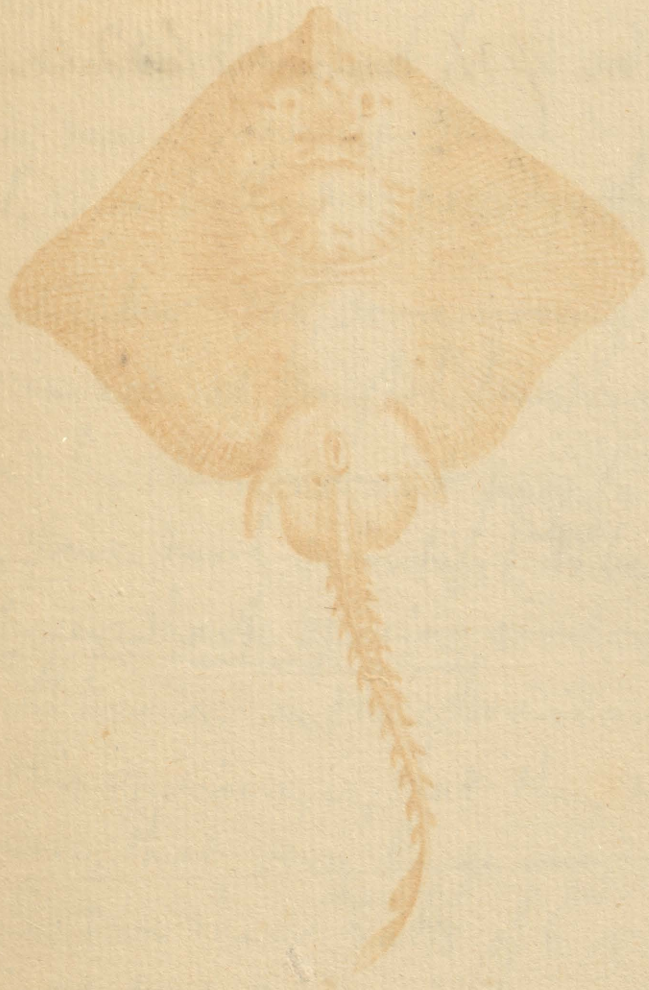
In July 1784, a Skate was taken in Bridport harbour four feet wide & six in length & weighed 58 pounds.—
A Skate was sold by a Fish-monger at Cambridge, which weighed 200 pounds & dined 120 persons, it was 42 inches long & 31 broad. See Shirley's Angler's Museum p: 135. N: B: I imagine this to be the same fish as one spoke of in a letter from a Mr. Dent to Mr. Ray & to have been eat at St. John's college, Cambridge. See Ray's Letters, p: 21.

Early in April 1789, a Skate was said in the morning-post to have been taken about that time, near the harbour of Whitehaven Cumberland, which measured 6 feet 9 inches in length & 5 feet 7 inches in breadth & contained a prodigious quantity of eggs.—

x There seems some mistake here, as the dimensions must have been much larger.—

Skate.

These bags or purses are black, square & thin, having at each of the four corners, a sharp extended point M.T. —



Stingy Ray

are usually esteemed one of the coarsest & least delicate species of Rays.

Sharks

In 1767 a monstrous sea animal was taken near the new light-house Dublin after a storm, it was of a parabolic figure, the head an exact conoid, the breathing place at the top of the skull, the whole length ab.t 13 feet & girth 7; by the teeth & jaws seemed of the shark kind; a day or two before, a dead body was thrown up, much mutilated, probably by this animal, whose belly was exceedingly full. —

In September 1785, some young ravenous fish were caught in nets at Brighthelmstone about 2 feet long, supposed by the ignorant people to be the dog-fish, but by some more scientific, judged to be of the Squalus or true tyger-shark species, uncommon on our coasts, but well known on the American coast. What corrobo-rates this opinion, is, that they were informed by some fishermen, that very large ones had been entangled in their netts of 6 or eight feet long, which tore their nets to pieces, in pursuit of their prey, whereas the dog-fish or Guberone of Jobelyn never exceeds 3 feet & ½. —

On the first of December 1787, as some Fishermen were fishing in the Thames near Poplar, perceiving something ponderous in their nets, which with difficulty they drew to shore, they found a shark yet alive, but in a dying state, it measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail 9 feet 3 inches, from the shoulder to the end of the body 6 feet 1 inch, round the thickest part of the body 6 feet 9 inches, the jaw when extended was 17 inches, had 5 rows of teeth, when opened were found in its belly a silver watch, a metal chain, a Cornelian seal together with several small pieces of gold lace, supposed to have belonged to some person fallen overboard & devoured by this voracious fish. the body & other parts being digested or otherwise voided but the watch & lace not being able to pass through it, the fish became sickly & was &c When taken, in a dying state; supposed to be the largest shark ever taken in the Thames, the watch had the name of Henry Watson, London No. 1369, the work was much impaired, this extraordinary fish was intended to be preserved as a great natural curiosity & deposited in one of the publick repositories in the metropolis, it was afterwards found out by means of the watch-maker, that the unfortunate person swallowed by the shark was a son of Mr. Ephraim Thomson going out to India in the Polly

Turn over.

Capt. Vane, who by a sudden heel of the Vessel (about 3 leagues of Falmouth) running a squall fell overboard & was heard of no more; Mr. Ephraim Thompson purchased the Stark, which he called his Son's executioner. -

A Shark, tho' not ascertained of what Species, was entangled in the Fishermen's nets near Berwick Spital, in September 1783 & was with difficulty dragged ashore by above 20 men.

~~On the beginning of July 1788, five Sharks, of what sort not said, were caught on the Northumberland coast, off Newstanton,~~

In Oct.r 1788 a fish was taken at Grangemouth by the Crew of a Danish vessel, which appeared to be a Species of Shark, tho' totally unknown before by any of the sea-men, it measured eleven feet in length, had a remarkable head resembling that of a boar, only the mouth had two rows of teeth & was about one foot placed back where the under jaw opened, below the snout on the under part of the head, the fins were placed as in the Dolphin & without any scales, the fish was eat & tasted like Durbot, the liver produced 6 gallons of oil.

Basking Shark

On the 8th of May 1782, a large shark of this species, was caught at the lower-ferry near Chester 25 feet long; it was floated up to the Crane & an attempt made to weigh it up, but the weight was so great, that every means devised proved of no effect, — it was at length drawn on shore by twelve horses. —

White Shark

In March 1788, a fish of this genus, called a Tyger-Shark, but probably of this Species, was taken by some Negroe Fishermen in Green Bay at the mouth of Port-royal Harbour in Jamaica, which measured 14 feet 6 inches from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail & was of proportionable thickness; it was turned ashore near Fort-Small, on opening its maw, 3 Leopard's teeth tipped with gold were found in it, also a considerable quantity of coloured glass beads & several half-digested bones, supposed human.

N: B: have since heard the true Tyger-Shark is very seldom caught on our coasts, tho often on those of America, see a Mss note p: 26 of this volume.

In the St. James's Chronicle from July 7 to 9, 1785, is an account from Norwich, dated July 5, relating, that five Sharks of the blue kind, had been caught a few days before on the coast of Norfolk off Hunstanton, each eight feet long; a circumstance said never to have occurred before on that coast.

have been apprised by an eye witness, that the fact of the young Sharks taking refuge in the belly of the Old one, is certain & incontestable M. T. —

Porbeagle - Borlase Cornwall 265 Feb 26

A large Male shark of this species, ~~the~~ larger than the one here described, being 8 feet 3 inches in length, was taken up, coiled in the herring nets, by the fishermen of Whitborne Oct. 3, 1786; it was so powerful & furious, that they could not venture it in their boat, but dragged it ashore after them, it had 3 rows of sharp teeth in the under jaw & two in the upper; its dorsal fine was large & erect & the two pectoral fins uncommonly expanded, it was a very striking object, & very fierce when first caught, having followed the boat above a league after a female of the same species, which had been taken up by the same fishermen, to the northward about an hour before. —

Tueſday ſe'nnight a fiſh of an uncommon kind, was caught by the fiſhermen of Brighthelmſton: it meaſures in length about four feet nine inches; its mouth, which has ſeveral rows of fine teeth in it, is upwards of a foot long, and capable of being extended to a great width. Between the fins are two flabby ſubſtances, ſomewhat like a lion's paw; its ſkin is of a dark colour, and without ſcales. The fiſhermen at Brighthelmſton call it a kettle mouth, but it is more properly a ſpecies of the ſea-lion. It is preſerved to make a ſhow of.

An exotic & singular Species of Shark was taken in a Salmon Net at the mouth of the Tweed a little above the bridge in September 1757, it was supposed to have followed the East-india fleet to Edinburgh Frith, & to have returned Southward in pursuit of the Salmon, it was 6 feet long & of a greenish colour, armed with large & formidable teeth & much surprised the drawers of the net & made the water fly about their ears to a prodigious height. See Wallis's Nortl. Vol:1, p:378.

On the 3 of October, 1788, two Sharks, of what Species not known, were brought into Sunderland harbour, by some Whitbourn Colliers, one ten feet long & with 4 rows of teeth, esteemed a curiosity.

Common Angler

This fish was found alive thrown on the shore near Cresswell in North. in 1763, it was 3 feet ~~long~~ & ½ long, See Wallis's Northumb^d, vol: 1, p: 380, who says those of the Smaller size are not unfrequently seen on that shore.

Sturgeon

They are not unfrequently taken in the Thames near London; in June 1783, one of a prodigious size was caught there & sent by the Lord Mayor as a present to his Majesty;-heard afterwards it did not weigh much above 200 pounds. M.S.

they will frequently ascend high up rivers, Morton says some have been seen in the Nyne near Peterborough in Northamptonshire, tho' an Inland County.

In the first week of June 1784, a remarkable large fine Sturgeon was caught in the river Teese below Stockton.—

a Sturgeon weighing upwards of 200 L was caught near Chiswick Aug: 14, 1784, it was the sixth that had been taken in the Thames in the space of ten months, it measured 8 feet long & 3 feet 3 inches round. —

one was said to be taken by a German prince in the Elbe, that weighed 260 pounds, & ~~one was said~~ another to be lately sold in the London markets, that weighed 153 pounds, see Shirley's Angler's museum p: 109. published 1784. —

Sturgeons are in great plenty near Hamburgh & Dantzick.

Some time in July 1787, a large Sturgeon came, with the morning tide, up the river Ross in the county of Wexford in Ireland, it measured 6 feet 7 inches from nose to tail & was of an enormous bulk in the waist, on opening the stomach, about 20 pounds of different kinds of small fish were found, together with an enamelled gold ring, on which were the letters I: C: 1778.

In the latter end of April 1789, a fine Sturgeon weighing 154 lb was taken in a smelt-net by the fishermen at Naburn-Lock near York. —

A fine young Sturgeon was taken in the Tyne, at the Salmon fishery, near Newcastle, April 5, 1790, Sturgeons are very rarely taken in that vicinage. —

On Monday the 4th of July 1785, a large Sun-fish or Oblong Dicdon was caught near Stromness measuring 36 feet, 5 boats with 32 Men on board were employed in the capture, which the fish dragged on a considerable length of above 900 fathoms of line fastened to one of the Harpoons Struck into him against a very strong Tide at the rate of about 6 knots an hour: the liver sold for £12-15-0. —

Another was taken near Anstruther ✠ in Sep: 1785, ten feet long & 13 broad, the liver filled ten herring barrels, many others have been seen & particularly in the Frith. —

on Friday July 7, 1786, a Galway or Cranmore vessel fishing of the Island called Blasques on the West coast of Ireland, netted two Sun=fish of a monstrous size, which they effected with great difficulty; these fish, if properly managed, were expected to yield above two tons of oil worth at least 40 or 50 pounds. — N:B: as these fish were ~~caught~~ caught upon the Irish coast, possibly they might not be of this species, but be the Irish Sun-fish, which, Mr. Pennant on the other side says, differs in every respect, but as he does not describe it, the matter can't be determined; by the size it appears probably of the species here described, or the Oblong Diodon. —

N:B: the above cannot be the Irish Sun-fish, that being a species of Shark called here the Basking-shark see p:89 of this work. —

The Diodon or Sea Fish

have a painting drawn from the original individual here spoke of, taken at Penzance, I think, in 1774; it was preserved in Spirits & was in the possession of Mr. Plumptree's, at his Shell-Warehouse in St. Martin's Lane: it was painted by Mr. Peter Browne a Dane, brought up in the royal Academy of painting at Copenhagen & author of new illustrations of Zoology published at London 1776 M.T.

N.B. When I saw the original, the rich blue color was faded, but was convinced of it, by a drawing taken immediately after it was caught. M. T. —

Lump Sucker

are pretty frequent on the Northumb^{d} coast about Cresswell & Holy Island according to Wallis. — have seen them at the Fishmongers in London. M: T:

See the description of another Tucker called the Pinnaculated found near Weymouth, communicated to the author, by the Dutchess Dowager of Portland, see page 345 Appendix. —

It is asserted by some that all eels go once a year to the sea, this seems very doubtful, the very large old eels frequently found in cleaning out ponds, lakes &c could not well be explained in this system, as it is highly improbable could they get out & travel to the sea, they would return again for so many years to the same situation M. J.

At Yalden near Maidstone, a large freshwater Eel was caught, Nov: 4, 1756, 5 feet 9 inches long, 18 inches in circumference & above 40 weight. — Gent.ⁿ Mag: as it was at a considerable distance from any salt water it could not be a Conger. — another was taken in the Severn in September 1786, 12 inches in girth, 3 feet 10 inches in length & weighed 13 pounds, was sold in Bristol market for 3 shillings, would have fetched in the London markets at least 20. —

In ~~July~~ 1787, a person fishing with a line & hook in the Canal ~~at~~ near Gallands town in Ireland, caught an eel so large & weighty as to require the strength of both arms to draw it out of the water, it measured 3 feet 8 inches & was quite disproportioned in bulk, being as thick as a middle-sized mans leg from the neck to within a few inches of the tail. —

have seen a very large Eel taken out of one of the large ponds in Hyde park on being drawn M: T:

An Eel the latter end of October 1788 was caught in the river Lea weighing 9 pounds & ½ in weight, which, when opened, had a ~~mourning~~ ring in its ~~mouth~~ maw, of one Sylvester, who died in October 1768. ::

about the middle of Nov: 1788, an eel was caught in Wisbech river Cambridgeshire, measuring 5 feet, 10 inches & weighing 40 pounds.

Was informed by Lord Darlington in Oct.r 1789, that an Eel had lately been caught at Raby-Castle, which weighed 6 1/4 & was 3-6 Inc.s in length, several more were taken at the same time from 4 to 4 1/2 weight M.S.

In January 1790, an eel was taken out of the river Teese at Stockton in the county of Durham, which measured 5 1/2 feet in length & weighed 34 pounds. N.B. as the salt-water comes up to Stockton, might not this be a Conger? is it not most probable? M.S. —

if we may give credit to an Old Sussex proverb, Pullborough in that County is famous for Eels; as also the River Arkam in Lincolnshire, as well as for Pike M:T:.

In the beginning of August 1782 an Eel caught at Paston was sold at the Market at Whitehaven, which measured 4 feet 2 an inch & weighed something more than 25 pounds & 1/2, it was caught by a common Cod hook. — as this was on the Sea-coast, perhaps after all, this was only a Conger.

Very fine large Eels are frequently taken in the head of the New River near Islington, See note on Hawkins's edition of Walton's compleat Angler p:185, in the same place he also says that contrary to other fish, they never swim up, but always down the stream.

An eel was caught in White-haven harbour Aug: 17, 1789, which measured 4 feet 9 inches in length, & 10 inches in girth & weighed 22. to 25. possibly a Conger.

in August 1777, a Conger measuring 3 feet 7 inches from head to tail, was caught in the Thames near Battersea. —

One was Caught near Hartlepool on the Durham Coast in April 1778 weighing 30 pounds, it's length was 5 feet 9 inches. M: T:.

a Conger was caught in the River near Shields Feb: 16, 1784, which weighed 28 & ½; it measured 5 feet 8 inches in length, & near 18 inches in girth. —

an Eel, probably a Conger, was caught on the coast of Norfolk in Feb: 1786, which measured 5 feet, 10 inches in length, 9 inches thick, two feet round & weighed between 50 & 60 pounds. —

Wolf Fish

the head of a small one was found in the belly of a Cod taken on the Yorkshire ~~coast in 1780~~ or Durham Coast in ~~Sept~~ March 1781 M:S:—

They are also taken on the North.d Coast, See Wallis.

On friday July 12, 1782, a Swordfish was caught in a Salmon net, within a mile of the head of Loch Long not far from Edinburgh: it measured from the point of the Sword to the end of the tail 12 feet 6 inches & the Sword nearly resembling a common broad Sword, was alone 3 feet, 6 inches long: its thickest part near the head measured 3 feet, 6 inches round. —

it is said by some, that the Swordfish has no tongue, most probably erroneously, perhaps it is small or far back in the head. —

On the 9th of September 1728, a Sword-fish was caught in the mouth of the Humber pursuing a Whale.

on the 26th of July 1788, a Swordfish was left by the tide on the Coast of Holderness near Pattrington & was found by a Fisher-man & carried to Hull; it measured from the tail-fin to the point of the Sword, which projects from its upper jaw, 9 feet & weighed about two cwt.

Such quantities of Cod came to Carlisle market in Decr
1789, that it sold for one halfpenny per pound; one day
16 cart-loads of Cod & flounders came into the market
at once. —

A Species of Cod, whether only a variety or a distinct kind, it is hard to ascertain, are not unfrequently caught on the York= =shire & Durham coasts, there called Rock-Cod, they appear to be rather a thicker sort usually esteemed more firm & of a better flavour, the flesh appears much whiter.

The Cod-fishery on the Scottish coasts, if properly attended to, might turn out very advantageous, a Mr Spruel an eminent Scots Merchant as mentioned in the tour thro Great Britain vol: 4, p: 7 says, "he was informed by a Yarmouth man, who used to buy those fish & salt them on the Scotch coast, that he has sometimes got four thousand cured fish in a voyage, at 1 or 2 apiece, & retailed them again from 18 d to 2 6 apiece, which shews what vast advantage might be made of this trade, since the Scots Cod are reckoned as good or better than those of Newfoundland & are caught with fewer hands & vessels & for less expence than Doggers". —

even young Sea Wolves have been devoured by them, the head of one being found in a Cod's belly taken on the Yorkshire or Durham Coast in ~~September~~ March 1781. M:T:. —

The good condition or being in season of Cod-fish is known by it's particular thickness towards the head & shoulders; guide to Scarbro' p: 115.

Those that are taken near shore or on sandy banks are always of a loose texture & in poor condition in every season of the year, the healthy & fine fish are caught on a rocky bottom. see as above. –

Liver of Cod Fish.

My Brother Francis Sheldon inform'd me by a letter dated Decr. 14th. 1798 from Wycliffe — "That Mr. Fred. Vane (of Sellaby) & a party at his house had lately been much alarm'd by eating some Cod's Liver (which was a favourite dish of Mr. Vane's) ... they were all taken suddenly very ill .... Mr. Ingram, one of the party told my Brother that it seem'd as if he had swallowed a bone & he accordingly did all he could to force the bone down .... There was no bone, but his throat swell'd very much in the Inside & he & the others of the party were obliged to finish their Meal (after leaving table & returning again) with Blame Mangé .... Mrs. Vane frighten'd out of her wits, she had eat no liver, but as Mr. Vane left the room — she did not expect to see him again.

E. E. H.

The following very singular paragraph was in Lloyd's Evening post of Monday Dec: 7 to Wednesday Dec 9, 1789, dated Edinburgh Dec: 3. — "By a ship just arrived at Leith from Archangel, we learn, that they passed for sixty leagues through immense quantities of dead haddocks: the Sea was covered on every side with them: they were in such numbers that they obstructed the ship's way: this is a remarkable fact & difficult to account for." —

On the 23d of May 1782, a Haddock was sold in the fish-market at Aberdeen, which measured from the ~~tip~~ point of the nose to the tip of the tail, 2 foot 11 inches, round the thickest of the body 1 foot 8 inches, & weighed 9 pounds Troy weight. —
haddocks of 6 & 7 pounds weight, have been brought to Wycliffe from Hartle-poole in Bishp.rck of Durham. M:T:. —

A haddock weighing 9 pounds & $\frac{1}{4}$ was ~~[illegible]~~ sold at Ber=
=wick market for 6d, ~~April~~ March 20, 1790 & along with it, other 3 haddocks weighing together ten pounds three quarters for 8d, all together 20lb weight for 1s-2d: N:B: the haddock that weighed 9 pound & $\frac{1}{4}$ measured 3 feet & $\frac{1}{2}$ in length. —

Coal Fish

These fish abound at the Isle of Skerries near Anglesea in such numbers in the summer season, that the lightmen standing upon the point of a rock have frequently taken them up in baskets, as they passed by, they call them there blackings.
See an account of Hollyhead Communicated to Mr Nichols & printed as the 30th No of his Bib: Top: Brit p: 11, by the Revd. Mr Price, keeper of the Bodleian library.

See a figure of the Parr, or young fry of the coal-fish in plate 66; p: 288. –

Dr Moffet says a species of Whitings much larger than common was frequently taken in the Tweed in his time & they were there called Merlings, not improbably the preceding species or Whiting-Pollacks.

A Gentleman near Scarborough in 1786 obtained the Kelk or Spawn of a Ling taken there, which weighed 4 pounds & 1/2 (good weight) avoirdupois; each grain contained 200 eggs, consequently the Whole amounted to the almost incre=dible number of 19,248,625! Guide to Scarbro' p. 117. —

It is probably from the circumstance of the males separa=ting from the females & resorting to the rocky grounds near Flamborough & consequently none but males caught at that time; that many fishermen have most erroneously judged them to be the males of the common Cod-fish, tho' every good Ichthyologist knows, there are Males & females of both species & that the Ling both in form, colour & ~~c~~ differs much from the Cod-fish, in general the Sexual difference in fish is not very great, except perhaps in some, about Spawning time, when the females are mostly larger, at least thicker, being swelled out with roe. M. S..

Burbott.

Two of these were sent to ~~Wiggan~~ Wycliffe May 2, 1788.

John Dorset

they are found in great plenty on the Western coast
& make part of the delicacy of the tables at Bath. –

Opah

Most probably one of the Opahs here mentioned to have beeve taken in Scotland, was the fish described in the Gent.s Magazine in the following manner, which evidently seems to be the Opah, this was in October 1748. — "a very beautiful fish weighing 82 pounds, was lately taken near Leith. the body in shape something like the Sea Bream, but larger, being three feet, seven inches long & three feet ten inches round in the thickest part: the mouth small, without teeth; the eyes are covered with a membrane, remarkably large & glare like gold. the covers of the gills like those of the Salmon. the Body diminishes very much toward the tail, which is forked & expands twelve inches. it has one erect fin on the back, eight inches long, which terminates gradually backwards. near the gills, on each side, is a broad fin nine inches long, which plays horizontally; & under the belly is a pair of strong fins eleven inches long. the skin smooth, the back purple colour, the sides a lively green, & the belly & jowls like silver; +

Book

+ And being all over speckled with White, & the fins as red as scarlet, it is very agreeable to behold. When opened all its bowels would have gone within an english quart. the flesh of the fore-part was firm & looked like beef and the hinder-part like fine veal, the bones are like those of quadrupeds, particularly the shoulder blades, which are like those of a sheep. Several curious gentlemen & others, who have seen it, declare they never saw the like before; and are at a loss to know what name to give it". ——

. Wallace in his history of the Orknies published 1700, thus describes this fish, as I think it can be no other," in the year 1682 in winter there was taken a strange but beautiful fish in Sanda (one of the Orknies) where several of them had been taken before, it was about an ell in length, deep breasted & narrow at the tail; the head & fins & a stroke down the back were all of a deep scarlet colour, rest was brownish, without scales, having several Whitish spots on the body; the fish, when cut, appeared next the head like Beef, the other half next the tail like Salmon" See page 37, there is a figure of it pitch, which does not seem very accurate.

in an account I have seen, this beautiful fish was said to have
been thrown on the [illegible] sands at Blyth Sept: 12, 1767 not 1769. M.S.—

frequently wrote Hallibut.—

~~Not unfrequently sold to unskilful persons for the Turbot,~~
~~nearly resembling it in outward appearance, but~~
~~very different in eating.~~
are frequently, at least in the North, stewed & formed into
a made dish & are much esteemed by many, as also into
pies. M: T:—

Place,

When of a very large size not unoften in the London markets sold to the unskilful for Turbots, which they much resemble in outward figure, tho' very different in the eating. the best plaise are said to be those, that have the blackest spots. — the largest are usually called in the London markets Dutch plaise, probably because often caught on the Dutch coasts or as commonly sold by the Dutch. M: T: — the Plaise are bought of the Dutch at sea but the Turbots they bring themselves to Gravesend. Penn.t supplt to introduction to Arct: Zool: p.2

Flounder

Many are caught in the Thames about Lon-
-don particular in Chelsea reach & thereabouts.—
have been told they will live in ponds & thrive much &
arrive at a great size, tho never heard they had any increase
in them. M: T: —

In December 1789, Flounders were so plentiful in Carlisle
market, that they were sold at a penny per dozen; on one day,
16 cart-load of them & Cod came into the market at one time.

The best flounders have the reddest spots, according to D. Moffet.

Sole

In July 1787, the city of Norwich was supplied with an unusual glut of Soles, such large cargoes were brought from Lowestoff, that they were sold at the low price of 1d. per pd. — such Soles ~~are~~ as were there sold for 4 the pair, have been known to fetch at the same market 3-6 per d°. — the abundant supply was said to be owing to the sagacity of a poor fisherman off the Lowestoff coast, who having observed the Codfish contained a great quantity of Soles, naturally concluded there must be ~~a great~~ great shoals of them in that neighbourhood & having got tackle proper of a neighbour he tried to get some, his first attempt failed only by his nets breaking with the astonishing load. — great quantities of Soles were brought to London by Land-carriage, which lowered their price much. —

— called by some a Sea-Partridge. —

Those of a moderate size, as about ten or twelve pounds weight are most esteemed by the Connaisseurs in eating as being more delicately flavoured & less coarse than those of very great sizes. M. T. —

about 80,000 turbots are annually imported to the London markets by the Dutch, taken on the coasts of Holland & Flanders. See Suppl.t to the introduct.n of Pennants Arct. Zool. p. 21. —

The Dutch themselves bring their Turbots to Gravesend, where they are mostly monopolised by a sett of our Salesmen, who keep them in the salt water by the help of Store-boats & bring ~~them~~ up to London just the quantity, which they judge will be wanted & by these means keep up the price to the great injury of both rich & poor, the rest are suffered to spoil by these cruel monopolisers see ibid. The Dutch are said to employ in this fishery about 50 vessels at an average of about 60 tuns burden. ibid.

A very uncommon quantity of Turbots as well as her= =rings were caught near the Coast of Durham & brought into Hartlepool about Christmas 1789 & in January 1790, very unusual at that season. —

The Turbots are chiefly found on the Dogger bank during May, June & July & on the Coasts of Devon & Cornwall chiefly in January, February & March. See Shirley's Anglers Museum p: 134. —

Turbots like most sea-fish arrive not at a marketable size before 5 or 6 years of age at least; at one year old are no bigger than a crown piece, at two as broad as one's hand. guide to Scarbro p: 117.

After all, far the greatest part of the Turbots consumed in England, are caught by the Dutch, tho' mostly on our coasts, owing to our unskilfulness in their cap=ture, our Eels, herrings &c are mostly bought of them. M:T:. —

In Ulswick-Mere in Lancashire, on the borders of Westmoreland are found great quantities of Perch & are there called Basse.
See Pennants Scotch tour of 1772, 8vo vol 1, p 35.

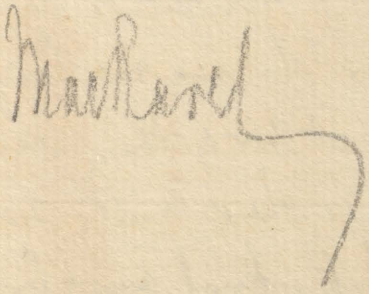
The Perch in general breeds & thrives well in most brooks & ponds, being eager a biter is very pleasing to a young an=gler, is remarked to be particularly voracious, when there is a wind, that causes a moderate curl on the water. M. T.

in Bala (or Llyn-tegid) Lake, in Merionethshire, Perch have been taken of ten pounds weight, See Pennant's journey to Snowdon p 70.

in a Lake called Malham-water in Craven is a species of Perch said to vary in many respects from the common sort, a singular Phenomenon attends them; after a certain age, they become blind, a thick, hard, yellow film covers the whole surface of the eye & totally obscures the sight, at the same time, the fish generally become exceedingly black & altho' from the more extreme toughness & consistency of the mem=brane, it is evident some have been much longer in this state than others, yet there appears no difference either in their flavour or condition: the old Fishermen, accustomed to this lake, used to attribute it to their swimming always in Shoals & being armed with fins as sharp & pointed as needles, the accident was supposed to be occasioned by the piercing & wounding one another, this seemed to be corroborated by the fact, that some of the largest & oldest fish are blind of one side only, but it is, on the other hand, no less a fact, that the small ones are never found in this condition, tho' they always swim indiscriminately with the largest. - Hurtley's Curio=sities of Malham &c p: 55-6. ——

The Basse has been taken on the North^bd. coast near Cresswell see Wallis.

Perch are in some places called Basse, see preceeding article.



have been assured from good authority, that many are annually cured in the Isle of Man. M:S:—

In the Morning Chronicle of Friday July 15, 1785 is the following extract from a letter dated Sligo July 2. —

Yesterday we had the most extraordinary take of Mackrel here ever remembered, insomuch that they sold at 6 pr dozen, what renders it more remarkable, this species of fish seldom frequents this coast. —

A letter from Glasgow, mentioned in the Newcastle paper of May 13 1786, relates, that they had then brought in by the fishing boats the greatest quantity of Mackrel ever there seen, some were sold for ? pr dozen & the finest for 2d; some thousands were given to the poor, who had not money to purchase them. —

The fishing vessels met with considerable shoals of Mackrel about the Shetland Isles & in the latter end of April or beginning of the May, 1787, they were of the largest sizes & best quantities quality, not mentioned whether with Roe or not, they are not common in those seas. —

The mackrel usually brought to market are about 5 or 6 years old, at one year old are no larger than one's finger, at two, twice as big, at 3 or 4 they become that small kind of Mackrel, that have neither milts nor roes. Guide to Scarbro p: 117.

Such a quantity of Mackrel was brought to Exeter Market in May 1788, that they were sold there at ¼ pr hundred.

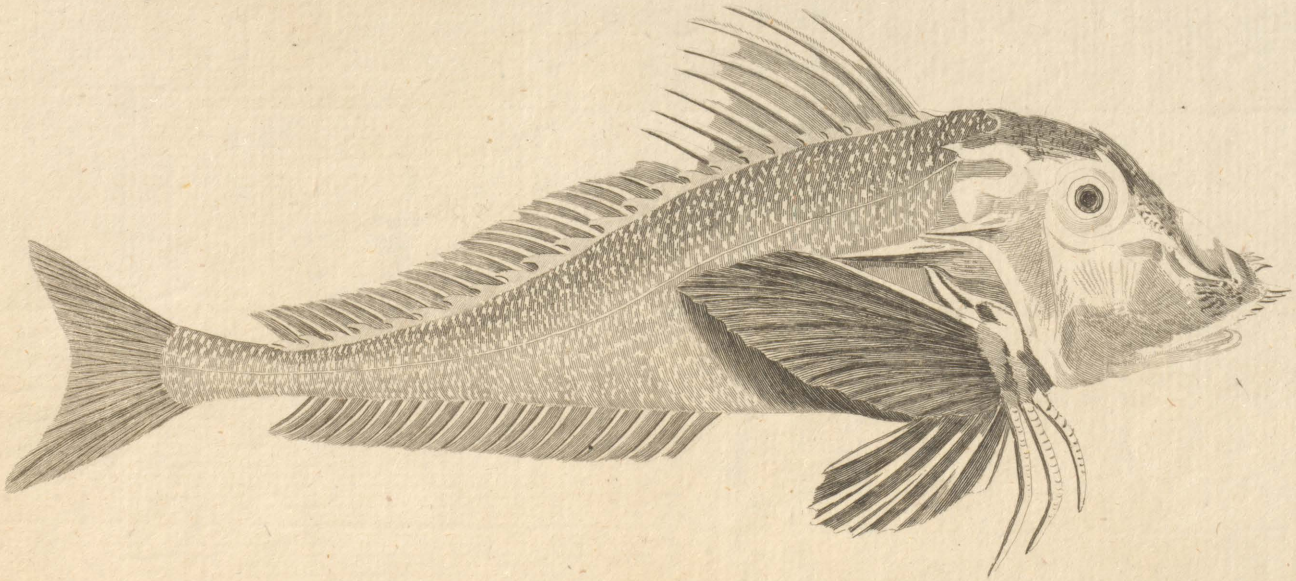
Mackarel

Great quantities are sold in the London Markets in the Season & so tender their flesh is reckoned & so little bearing keeping that they are permitted to be hawked about the streets on Sundays. Mack=rel & Herrings commonly arrive together on our Coasts viz Spring & Autumn; in Spring the Mackrel are full of roe & in high Season & the Herrings in very bad plight, the reverse is what happens in Autumn: few or no Mackrel are caught on the Northern Coasts of this Kingdom or on those of France & Flanders, at least till after the Season M: T: —

Some Mackrel brought to Wycliffe June 22, 1787, was one among in particular which seemed in pretty good season, having a tolerable large milt. M: T: —

A Tunny fish was taken in December 1776
on the Coast of Scotland at Eparchopen in
Argyleshire, weighing four hundred & seventy
two pounds & supposed to be one of the
largest ever seen in those parts.

Pl. LV. PIPER. N.º 139



G Haultier pinx.t

P. Mazell fe.

Piper

pretty frequent in the markets at Bath & much esteemed there; much valued, as I have heard, by that great connoisseur in eating, the late Mr. Quin, as well as the Dorcet. M: T:

The Lake

Have Leard the late King, George the 2d, was very fond ~~of~~ of
Swallowing them in a Glass of Wine. M: T:—

The Salmon ~~&~~ genus, under which are clasped so many different species of trouts &c known by so many different names in various parts of England, ~~xxx~~ becomes by this a very difficult one & its various species far from being easily ascertained. M: T: —

The greatest quantity of Salmon are taken in the Tide, Tweed & other northern rivers, but the finest fish are those of the Severn, Trent & Thames, especially the last, which does not come in season till may, it is then called Calvert Salmon & sometimes sells for six shillings a pound. M: T. — the Severn Salmon are said to be the earliest in season of any in the kingdom, see Shirley's Anglers museum p: 57. —

The Dee in the north, is by many esteemed the earliest river for Salmon, they are reckoned to come there into full season, the eleventh of December. M: T. —

— In the year 1761 Aug: 6, no less than 260 Salmons were taken at one draught in the river Tyne near Newburn. Brand's hist: of Newcastle vol: 2, p: 31.
in the month of June 1775, no less than 265 Salmons were caught in one draught in the same river at ~~near~~ the low lights. see ibid vol: 2, p: 33. —

Plot in his Oxfordshire says Salmons have been taken in a small branch of the river ouse in Oxfordshire near two hundred miles from the Sea,- as the utmost breadth of England is 376 miles, this distance from the sea, if so, can be only explained from the meanders & turns of the River.-

A Cumberland Gentleman (Mr. Warwick of Warwick near Carlisle) some years since sent up to London about 20 Salmons on the first beginning of the Fishery, Season. in the Eden, Which cleared him a guinea a fish, after every expence of Carriage &c had been deducted. M: T:.-

An extraordinary instance of the rapid growth of the Salmon is mentioned in the York paper of Aug: 20, 1790 by a Gentleman of Warrington, who caught one on the 7th of Feb: that year which weighed 7 3/4 lb, he marked it in various places & turned it again into the water, it was retaken on the 24th of March following when it weighed 17 1/2 lb: possibly was then in Spawn.-

the more of these insects the Salmons have on them, when taken, the more they are esteemed, as it is an undoubted proof they are but lately come from the Sea. M: T: -

I have been informed from ocular witnesses of the best credit, that in Several of the Seven Salmons taken in the proper Season, have been found many Smelts, some quite fresh, others half-digested &c. M: T:

In the Tees, now, at least at some distance from its mouth, no regulations are observed & they are shamefully taken at every season. M: T:.

The Scottish Salmon have been esteemed the best in Europe, & tho their barrel be a third less than those of Berwick, yet they have yielded 10 livres more per barrel in France; partly because of their goodness, as also, because better cured; Salmon abound not only in the navigable rivers, but in those which are less & in their lakes. – They have a sort of speckled Salmon in the Islands of Harries, North-vist & Benbecula. – in the Isle of Skye are said to be not less than 30 rivers abounding in Salmon. tour thro Great Britain 1753 vol 4. p 6 & 7. –

Mr Pennant, the author of this Zoology, in his tour to Scot=
=land made in ~~1779~~, 1769 published 1772, 4th edition 4.o p 201 says that
at Thurso in Caithness in the memory of Man, not less
than 2500 Salmons were taken at one tide, still talked of there &
called the miraculous draught. —

On the 19th of March 1788, a person living in Pitt street Dub=
=lin, killed a Salmon with a rod & line, within a few
miles of that city, that weighed 90 pounds, it was thought
to be the largest ever taken in Ireland, except one caught
by the late Henry Destare Esqr. at Killaloe in the county of
Clare, which weighed 103 pounds. —

near five score Salmon were taken at one draught
near Wye-bridge at Hereford April 24, 1790, the price of Salmon
then in Hereford market, was from 1s to 1s 4d pr lb.

A large Salmon, tho' not so great a one, as that mention'd by Mr. Pennant, was taken at Whitehaven in July 1747 in the boundary of Sr. Jn. Pennington Bart., it was two feet four inches round, four feet six inches long & 3 quarters from eye to eye over the head, the tail was 13 inches & ½ broad & it weighed 53 pounds: see over leaf an account of two considerably larger taken in Ireland. —

A Salmon was said, in the St. James's Chronicle, to have been brought to the London market April 15, 1789, not said from whence, which measured upwards of 4 feet from the point of the nose to the extremity of the tail & 3 feet round the thickest part of the body; its weight was 70 pounds within a few ounces: a Fisherman in the mine-ries cut it up at one shilling per pound & the whole was sold almost immediately. —

Most probably the same fish, as are in many places called Gilsies or Geltsies. — a fish called Greys probably of this Species is sometimes taken in the Tees. M: T:

Sea Trout

very frequent in the river Tees in the North Riding of York-
=shire under the name of Scurfs; at least I judge them to
be the same, as that is in several places one of the names of
the Sea-trout. M: T:.

have heard the Bull-trout in Northumberland &c: is
not the same species as the Scurfs in the Tees, tho'
perhaps erroneously. M: T:. —

The Trout so common in most parts of this kingdom, is according to Morton, so great a rarity in Northampton-=shire, that he never heard of more than three taken in that County, all in the River Nyne.

A species of Trout with one eye was mentioned by Giraldus Cam-=brensis to have been taken in the lakes near Snowdon: not many years since Mr. Daines Barrington learnt from a Welsh moun-=taineer one Ths. Williams that a D.r Pritchard, who had been dead some years, told him he once caught a trout in Llyn-yr-Cyrn with one eye only & in the forehead & that the head was thicker than usual. — Fr. Ern. Brückmann mentions a river in Germany where the trout are always found blind see his Epistola itine-=raria 36. —

The Ulsewater or Hulsewater trouts are by many judged a dis=
=tinct species are beautifully ornamented with silver scales & are
much esteemed for their firmness & flavour; are taken sometimes between
30 & 40 pounds weight. See Gilpin on the Lakes, vol 2, p 83-84. —

The trouts in the Lake of Geneva sometimes arrive to
a great size, some have been taken there weighing 50
pounds, 18 ounces to the pound, they are mostly found
in the Courrent of the Rhone.

The finest trout-fishing in the vicinity of London is about Uxbridge. — Arundel in Sussex was proverbially famous for trouts. also the river Kennet near Hungerford in Berkshire see Fuller's British Worthies p. 81 & according to the same p. 57 there are at Faversham in Kent near Canterbury some differing much from most other trouts in the kingdom 1st in size, many being near as large as a Salmon, 2dly in being white when in full season, 3dly in being remarkably cunning & very difficult to catch, never more than one having been known to have been caught by angling & lastly for their abode remaining 9 months at Sea & only 3 in fresh water; their coming is accurately observed & known almost to a day, when many are caught by nets & other devices. — this is also related by Old Walton in his complete Angler see p. 120 last edition 1784 by Jr. J. Hawkins, he calls the place Feversham, the only one ever taken by angling he says was by a Sr George Hastings. —

Sawbets –

they are called in the Esk Pollys, in the Eden Brand=
=lings, in the Tyne Rackriders &c in the Tees Pinks M. J.

Charr.

in Sweden scarce any other species of trout is known, at least it is the most common; as I have heard from Dr. Solander & other learned Swedes. M. T.

The Charr is also undoubtedly found & not unfrequently in Ulswater, which is between Cumberland & Westmor=
=land M: T: —

— besides Llynberries they are or were lately found at Llin-Umber, Festiniog & Bettus in Carnarvonshire & near Casageddor in Merionethshire, those in that county are smaller than in Carnarvonshire & are usually caught in October, but in the latter at different times in different Lakes. See Shirley's Angler's Museum p: 98. —
In Scotland they are called in the Erse Tariar-kinich & in the Anglo-Scottish Red Weems. See Pennant's Scotch tour p 161 first edition or of 1771. —

A singular circumstance occurs in these fish when potted, that the bones become quite soft & may be cut like butter, this is not found in its co-gener the Trout, nor I believe in any other Species known. M: T: —

This particular of being more tender I should Imagine may be observed in every other Species of Gelt fish or such as happen not to be with Spawn like the rest at the usual Season. M: S:

Smelt

Mouffet says in his time, the best were taken near Kew & Brentford within 8 miles of London. Imagine they continue long in Spawn, as I have seen them taken in the river Tees in December with some small roes in them & have known some not quite rotten in May; the Spawn is beautifully covered with a shining silvery skin or glazing. — When perfectly fresh, their Smell is I think extremely pleasing & refreshing, not unlike that of some flowers. M: S:.

I ~~xxxx~~ had some Smelts at Wycliffe the 26th of October 1787, which had at that time small roes in them, they were caught in the Tees, Q: Whether these had spawned in the Spring preceding? or Spawned twice a year, or were only then coming into Spawn, which would not be in full perfection till March or April? M: S:. —

In the Philosophical transactions No. 374, page 232, a Mr Dudley of Roxbury in New England relates, that about 60 years before by way of experiment, a Man had putt a pail full of large Smelts out of a River into a pond of about half a Mile over, which had little or no Communication with the Sea; they there increased prodigiously, but degenerated much in Size, the River Smelts there being full as large as those caught in the Thames, some weighing two ounces & a half, whereas the Pond-fish will not weigh 2 penny weight: the Pond-Smelts however are esteemed of much better flavour, they are very transparent & of a beautiful shining pearl colour: Mr. Dudley's Memoir is dated Oct 25, 1722. —

In the month of March, if the Spring be mild, prodigious quantities of this delicate fish make their appearance in the river Mersey in Cheshire, which often seems of a greenish cast from the vast bodies of Smelts, which then swim about; at this time every boat, every fisherman & every net is employed, & even the boys with cabbage-Nets catch these fish, which are double the Size of those in the Thames — — they are frequently sold there at four pence per Score. Shirley's Angler's Museum p: 107. —

The Gwiniads in Cumberland are there called Schellys, but distinguished from the Common Schellys, which as in the note, is the name usually given to the Chubs or Chevins; by being there denominated Ulse or Ulse-water Schellys. M:T:-

Some say the Graylings are the Ulsewater Schellys.

Yet Mr Pennant in his journey to Snowdon p: 70 says, that in the lake of Bala or Llyn-tegid are found Gwiniads of five pounds weight.

Small Pikes are in most places usually called Jacks.
In September 1779 a Pike was taken out of a pool near Weston in Shropshire belonging to Sr H: Bridgeman Bt which measured 4 feet in length & weighed 36 pounds.

In the River Witham in Lincolnshire are taken pikes much superior to any in the kingdom, are thought by some a distinct variety.

Some Pikes it is said have been taken in the lake of Geneva of 80 pounds weight, at 18 ounces to the pound, chiefly in the vicinity of Vevay.

Think I have heard of some pikes having been caught in England at least near 60 pounds weight. M.J.

Morton in his Northamptonshire asserts, that a Pike was caught in the River Ouse near Pasenham in 1683 & carried to Wm Herbert Esqr of Perry-Hall, who put it into his stews, where altho' it wasted, it measured on being drawn out ~~[illegible]~~ from the tip of the nose to end of the tail four feet, eleven inches, & 14 inches in width.
the following paragraph was in Blanchard's York Chronicle, April 7, 1786. — "A gentleman in Norwich had a pike, last week, that measured 34 inches long, within which was one 20 inches long; & within that another ten inches long."
In September 1786, a Pike was caught in Hornsea-Meer Yorkshire by one Mr Jos: Turner of Hull, that weighed 33 pounds & measured 4 feet 8 inches.

In July 1783, a Gentleman of Sussex, fishing in a large lake in his park, drew out a pike, that had swallowed a carp of 8 pounds, the tail only hung out of his mouth. — Perhaps the following account, if it could be thoroughly ascertained, would be the most extraordinary of any ever recorded in this kingdom concerning this species of fish: it was said to have been in a London newspaper the 2d of Jan: 1764, it is preserved in a note to Mr. J. Hawkins's 2d edition of Walton's Complete Angler 1784 & is as follows, "On Tuesday last, at Lillishall lime-works near Newport, a pool about 9 yards deep, which had not been fished for ages, was let off by means of a level brought up to drain the works, when an enormous Pike was found; he was drawn out by a rope fastened round his head & gills, amidst hundreds of spectators, in which service a great many men were employed: he weighed upwards of 170 pounds & is thought to be the largest ever seen; sometime ago the clerk of the Parish was trolling in the above pool, when his bait was suddenly seized by this furious creature & by a jerk pulled him in & doubtless would have devoured him also, had he not by wonderful agility & dextrous swimming escaped the dreadful jaws of this voracious animal". ——

In the history of the French academy of Sciences, is an account of blind & one eyed Pikes taken in a ~~lake~~ pool called Gabard in Burgundy, it is very remarkable, that when one eye only is wanting, it is always the right, the pool is so deep, that it is vulgarly called bottomless; no blind or one-eyed fish are ever found in the river, that it feeds. ——

Pikes are taken in great quantitys in most parts of Lincolnshire & are reckoned excellent, particularly those taken in the river Ankam, tho' most apert the best in England are taken in the River Witham in the same County, see a note near the beginning of this article.—

On Tuesday Nov: 7, 1786, a Gentleman walking by the side of the Serpentine river in Hyde-park about 8 o'clock in the morning, saw a large fish rolling on the surface of the water, flouncing & plunging in a vident manner & advancing towards the land; when within a proper distance of the shore, he waded in & threw it on the land, when he found it to be a pike upwards of 3 feet 1½ long with a carp in its belly, & part of the tail hanging out of its mouth, ~~[illegible]~~, the carp was twenty two inches long, & with breadth & substance in proportion; the disficulty the Pike had in gorging so large a fish, was the cause of its extraordinary motions & which occasioned it to be so easily caught.—

on the 10th of August 1787, a Pike was killed in Hornsea Meer, in Holderness by a gentleman of Hull, that measured 3 feet, 9 inches in length & weighed 28 pounds, it was very high-flavoured & afforded a repast to more than 30 people at Beverley.—

A Pike was taken in the Serpentine river Hyde-park by Mr. Manners in November 1787, which weighed 35 pounds, & measured in length one yard seven inches. —

~~probably the sea pike taken [illegible] in the account of the [illegible] Pike was of this species.~~

Mouffet says in his time a Sea-pike or Luce was caught on the Sussex coast & sent to him by Mr Hurry of Cockfield, which was a yard & ½ long; he presented it to Lord Willoughby of Eresby. —

Sea Pike or Sea Needle

The Gar pikes are said to be pretty frequently met with on the Lancashire Coast. M. T.

the Sussex coasts particularly about Arundel are celebrated for the plenty & goodness of the Mullet; plenty are also found, according to Dr. Moffet, in the mouth of the River Usk. M. T.—

Mullet –

Apprehend they are found in good plenty on the coasts of Normandy & Britanny, as they are in great ~~plenty~~ abundance at Paris, which is mostly supplied with seafish from those coasts. M: T.

Dr. Tancred Robinson in a letter to Mr Ray, says, both he & all the English in Rome, at the time he was there, always esteemed ~~called~~ the fish called there Sardone to be the Herring & the Sardina the Pilchard & avers he believes they were the same fish, tho' differing a little in size. See Ray's Phil: letters p 156. –

Notwithstanding this annual migration of herrings from the North, some are to be taken near Scarborough in every month of the year, as are also Cods & Ling: guide to Scarbo p: 118. — it has been calculated that a single pair of herrings, if suffered to multi= =ply unmolested & undiminished for 20 years, would produce a progeny greater in bulk than ten such globes, as that we live upon! see as above p: 119.

Herrings abound on all the coasts of Scotland, but es-
-pecially on the Western Isles, which are reckoned the best
& fattest, though not so large as those taken on the Eastern
& Northern coasts, the Scots herring-fishery is reckoned the
best in the world: Herrings are sometimes bought in the
Isles for 6 pr barrel & sometimes 36,000 barrels of White
herrings have been exported from Clyde to Zeeland in
one season, besides what were exported from Dunbar &
other parts of the kingdom to France & other foreign
parts; which may serve as a specimen to shew how capa-
-ble that Trade is of improvement, especially considering
the situation of the West of Scotland & the Isles, from
whence they may be a month sooner at Market with
them, than from any part of England or Holland & with
the advantage of taking & curing them cheaper & sooner
than the Dutch can possibly do, who might soon be outdone
in that profitable trade by the inhabitants of Great Britain,
who may lie ashore at night & land their fish as soon as
caught without any danger from tempests or Enemies;
many of the bays where herrings ~~are caught~~ abound,
being very safe for Ships to ride in.—Tour thro' Great-
-Britain 1753, vol: 4 p: 7, &c.—

In September 1789, the fishery in the Isle of Man was particularly plentiful & general, one day in particular there were not less than 300 boats in Douglas harbour & the quantity of herrings sold that day, were supposed to fetch two thousand pounds: some boats were so fortunate as to take up 80 maze at one haul, which at 12-6 pr maze (the price they sold for) was 50 pounds for one nights labour.—

The herring-fishery on the coast of Scotland was remar=kably successful the season of the same year & a greater quantity caught than ever known before; at Stornoway 1300 barrels ~~were~~ frequently came on shore in a morning; & numberless quantities ~~were~~ ~~been~~ left to rot on the ground, for want of salt & casks to cure them in.

Sep 16, 1784, a herring was caught by a bait, at Tin=
=mouth bar, which weighed one pound, three ounces. —
In june 1785, a herring was caught in Aberdeen-bay, 21 inches in length,
11½ over the Shoulders & weighed 4 pounds. —
Immense quantitys of Herrings were taken in February
& March 1783 on the Coast of Cumberland near Whitehaven,
one boat belonging to Mary-port caught at one fishing
the beginning of the latter month upwards of 40 maze,
among which was one ~~herring~~ seemingly of the common
sort, which measured 16 inches in length, ~~[illegible]~~
~~breadth~~ & four in breadth, supposed to be the largest,
ever taken in those parts, in the memory of Man. — the
immense shoals of these fish greatly incommoded the
Salmon & prevented them coming up the rivers &c as
usual. — also in October the same year, one fishing-
-boat belonging to the same place, viz Maryport, caught
in one tide, upwards of 66 maze of herrings: the success
in that port & at Allonby was never known to be so
great in the memory of the oldest person living. —

Herrings are sometimes ludicrously called Yarmouth Capons.—

Rye in Sussex was formerly esteemed famous for herrings, if we may credit an old Sussex proverb.—

In the tour thro' Great Britain, published 1753, vol. 1 p. 64 it is said, that the quantity of Herrings cured & exported annually from Yarmouth, one year with another, were 50,000 barrels, besides which great quantities are brought in for the consumption of the adjacent ~~countries~~ towns, for 30 miles from the Sea, to which they are carried every tide, during the whole season. The number of vessels employed by this town in the fishery, were (in the year 1753) 150 & between 40 & 50 sail in the exportation, which is made to Genoa, Leghorn, Naples, Messina & Venice, as also to Spain & Portugal.—

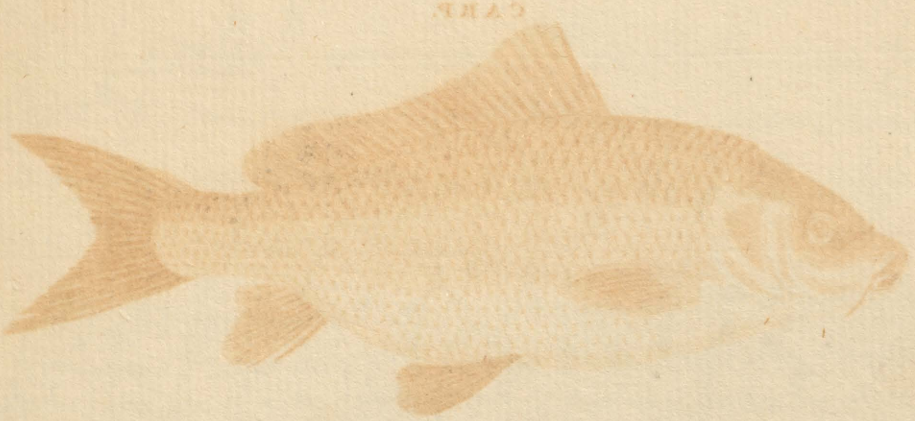
In 1762 at Mounts-bay in Cornwall, Pilchards sold at 6 pr hundred. That year, at one haul, as many were enclosed, as filled 10,000 barrels, tho' many were let out, least they might by the great weight damage the nets; all the barrels to be had in the country were filled & all the salt used & every family stocked with abundance. —

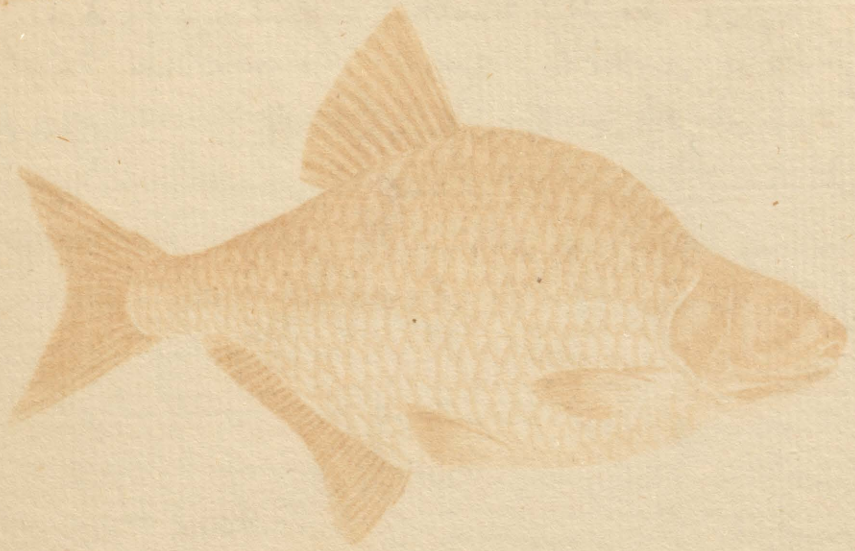
In the season of 1790, the draught of Pilchards in Cornwall was so uncommonly great, as to be retailed at a penny for six score. —

Near where he says a few Anchovies were taken in 1769

Mr Pennant the author's house, called Downing, is near Northop in Flintshire M: T:—

The bones of the Anchovy dissolve on being cured, by which, it is said, it may be always distinguished from the Sprat or any of the other small fish, which are not unfrequently sold cured for it. M: T:—





Carp.

Pennant quotes Fullers Worthies Sussex. p. 113
who says Mascal introduced them about 1514

Tho' Mascal of Plumsted in Sussex certainly did not first introduce carps in these parts, yet possibly he might increase & multiply them so much, as to be said to naturalise them. Walton says they are mostly plen=tiful in Sussex. See Sr. J: Hawkins 2d Edition 1784, p: 151. —
Many of these articles were known in England long before the period there mentioned. M: T: — apprehend many of our naturalised animals & vegetables were lost by neglect, during the long & terrible wars between the two branches of the house of Plantagenet, York & Lancaster, every art & science, tho' far from flourishing before, seemed nearly extinguished during that shocking period, that of war or hu=man destruction excepted, much more bloody & consequently more effectual, to the disgrace of mankind, than at present, the few latent sparks of litterature were faintly preserved in the Abbeys & convents or would have been totally extin=guished, for which the nation has not been extremely grateful. M: T:

In the memoirs of Mad.elle de Montpensier, She mentions a seat belonging to M.r de St. Germain-Beaupré, where were in the ponds fish of an amazing Size, most probably Carp, as they are known to become extremely tame, these came regularly to be fed at the sound of a bell. Memoires de M.elle de Montpensier, french edition of 1728, vol: 3, p:. 39. — I have myself seen Carp accustomed to be fed come to the side on any one approaching the pond & left their opened mouths above the water M: S. —

At Chantilly the fine seat of the Prince of Condé, once of the Montmorency familys, I saw in 1762 large carp perfectly tame which came to the side to be fed in the moats; some appeared gray by age. M: S. —

— In the Evening-post of Oct: 30, 1711, was an account of a carp being lately taken in the Canal of Marly, which had some mark on it, importing it had been formerly taken in the reign of Henry 4.th which must have been above 100 years before, as he died in 1610.

The Seigneur de St. Ouen in Jersey, has a pond in the west part of that Island, containing about 20 Acres of land; wherein are carps of an extraordinary Size, some being four feet, four inches in length. —

the luxury of the age has gone so far, as to castrate Carp, by which it is said to be much improved, one Tull is supposed to have made the first experiment at least in England; [illegible] for Tull's expe=
=riments see Phil: Transactions.

Some assert the Castration of Carp was known to the antient Romans, which is not improbable, as many were then much noted for Epicurism & particularly in regard to Fish. M: T:—

Carp do well in rivers, particularly in the Trent, many having been taken in it extremely fine & of great size, were first putt in by the neighbou=
=ring gentry. M: T:

Mon.sr Morand exhibited to the Academy of Sciences at Paris 1737 a large Carp which had distinctly a milt on one side & a roe filled with eggs on the other, so was a real Hermaphro=
=dite; Mons.r Reaumur had often observed the same in Pikes & Mons.r Marchand in the Whiting; the same has been observed in Muscles. —

on the 11th of January 1786, two Gentlemen pursuing a wild-duck, they had wounded, up the River Nen in Huntingdonshire, they were surprised by seeing a large Carp jump upon the bank about ten yards before them, which one of the Gentlemen instantly shot; it seems it jumped out, to free itself from the jaws of an Otter, that was in close pursuit; the Spawn taken out weighed 3 pounds. —

They have rather a strong, tho high-flavoured taste & are much admired by some. M:T.

Gold Fish.

Saw one in London much larger than here mentioned & of very vivid colors. M. T.—

Gold Fish -

The same fish change & alter their colors frequent=
=ly, being at times much more rich than others,
sometimes of a rich gold sometimes of a silvery
hue & frequently with dark spots & blotches resem=
=bling tortoise-shell. M. T. -

Barbel

are very frequently caught in some parts of the Thames.

the flesh of the fish itself will have the same effects on some constitutions, see a note in Hawkin's edition of Walton p. 188.

the length of time Tench will live when out of their proper element, is astonishing, Some taken out of a pond belonging to Stephen Tempest Esqr of Broughton about the year 1707 on a Monday night & sent the next day to Bradford Mar=ket & afterwards were placed in a basket in a kitchen near a considerable fire till Thursday morning, were found alive, Some swimming very lively soon after in a pail of water & others apparently dead, recovering before night.

Gudgeon

Many are caught in the Thames near London, as in Chelsea reach &c.

Morton says that Gudgeons nearly of eight inches in length, have been caught in Harper's Brook, near Brigstock in Nor:=thamptonshire.

See a figure of the Roach in the frontispiece of 3. volume.

Dace

This species & the preceeding are frequently put into Pike-ponds for the ~~former~~ latter to feed on; notwithstanding the depredation they make of them, continue to increase & multiply. M: S:.

The Chub is called in Cumberland a Schelly, the Lyrinidd taken in Ulse-water is also called there a Schelly but always distinguished by being called an Ulswater Schelly M: T: . —

Chub

is a very voracious fish, swallowing the bait with great eagerness, particularly in windy weather. —

believe the Scales of Bream are used for the same purpose. M: T: — many more Darts, it is highly probable, would equally answer. ~~[illegible]~~ M: T: —

BRITISH ZOOLOGY.

VOL. IV.

CRUSTACEA. MOLLUSCA.

TESTACEA.

O MARE, O LITTUS, verum secretumque Μουσειον! quam multa invenitis, quam multa dictatis!

LONDON,
Printed for Benj. White,
MDCCLXXVII.

TO THE

DUTCHESS DOWAGER

OF

PORTLAND,

THIS WORK IS DEDICATED,

AS A GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEGEMENT

OF THE MANY FAVORS

CONFERRED BY HER GRACE

ON HER MOST OBLIGED,

AND MOST OBEDIENT

HUMBLE SERVANT,

DOWNING,
MARCH 1, 1777.

THOMAS PENNANT.

Lobsters.

The serrated & tuberculated claw are found in different subjects, sometimes on the right & sometimes on the left side M: T: —

great quantities of the common species of lob=
=sters are brought to London & various parts of England from the Norway coast & some bays &c there, are lett out to English fishers with an exclusive right. — the black lobster is undoub=
=tedly a variety, at least, if not another species of the lobster, the notion of the black appearance of the inside proceeding from its deficiency in boiling is certainly erroneous, as they will continue so after being parboiled, they are a more delicious food & valued at a higher price by fishmongers when discovered: possibly it may proceed from some disorder — Mr Pennant, I find by enquiry, judges it only an accidental variety. M: T: —

Chichester in Sussex is proverbially famous for fine Lobsters.

Lobsters sometimes arrive at great sizes, have seen some extremely large, an acquaintance of mine once informed me, he saw one caught in the main ocean almost opposite to Lisbon, nearly as thick as a Man's thighs. M: T:-

See in the Philosophical transactions No. 413, p. 290 a very curious account of an Hermaphrodite Lobster with figures of it, it was male on one side & female on the other as all Lobsters have the parts of generation double viz on both sides, it ~~is~~ seems a species most likely to become Hermaphrodite & more so, than almost any other, particularly than any Quadrupeds, Birds or human species, in all which, notwithstanding so many relations, I am strongly of opinion with D.r Parsons that there scarce ever was a real one; some very singular irregularities & deformities have misled many authors in regard to Hermaphrodites. see Parsons &c. M: T:

A green lobster was said to have been in the capital museum of the late Dutchess Dowager of Portland.

Lobsters are taken in great plenty on the coast of Northb^d, ac=
=cording to Wallis vol:1 p:392, he says the annual export of
those taken between Newbiggen & Newton amounts from
1200 to 1500 exclusive of such taken at Holy Island, which
annually amount to a considerable sum; this Mr: Wallis
has been assured of by John Cresswel of Creswell Esqr, who
had for some time paid those sums by order of Mr: Kitter=
=master a London Fishmonger of great eminence, &
on whose account most of the valuable sea-fish
on that coast are shipped to London, sometimes much
to the prejudice of the natives of those parts. –

A Lobster was sold in London in June 1779, 2 feet, 7 inches long; another was sold in the market of Limerick in Ireland, ~~the~~ July 31, 1789, 2 feet long & weighed 14 lbs. 3 ounces. —
one apparently much larger was sold among the curiosities natural & artificial &c of the late Mr. Henry Baker F. R. S..

not unfrequently seen at the London fish-mongers, Commonly called there the Sea Crawfish said to be in tolerable plenty on the coast of the Isle of Wight, thought by many to afford a firmer & more delicious food, than the former M. T..—

A ~~The~~ Cancer Strigosus or plated Lobster or crawfish was found in a cod brought to Wycliffe from Hartlepoole, on the coast of Durham, March 23, 1786.

A specimen of a Crawfish, which seemed to answer in every respect to the strigosus or plated except in size, ~~was~~ it being not above two inches long, was caught in the spring of 1782 near Wycliffe in Yorkshire by a man gathering water-cresses in a small fresh water brook, which falls into the River Tees; never heard of any more being caught of this sort, tho' they were sought for M:F. Mr Pennant judges it a new species. —

The facility, with which Crawfish can throw of their claws on being pressed or pinched, is truly surprising, as is their being renew in so short a time; believe the Lobster has the same properties, at least the latter. — a little before & at the time of having a new crustaceous skin or shell, the Crawfish has in the head two round, stony, pink-coloured substances called by some corals (the crabs-eyes of the shops) which on the new shell being perfectly formed, dissolve away; these substances are not found at an other season, some say they supply ~~the~~ matter for the new coat: never saw them in lobsters or heard they had them: Crawfish, it is said, were first brought into the Eure from the South by the famous Christ.phr Metcalf Esqr of Nappa, who, when High-sheriff of Yorkshire 1555 3 Q. Mary 1st, met the judges at York attended with 300 horsemen of his name & family a clad alike; Crawfish are now in great plenty in the Eure, as well as in many becks & brooks in its neighbourhood: Thos Metcalf Esqr of Nappa, the last of this family, died unma (in 1756, aged 71. M:

Hungerford in Berkshire is esteemed famous for Crawfish according to the following doggrel couplet of Verses.

Hungerford Crawfish Match me if you can,
There's no such Crawlers in the Ocean.

Some esteem the Crawfish in high season, when it has the Corals in the head mentioned before just about the time of renewing its Crustaceous integument. M.T. —

Shrimps

great plenty on the Holderness coast in Yorkshire.

the Cuttle ~~fish~~ bone is used by some as an astringent & Stanncher of blood, is also used to clean diamonds &c

Some Species of the Sepia particularly the Octopodia are said to arrive ~~at~~ to a very great size, Dr. Schwediawer in his letter to Sr. Jos: Banks on Ambergrise in Philos: transactions vol 73 pt 1 for 1783 p: 236 says that in the mouth of a Spermaceti Whale, which principally subsists on this food, a dentaculum of one was found 27 feet long, this however did not seem to be entire, one end appearing corroded by digestion, so that it might have been considerably longer. What an enormous size must the Cuttle-fish have been, to which this dentaculum had appertained! — Imagine the dentacula are the same as Mr. Pennant calls tentacula. M: T:

Asterias Arborescens. 5 rayed Star fish

A fine Specimen was taken in Oct: 1785 off Lunna one of the Schetland Islands, when fresh was of a most vivid orange colour, see suppl.t to introduction to Penn.t Arct: Zool: p: 7.

The Asterias Equestris of Linneus was lately discovered by Mr Cordi-
-ner in the Sea near Banff suppl.t to introduction to Penn.ts Arct: Zoo
p:17.

Echinus Esculentus.

Had an Echinus, probably this species, with sharp spines brought me from the coast of Durham in December 1782, the mouth is a very singular shelly substance much resembling a flower, never heard it noticed by any naturalist; on a more thorough investigation, am apt to think what was taken for the mouth is the stomach, which in some crustaceous animals is found very contiguous. M:T:.

The learned Olaus Wormius in the account of his Museum published by his son, is of the same opinion; it is astonishing how so gross an error should ever be adopted by men of genius & still more that it should have continued unrefuted so long; Olaus seems to have been well acquainted with the shells & describes them accurately, yet adheres to the established, Here, tho' most ridiculous opinion of their being the matrices of a species of Ducks called Barnacles & asserts as the opinion of the learned at that time, that several species of water-fowl were produced from shells. See Museum Olai Wormii published at Leyden 1655. —

Mr. Barbut in his vol: of testaceous animals ~~animal~~ p: 13 accounts more rationally for the above gross error, than any author I had before seen, he says that sea-fowls when ready to lay their eggs sometimes deposit them on the marine plants & pecking those anatiferous shells oblige the fish to come out & having devoured them lay eggs in their place, which when hatched break through their prison & fly away; What authority Mr. B: has for this, I don't know, but surely there must have been some sort of foundation for the error above mentioned, altho' so gross a one, as it obtained so much credit even with writers of knowledge & experience. M: T:

given by the Sage *Gerard*, is ſo curious, that I beg leave to tranſcribe it.

'But what our eyes have ſeene, and hands have touched, we 'ſhall declare. There is a ſmall iſland in *Lancaſhire* called the '*Pile* of *Foulders*, wherein are found the broken pieces of old 'and bruiſed ſhips, ſome whereof have been caſt thither by ſhip-'wracke, and alſo the trunks and bodies with the branches of old 'and rotten trees, caſt up there likewiſe; whereon is found a cer-'taine ſpume or froth that in time breedeth unto certaine ſhels, 'in ſhape like thoſe of the Muſkle, but ſharper pointed, and of a 'whitiſh colour; wherein is contained a thing in form like a lace 'of ſilke finely woven as it were together, of a whitiſh colour; 'one end whereof is faſtened unto the inſide of the ſhell, even as 'the fiſh of Oiſters and Muſkles are: the other end is made faſt 'unto the belly of a rude maſſe or lumpe, which in time commeth 'to the ſhape and form of a bird: when it is perfectly formed, 'the ſhell gapeth open, and the firſt thing that appeareth is the 'foreſaid lace or ſtring; next come the legs of the bird hanging 'out, and as it groweth greater it openeth the ſhell by degrees, 'till at length it is all come forth, and hangeth onely by the bill:

L. *Lin. Syſt.* 1108. *Faun. Suec. No.* 2123. *Liſt. Angl. tab.* v. *fig.* 41.

Balanoides. 5. SULCATED.

L. with ſtrong ſulcated ſhells; aperture ſmaller in proportion than the former.

Adheres to the ſame bodies. *Tab.* xxxvii. *fig.* 5.

Quere, the figure, A. 5. if not an accidental variety?

Lepas

The learned Olaus Wormius, in the account of his Museum published by his son, is of the same opinion; it is astonishing how so grosse an error should ever be adopted by men of genius I will more that it should have continued unrefuted so long; Olaus seems to have been well acquainted with the shells & describes them accurately, yet adheres to the established, Here, tho most ridiculous opinion of their being the matrices of a species of Ducks called Barnacles & asserts as the opinion of the learned at that time, that several species of water-fowl were produced from shells. See Museum Olai Wormii

Anatifera. 9. ANATIFEROUS. L. *Lin. Syst.* 1109. *Faun. Suec. No.* 2120. *List. Conch. tab.* 439.

L. consisting of five shells, depressed, affixed to a pedicle, and in clusters. *Tab.* xxxviii. *fig.* 9.

Adheres to ships bottoms by its pedicles.

The *tentacula* from its animal are feathered; and have given our old *English* historians and naturalists the idea of a bird. They ascribed the origin of the Barnacle Goose to these shells. The account given

given by the Sage *Gerard*, is ſo curious, that I beg leave to tranſcribe it.

'But what our eyes have ſeene, and hands have touched, we 'ſhall declare. There is a ſmall iſland in *Lancaſhire* called the '*Pile* of *Foulders*, wherein are found the broken pieces of old 'and bruiſed ſhips, ſome whereof have been caſt thither by ſhip-'wracke, and alſo the trunks and bodies with the branches of old 'and rotten trees, caſt up there likewiſe; whereon is found a cer-'taine ſpume or froth that in time breedeth unto certaine ſhels, 'in ſhape like thoſe of the Muſkle, but ſharper pointed, and of a 'whitiſh colour; wherein is contained a thing in form like a lace 'of ſilke finely woven as it were together, of a whitiſh colour; 'one end whereof is faſtened unto the inſide of the ſhell, even as 'the fiſh of Oiſters and Muſkles are: the other end is made faſt 'unto the belly of a rude maſſe or lumpe, which in time commeth 'to the ſhape and form of a bird: when it is perfectly formed, 'the ſhell gapeth open, and the firſt thing that appeareth is the 'foreſaid lace or ſtring; next come the legs of the bird hanging 'out, and as it groweth greater it openeth the ſhell by degrees, 'till at length it is all come forth, and hangeth onely by the bill: 'in ſhort ſpace after it commeth to full maturitie, and falleth into 'the ſea, where it gathereth feathers, and groweth to fowle 'bigger than a Mallard and leſſer than a Gooſe, having blacke 'legs and bill or beake, and feathers blacke and white, ſpotted in 'ſuch manner as is our *Mag Pie*, called in ſome places a *Pie-*'*Annet*, which the people of *Lancaſhire* call by no other name than 'a tree Gooſe: which place aforeſaid, and all thoſe parts adjoyn-'ing, do ſo much abound therewith, that one of the beſt is bought 'for three pence. For the truth hereof, if any doubt, may it 'pleaſe

'pleaſe them to repaire unto me, and I ſhall ſatisfie them by the 'teſtimonie of good witneſſes.' *Vide* Herbal, p. 1587, 1588.

This genus is called by *Linnæus*, Lepas, a name that is given by the antients to the *Patella*. Shells of this claſs are called by *Ariſtotle*, Βαλανοι *, from the reſemblance ſome of them bear to acorns. We have ſeen before in the account of the ſupper of *Lentulus*, that they were admitted to the greateſt tables.

PHOLAS.

III. Its animal an Ascidia.

Shell bivalve, opening wide at each end, with ſeveral leſſer ſhells at the hinge.

The hinges folded back, united with a cartilage.

An incurvated tooth in the inſide beneath the hinge.

Dactylus. 10. Dactyle.

Ph. *Lin. Syſt.* 1110. *Faun. Suec. No.* 2124. *Liſt. Angl. App. Tab.* xi. *fig.* 3.

Ph. with an oblong ſhell, marked with echinated *ſtriæ*; the tooth broad; the ſpace above the hinge reflected, and cancellated beneath; breadth four inches and a half; length one and a quarter. *Tab.* xxxix. *fig.* 10.

Candidus. 11. White.

Ph. *Lin. Syſt.* 1111. *Liſt. Angl. tab.* v. *fig.* 39.

Ph. with a brittle ſhell, and ſmoother than the former; the tooth very ſlender; breadth an inch and an half; length near an inch. *Tab.* xxxix. *fig.* 11.

* *Hiſt. An. lib.* v. *c.* 15.

Ph. *Lin.*

The pearl-fishers in the East observe, that they seldom find a pearl when the shell is smooth & perfect, but are sure to find them when the shell begins to be deformed & distorted: from this it appears, that when the fish grows older, the vessels contai=ning the juice for forming the shell & keeping it in its vigour grow weak & ruptured & hence from the juice accumula=ting in the inside of the shell, the pearl was formed & the shell brought to decay. This confirms the opinion of Mr Reau=mur, that Pearls are formed from the same glutinous fluid as is the first origin of the shell: that the pearl is formed of the same colour & water, that is communicated to it from that part of the

shell, with which it is more immediately in contact, this is observed, this in the pinna in particular, which is higher in colour, as it approaches the broadest, which is the reddest end. Bruce's travels to the source of the Nile, vol: 5, Appx. p: 222 & 228. —

Linnæus somewhere hints at a method to cause some species of Shell-fish, as vulgarly called; I think Muscles, to produce pearls, believe it never met with much success. M: S:

Pearls of considerable value have not unoften been found in Scotland, the author of a tour thro' Great Britain vol: 4, p: 9, 1753, has the following anecdotes concerning the Scots pearls. — "Mr Spruel a Merchant, who understood the pearl trade best of any man in that country, having dealt in it above forty years, says, he has sometimes given an hundred Rixdollars near £20 for one Scots pearl, as fine, clear & more transparent, than any Oriental pearl; tho' the latter be more easily matched, because they are of a yellow water, yet foreigners covet Scots pearl: the more wrinkles there are in a pearl-shell, the better sign it is of the age & goodness of the pearl, for the smooth shells are young & barren: therefore he proposed that fishing of young pearl should be prohibited, for the longer they stay in the water, the more valuable they are, so that he would have no shells taken less than 3 inches in length & about 2 or 3 in breadth, & no pearls sold or offered for sale weighing less than 5 grains & that they might have time to grow, he proposed that Pearl-fishing should be permitted only once in ten years at most, as he had seen some thousands of young pearls

offerred to sale, which had they been suffered to grow, might have been worth from 4 to 50 Crowns apiece. Pearls are found in most places in Scotland where Salmon are taken & once in 20 years is a great pearl-fishing there, they are particularly found in the Rivers of the Isle of Skye, & frequently in black Mussels especially in the rivers Kilmartin & Ord, where pearls have been got of £20 value apiece, as also in a fresh water lake near the South side of Locheinardstad. the small pearls not useful for Ornament, he says, were sold at a considerable price, at that time at least, to the Apothecaries for forming cordials highly celebrated in many complaints, tho' I believe now much disused; this is sufficient to show how much the Scots pearl-Fishery deserves encouragement, since we may be supplied with it much cheaper & as good at home, as from the Indies". —

Mr. Barbut in vol: of testaceous animals p: 64 says, that pearl-bearing mussels are found in some of the rivers of Bavaria in those of Valognes in Lorrain, & of St. Savinian, pretty fine ones are sometimes procured there. — believe these are a species of Mytilus not Mya, see for the former farther on ~~x~~ p: 94. —

In 1765, a very profitable pearl-fishery, after being neglected about 60 years, was revived in the river Spey in Scotland, for tho' most of the country people earned about 6 guineas apiece, the adventure from London were said to have made proportionably, a great deal more of it. —

M. Arenaria. *Lin. Syſt.* 1112. *Faun. Suec. No.* 2127. *Arenaria.* 16. SAND.

M. with a tooth like the former; mouth large, rough at the baſe; the whole ſhell of an ovated figure, and much narrower at the gaping end.

Three inches and a half broad; two inches long in the middle. *Tab.* xlii.

M. Pictorum. *Lin. Syſt.* 1112. *Faun. Suec. No.* 219. *Liſt. Angl. App. tab.* i. *fig.* 4. *Pictorum.* 17. PAINTERS.

M. with an oval brittle ſhell; with a ſingle longitudinal tooth like a lamina in one ſhell, and two in the other. *Tab.* xliii. *fig.* 17.

Breadth a little above two inches; length one.

Inhabits rivers.

Uſed to put water colors in; whence the name. Otters feed on this and the other freſh-water ſhells.

Lin. Syſt. 1112. *Faun. Suec. No.* 2130. *Liſt. Angl. App. tab.* i. *fig.* 1. *Scheffer Lapland*, 145. *Margaritifera.* 18. PEARL.

M. with a very thick coarſe opake ſhell; often much decorticated; oblong, bending inward on one ſide; or arcuated; black on the outſide; uſual breadth from five to ſix inches; length two and a quarter. *Tab.* xliii. *fig.* 18.

Inhabits great rivers, eſpecially thoſe which water the mountanous parts of *Great Britain*.

This ſhell is noted for producing quantities of pearl. There have been regular fiſheries for the ſake of this pretious article in ſeveral of our rivers. Sixteen have been found within one ſhell. They are the diſeaſe of the fiſh, analogous to the ſtone in the human body. On being ſqueezed, they will eject the pearl, and often caſt it ſpontaneouſly in the ſand of the ſtream.

The *Conway* was noted for them in the days of *Cambden*. A notion alſo prevales, that Sir *Richard Wynne*, of *Gwydir*, chamberlain to *Catharine* queen to *Charles* II. preſented her majeſty with a pearl (taken in this river) which is to this day honored with a place in the regal crown. They are called by the *Welſh Cregin Diluw*, or Deluge Shells, as if left there by the flood.

The *Irt* in *Cumberland* was alſo productive of them. The famous circumnavigator, Sir *John Hawkins* *, had a patent for fiſhing that river. He had obſerved pearls plentiful in the Straits of *Magellan*, and flattered himſelf with being inriched by procuring them within his own iſland.

In the laſt century, ſeveral of great ſize were gotten in the rivers of the county of *Tyrone* and *Donegal*, in *Ireland*. One that weighed 36 *carats* was valued at £. 40, but being foul, loſt much of its worth. Other ſingle pearls were ſold for £. 4. 10 *s*. and even for £. 10. The laſt was ſold a ſecond time to Lady *Glenlealy*, who put it into a necklace, and refuſed £. 80 for it from the Ducheſs of *Ormond* †.

Suetonius reports, that *Cæſar* was induced to undertake his *Britiſh* expedition for the ſake of our pearls; and that they were ſo large that it was neceſſary to uſe the hand to try the weight of a ſingle one ‡. I imagine that *Cæſar* only heard this by report; and that

* *Camden*. ii. 1003. † *Ph. Tr. Abridg*. ii. 831.

‡ *Sueton. Vit. Jul. Cæſ. c.* xliv.

the cryſtalline balls in old leaſes, called *mineral pearl*, were miſtaken for them *.

We believe that *Cæſar* was diſappointed of his hope: yet we are told that he brought home a buckler made with *Britiſh* pearl, † which he dedicated to, and hung up in the temple of *Venus Genetrix*. A proper offering to the Goddeſs of Beauty, who ſprung from the ſea. I cannot omit mentioning, that notwithſtanding the claſſics honor our pearl with their notice, yet they report them to have been ſmall and ill colored; an imputation that in general they are ſtill liable to. *Pliny* ‡ ſays, that a red ſmall kind was found about the *Thracian Boſphorus*, in a ſhell called *Mya*, but does not give it any mark to aſcertain the ſpecies.

Dubia.

19. DUBIOUS.

M. with a rudiment of a tooth within one ſhell; with an oval and large hiatus oppoſite to the hinge. Shells brown and brittle.

Shape of a *piſtachia* nut.

Length of a horſe-bean. *Tab.* xliv.

Found near *Weymouth*. From the PORTLAND cabinet.

* *Woodward's Method of Foſſils*, 29. *part* ii.

† *Plinii, lib.* ix. *c.* 35. *Tacitus Vit. Agricolæ.* ‡ *Ibid.*

V. Its

SOLEN. RAZOR.

V. Its animal an ASCIDIA.

A bivalve; oblong; open at both ends.

At the hinge, a ſubulated tooth turned back, often double; not inſerted in the oppoſite ſhell.

* With the hinge near the end.

Siliqua. 20. POD. *Lin. Syſt.* 1113. *Faun. Suec. No.* 2131. *Liſt. Angl. tab.* v. *fig.* 37. *Liſt. Conch. tab.* 409.

S. with a ſtrait ſhell, equally broad, compreſſed, with a double tooth at the hinge, receiving another oppoſite; and on one ſide another tooth ſharp pointed, and directed downwards. Color olive, with a conoid mark of an aſh color, dividing the ſhells diagonally; one part ſtriated lengthways, the other tranſverſely. Breadth uſually five or ſix inches, ſometimes nine.

Tab. xlv. *fig.* 20.

Vagina. 21. SHEATH. *Lin. Syſt.* 1113. *Liſt. Conch. tab.* 410.

S. with a ſhell nearly cylindrical, one end marginated; the hinge conſiſting of a ſingle tooth in each ſhell placed oppoſite. Shell yellow, marked much like the former; uſually about five or ſix inches broad.

Inhabits *Red Wharf, Angleſea.*

Lin.

According to an old proverb, Selsey in Sussex is famous for Cockles

The western coast of England, it is said, was plentifully stored with Scallops, till the year 1739, when in the long & severe frost, almost the whole species there perished by the incle= =mency of the season; see Whitehurst's inquiry into the original state & formation of the earth p: 121, he says the fact is asserted on good authority, see ibid:. — 1.st edition.

thought by some a luscious & delicate food, by many strong & coarse. —

Oysters so large are taken on the Western Isles of Scotland, as require to be cut in three or four pieces to be eaten. See Tour thro Great Britain vol: 4, p 9 edition of 1753. —

Mr. Barbut in his vol: of testaceous animals p: 58, informs us that green oisters are brought to Paris from Dieppe in Normandy, where he says they acquire that colour by being bedded in creeks encompased with verdure; never remember seeing any such, when in Paris; he also says the oisters of Britanny are much esteemed & still more those from Marennes in Saintonge, those are prefered there, which are edged with small brown fringe or beard. - red & rupet-coloured oisters are found in Spain, in Illyria brown coloured with the flesh black & in the Red sea of the Colour of the Iris. - tree oisters or such as fasten themselves to the branches of the Mangle trees & others hanging in the water are much esteemed in the West-Indies, particularly St. Domingo: -

I must in justice to Lancashire add that the finest mussels are there called Hambleton Hookers from a village in that County.

The Hambleton Flookers are so called because they are dragged up with hooks.

Mr Bruce in his travels to the Source of the Nile, asserts, that pearls, ~~whether oriental~~ are found in Muscels (whether Mya or Mytilus he asserts not) in almost all rivers in the North of Scotland that run from lakes, some of more than ordinary merit tho usually small; have much increased in price lately, since real pearls have again come into fashion & are frequently sold for oriental at as high prices. See vol: 5, appx. p: 229. See more of Scotch pearls under the article Mya margaritifera, p: 675 following of this work & in Mss notes there.

Terebra fasciata.

particularly on the Sandy Common called Towyn y Capel near Holy-
-head, as is also the Zoned Snail No 133. See Pennants Welsh Tour, page 275.

Pomatia discolor.
"A naturalised species - introduced as is said by
Sir Kenelm Digby -

These snails were brought to Albury in Surrey a seat of the Earl of Arundel, by the Countess of Arundel from Italy, who esteemed them a delicacy, see Aubrey's Surrey vol: 4, p: 70. De Costa says they have increased there so much, as to have become a nuisance & are much more nu=merous than the common snails & extend even to the confines of Sussex. De Costa's British Conchology p: 70. — they did not increase much about Gothurst, where they were introduced by Sr. Kenelm Digby; but are found about Ware & Puckeridge in Hertfordshire, as also in Oxfordshire about Woodstock & in Gloucestershire & Dorsetshire; but no where in the Northern Counties — the attempt to introduce them into Northampton=shire was by Ld. Hatton at Kirby, but did not succeed, see De Costa as quoted above. The Revd. Paul Wright in a note in Gent's mag: for 1784, p: 746, says, he saw some of these snails near Wros Braughing. —

Memorabilis Bonaria

very plentiful as well as the fasciated wreath No. 119 on the sandy common of Gowyn y Capel near Holyhead in Anglesea, see Pennant's welsh tour p: 275.

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