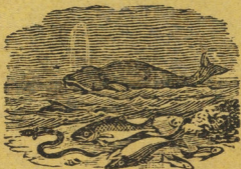


THE
HISTORY
OF
CURIOUS AND WONDERFUL
FISH.



Dive down into the mighty deep,
And there behold the finny race,—
How they glide;
Or sit upon some margin steep,
And see them in the river's face,
Stem the tide.

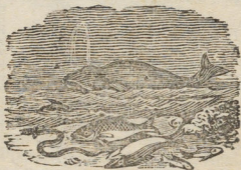
NEW-YORK:

Printed and sold by Mahlon Day,
At the New Juvenile Bookstore,
No. 376, Pearl-street.

Sarah Chamberlain

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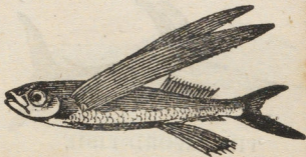
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(1825-1833)

Notice to Young Readers.

Besides this History of Fish, Mahlon Day has also for sale, the History of Curious and Wonderful Birds, Beasts, and Insects, with many others, pleasing and interesting books, which he offers for sale, whole-sale and retail.



THE FLYING FISH,

Is slender and long, with large staring eyes. The fins on each side of the back are so long and wide, as to answer the purpose of wings. These not only assist it in flying, but enable it to swim through the water with amazing velocity. Aided by them, he flies nearly the distance of a gun-shot, before he touches the water; and when he has slightly dipped, in order to rest himself, mounts up again, to escape the pursuit of the Dolphin, his enemy.



THE SWORD FISH,

Has his name from his long snout resembling a sword. He sometimes weighs about one hundred pounds, and is fifteen feet in length. The Sword Fish and the Whale are said never to meet without coming to battle. Sometimes two Sword Fish join against one Whale. The Whale uses his tail in his defence, diving and striking with his tail, while the Sword Fish, if he escapes the stroke, buries his weapon into the side of the Whale.

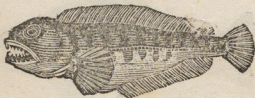
It has been known to strike a ship, mistaking it, as is supposed, for a Whale, with such violence, as to pierce through the bottom.



THE SPERMACETI WHALE

The oil produced from the Spermaceti Whale, is not in such large quantities as that produced from some of the other species; but in quality it is far preferable, since it yields a brilliant flame, without a bad smell.

The substance called *Ambergris*, is produced from the body of this animal. In a commercial point of view, it is a highly valuable production.



THE SEA WOLF,

Owes his name to his natural fierceness and voracity. The fishermen dread his bite, and endeavor as speedily as possible, to strike out his fore teeth, which are so strong that they are capable of leaving an impression on an anchor. He is often caught at Heligoland, an island not far from the mouth of the Elbe. It is almost three feet in length, and has a larger and flatter head than the Shark. His flesh is good, but not often eaten.



THE STURGEON,

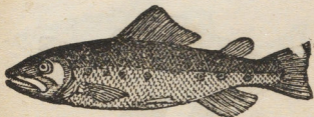
- Sometimes grows to the length of eighteen feet, and has been known to weigh five hundred pounds. It has a long slender pointed nose ; small eyes ; and a small mouth ; no teeth.

The sturgeon annually ascends our rivers. They seem to abound in the Delaware, and may be seen frequently bounding high out of the water. One threw himself into an open boat, which was crossing from Burlington to Bristol ; and another jumped into the window of a steam-boat.



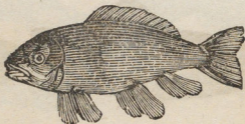
THE ELECTRICAL EEL,

Has the power of giving an electric shock. Persons have been sometimes knocked down with a stroke from this Eel. One of them having been taken in a net, an English Sailor, although cautioned, would insist upon taking it up; but the moment he grasped it, he dropped down in a fit, and it was not without some difficulty, that his senses were restored. This most wonderful fish is found in the waters of South America.



THE SALMON.

This is a very valuable fish, and sells in the New-York markets as high as from 50 to 75 cents per pound. They used to be plenty in our rivers, but now are only caught in the rivers of Maine, and farther north. Within the memory of some persons, they were as plentiful in the Connecticut River as shad, and sold for two or three coppers apiece. It lives in the salt water during the frozen season, and ascends the rivers of northern countries in the spring.



**THE GOLD FISH, or
GOLDEN CARP,**

Was originally brought from China. It is very pleasing to see them glide along, and play in the transparent crystal of a piece of water. They are of a fine Orange red color, appearing as if sprinkled over with gold dust. Some are white, like silver, and others white, spotted with red. When Gold fish are kept in ponds, they are often taught to rise to the surface at the sound of a bell, to be fed.



THE COD FISH.

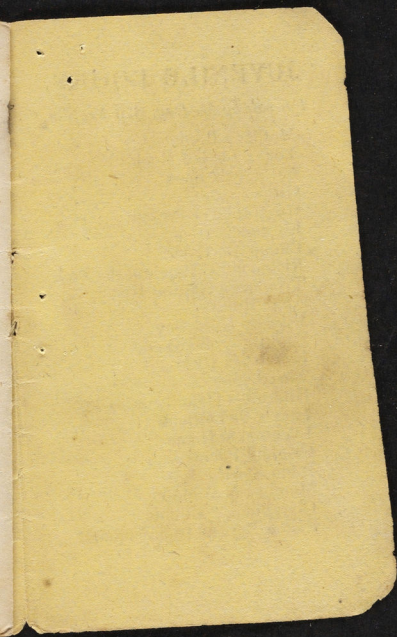
The body of this Fish measures sometimes about three and even four feet in length, with a proportionable thickness. It is a noble inhabitant of the seas, not only on account of its size, but also for the goodness of his flesh, either fresh or salted. It is a staple commodity of Massachusetts, and in the State House, in Boston, is hung up a good model of one, cut in wood, as an emblem of the wealth it brings to the State. The Cod is the most prolific of fish; nine millions of eggs have been found in one of moderate size.



THE CHUB.

This fish frequents the deep holes of rivers, but in the summer season, when the sun shines, it ascends to the surface, and lies quiet under the cooling shade of the trees that spread their foliage on the verdant banks; but yet, though it seems to indulge itself in slumbers, the fear of danger keeps it awake, and at the least alarm, it dives with rapidity to the bottom. It lives on all sorts of insects. When it seizes a bait, it bites so eagerly, that its jaws are often heard to chop like those of a dog.

END.



JUVENILE BOOKS,

For sale by M. Day, 376 Pearl-st.

Mother's Book

Young Ladies' Book

Boy's own Book

Girl's do.

Geographical Present

Fireside Stories

Emma Mortimer

Richmond's Annals of the Poor

Trimmer's Natural History

Anna Ross

Eskdale Herd Boy

Scottish Orphans

Barbadoes Girl

The Sisters

Hildreth's United States

Lady's Piece Book

Evenings at Home

Original Poems

Bible Stories

Merchant's Widow

Clergyman's Widow

Stolen Boy, and many others.