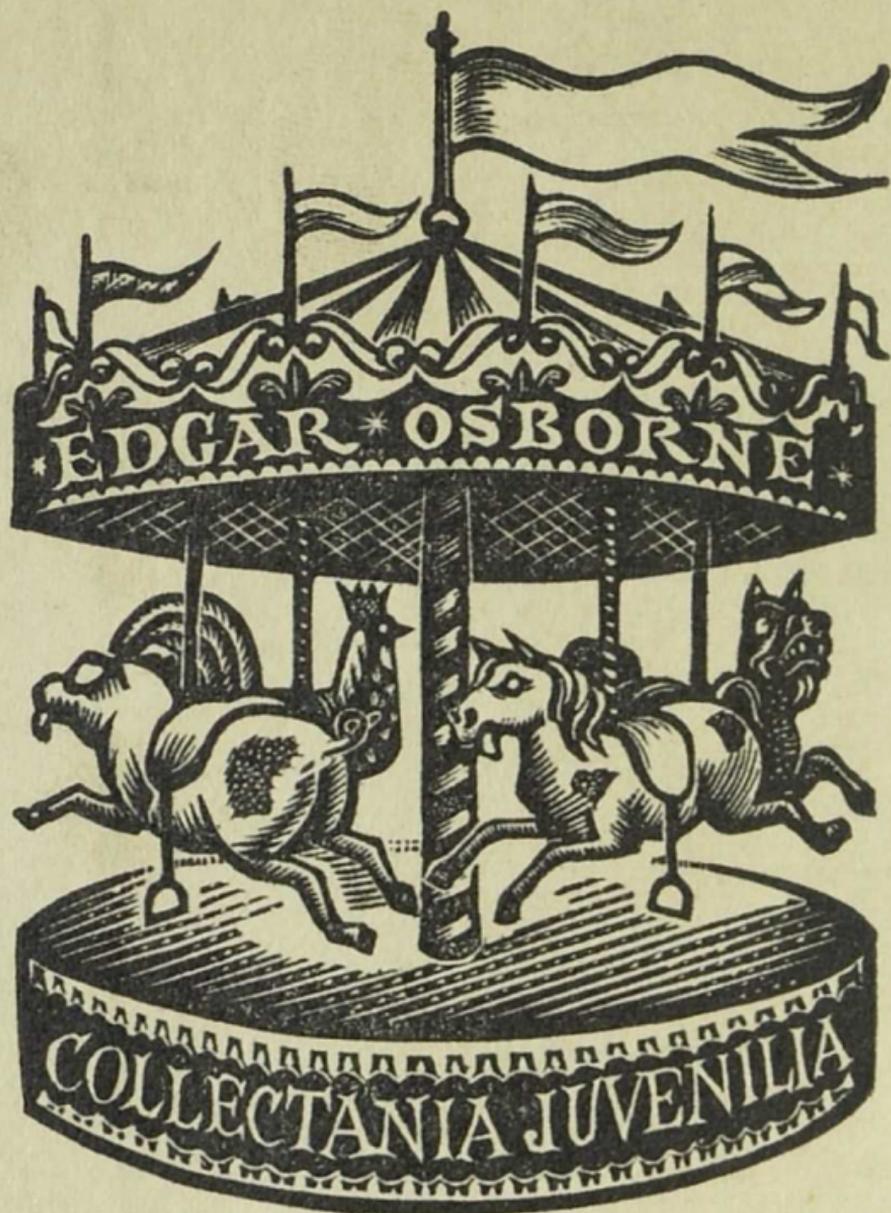


FISHES



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MABEL OSBORNE



The
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NATURAL HISTORY,

Embellished
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VOL. 3.

F I S H E S.

L O N D O N:
Printed for John Wallis,
N^o. 16, Ludgate Street,
June 10th. 1801.

1811
George Elliptic

NATURAL HISTORY

of the
Islands of the
Pacific

By
J. S. MILLER

London
Printed by
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1811



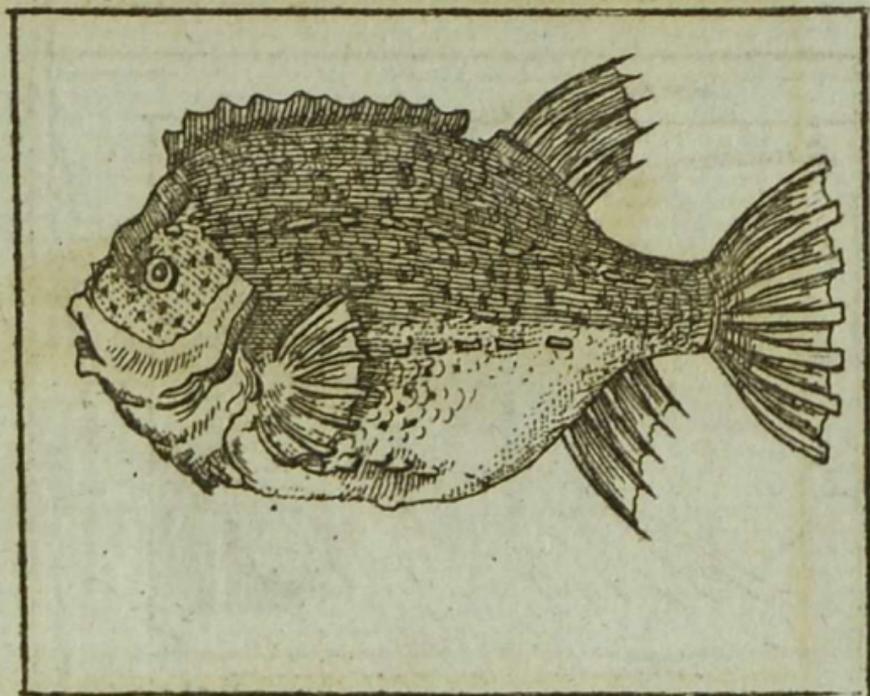
THE MACKRELL

SWIM in large shoals on the Coasts of England and France. They are taken either with an angle or net; when they are angled for, it must be out of a boat, smack, or ship at anchor. They will snap at any thing, even a piece of red cloth.



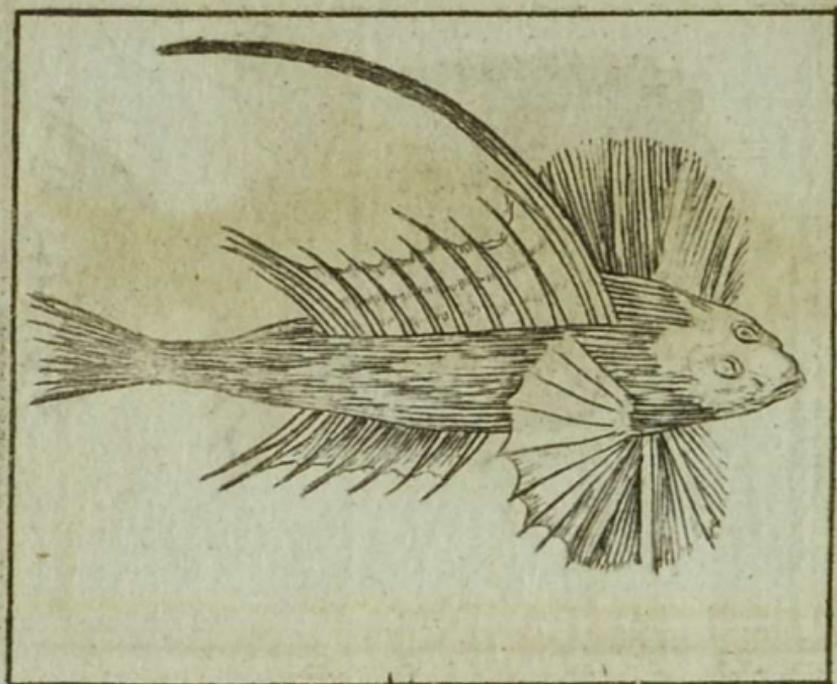
THE SALMON.

IN several countries they are a great article of commerce, being cured by salting, pickling, and drying; they will live both in the fresh and salt waters; the largest we have are caught about Berwick upon Tweed.



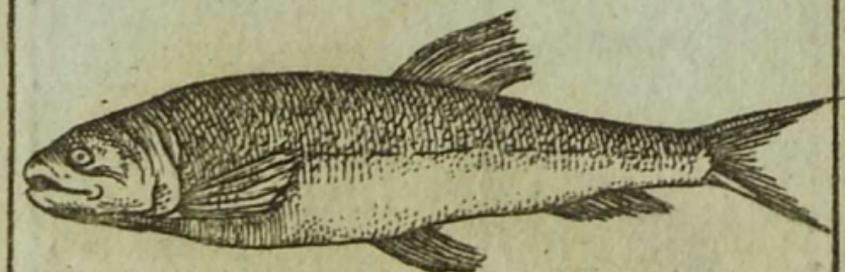
THE LUMP-FISH.

THESE Fish are found in great abundance in the Greenland Seas, in the months of April and May; they have very large roes, which from being fat, are eat by the Greenlanders, who are fond of oily food.



THE DRAGON FISH.

THE colours of this fish exhibit a delightful variety of yellow, blue, and white; and glows with a lustre little inferior to that of a diamond. It is frequently caught on the Yorkshire coast.



THE HERRING.

HERRINGS appear in vast shoals in April, May, and June; their number is so immense as to alter the appearance of the ocean. On the Norfolk coast they are taken in September and October, and those taken there are dried and called Red Herrings.



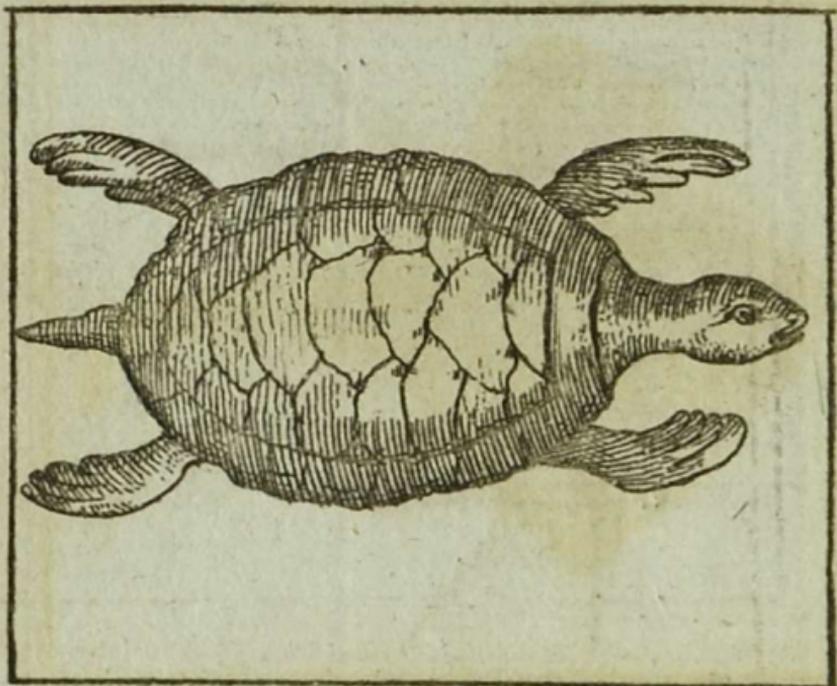
THE COD.

IMMENSE quantities of Cod fish inhabit the banks of Newfoundland, where an extensive fishery is carried on. They are salted and packed up in barrels for keeping. Some are caught on our coasts, but they are not so large.



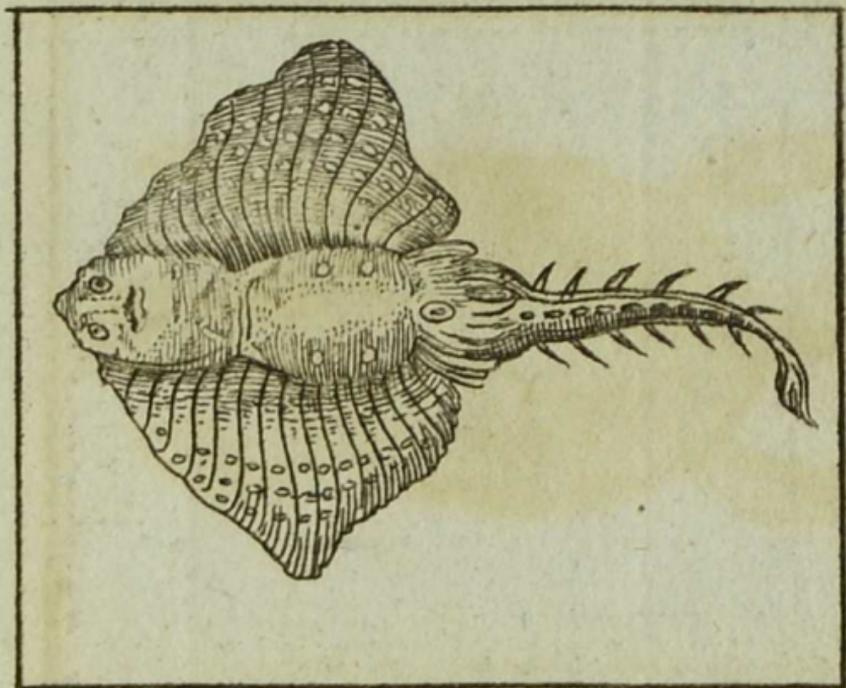
THE SOLDIER CRAB

IS a native of the Caribbee Islands; it is about three or four inches long, has two large nippers with which it can pinch very strongly. They descend every year to the sea side to change their shells.



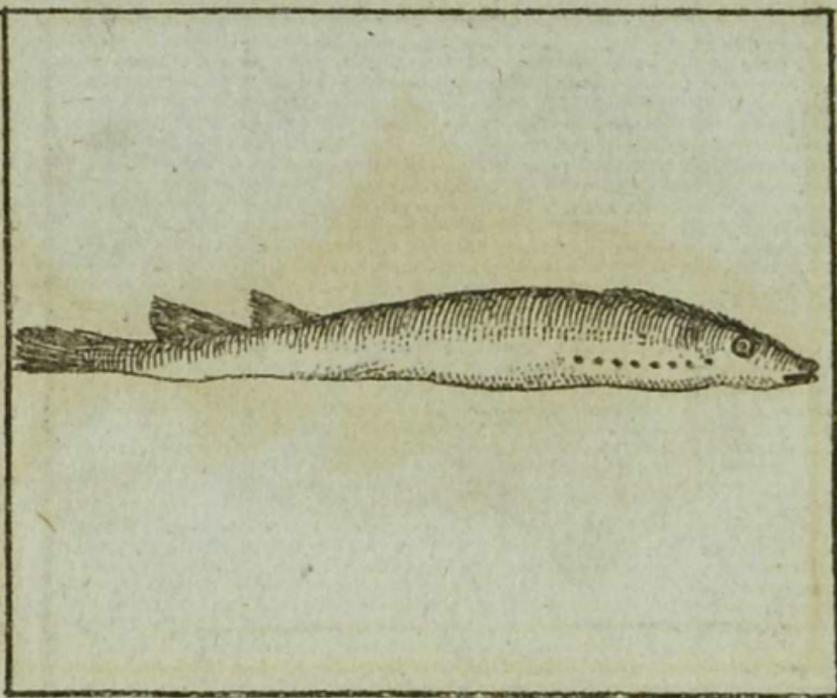
THE TURTLE.

THESE are caught in the West-Indies ; the method of taking them is with a spear, with a line fastened to it; they throw the spear at the back of the turtle, which pierces the shell and bone; it struggles hard to get loose, but they take care the line is strong enough to hold it.



THE THORNBACK.

IN November the Thornback begins to be in season, but the young are good at any time of the year. The flesh resembles that of the skate, but is less delicate; the liver is considered by some as a great delicacy.



THE LAMPREY EEL.

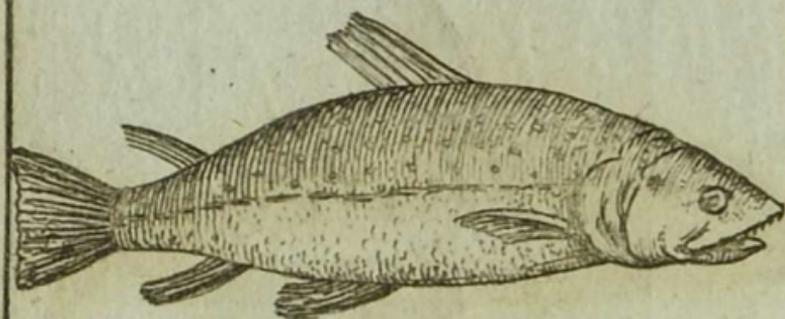
THIS is a sea fish, but like the salmon they quit the salt water about the latter end of the winter, and after a stay of a few months return again to the Ocean.

The Severn is the most noted river for them. They are best in season in March, April, and May.



THE CHARR

INHABITS the lakes of the North and also many lakes in Wales. The only season for catching this fish, is, when they resort to the shallow parts of the lakes to deposit their spawn. At this time they set trammel nets baited, and so leave them for days and nights, after which they are sure to find some therein.



THE TROUT

DELIGHTS in cool and small streams, and seems fond of swimming against the course of water. It is a voracious fish, and affords excellent diversion to the angler. They are fattest and have the most delicious taste in July and August.



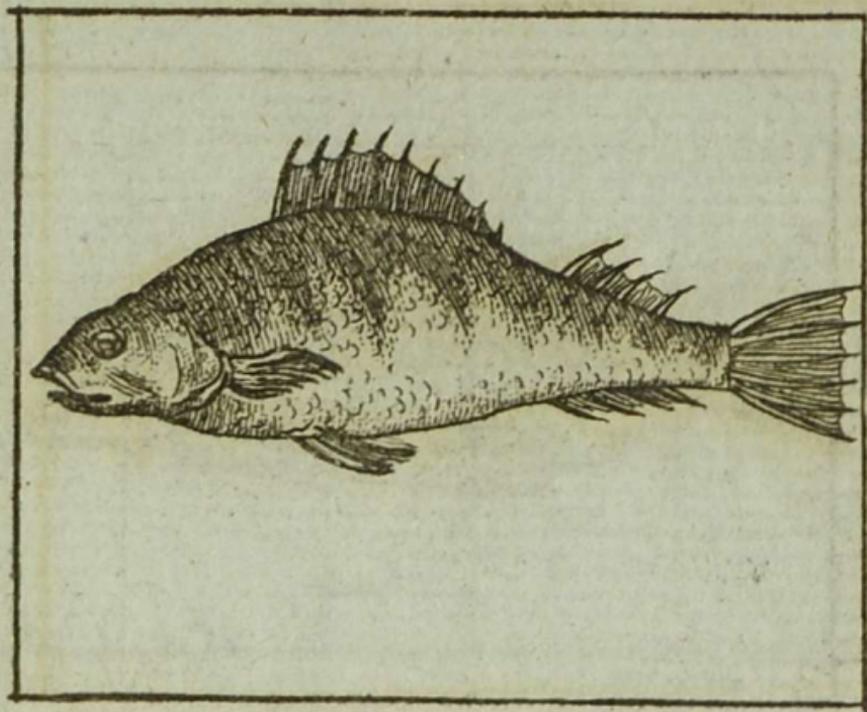
THE SMELT

INHABITS the seas that wash the Islands of Great Britain and Ireland the whole year, except when they ascend the rivers. The flesh is soft and tender, and of a delicate taste. They are frequently served up to table as a garnish to large fish.



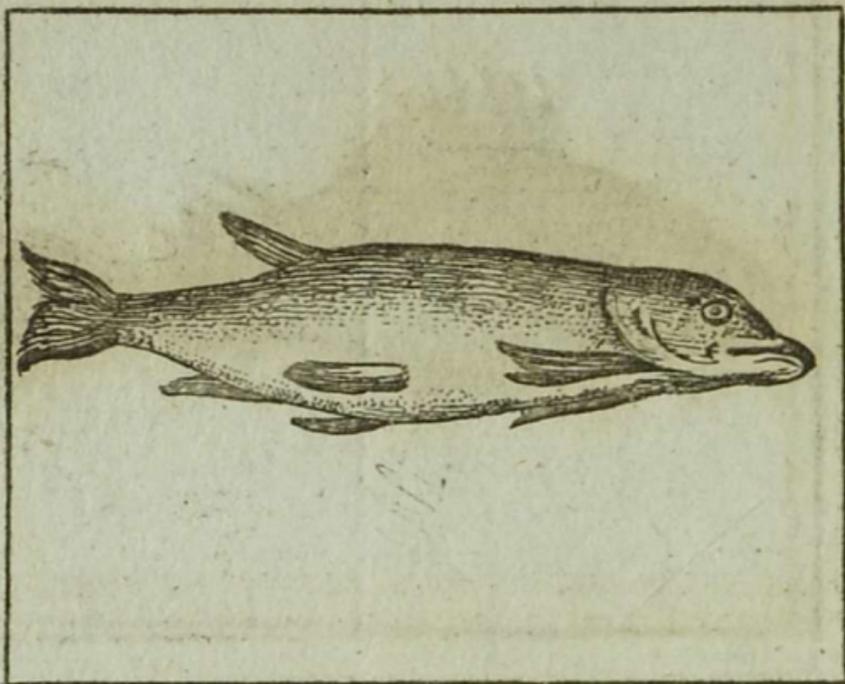
THE MULLET.

MULLETS generally come in great shoals; they are very sagacious, and when surrounded with a net, frequently escape by leaping over it; for when one takes the lead, the others immediately follow.



THE PERCH

IS justly admired as a firm and delicate fish; it delights in deep holes and gentle streams. They are very voracious, and usually bite as soon as the bait drops. The morning and evening are the best time to angle for the Perch.



THE PIKE

DELIGHTS in a quiet, shady, unfrequented water, and lurks in the midst of weeds, flags, or bulrushes; in cold weather he lies deep and near the bottom; but in a very hot, sultry day, he will be seen lying on the surface of the water. His best biting time is early in the morning.



THE CARP

EXERCISES the angler's patience as much as any fish. They seldom bite in cold weather, and in hot, a man cannot be too early or too late for them; but when they do bite there is no fear of their hold.



THE TENCH

DELIGHTS in standing waters and ponds; they are in season from September to the end of May. The anglers declare this fish bites best in the three hottest months; but best of all in the night.



THE CHUB

IS a very coarse fish and full of bones; in the winter it is esteemed the best. The Chub is fond of a large bait, and will bite at a minnow, grub, or paste: and usually swims in mid-water.



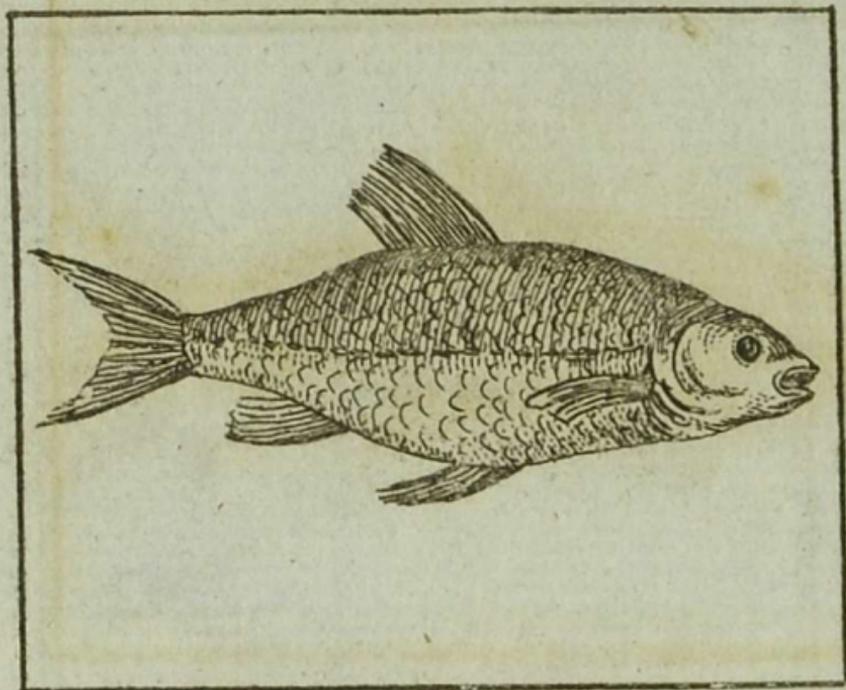
THE BARBEL

IS curious in his baits, which must be clean and sweet, the worms well scoured, and not kept in sour and musty moss; some fish with cheese made into paste. The most famous places near London for catching barbel, are Kingston Bridge and Shepperton deeps.



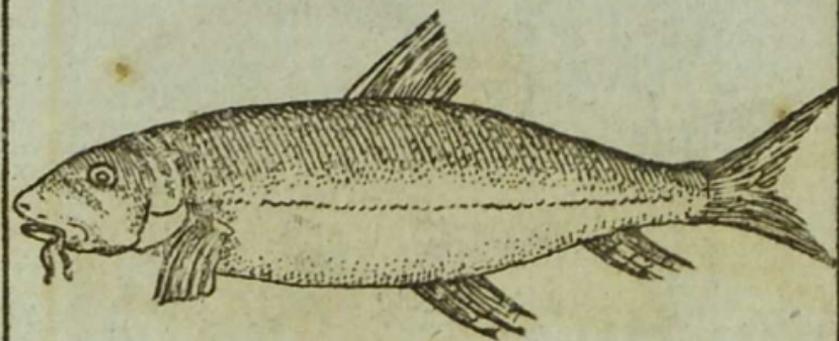
THE DACE

ARE found in almost every river in the kingdom. They are fond of gravelly bottoms; it is a simple fish, and will often bite when you least expect it; their bait is a gentle at the bottom and a small fly at top.



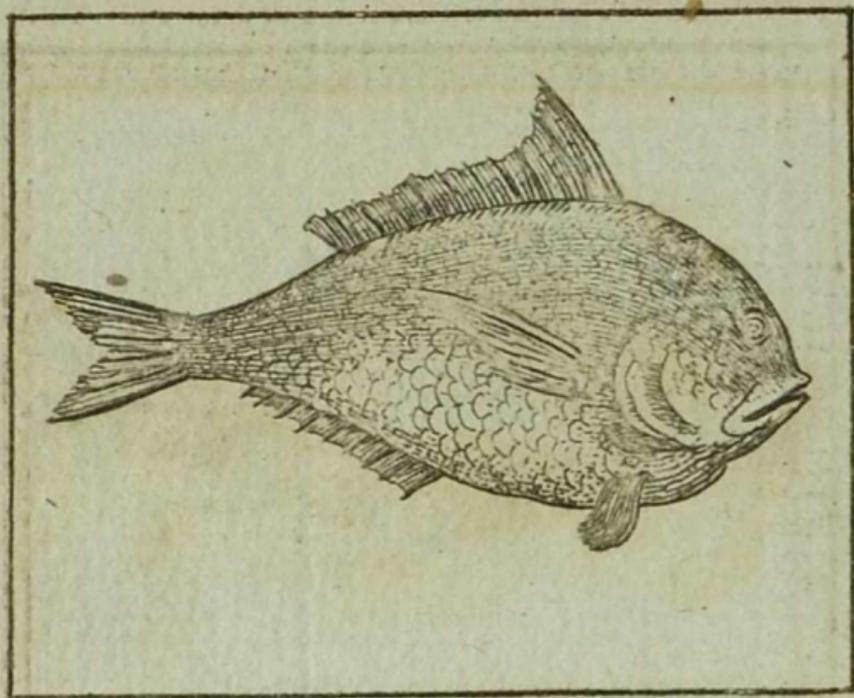
THE ROACH.

ANGLE as for Dace, with one gentle; when in a pond throw in a little chewed bread, and let your bait lie very near to the bottom, and you will not only take much larger, but more in number than by any other method,



THE GUDGEON

IS to be met with in rivers almost every where; the principal baits are the small red worm, gilt tail, brandling, and a meadow worm. Gudgeons love the shade, and if you can, chuse underneath a bridge or plank for angling.



THE GILT-HEAD

IS one of those fishes that frequent deep waters, or bold rocky shores; it feeds on shell fish, which it breaks to pieces with its teeth before it swallows them. The flesh is coarse eating. There are several species of this fish found on the British coast.



THE BULL HEAD,

OR Miller's thumb, is common in our gravelly brooks and rivers, where it lodges under stones: it is easily caught during the summer; and bites at a red worm; it also forms a most desirable bait for Trout.



THE RATTLESNAKE.

THIS poisonous reptile is a native of America: it has a rattle in the tail, which sounds on the least motion; no sooner is this alarming rattle heard, than the other classes of animated nature testify their fear by speedy flight, . . .



THE
SNAKE OF ÆSCULAPIUS.

IN Italy this kind of serpent is suffered to come into the houses, and often gets into the beds where people lie; but though it is an innocent sort of animal, yet it will bite when exasperated.



THE VIPER

IS found in many parts of this island, prefers dry, stony and chalky soils; it is slower in its motions than the snake. The young vipers when terrified will run down the throat of the parent for shelter.



THE LIZARD.

THIS animal is extremely nimble, and in hot weather may be seen basking on the sides of dry banks; but on finding itself observed, it quickly retreats to its hole. It feeds on insects; and in its turn becomes the prey of birds.



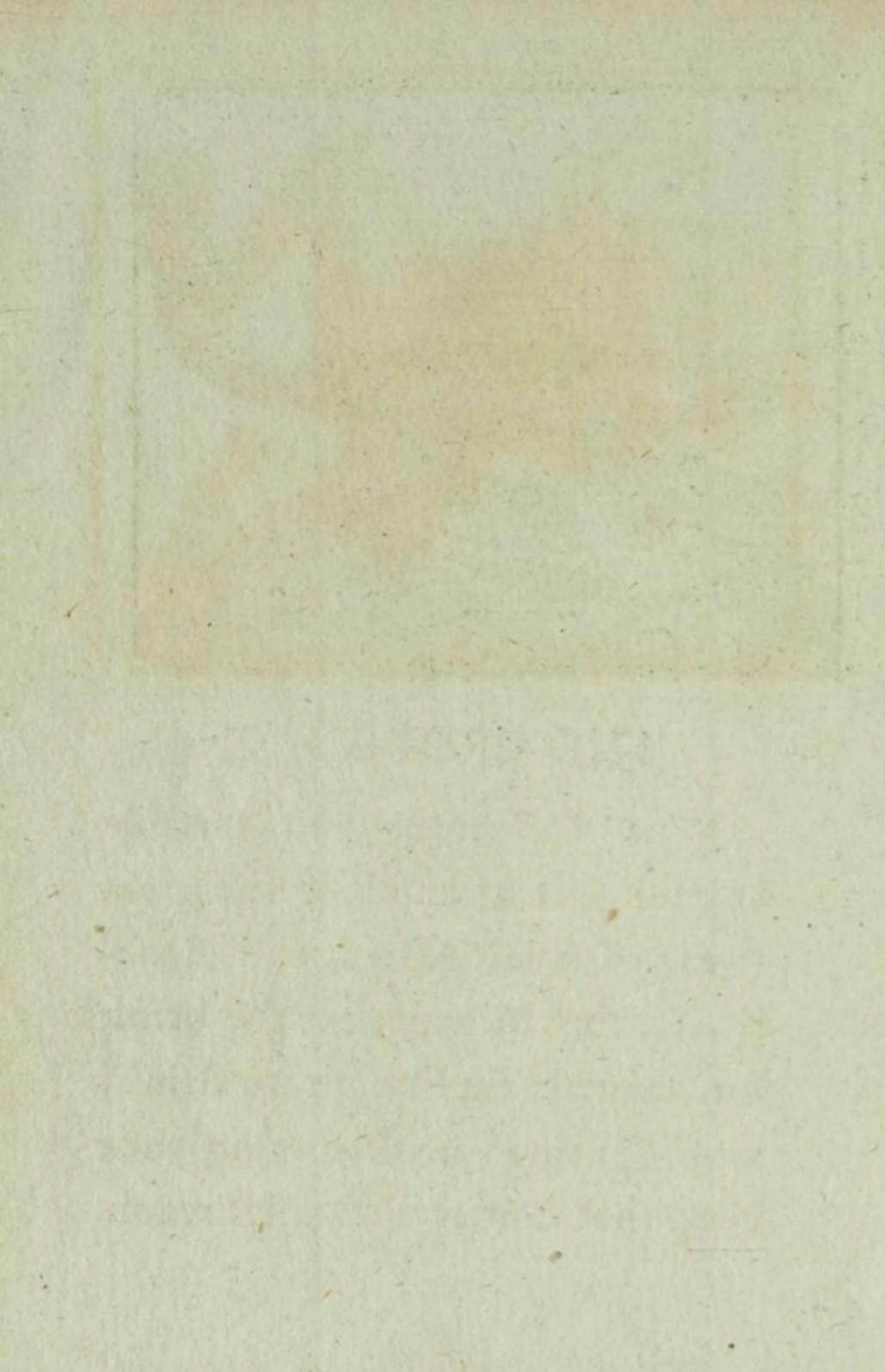
THE FROG,

WHILE in the tadpole state, is wholly an inhabitant of the water; but as soon as the young animal is transformed, it takes to the land. Its power of leaping is very great, and it is a most excellent swimmer.



THE CROCODILE

IS a dangerous and terrible animal. It abounds in the great rivers of Asia, Africa, and America; lying in wait near the brink for animals that come to drink, and sparing neither man nor beast that comes within its reach,



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