

The natatory bladder is remarkable in this way: as in the Erythrini, it is large and cellular. It much resembles the lungs of reptiles. The stomach is well developed, and the intestines form four circumvolutions in the abdomen. The heart is small, but the liver is comparatively large.

This fish, which is rarely met with on our markets, is good to eat. Its flesh is wholesome, although rather tough.

MORRHUA DUCTOR.

French.—*Morue Pilote*.

English.—*Pilot Codfish*.

Of the order of *Subbrachial Malacopterygians*, of the family of *Gadoides*, of the genus *Morrhua*.

All the fishermen who frequent the Gulf of St. Lawrence have found on the banks and sometimes in the vicinity of the coast, this variety of the codfish. Its length seldom exceeds 15 to 16 inches. I have preserved the name by which it is commonly known, that of Pilot Codfish, because from information I obtained from the fishermen whom I consulted on the subject, this fish generally precedes the ordinary codfish in its arrival on the banks, which serve as a place of habitation for the latter during the summer months, and it seems as if in some respects, the Pilot Codfish guided the others towards those banks. I would also remark, that this variety is rather scarce in the Gulf. It evidently hails from the Northern Seas. Nevertheless, I have been unable to find any description of it in the works on Natural History which I have consulted.

The Codfish, called by Linnæus, *Morrhua Minuta*, seems to be the nearest approach to this variety; but there are several important differences, as will be found by perusing the following description of a specimen of the Pilot Codfish which was caught by one of the crew of *La Canadienne*, on the 1st June, 1865, off the River Wat-shee-shoo, on the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Total length.....	13½ inches.
Width.....	3½ "
Thickness.....	1½ "
Length of the head.....	1 " 5 lines.
From the head to the 1st dorsal fin.....	2½ "

First dorsal fin, rounded at its extremity, a little longer than it is wide, 15 rays. First rays short. Middle rays longer. The five posterior rays become shorter and shorter, so that the last is scarcely more than one line in length.

Second dorsal, 16 rays. The anterior ones are the longest. This fin is highest in front, in rear it is rounded, and its last rays are short.

Third dorsal, 18 rays. The first is one-quarter and the second one-half the length of the third. The fifth and sixth rays are the longest. The posterior rays are very short.

Pectoral, 16 rays, rounded at extremity.

Ventral, 6 rays, pointed at extremity.

First anal, 21 rays, rounded.

Second anal, 16 rays, smaller than the first. There is a kind of tubercle on the anterior base.

Caudal, 30½ rays, extremity slightly rounded.

Head of average size, the upper part flat. The snout is rounded. The jaws are of equal size. Under the lower jaw, there is a barbel thin and sharp, three-quarters of an inch in length. There are teeth in the two jaws, distinct and separate one from the other. In the vomer, there is a triangular set of fine teeth, the upper part of the triangle going forward. The tongue is pointed. Nostrils double, of equal size, opening in a depression of the head. Orbits large. Eyes large.

Iris yellow. Pupil blue. Lateral line very distinct, narrower than in the common codfish, commencing in rear of the orbit, and following the dorsal line as far as the posterior part of the first dorsal. From that, it inclines towards the abdomen, with a decided curve until opposite the two-thirds of the second dorsal. From this point to the com-

mencement of the caudal fin, and that of the belly.

Color—back of a dark olive color. On each side to the tail. Belly of a silvery white color. Points. The dorsal fin is pointed.

Pectoral of a clear white color. Ventral of a dark olive color.

First anal, of a dark olive color.

Second anal, of a dark olive color.

The flesh of this fish is

French
In Car
English

Of the order of *Merlangus*.

This fish is some- times also, but rarely, on the coast beyond Cap de Chatte.

I recollect some specimens of this fish on the west coast of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The Pollack is found in great quantities on the coast of York to the frozen sea Bay of Fundy.