

have been taken, though seldom, at Montreal. The specific name Tom Codus of Mitchell, has frequently been made the subject of animated discussion; it ranks with cattus, rattus, &c! It is caught in large quantities during the winter, by cutting a hole in the ice, and lowering a deep net, or even a basket, baited with offal; this being drawn up rapidly every three or four minutes is sure to enclose more or less of these fish, if at all numerous. This method is also adopted from the wharves on the Hudson river, and with great success; as many as twelve or fifteen being captured at a single haul. The best bait for it is the hard-shell clam. In the St. Lawrence below Montreal, they are so numerous that they are frequently brought to market in cart-loads.

GENUS LOTA.—LOTA MACULOSA.—(*Spotted Burbot, Methy, Dog Fish, Eel-Pout, Ling, &c.*)—Body strong, compressed, anguilliform. Head broad, depressed; scales minute, round, deeply imbedded; eyes small, oval. Colour deep Chestnut brown, marbled with lighter spots. About two feet in length; abundant in Erie and Ontario and the St. Lawrence. It is very voracious, feeding on cray-fish and all kinds of small fish, but worthless as food, even the Arctic dogs refusing it. Their livers and roe however are considered palatable. According to Dr. Richardson, it is very common in every lake and river from the great Lakes to the frozen Ocean. It is frequently taken with the abdomen so much distended with food, as to give it the appearance of the globe or toad fish. Thompson says of one he examined, that it was so filled with fish, that their tails were actually visible in its mouth, and he found no less than ten dace (*LEUCISCUS PULCHELLUS*) inside it, none of which were less than four inches in length.

LOTA COMPRESSA.—(*Lesser Eel-Pout.*)—Body much compressed, becoming more so until the caudal fin appears like a membranous continuation of the body. The upper jaw is the longest; the second dorsal fin is continued to and joins the caudal fin, which is rounded. Its colour is a yellowish brown, varied with darker spots. The edges of all the fins are bordered with black; length from six to eight inches. It is found in the same localities as the preceding, preferring a soft muddy bottom, or deep swamp outlet.

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