

hind : heavily it flaps along, finally alighting at the edge of the lake, or upon the branch of a tree, where it remains so motionless as to resemble a piece of water-worn wood, and this deceptive appearance is doubtless of benefit to the bird in procuring its piscivorous food.

In the afternoon of this day we visited Ragged and Porcupine lakes, the latter of these being immediately in the outskirts of the Park ; and the former is connected with it by a rapid and picturesque stream, continued by a long water course plenteously studded with lilies.

In Ragged Lake, in deep water, we found a Ling or Burbot (*Lota maculosa*), which species of fish is the sole fresh water representative of the *Gadidae*, or the fishes of the cod family, in our Dominion.² The ling is elongated in shape, having two small barbels at the nostrils, and a longer one at the edge of the lower jaw. There are two dorsal fins, the first very short and the second very long ; and one anal fin which corresponds with the second dorsal in structure and plan. The caudal fin is barely attached to the second dorsal and anal, and is rounded at the extremity. The ventral fins, as in the cod and haddock, are jugular, or placed before the pectorals. The ling has scales but they are very minute and embedded in the skin, so that casually it might be mistaken for a scaleless fish.

As we were returning to the hut, we saw a skunk at the top of a timber-slide, which connects Ragged and Smoke lakes ; and the pleasure of seeing this beautiful creature in its native haunts was not accompanied with any pestiferous odour, the way, usually, in which most persons are made aware that that unpopular member of the *Mustelidae* is in the neighborhood. The Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) is coloured black, and diversified with white down its sides, behind the head, and at the tip of the tail. It is subject, however, to variation, and this individual was very beautiful, because a great portion of the tail was waved with white. It was not in a hurry to get out of the way, as the porcupines were : the well known reason of this leisurely habit being on account of the

²The tomcod (*Microgadus*) might be considered an exception, but it is anadromous (or merely ascends rivers to spawn), its environment, ordinarily, being in salt or brackish water.