

The Loche (*Gallus Barbatula*), called also the "fresh-water cod," is found commonly in the lakes and rivers. The liver, like that of the true cod, is the sole or chief depository of its fat. A fish, on the whole, of very little mark.

The Pike or jack-fish, common on the East side of the Rocky Mountains, is not found in the British Columbia waters; and, I need not add, is not regretted.

There are immense numbers of Carp of several varieties. These, when they enter the streams from the lakes to spawn, commencing in April, are caught by the natives with ingenious weirs, and sun-dried in vast quantities.

This Sturgeon of British Columbia (*Acipenser transmontanus* of Richardson) differs widely in all respects from the common Sturgeon of the Atlantic (*A. Sturio*). This noble fish is common both to the Columbia and Fraser River, but does not by the former stream penetrate to the British Columbia frontier—interrupted, apparently, by the Kettle Fall at Colville, near to which point some have been known to reach. The fish appears in Fraser River in early spring, following the shoals of a certain small fish, called by the natives Oolâ-han, as they resort to the lower parts to spawn. The Western Sturgeon attains an enormous size: in the upper parts of Fraser River, above Stuart's and Fraser's Lakes, having been caught weighing as much as seven or eight hundred pounds. These fish do not, there is reason to believe, always return to the sea, but, finding abundant food in the upper waters, continue to dwell and propagate there, frequenting chiefly the neighbourhood of the two lakes mentioned, and probably other localities. Unlike the Salmon, which commonly deteriorate as they ascend, the Sturgeon conversely improve, and are invariably fatter when caught in the upper waters than in the vicinity of the sea. On the Lower Fraser these fish are caught by the natives in a singular but very efficacious manner. A canoe, manned by two persons, one of whom acts merely to keep the light vessel in position, is suffered to drift along the deepest channel. The fisherman, seated in the bow, is armed with a jointed staff which may be lengthened at pleasure, and to the end of which a barbed harpoon attached to a cord is loosely affixed. With this he feels his way, keeping the point of his weapon constantly within a short distance of the bottom. The fish, slowly swimming upwards, is detected by the touch, and, instantly struck, is afterwards readily secured. In the Upper Fraser the bait is chiefly employed, but in the larger eddies strong nets are found very effective. At the effluence of Lakes Stuart and Fraser, near which the Hudson's Bay's Company's posts are situated, long stake-nets are set during spring and summer, by means of which a fish is occasionally caught, the more highly prized for its comparative rarity; for while the sturgeon grows to larger dimensions in these vicinities, it is very much rarer than in the lower parts of the river.

The salmon entering Fraser River are of several varieties, making their appearance successively at various periods from early spring till the end of summer. As a general rule, it may be asserted that the earlier shoals are the stronger and richer fish. For clearness' sake I shall confine my remarks chiefly to two principal varieties, called by the lower Indians *Saw-quâi* and *Suck-kâi*, by the upper Indians *Kase* and *Tâ-lo*, by which latter names I shall distinguish them. The first, equal in size and quality to the large salmon of Europe, enter the Fraser in May; the latter, a very much smaller and not so rich a fish, arriving a month or so later. In the lower part of the river the natives secure them in large quantities by means of drift-nets. Higher up, scoop-nets are chiefly used, which are wrought from staves suspended from the rocks bordering on rapid currents; and above Alexandria the Tâcully tribe construct ingenious weirs for their capture. The *Kase*, entering the river as above noted in May, are caught at Alexandria in the beginning of July, though a shoal, resorting to a small tributary called the Nascôh, passes upward at an earlier date. The *Tâ-lo*, arriving at Alexandria later, never reach the neighbourhood of Stuart's or Fraser's Lake before the first week in August; preceded shortly by the *Kase*.

To those conversant with the habits of the European salmon it is superfluous to mention that each shoal as it ascends strives perseveringly and with unerring instinct to reach, for its spawning-ground, the spot where itself was generated. The course of the