

a pile or stone with his tail, its strength is such that woe to the tackle, unless of the strongest description ; and it is only by patiently waiting till the fish disentangles itself, that the prize can be secured. The *Silver Eel* is only a variety, though by some it is mentioned as a different species ; it is silver grey above, clear white satiny abdomen. This is doubtless the *ANGUILLA ARGENTEA* of Leclaire.

ANGUILLA BOSTONIENSIS.—Greyish brown above, grey beneath. Vent, yellowish ochre ; about twenty-four inches long ; a line of red about the tail ; not at all common.

ORDER ELEUTHEROPOMI.

FAMILY STURIONIDÆ.—GENUS ACCIPENSER.—*ACCIPENSER RUBICUNDUS*.—(*Lake Sturgeon*).—Body most elevated at the nape of the neck. Head flat, obliquely descending to the end of the snout ; covered with rough radiated bony plates. Eyes round, with vertical pupil. Four barbels transversely arranged under snout. Dorsal fin, a series of tubercles nine in number, broad and flat, little elevated ; lateral series, thirty-nine in number, lozenge shaped ; the skin covered with minute prickles. Length, four to six feet. Colour of the back, yellowish red, of the sides olivaceous red. Bones cartilaginous, the backbone being like a long piece of gristle. They abound in all the large lakes and rivers. Its flesh if properly cooked is very good, resembling veal more than fish ; it is generally cut into steaks and fried. In New York it is vulgarly called “Albany Beef,” from the numbers taken at that part of the Hudson river. Before cooking, the skin should always be taken off, as the oil in it is very strong. Charlevoix thus describes the Indian mode of capture : “two men placed themselves in each end of a canoe, the one behind steered, the other stood holding a dart in one hand to which one end of a long cord was fastened, and the other end to the canoe. When he saw a sturgeon within his reach he threw his dart, and endeavoured to strike where there was no scales. If the fish was wounded he darted off, drawing the canoe swiftly after him, but after swimming about 150 paces, the fish generally became exhausted and died, and was then drawn into the canoe by hand.”

ACCIPENSER OXYRHYNCHUS.—(*Sharp Nosed Sturgeon*).—Body elongated, tapering ; form pentagonal. The angles covered with rough and bony radiated plates. The rest of the skin roughened by small scabrous particles of bony matter, resembling the spiculae of minute

French
Known
Englis
the ord
the ge
This sp
pe (Ad
sueur
The or
at. It
to num
dy in
ath the
t. Th
orals sh
upper l
ies of s
The fl
Canada.
ed and
y strea
pity.
There
ded an
body.
ty of e
Sturg
ch the
Sturg
I hop
n order