

ignorant as fall shad, to which it bears some resemblance. The mossbonker is exclusively a sea fish, never entering the fresh water.

Species 4.—*Alosa mattowaca*—The Autumnal Herring.

Dr. DeKay says the autumnal, or fall herring, or "shad herring," is a common fish at New York; he has adopted the designation of that excellent naturalist Dr. Mitchell, who having first observed this fish at Long Island, near New York, conferred upon it the aboriginal name of the Island—*Mattowaka*.

A careful examination has been made of the "Quoddy herring," taken near Campo Bello, and it has been found to correspond so exactly with the description given by Dr. DeKay, that the writer, until better informed, ventures to class it as a member of the shad family. In flavour and excellence, it ranks only second to the best shad of the Petitcodiac. It is exclusively a sea fish.

All the members of the shad family are serrated, or toothed like a saw, on the belly, which is carinate, or shaped like a keel.

ORDER 3.—Fishes with ventrals under the pectorals, and the pelvis suspended to the shoulder bones.

Family 1.—GADIDÆ.

This family is one of the most important to man in the whole class of fishes.

Genus 1.—*Morrhua*—The Cod.

Species 1.—*Morrhua vulgaris*—The common Cod.

Species 2.—*Morrhua Americana*—The American Cod.

The first of these two species is the common cod of Newfoundland, well known as an article of food, the wide world over. Among fishermen, it is designated the bank cod; it is taken in deep water off the coast of Nova Scotia, and also in the entrance to the Bay of Fundy, between Brier Island and Grand Manan. It is always a thick, well-fed fish, and often attains a great weight, sometimes 70 or 80 pounds, and even more. The colour varies much in individuals, but is generally a greenish brown, fading into ash colour when the fish is dead, with many reddish yellow spots; the belly, silvery opaque white; the fins, pale green; the lateral line, dead white.

This fish is taken from the coast of Maine northwardly, as far as man has penetrated. Captain James C. Ross states, that on the west coast of Greenland, in latitude 66° 30' north, a number of very fine codfish were caught by the crew of the "Victory," on a bank consisting of small stones, coarse sand,