

hassar; a fish which builds a nest as carefully as the stickleback, though one "not placed in the water but in a muddy hole just above the surface." Whether we have gold fish or not in the aquarium, is a matter of taste, some persons thinking that they give the aquarium a common fish-globe look. It seems to me if we can get some small ones of a brilliant colour, and of good proportions, we should be glad to receive them into the tank. The great trouble with gold fish is that they are so apt to be deformed, some with the gaunt look of a starved fish, others with a hump on the back or a larger or smaller number of fins than usual. Gold fish would be worth keeping in the aquarium for their remarkable colour alone, if for nothing more.

Small eels and horned pouts add to the variety of fishes in the aquarium, but both are so uneasy and so very voracious that they are not pleasing inmates of the tank; wandering up and down the sides of the tank, they seem discontented and ill at ease.—Young alewives are so beautiful that one is tempted to try them in the aquarium; rarely do they flourish in it.

One of the most interesting animals for the aquarium is the triton, or water-newt; these tritons are often found in what are called, in the country, pond-holes, seldom in brooks or ponds; they are perfectly harmless and will remain on the warm hand as long as one has patience to hold them; they come up to the surface to breathe, and therefore do not consume much oxygen; they are perfectly hardy and easy to keep alive, eating small pieces of beef eagerly; they occasionally change their skins, bringing the old skin over their heads, and then swallowing it just as the toads do. Their odd motions in the water, often poisoning themselves on the end of the tail or on one toe, are very amusing. They lay their eggs in the early spring either on or between the leaves of water-plants. By the middle of August the young are nearly two inches long; they breathe at first with gills, but by September they come to the surface for air, as the older ones do. These tritons outlive all the other specimens in the tank, and they live so peaceably with their companions that they are invaluable as aquarial specimens.—*C. B. Brigham, in American Naturalist.*