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seal snatched the fish from his hands, and swam away amid the shouts of laughter from the lookers-on.

A few days later, presumably the same seal appeared off the wharf where several anglers were fishing, and deftly carried off their bait without being hooked. In the latter sport the seal was joined by a black diver—a bird with a long, snake-like neck and pointed bill—which was as much at home beneath the water as above, and which watched the fishermen with eager glance. The moment the bait struck the water the bird plunged beneath the surface and seized it. Finally it was hooked and hauled ashore—an operation which did not prevent it, on being released, from renewing the pilfering on the following day.

A fisherman on the Maine coast once claimed to own a remarkable pet, though it must be confessed that the question of proprietorship was open to doubt. The man was in the habit of fishing about ten miles off shore on what was known as the cod banks, and often took fish of little use, which he tossed over. One day he noticed a tunny playing about the boat, and, tossing a dogfish at it, he was surprised to see the big fish turn and seize it. Wishing to see how near the fish would approach, he threw another, bringing the tunny within a few feet of him. On another day he saw what he assumed was the same fish in the same locality, and fed it again, repeating the act until the fish displayed no fear, and finally approached to the very side of the boat. The writer once had a number of singular pets in the guise of loggerhead turtles. He had led an expedition to capture them on Loggerhead Key, about seventy miles from Cuba—a locality somewhat remarkable for the animals—and gradually they had accumulated until nearly a dozen were living in an inclosure about sixty feet wide and an eighth of a mile long, into which the sea-water flowed freely.

It was desirable to learn whether

the turtles were susceptible to the taming process, so a system of education was begun that was fruitful of some exciting episodes. The turtles, when not feeding, lay at the bottom in water eight or ten feet deep, their huge bodies plainly outlined against the sand. Here they undoubtedly slept or dozed, and it was comparatively an easy matter to swim down and grasp them from behind by the back of the shell just over the head. The moment the turtle felt the grasp it bounded to the surface and took a long breath, then dived again, dragging the rider along at a rapid pace, now under water, again at the surface, endeavoring in vain to shake off by desperate plunges the enemy, who, like the old man of the sea, clung closely to its back. If the turtle had been left to its own devices, it would soon have escaped; but by placing the knees upon its back enough resistance was brought into play to force it to the surface, and after a number of rushes up and down the inclosure it was reduced to submission. This experiment was tried many times with a view to domesticating the huge loggerheads, who finally apparently submitted with some degree of grace to the daily exercise, and would gather at one end of the inclosure to be fed.

The strength of these reptiles was marvelous. Not only could one of the largest size tow a man through the water and beneath it, but when two were fastened in a rude canvas harness and attached to a flatboat, they towed it round for an indefinite period; and when the first fright was overcome, they swam along nonchalantly, as though they rather enjoyed it.

A resident on the Hudson River once conceived the idea of training several sturgeons. Adjoining his place was a lake or pond that was connected with the river, and, noticing that large sturgeons came into it at various times, he watched until several were within, then stopped the entrance and kept three or four of the largest fish prisoners in water less than five