

Society mentions having taken a climbing perch in the act of ascending a palm-tree which grew near a pond. "The fish had reached a height of five feet above the water, and was going still higher."* Furthermore, Drs. Parker and Haswell in their "Text-Book of Zoology" state that the climbing perch "has become so thoroughly a land animal that it is drowned if immersed in water."

There are also certain gobies of the Indo-Pacific which move about over the ground at low tide in search of their food, and take rapid leaps to escape danger. It has been asserted of these also that they would drown if forced for an indefinite time to remain under water. One of those gobies I have myself seen resting on a moist object in its aquarium.

Whilst engaged in some Fisheries matters, at the Trent River, Ontario, a few years ago I had some fishes boxed up and expressed to Ottawa. On opening the box on my arrival I found some of the mud-pouts still alive and when replaced in water they were soon themselves again; and whilst turning over moist stones along the shore at the west side of Vancouver Island I was surprised to find numerous little frisky, elongated, and compressed fishes which were there awaiting the return of the tide.

FISHES WITH BOTH EYES ON THE SAME SIDE OF THE HEAD.

There are instances of distortion in nature. I mean by this term not some individual freak, but a distortion brought about by a modification of structure permanently affecting a whole group of creatures. The flat-fishes, which are very compressed, are an instance of this. When the newly hatched halibut, or the plaice, or the flounder, has left the egg, it is essentially just like any other fish, with an eye on either side of the head. Very soon, however, the eye of one side, in certain kinds the right in others the left, moves around to meet its fellow, thus leaving one side of the fish eyeless and blind. The jaws also undergo distortion, and the eyeless side remains whitish like the under parts of other fishes, whilst the eyed side becomes covered with pigment coloring substance. The fish then lies on the blind side, which serves the same purpose as the under part of fishes in general.

*Dr. Günther: 'An Introduction to the Study of Fishes,' p. 516.