

have been taken, though seldom, at Montreal. The specific name Tom Codus of Mitchell, has frequently been made the subject of animated discussion; it ranks with catus, rattus, &c! It is caught in large quantities during the winter, by cutting a hole in the ice, and lowering a deep net, or even a basket, baited with offal; this being drawn up rapidly every three or four minutes is sure to enclose more or less of these fish, if at all numerous. This method is also adopted from the wharves on the Hudson river, and with great success; as many as twelve or fifteen being captured at a single haul. The best bait for it is the hard-shell clam. In the St. Lawrence below Montreal, they are so numerous that they are frequently brought to market, although some are taken weighing as much as fifteen and twenty pounds.

Its color is greyish blue or yellowish brown above, with grey spots before the sides and belly white.

One of the two specimens I studied, which had been caught in the St. Lawrence nine inches and a half long, and two inches and a quarter thick. The fin rays are as follows :

D. 13.0; P. 15; V. 12; A. 13; C.  $19\frac{6}{8}$ .

The other specimen measured twelve inches, and was three and a half inches long. Fins: D. 14.0; P. 14; V. 11; A. 13; C.  $19\frac{6}{8}$ . Caudals forked.

As in the other species of the family of *Salmonidæ*, the second dorsal of the fish is formed of an adipose substance, without rays.

MORRHUA PRUINOSA. GADUS TOMCODUS.

*French—Petite Morue. Improperly called Loche, in the lower parishes, and on the coast of Gaspé.* (Lesser *Loche* out.)—Body much compressed, becoming more so until the caudal fin appears like a membranous continuation of the body. The upper jaw is the longest; the second dorsal fin is continued to and joins the caudal fin, which is rounded. Its colour is a yellowish brown, varied with darker spots. The edges of all the fins are bordered with black; length from six to eight inches. It is found in the same localities as the preceding, preferring a soft muddy bottom, or deep swamp outlet.