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## PADDLE-NOSED STURGEON IN ONTARIO.

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The late Mr. A. N. Montpetit in his work "Les Poissons d'Eau Douce du Canada," referred to a specimen of the Paddle-nosed Sturgeon (*Polyodon spathula*, Walb.) shown in the Fisheries Museum, Ottawa. "Ai-je besoin de répéter qu'il est unique au Canada," he wrote. "Faut-il vous le décrire? Couleur olive un peu pâle; opercule démesurément allongé en point, atteignant presque les ventrales; . . . . la tête, y compris la spatule et les pointes operculaires, presque plus de la moitié de la longueur du corps: la tête seule n'est égale qu' à la cinquième partie." The specimen described is indeed remarkable enough to call for special notice, for the records of the capture of *Polyodon* in Canadian waters are extremely few. I have not been able to obtain information of more than four specimens ever having been secured. About the end of May an Indian captured a fine specimen in Lake Helen, Nipigon River, Lake Superior, and on account of the uncommon interest to naturalists of such an event, I venture to offer a few remarks upon this rare and curious Canadian fish. The mounted specimen in the government collection was obtained over twenty years ago, and I have been informed by a fisherman at Sarnia that a second specimen was procured about the same time. A specimen is also recorded from Lake Erie; but hitherto none have been secured in Lake Superior, and the example recently shipped to Ottawa is of special interest as extending the range of this rare fish westward. It was sent fresh; but on examination its condition was such that it could not be preserved, and even the skeleton, being mainly of cartilage, is difficult to prepare as a museum ex-