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ARTICLE XXVIII.—*On the Natural History of the Salmon, (Salmo salar,) with remarks upon its economical importance and preservation; By FRANK FORELLE. Written for the Canadian Naturalist and Geologist.*

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The Salmon is a fresh-water fish. It passes the whole of the first year of its life and two-thirds of every other in the fresh water, making annual and sometimes bi-annual migrations to the sea. It may be that we do not yet fully know why they make these visits to the sea, but their chief object seems to be food of different quality and perhaps greater quantity than can be found in fresh water. This opinion is based upon the fact that after its first year the Salmon never increases in size while in fresh water; but, on the contrary, diminishes gradually every day, both in muscle and fat, after coming from the ocean.

There is no fish that in beauty or flavor can compare with a Salmon when fresh from the sea, for then he is in the highest condition, and may be well esteemed by both sportsman and epicure as the king of fishes. At this time, the color along the back is a bluish black, with green reflections, which diminishes in intensity as it approaches the lateral line; below this, it is a clear silvery white. The head is somewhat darker than the back. The dorsal, pectoral, and caudal fins are a dusky black, the ventrals are light-colored, and the anals are silvery white, like the belly. There are usually a