

Pryce-Tannatt Fishing Album
 Dr Edwin Pryce-Tannatt

£990

greater popularity than he had of old. The further you go back in the literature of fishing the

... some three centuries, being repeated over and over again by the less original writers. The trout of the *Treatise* is "a right delectuous fysh and also a ryght fervente

... in a great deale of faire and cleane water, but in a hand not very charly. The poet John Dunnes is not very prodigal of novel ideas,

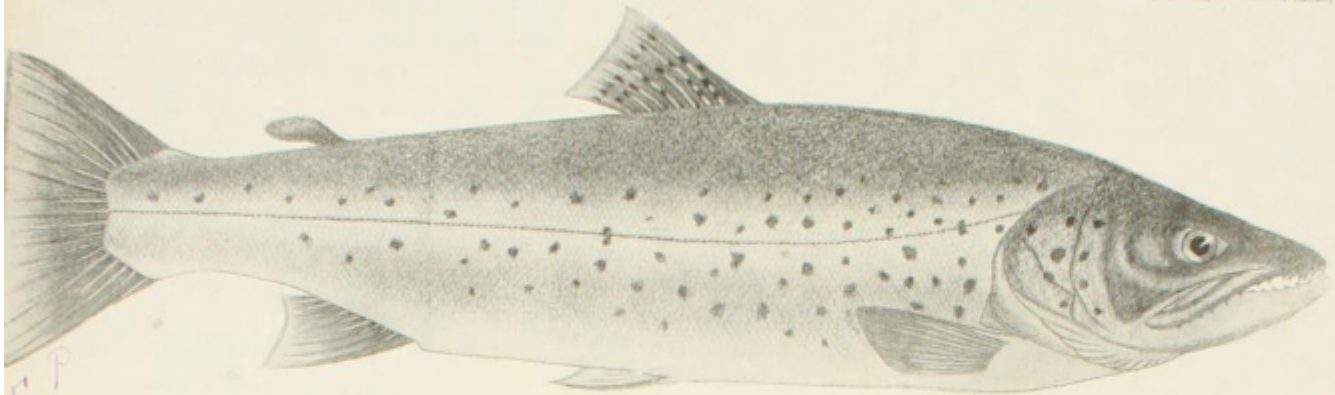


Fig. 5. S. FEROX.
 From *Schottens Atlas*, 212a. 1892.

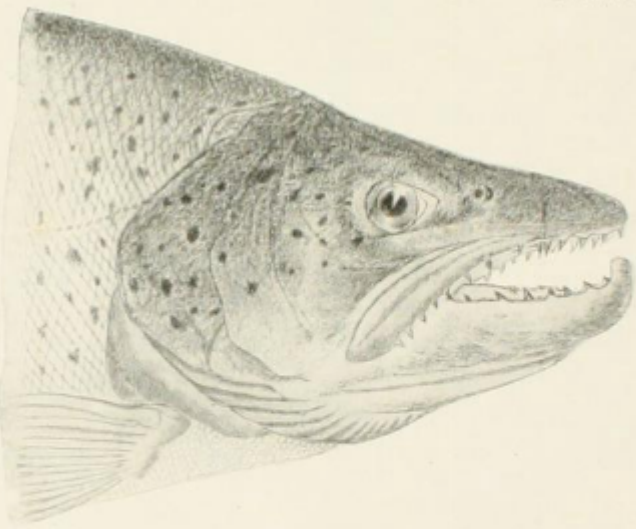
... prominent the trout is found. His beginnings as a salt for writers are very obscure. He first appears, probably, in the writing of *Ælian*, about the third century, in a memorable passage which is the earliest reference in nature to fishing with the artificial fly. *Ælian* tells how Macedonians who lived on the river *Asdrarus* were in the habit of catching a certain fish by taking advantage of its dress for the "hippurus," a fly resembling a horse. An artificial fly like it was dressed with coloured wool and then, and the fish were caught on a short rod and line. They are described as being "spotted," and this, together with the mode of capture, makes it likely that they were trout, or at any rate salmonids of some kind. The next recognizable appearance of the trout in literature seems to be in the poetry of *Ausonius* (ca. 317 A.D.). In his long epy of the river *Moselle*, "Mosella," he devotes a good

... byer. . . . Ye may angle to hys all tymes with a grounde tyme (yonge or renyunge); sayyng in sepyunge tyme, and thence with a dubbe."

Thanks to Dr Turrell, whose interesting little volume *Ancient Angling Authors* should be on every angler's shelves, it is now possible to make acquaintance with John Taverner's *Certaine Experiments Concerning Fish and Fruite*, a book which appeared in 1600, and is now so rare as to be almost

... but here and there he has a suggestive line. The little basket in which dappers on Irish loughs keep their Mayflies seems to be anticipated here:

A little box that covered those shall lye,
 To keepe therein the busie winged flye.
 And when he comes to treat of chub and trout he lays stress on the need for keeping out of sight and on a rod of dark



SIR HUMPHREY DAVY'S TROUT.
 From *Schottens*, 2nd edition, 1878.

... lines to fish and fishing, and both describes and names trout, "Salar, starred on the flanks with crimson spots." Salmon ("Salmo") is also described, and stress is laid on pink flesh. There is also a third species which he names "S."

Teges inter species conmixta, neutrumque, ut utrumque, (Salar) nomen Salmo, nec jam Salar, ambiguumque Anhorus modo Paris intercepto est? "

a fish, which is neither salmon nor trout and yet has the nature of both and is captured at a middle age between trout and salmon. It is assumed by Day and others to have been the sea trout. In the Delphine edition of *Ausonius* (Paris, 1750) it is suggested that the poet perhaps meant to apply the three names to three stages of the same fish, much as to-day we speak of parr, culter, and salmon.

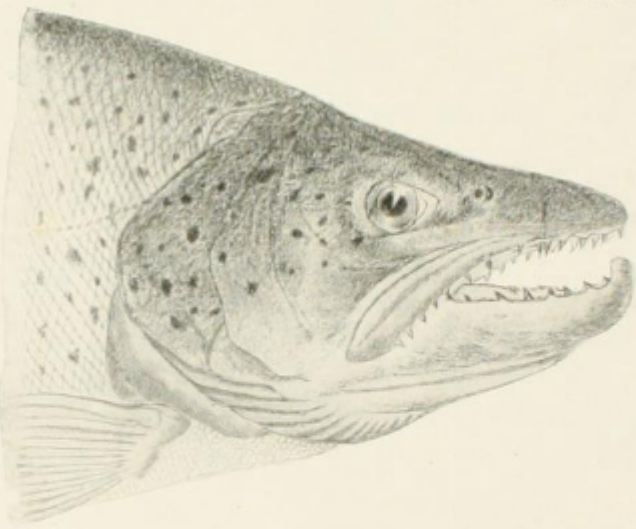


Fig. 6. S. FEROX.
 Head of same from *Lough Meelin*.

... inaccessible. Dr Turrell gives some extracts from it, and shows that Taverner is entitled to much credit for originality. He is indeed about the only writer to say anything new of colour "the lesse to feare the wasie fish withall." W. Lanson, who edited the later editions of the poem and

REF: 23055

Height: 44.5 cm (17.5")

Width: 32 cm (12.6")

Description

Pryce-Tannatt personal fishing album of 'The Field'. Taken from editions of 1911/12 and bound in a dark cloth hardback binding. The contents relates to fishing tackle and fly tying, also loose in the album are extracts from 1951 'The Field' relating to P-T and his fly tying methods.

Dr Edwin Pryce-Tannatt was a self-taught fly dresser who is arguably the most important of the last century. His flies are outstanding in quality, colour and the finished detail is remarkable. P-T is the most respected of past fly dressers within the related guilds and associations and for any fly dresser his book 'How to Dress Salmon Flies' is a must.