

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 more you find the same names, 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" and that in cold weather, and may be not handled with hands, but in a hand not very charyly. The poet John Dunns is not very prodigal of novel ideas.

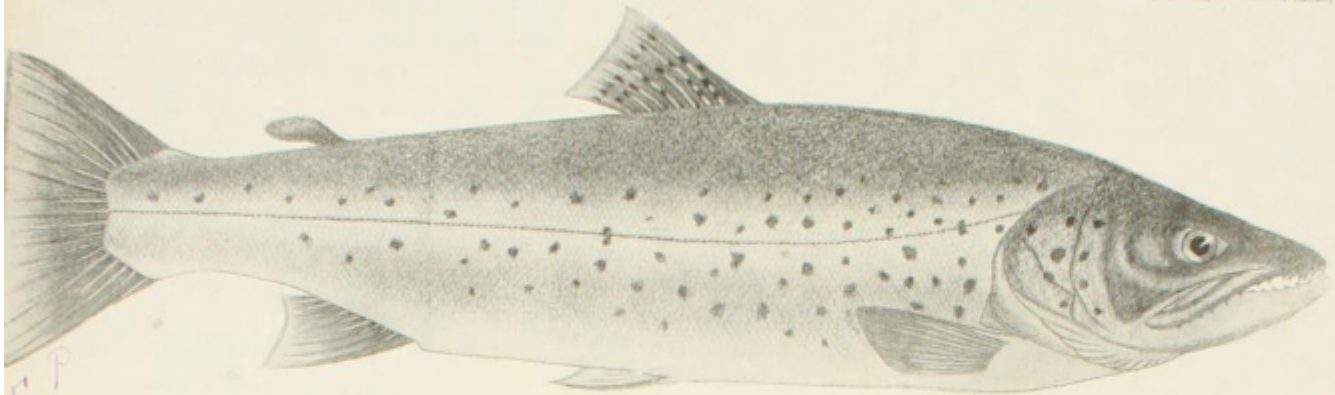


Fig. 5. S. FEROX.
 From *Süßwasserfauna*, 212a. fig.

... prominent the trout is found. His beginnings as a subject 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 literature to fishing with the artificial fly. *Ælian* tells how the Macedonians who lived on the river *Asdrurus* 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 goodly space to the trout. . . . Ye may angle to hym all tymes with a grounde lyme (lymge or rennyng); sayyng in leryunge lymme, and thenne 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 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 the trout. . . . 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

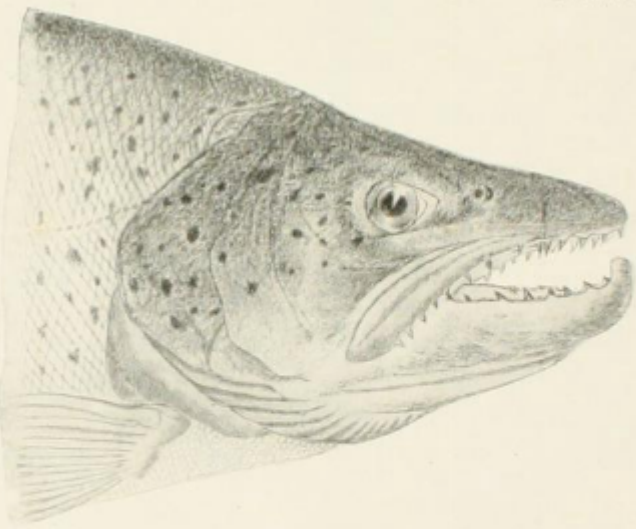


Fig. 6. S. FEROX.
 Head of same from *Lough Meelin*.

SIR HUMPHREY DAVY'S TROUT.
 From *Salmos*, 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 the fact that it is a fish. There is also a third species which he names "Salmo".

Taverner inter species comans, neutrumque, ut utrumque, quod necesse Salmo, nec jam Salar, ambiguumque Anhorus medio Parto intercepto est non?

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

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 the trout. . . . 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.