

article of commerce, and sent in well-boats to Sweden and Russia. The merchants purchase them out of the waters of the noblesse of the country, who draw a good revenue from this article. They are also sometimes found in the harbour of Dantzic.

Carp live very long. Gesner relates an instance of one that was near a hundred years old. They also grow to such a size, that authors speak of carp weighing 200 pounds weight, and five feet in length. The carp is a prodigious breeder; its quantity of roe has been found sometimes so great, that when taken out, and weighed against the fish itself, the former has preponderated.

From the spawn of this fish, caviare is made for the Jews, who hold the sturgeon in abhorrence. The carp is extremely cunning, and on that account is sometimes styled the *river-fox*. They will often leap over the nets, and in that manner escape; at other times, they will immerse themselves so deep in the mud as to let the net pass over them. They are also very shy in taking a bait; yet at the spawning time they are so simple as to suffer themselves to be tickled, handled, and caught by any body who will attempt it.

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