

water. They will also feed on the water plant *lemna*, (duck's meat,) and also on small fry.

When they want to move a little, they gently protrude themselves with their pectoral fins; but it is with their strong muscular tails only that they and all fish shoot along with such inconceivable rapidity. In these vessels, the dying of fish may be observed with accuracy: as soon as the creature sickens, the head sinks lower and lower, till at last it stands as it were upon it; then getting weaker, and losing all poise, the tail turns over, and at last it floats on the surface of the water, with its belly uppermost. The reason why fish, when dead, swim in this manner, is obvious; because, when the body is no longer balanced by the fins of the belly, the broad muscular back preponderates by its own gravity, and turns the belly uppermost, as lighter, from its being a cavity, and because it contains the swimming bladders, which contribute to render it buoyant.

It has been generally said, that the eyes of fish are immoveable; but these fish apparently turn them forward or backward in their sockets, as their occasions require. They take little notice of a lighted candle, though applied close to their heads, but flounce and
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