

Frederick the Second, in 1487, a period of two hundred and sixty-seven years. It is described as being nineteen feet long, and weighing three hundred and fifty pounds!!

Though the animals of the Class under consideration are not generally remarkable for their sagacity, yet they are capable of instruction. Lacepede relates that some, which for more than a century had been kept in the basin of the Tuilleries, would come when they were called by their names; and that in many parts of Germany, trout, carp, and tench are summoned to their food by the sound of a bell.\*

At the first blush it seems as if fishes took little care or thought for their offspring; but when we inquire into the subject, we find them assiduous to deposit their eggs in such situations as are best calculated to ensure their hatching, and to supply the wants of their young when hatched; but sometimes they go further, and prepare regular *nests* for their young. Two species, called by the Indians, though of different genera,† by the name of the *flat-head* and *round-head hassar*, have this instinct, and construct a nest, the former of leaves and the latter of grass, in which they deposit their eggs, and then cover them very carefully; and both sexes, for they are monogamous, watch and defend them till the young come forth. General Hardwicke mentions a parallel instance in the *goramy*,‡ of the Isle of France, a fish of the size of the turbot, and superior to it in flavour, cultivated in the ponds of that island.

It has been observed that some fishes, when dead, emit a phosphoric light. I have particularly noticed this in the mackarel, but others do this when living. The *sun-fish*§ which sometimes has been found of an enormous bulk,||

\* Hist. des Poiss. Introd. cxxx.

† Doras and Callicthys.

‡ *Osphromenus olfax*.

§ Mola.

|| One is said to have been caught in the Irish Sea twenty-five feet long!!—Lacep. Hist. 511.