

'fisher-fish,' formerly employed by the Cubans, by means of the flattened disc on his head, furnished with suckers, fixed himself on the shell of the sea-turtle, which is so common in the narrow and winding channels of the Jardinillos. "The *revès*," says Christopher Columbus, "will sooner suffer himself to be cut in pieces than let go the body to which he adheres." The Indians drew to the shore by the same cord, the fisher-fish and the turtle. When Gomara, and the learned secretary of the emperor Charles V., Peter Martyr d'Anghiera, promulgated in Europe this fact which they had learnt from the companions of Columbus, it was received as a traveller's tale. There is indeed an air of the marvellous in the recital of d'Anghiera, which begins in these words: "Non aliter ac nos canibus gallicis per æquora campi lepores insectamur, incolæ [Cubæ insulæ] venatorio pisce pisces alios capiebant." (Exactly as we follow hares with greyhounds in the fields, so do the natives [of Cuba] take fishes with other fish trained for that purpose). We now know, from the united testimony of Rogers, Dampier, and Commerson, that the artifice resorted to in the Jardinillos to catch turtles, is employed by the inhabitants of the eastern coast of Africa, near Cape Natal, at Mozambique, and at Madagascar. In Egypt, at San Domingo, and in the lakes of the valley of Mexico, the method practised for catching ducks was as follows:—men, whose heads were covered with great calabashes pierced with holes, hid themselves in the water, and seized the birds by the feet. The Chinese, from the remotest antiquity, have employed the cormorant, a bird of the pelican family, for fishing on the coast: rings are fixed round the bird's neck to prevent him from swallowing his prey, and fishing for himself. In the lowest degree of civilization, the sagacity of man is displayed in the stratagems of hunting and fishing: nations, who probably never had any communication with each other, furnish the most striking analogies in the means they employ in exercising their empire over animals.

I lost that part of my journal. It is doubtless the fear of danger that causes the remora not to loose his hold when he feels that he is pulled by a cord, or by the hand of man. The *sucet* spoken of by Columbus and Martin d'Anghiera, was probably the *Echeneis naucrates* and not the *Echeneis remora*.