SPINNING TACKLE: WHAT IT IS, AND WHAT IT OUGHT TO BE: AN ENTIRELY NEW METHOD OF SPINNING FOR PIKE

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Spinning Tackle: what it is, and what it ought to be: an entirely new method of spinning for pike
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HOW TO SPIN FOR PIKE.

SPINNING-TACKLE:

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AN ENTIRELY NEW METHOD OF
SPINNING FOR PIKE.

SECOND EDITION,
Enlarged.

BY

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SPINNING-TACKLE:

ITS

Defects and Remedies.

FROM its almost universal adaptation to English waters, the spinning-bait occupies a place second only to the fly in the angler's *vademecum;* and whether it is regarded simply as the most effectual means of filling the basket, or in a more sportsmanlike and scientific point of view, it is fairly entitled to the position.

Spinning is the only method of angling now in vogue which, whilst applicable equally to running and still waters, summer and winter, will afford sport with all of the four descriptions of fish most abounding in British Islands—Pike, Salmon, Trout, and Perch. It is also a point strongly in

favour of spinning, that whilst every other fishing—excepting always the fly—is dependent upon the supply of baits to be procured, spinning may be advantageously practised, with artificial appliances, in localities where natural baits are not obtainable.

Spinning is, moreover, much less liable to be affected by changes of wind and weather than either fly-fishing or bottom-fishing, and, as a consequence, the averages of the year's baskets are proportionably less variable. The spinner is seldom obliged to return home entirely empty-handed. Partly from the cause above mentioned, and in a greater degree owing to the very large extent of water which may be fished in a day's work, an individual, at least, of the pike species, may generally be induced "by hook or by crook" to exchange his native element for one less suited perhaps to his tastes, though more congenial to ours.

The operations of the live-bait or the

ledger are necessarily confined within comparatively narrow limits, and are thus more dependent upon luck. Half a dozen reaches or so, are as much as can well be fished in the day with either of them, whilst, with the spinning-bait, the likely "finds" in five or six miles of water may be readily spun over in the same time.

These considerations, added to the lively and continually varying nature of the sport, have no doubt combined to make spinning the favourite mode of Jack fishing with scientific fishermen; but as every *pro* has its *con*, so there are many objections which have been hitherto urged against it with some truth, and which have probably prevented its becoming as universally popular as might otherwise have been the case. It cannot be denied, for instance, that to spin really successfully requires a larger share of skill and practice than most other modes of angling; that the tackle is ex-