

**FLOAT FISHING AND SPINNING IN  
THE NOTTINGHAM STYLE: BEING A  
TREATISE ON THE SO-CALLED  
COARSE FISHES, WITH  
INSTRUCTIONS FOR THEIR CAPTURE**

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Float fishing and spinning in the Nottingham style: being a treatise on the so-called coarse fishes, with instructions for their capture by J. W. Martin

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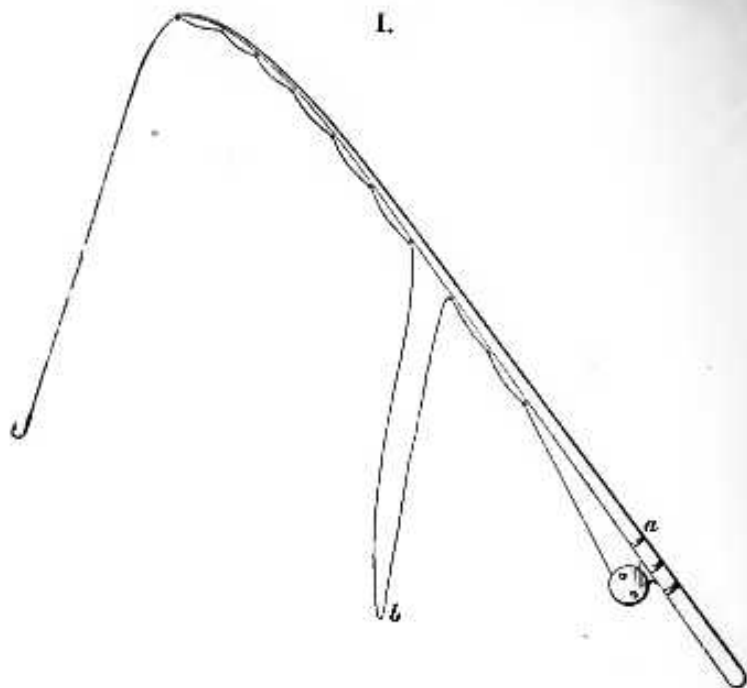
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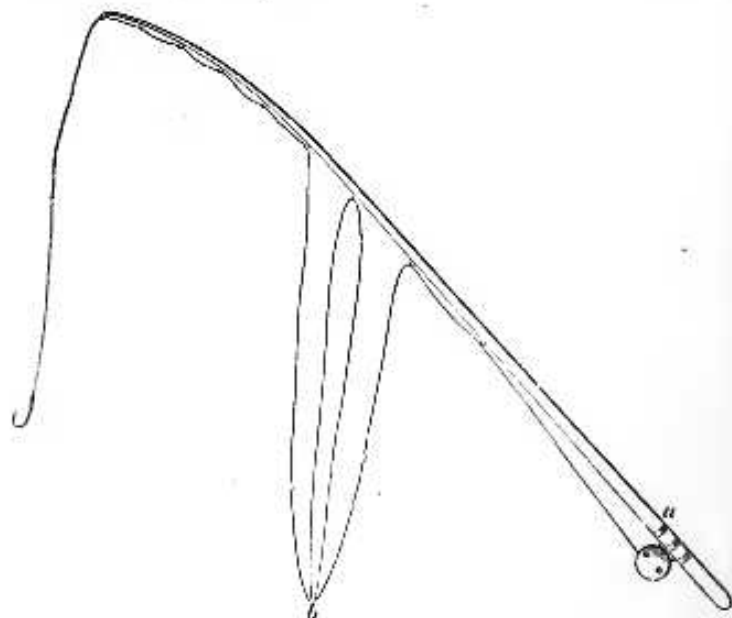
**J. W. MARTIN**

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- a. Angler's right hand holding rod just above the reel.  
 b. Angler's left hand pulling down line in order to make a cast with light tackle in Nottingham style. Page 41.



- a. Angler's right hand holding rod just above the reel.  
 b. Left hand pulling down two lengths of line in order to make extra long cast. Page 41

# FLOAT FISHING AND SPINNING

IN THE

## NOTTINGHAM STYLE.

BEING A TREATISE ON THE SO-CALLED COARSE  
FISHES, WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR  
THEIR CAPTURE.

INCLUDING

CHAPTERS ON PIKE FISHING, AND WORM FISHING  
FOR SALMON.

By J. W. MARTIN,

THE "TUNNY OYSTER."

"Ye who stand behind the counter,  
Or grow pallid at the loom,  
Leave the measure and the shuttle,  
To the rippling stream come, come."  
*The Invitation.*

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED AND ENLARGED

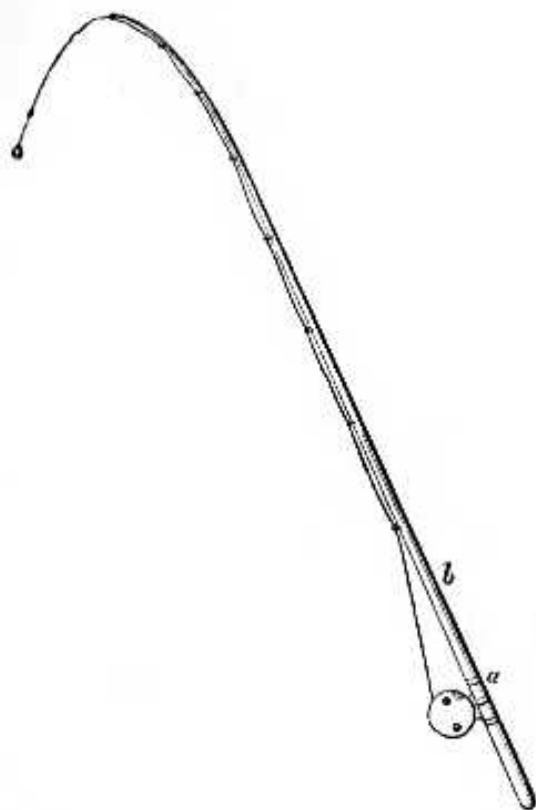
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II.



- a.* Angler's left hand holding the rod close to reel, with finger on the edge, to stop the bait.  
*b.* Angler's right hand holding rod, for making cast from the reel in Nottingham style. Page 118.





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1885

## PREFACE.

SOME may say that there is no valid reason for another book on fishing, there being so many already, but I would explain in justification that there is a vast army of working-men anglers in the kingdom, men who can only get a day's fishing occasionally, and that it is to these working-men anglers I am more particularly addressing the remarks contained in this little volume. I myself am a working man, but I have had very considerable experience in all kinds of Trent angling, when I could spare the time from my work.

The large, standard, valuable books upon angling have of necessity a vast number of pages devoted to salmon, trout, and grayling fishing, and as a natural consequence the price is so much that a working man, as a rule, cannot afford to buy them. I must confess, being a working man, I was in the same swim as my fellows in regard to these until two or three years ago, when, owing to the great kindness of some gentlemen, particularly R. B. Marston, Esq., the editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, I have become the proud and happy possessor of a few of these grand and valuable books. I have a notion that a book which contains some practical information on the art of bottom fishing would be gladly welcomed by those to whom I have referred, or by the would-be anglers generally, if it could be published in a cheap form. Now I am confident enough to hope that this volume will meet the requirements of such persons.

The instructions given here are the results of carefully-conned experience, and as the Trent angler is supposed to be the most scientific of bottom fishermen in the kingdom, I trust the novice will derive some profit from the principles I lay down. I have expended a good deal of time in the preparation of this work, but this has been given willingly, the whole task in fact having been a "labour of love." I have added a chapter on "pike fishing," and in this edition a chapter is also added on "worm fishing for salmon in the Nottingham style," under the impression that it also may be useful and interesting.

The extent of the pocket of the working-man angler has been constantly before me when describing his outfit, and there is nothing mentioned that cannot be bought or made cheaply. Perhaps, also, the better-class anglers may derive some instruction from this little book. The plainest possible language has been used, so that the veriest novice can understand what I mean, and I have been very particular in all minor details, and in describing the tackle and baits, as to how to make and find them, and when, where, and how to use them. The feature of the book is Chapter II., and I most respectfully request the reader to very carefully study that chapter, for in it will be found a full description of the outfit of a Nottingham angler, and a lot of information and recipes that will be very valuable to the fisherman.

Chapter I. contains some facts connected with the history of fishing, both ancient and modern, and also some notes on the natural history of the fish. As stated elsewhere, I am principally indebted to Mr. J. J. Manley for the latter, and also to cuttings from various papers, &c. I regret I cannot give the source in all cases from whence these were taken, but I hope I shall be pardoned where I have quoted without an acknowledgment, as the fault must be set down to inadvertence rather than design. However, I have mostly gone by my own experience in the matter, especially in the practical part of the book, and shall say no more by way of an apology, allowing my little work to stand on its merits. Please, Sir Critic, remember, nevertheless, that I am a poor working-man angler, with a very moderate education.

In conclusion, I must say that the fact of a second edition of this book being required so soon is a sufficient proof of the popularity of the "Nottingham style," and to the estimation in which that style is held by anglers in all parts of the kingdom; and I only hope that I have succeeded in my task of describing the various appliances, and the method of successfully following this scientific and deadly plan of fishing.

JOHN WILLIAM MARTIN.

*Newark, April, 1885.*