

**FAMILIAR FISH, THEIR  
HABITS AND CAPTURE:  
A PRACTICAL BOOK ON  
FRESH-WATER GAME FISH**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649146598

Familiar fish, their habits and capture: a practical book on fresh-water game fish by Eugene McCarthy

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Cover @ 2017

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**EUGENE MCCARTHY**

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FRESH-WATER GAME FISH**



THE FISH  
CATCHING  
BOOK



How not to catch fish.

guy

# FAMILIAR FISH

## THEIR HABITS AND CAPTURE

A PRACTICAL BOOK ON  
FRESH-WATER GAME FISH

BY

EUGENE McCARTHY

AUTHOR OF THE LEAPING QUANANICHE,  
A TALE OF LAKE ST. JOHN, ETC.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

DR. DAVID STARR JORDAN

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*ILLUSTRATED*



NEW YORK AND LONDON  
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY

1913

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THE  
ASSOCIATED  
PUBLISHERS

Printed in the United States of America

TO MY FRIEND

EDWIN B. HAY, Esq.,

OF WASHINGTON, D. C.,

I DEDICATE THIS VOLUME.





## PREFATORY NOTE

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"Born beneath the Fish's sign."

EVERY healthy boy, every right-minded man, and every uncaged woman feels, at one time or another, and maybe at all times, the impulse to go a-fishing. That is what fishes are for: to call us away from newspapers and counting rooms, school books and parlors and five-o'clock teas, out into the open of existence, where life is real and banks are green, skies are blue, and the birds sing in the branches over the water.

It does not matter much what fishes are in the streams. Still less is it essential that we should succeed in catching them. The main thing

is the breaking away, the going in search of them, the generous feeling of brotherhood, and that trusting of ourselves to the lap of our generous Mother, which we have inadequately called "communion with Nature."

Yet it is well to know in advance something of where we are going, what fishes we shall find, and with what means we shall call them forth to suit our pleasure. To give this is the purpose of this book. Its writer is a successful angler. He is a good fisherman. He would teach others to be successful. Not that he would train them to be "fish hogs," or teach them to make a longer string or fill a bigger basket than any hogs before them. These things are abhorred of gods and sportsmen. It is better far to lie about your great catch than to make it. The fisherman's lie is natural and sportsmanlike. His greed is not. It is, I am sure, the wish of the author that the reader should make his catch in sportsmanlike fashion, that he should learn to love the streams and their inhabitants, and that so loving, as the seasons go on, he should return to river, rod, and fly again and again, finding each year in the stream the fishes that his need demands. For it is written that to be "born beneath the Fish's sign" is to bear through life the subtle influence of the "happiest of constellations."

DAVID STARR JORDAN.

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA, *February 10, 1900.*