

Seals. In fine weather seals may be seen at all times playing about at Pine Haven and Fairlee [*Varley*] sands. There are two caverns which they frequent, one between Pine Haven and Port Isaac, and the other round the East side of Castle Rock, Porth Karn Hvn, and at which place they are frequently caught. As one that was caught there was kept at Port Isaac, and at times carried round the country for a show, but some person or persons out of envy or spite opened the door one night, where it was kept, and let it out, when it immediately set off towards the sea. In scrambling through the streets it was met by a country jowder or fish carrier who was almost frightened out of his wits, thinking he had met the devil. But however the poor seal eventually got clear off to sea.

Rays are the most plentiful about Christmas they are frequently of amazing size. A Skate Ray was caught not long since that weighed more than three hundredweight. The fisherman had the greatest difficulty in dragging it into the boat after they had hauled it up along side.

Porpus's [*Porpoise*]. It is a very fine sight to see the turnings and gambollings of these sea hogs. In about September and October they come here in vast shoals praying on the pilchards and herrings. They are not infrequently caught by entangling themselves in the fishermen's nets. They are generally about four to five feet long by two and a half in girt. The Tunny fish appears to be of the same specie as the porpus.

Monk. The monk is as curious a fish as is ever seen on our coast. The time they are mostly caught is about July and August and at times they attain a very large size. They are never made use of as food.

Divelfish [*Devilfish - John Dory*]. This fish noted for its awkward form and monstrous large mouth is not infrequently caught in autumn.

Sunfish. These fish likewise visit this coast in July and August and are always seen and caught with a gaff while they lay asleep on the wave of the water on a fine calm sunny day. These fish have not been very plentiful for these several years past, nor are they fit for human food.

Cod & Ling. These fish come on the coast in vast shoals from Christmas to Ladyday. At times, when the weather will permit, great quantities are taken, but the least have been taken this year that was ever remembered in consequence of the perpetual gales of wind. Whittings commonly are caught in great numbers about this time of the year.

Conger. The conger is caught here at all times of the year but they are most numerous in the spring. Some of them are very large and exceedingly vicious. Not more than a week or so since, a very large one was laid out on the beach amongst other fish for sale, when it rose up more than half its length in the form of a serpent and made a dart at a child, when, providently, a person standing by snatched the child back who was unconscious of its danger from this formidable fish. They not infrequently attack the fishermen in their boats when first caught.

Turbot. The Turbot is rather a scarce fish. There may be about, say, half a dozen caught in the run of the summer. About twenty years since they were very plentiful and sold dog cheap.

Mackerel. These fish are seen in great shoals and are taken by the hook and line in the summer and sometimes they are caught in the herring season in the herring nets, there being no regular mackerel craft here for the taking of them. There have been scarce any caught this last year in consequence of such very boisterous weather.