

CAPTURE OF A SUNFISH OFF CORK HARBOUR.

ON Friday week one of these valuable fish was towed into Cork Harbour by Mr. Cooper Penrose's schooner yacht, the *Harlequin*, having been harpooned about ten miles off the Roche's Tower Lighthouse, by a party that had been out in the yacht. The fish was seen basking on the surface of the water, *sunning* itself, as is its wont—hence the popular name Sunfish, in this country—and was struck with a harpoon, which entered it "midships," and put a period to its existence. The animal—which cannot be spoken of as a marine beauty, is of an oval shape, the length being about eight feet, and the "breadth of beam," exclusive of a fin, about two feet long, projecting on each side, about five; its weight is nearly a ton. In the accompanying Sketch the harpoon remains in the fish in the place where it was first struck. This fish is, however, a small specimen of its tribe, some of which have been found to measure nearly three yards in extreme length, and are of great commercial value, the liver yielding as much as £40 worth of oil.

Sunfish are common on the north-west coast of Ireland, but they are stated to be seldom taken off Cork Harbour.

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