



# THE FLYFISHER'S CLASSIC LIBRARY

"Some of the best fishing is done not in water, but in print."  
SPARSE GREY HACKLE

1994/5



"The Major"

from *Jones's Guide to Norway*

Frederic Tolfrey, 1848

THE FINEST COLLECTABLE LIBRARY FOR THE FLY-FISHERMAN



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PLEASE NOTE: *The Flyfisher's Classic Library* edition is usually a facsimile of the first edition, and incorporating revisions and additions (even new chapters and appendices) from subsequent editions, thus providing the most complete text and finest illustrations available. Many of our books include newly commissioned Introductions by leading experts, and even previously unpublished illustrations, especially of the authors, to result in the 'enhanced version' of the title. The specifications are more often than not superior to the original editions.

Furthermore, the quantity of each FCL edition is restricted, with the print quantity stated on the imprint page. The quarter bound leather specification with real cloth incorporates gold blocking, silk marker ribbon, head and tail bands and slip-case.

The FCL does not sell to bookshops; already there are indications that these editions are now collectable. The FCL offers exceptional expertise, fine quality, value, commitment and personal service.

*Justin Knowles*  
Justin Knowles  
Editor



*Sarah A Stott*  
Sarah Stott  
Administrator



## JONES'S GUIDE TO NORWAY

FREDERIC TOLFREY

**J**ones's *Guide to Norway and Salmon Fisher's Pocket Companion* was published in London in 1848. The Jones of the title was a tackle dealer in Jermyn Street. He hired Frederic Tolfrey, a famous sporting author of the period, to provide the text.

*Jones's Guide* is the ultimate collector's book due to its extreme rarity, delightful text and above all, the most beautiful colour plates of salmon flies that have ever been produced.

The only reprint was in January 1993 by the Raden Press of Kansas City, USA, a Limited Edition of fifty copies, of which the first ten (each \$2,000) had a special set of the salmon fly plates: the remaining forty sold for \$750 each. All fifty copies were sold prior to publication. David Zincavage, the distinguished American angling scholar, wrote an introduction to this edition from which the following observations are taken:

*'Jones's Guide* has become, as the result of this ever-increasing and unsatisfied demand, a sort of Holy Grail of salmon fly books: a yearned-for but unattainable ideal ...

... The eight hand-coloured plates are justly famed as the finest illustrations of salmon flies ever produced. They are splendid examples of their form, combining accuracy of drawing with the luminous brilliance that hand-water-colouring at its finest produces ...

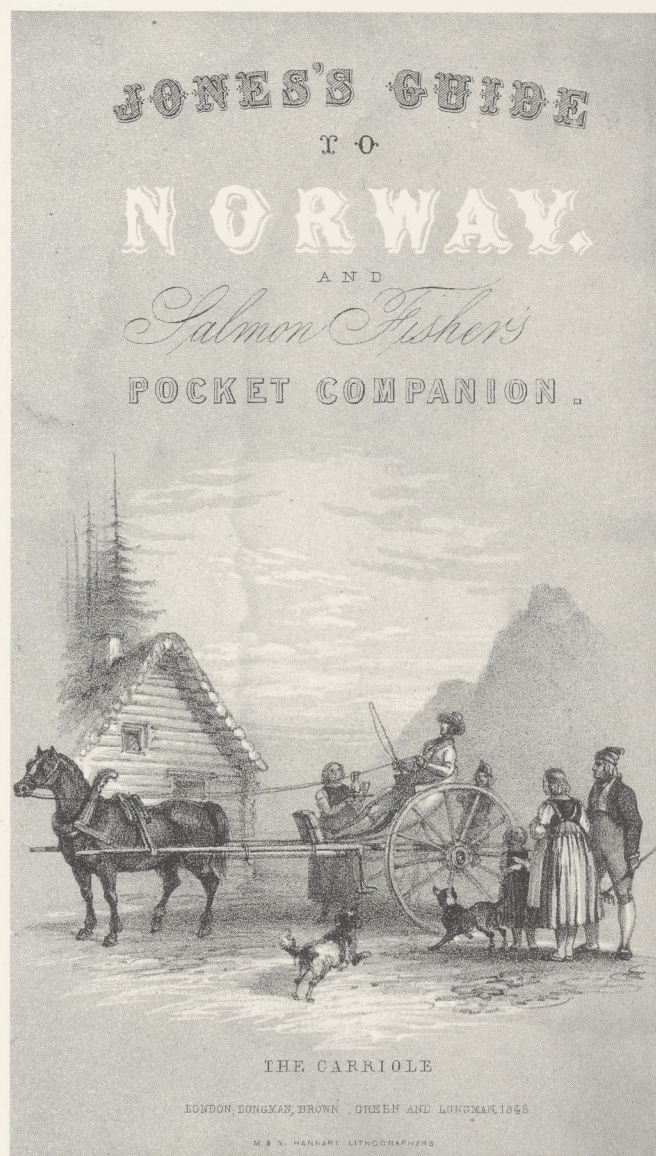
... *Jones's Guide* was sufficiently rare, even more than a century ago, that most Victorian authors who wrote about salmon fly patterns and their histories were not familiar with it. George M. Kelson, for instance, never owned a copy ...

... Bookdealers employ terms like 'scarce', 'excessively scarce', and 'rare' to qualify degrees of scarcity. *Jones's Guide to Norway* might be called 'excessively rare'. ... I think one would not be far wrong in guessing that closer to fifty than one hundred copies of the original edition survive today.'

It was Francis Francis who drew R.B. Marston's attention to the plates in the early 1880's resulting in Marston's statement in *The Fishing Gazette* of 6 January 1906:

'This admirably illustrated guide is now scarce, chiefly because it contains the most beautifully drawn, hand-coloured illustrations of salmon flies which have ever been published.'

The FCL edition of *Jones's Guide to Norway* will include an authoritative new Introduction by the world-class flydresser FRANK MYHRE HANSEN of Norway:



'The form, proportions and style of the flies hidden in *Jones's Guide* forced me to look upon the Salmon Fly's history with new eyes....'

Although it is not our normal policy to produce special Limited Editions from our mainstream titles, FCL has accepted Frank Myhre Hansen's suggestion to produce a De Luxe edition of *Jones*, incorporating specially tied flies from the book. See *Limited Editions* (page 30).

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	292 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	8 colour plates and 2 black and white half-tones
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	1



## No. 4.—THE BUTCHER.

Hook—No. 6, 7, or 8.  
 Tail—Golden Pheasant Topping, or Guinea-hen.  
 Tip—Gold twist and orange silk.  
 Body—Claret, pale blue, red and dark-blue Pig's wool.  
 Ribbed—Silver tinsel.  
 Legs—Black Hackle.  
 Throat—Orange Hackle and Guinea-hen.  
 Wings—One golden Tippet, one red feather from the rump of the Golden Pheasant, sprigged with Mallard, Teal, Guinea-hen, and Golden Pheasant tail.  
 Horns—Yellow Macaw.  
 Head—Black.

## No. 5.—THE JACKASS.

Hook—No. 8 or 9.  
 Tail—Golden Pheasant Topping.  
 Tip—Gold twist and orange silk.  
 Body—From the side of a dun-coloured Donkey, mixed with a little red Mohair.  
 Ribbed—Gold tinsel.  
 Legs—A grizzled dun Hackle.  
 Throat—A Jay's hackle.  
 Wing—(Mixed) Mallard, Teal, Guinea-hen, Golden Pheasant-tail, and Tippet, Bustard, and Peacock's wing.  
 Horns—Blue Macaw.  
 Head—Black.

## No. 6.—THE DOCTOR.

Hook, No. 7, 8, or 9.  
 Tail—Golden Pheasant and Teal.  
 Tip—Gold twist and scarlet Mohair.  
 Body—Pale blue silk.  
 Ribbed—Silver tinsel.  
 Legs—Jay hackle, or black.  
 Wing—(Mixed) Mallard, Teal, Bustard, Guinea-hen, Turkey, green Parrot, and blue and red Macaw.  
 N.B.—A golden Topping over all is sometimes added.  
 Head—Red.

N.B.—This is a captivating fly; the very best we know of when the water is low.







## THE FLYFISHER'S CLASSIC LIBRARY

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Dear Fly fisher

### Welcome to the 1994/5 Catalogue and an Outstanding Collectable Offer

We have great pleasure in enclosing our **1994/5 Catalogue**. You will note that there are some important rarities and titles of special interest. We are fulfilling our promise of bringing you the most sought after and relevant classic titles, to establish and/or extend your library with the very best of angling literature. To celebrate this catalogue, we are proud to offer you, at a remarkable price, an outstanding collectable:

#### The Portfolio of Plates from Blacker's Art of Flymaking, 1855

This scarce and valuable edition includes 22 superb plates: 18 exquisitely hand-coloured in the original. This complete set, which includes the frontispiece and title page, forms a collection of perhaps the most beautiful colour plates ever produced in angling literature. The plates will be contained within a gold-blocked presentation box. Each plate remains unbound to allow individual reference, framing, a superb gift, or to fit on your library shelf. The extreme rarity and beauty of each plate within this complete set cannot be over emphasised.

Extent: 22 plates. Plate size: 234 x 156 mm. Illustrations: 18 colour plates / 4 black and white.

Binding: Real cloth box, gold blocked with silk ribbon.

Edition: Limited by subscription only and exclusive to FCL Members.

The Portfolio (listed at £65/\$100) is yours for just £20/\$30 (Post Free) if you order at least 5 books (8 books will count double, ie. 2 portfolios) within 28 days of your receipt of this Catalogue. See Order Form: 14B. Your choice of books will be dispatched on availability, or to your instruction. Dispatch of the Portfolio will coincide with publication of the complete book, **Blacker's Art of Flymaking**, scheduled for Autumn 1994.

**Sequence of 1994 Titles:** You will be advised of the projected sequence in January. However, following **Salmon Fishing on the Grand Cascapedia (Davis)** (see page 9 of Catalogue), we plan the important **Jones's Guide to Norway** (see pages 3, 4, 5) for late Spring 1994.

Up to December 1993, the following titles are available: Order refs. 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25.

By originating the production ourselves, there is an inevitable element of unpredictable timing with the various printers, but we aim to publish the new titles at around six week intervals.

**Pre-Christmas Period:** Existing Members have found FCL books to be a most welcome gift to their friends, business associates, family and even themselves! Please order now to avoid disappointment.

**Please assist us:** The early return of your 1994 choice is an enormous help to us for planning: please now return your Order Form - remember to return within 28 days to qualify for your reservation of the Blacker Portfolio Special Offer.

We do hope that there is much enjoyment and interest for you within the new Catalogue. If there are any queries please don't hesitate to contact us.

Justin Knowles

Justin Knowles  
Editor

Knowles

With best wishes

Sarah Stott

Sarah Stott  
Administrator





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## No. 13.—THE CADOGAN.

Hook—No. 6, 7, or 8.  
 Tail—Golden Pheasant and Kingfisher.  
 Tip—Silver twist and Ostrich.  
 Body—Crimson silk and crimson Pig's wool *well picked out*.  
 Ribbed—Gold and silver tinsel.  
 Legs—Claret Hackle.  
 Throat—Blue Hackle (dyed).  
 Wing—Two Golden Pheasant Tippetts sprigged with Mallard, Teal, Bustard, Guinea-Hen, Argus, and Golden Pheasant tail.  
 Horns—Blue Macaw.  
 Head—Black.

## No. 14.—TOM TICKLER.

Hook—No. 8.  
 Tail—Golden Pheasant Topping.  
 Tip—Silver twist, light blue silk, and Ostrich.  
 Body—Yellow silk, and red Pig's wool under the shoulder.  
 Ribbed—Gold tinsel.  
 Legs—Plain red Hackle.  
 Throat—Guinea-Hen.  
 Wing—(*Mixed in strands*) Golden Pheasant Tippet, Mallard, Teal, Guinea-Hen, Bustard, Green Parrot, Red Macaw, Golden Pheasant's tail, and Blue Kingfisher on each side of shoulder.  
 Horns—Blue Macaw.  
 Head—Black Ostrich.

## No. 15.—THE POPHAM.

(*A jointed Fly.*)

Hook—No. 7, or 8.  
 Tail—Golden Pheasant Topping.  
 Tip—Silver twist and Ostrich.  
 Body—Orange silk and gold twist, three turns of black Ostrich, four small red feathers from the red-breasted Crow of India. Yellow silk and gold twist, three turns of black Ostrich, four small red feathers from the red-breasted Crow of India. Blue silk and silver tinsel, three turns of black Ostrich, and four small red feathers from the red-breasted Crow of India.  
 Wing—Mixed in strands, the same as preceding fly, No. 14.  
 (N.B. A Golden Topping is sometimes used over all.)  
 Throat—Jay Hackle.  
 Horns—Blue Macaw.  
 Head—Black.





# THE PRACTICE OF ANGLING PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS IRELAND

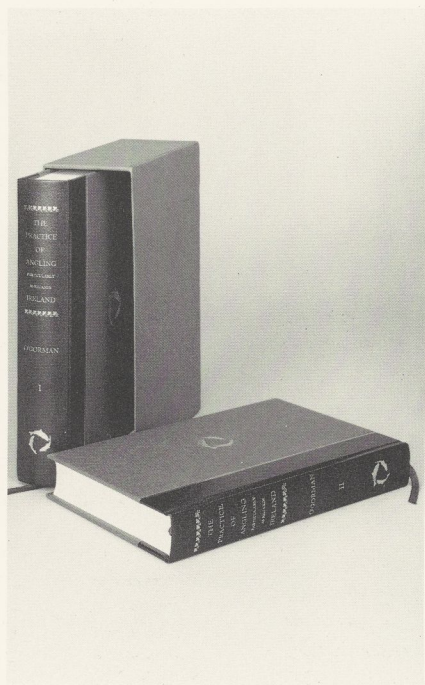
Volumes I & II

O' GORMAN

James O' Gorman's two volume book, *The Practice of Angling particularly as regards Ireland* (1845) is one of the most entertaining in the literature of angling. Certainly the important details of Irish fly dressings are significant as is his riverwise advice, but O' Gorman's talent as a natural angler combined with an outstanding wit creates a very special book, to raise more than a smile from most of us. Hugh Falkus selected a typical humorous extract from O' Gorman's book, in *Salmon Fishing: A Practical Guide* 1984, page 148. Beyond his great humour O' Gorman creates a sense of involvement in his wanderings in wildest Ireland, combined with innovation, perception, riverside lore, and the practical advice of a born angler.

If an Irish spirit could magic any one book to every angler's library, this would be it!

"... I soon after got hold of a very nice fish about fourteen pounds in weight, got to shore, and managed him well. While I was playing him, a Captain Cotter came to the bank, attended by about a half-score of dogs, grey-hounds and pointers. He was a great angler, but had been disabled by a wound in a duel with Mr. Richard Harrison, which arose out of a difference about the right of fishing a stream on which his cot had been first placed, and in which he was undoubtedly in the right, though the fortune of war declared against him. Well, we got in the salmon with some difficulty, the gaff having slipped out of the handle, and the fish was getting out again, when all parties hastened to intercept him; the rod was thrown down, the dogs got entangled with the line, the hook was broken in the salmon's jaw, the line snapped in three or four places, and, to crown it all, the rod smashed nearly in pieces. Here followed confusion, cursing, swearing, kicking dogs, damning, openly and mentally, our visitor and his companions."



"When (in the fishing phrase) you "rise" a salmon, should he miss the fly, observe how he comes to it; if he shows himself well and eagerly, you may almost depend on hooking him; but don't thrown over him for a few seconds, let the fly go deeply and slowly by him at first; you may then shake your hand a little, but observe that after rising he may possibly drop down a yard or so, in which case, you must lengthen your line a little, or fall down a step; if he should not then take, let him alone for about five minutes, and change your fly to one of a somewhat smaller size, and not so gaudy as the one you commenced with; try him again, but do not dog him; three or four casts will determine whether he will take or not.

If the river is narrow, and you can get over to the off side, throw from thence, so that the fly may come over him the reverse way to that he first observed, and it is ten to one he will then have you ..."

"... if a justification for any our sports can be pleaded, it must be for angling; for even nature points it out to us. There is not an insect, from the butterfly to the little midge, which has but a few hours' existence, which cannot imitate in shape, colour and appearance, with furs, mohairs, and silks; with feathers from the radiant plumage of the pheasant, macaw, cockatoo, peacock or other gaudy birds, to the humbler wing of the mallard, rale, partridge, bittern, caprimugus, starling, wren, thrush &c. Even the spotted brown-turkey feather has its merit, used as a substitute for the brown tail feather of the golden pheasant; this latter is difficult to be obtained. Then we have gold and silver cord and tinsel, to imitate the ribs of each fly; the heckles of the cock, rook, plover, grouse, &c. to supply the appearance of feet; little beads to form the eyes of some larger description of flies, and the fine and strong gut of the silk-worm to tie them on ..."

"... Note - Whenever you meet an old cock - a game cock is best - with deep-red heckle, buy or steal him: he is invaluable for either salmon or trout flies; but beware of St. Martin's day, which is generally fatal to this bird. The common Irish are as intent on the sacrifice of a cock to Saint Martin, as Socrates was to AEsculapius..."

Arthur Greenwood wrote in *Salmon, Trout and Sea Trout*, July 1993:

'AT LAST! For many years, I have been tantalised by occasional extracts from O' Gorman in angling anthologies and other works, but was unable to obtain the original - unsurprising, since its rarity pushed prices into the £450-£500 bracket. Now the *Flyfisher's Classic Library* has come to my rescue and published a limited edition of 1,000 copies of one of the most entertaining works in the entire literature of angling.



The two volume set is exquisitely produced, quarter-bound in leather in one slip case, and must represent the jewel in the crown of the game angler's library. Having devoured the text, a more leisurely second read indicated that, despite the technological chasm between O' Gorman's era and our own, there is much that has not changed. Tactically, his wisdom is still sound, and indeed there is much that we have forgotten but would do well to re-learn.

All good angling books should instruct and amuse. As long as rivers run, O' Gorman will give entertainment and enlightenment to those who are privileged to read his book and can appreciate therein a man who loved life and angling, and can share that with us from bygone, halcyon days.'

Surprisingly, apart from the combination of the two

volumes in 1855, there has never been a subsequent edition, as reflected by their scarcity and value.

Introduction by KEVIN MCKENNA and PATRICK GAGEBY.

#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: Volume 1: 352 pages,  
Volume 2: 260 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 1 colour plate and 1 black and  
white plate  
Binding: Two separate volumes  
quarter bound in bonded leather  
in one slip case.  
Order No: 2

## FLY-FISHING: SOME NEW ARTS AND MYSTERIES

J.C. MOTTRAM

James Cecil Mottram's *Fly-Fishing, Some New Arts and Mysteries* was published in 1915, when he was thirty-five. Although reprinted in 1921, this book remains scarce and has been described as 'one of the twelve peaks of angling progress .. the great sleeper among British angling literature'.

Gingrich (*The Fishing in Print*) devotes a full chapter to Mottram, 'Mottram and the Mysteries': pages 242-261, writing:

'... I had come to think of him as the completely unsung genius of English angling literature ... I had come to the conclusion that Mottram was angling's Invisible Man. Hence my surprise now, at coming across this double mention of him by Skues in 1939 ...' I would have thought that by now, over a half century later, his name would have been a modern angler's household word ... I consider *Some New Arts and Mysteries* one of the most innovative fishing books ever written ...'

Mottram was a radiologist. His scientific training gave him great advantages as an investigative trout angler. His fly patterns for nymphs, smuts and 'silhouette' duns were years ahead of their time. These patterns date from pre-1915!

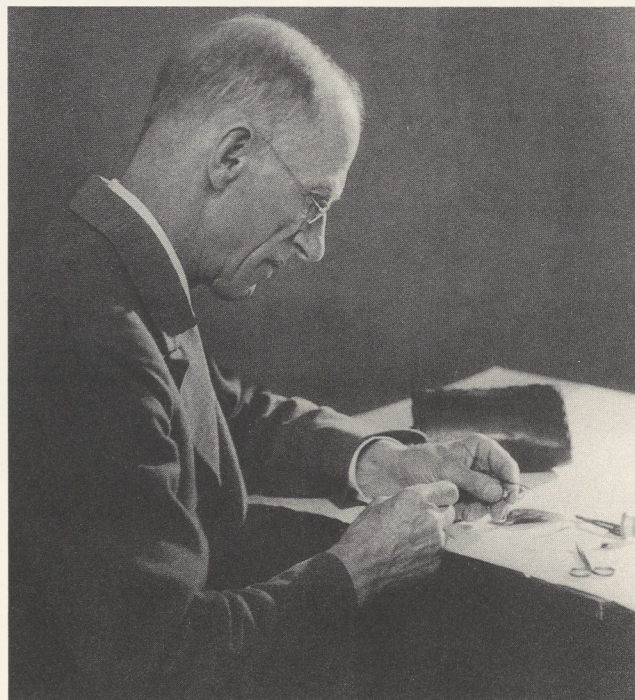
In his Introduction Mottram suggests the different types of fisherman he is addressing:

'For the hunter, there is much of practice, the record of many facts, the outcome of many experiments. Chapters on optics, mechanics, and the colour-sense of fish will, it is hoped, interest the scientific. For the fly-tier, there are hints on waterside fly-tying and a discourse on flies of the future. For the fish-breeder,

*waterweeds and the treatment of mud are discussed. The naturalist is told of birds and the habits of fish, and even the poacher will, it may be, find some things a little to his liking ...'*

This is an important book for the fly-fisherman and fly tyer, as relevant today as it was eighty years ago. Few writings since have reached the same level of complete and articulate intelligence of a master fisherman.

With his special knowledge of the subject and of J.C. Mottram, we are pleased that DAVID BURNETT has written the informative Introduction.



#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 296 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 14 black and white half-tones in text  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 3

NEW TITLE



# GOING FISHING

NEGLEY FARSON

**N**egley Farson was a great journalist and foreign correspondent for the *Chicago Daily News* in the Twenties and Thirties. And wherever he went, he would always take his fishing rod with him. His latter years, after a fantastic globe-trotting life, were spent in Devon.

*Going Fishing* was first published in 1942. It begins:

*"This is just the story of some rods, and the places they take you to. It begins with surf-casting on the New Jersey coast, when I was thirteen, and carries on to such scenes as fly-fishing the head-waters of the Kuban in the upper Caucasus, and casting for rainbow trout in the rivers of southern Chile, with a volcano erupting every ten minutes within plain view. There is not a record, or even a very big, fish in it; and some of the finest things fishing has given me I have found beside the streams of the West Country of England. I do not know the names of a tenth of the flies in the book, and thank the Lord I don't want to. I would not be at all upset if you opened my own fly-boxes and showed me a dozen strangers... I love rods, I suppose, with the same passion that a carpenter, a violinist, or a Monaco pigeon shot love their implements. I love using them. But, if I can't, I can get a lot of fun by just taking them out of their cases and looking at them. A pair of trout rods helped to keep me alive when I was facing a riddle of poverty out in British Columbia where they provided free food; and I've used them for politics - to make a wild Irishman talk, when he wouldn't have otherwise .... But chiefly I love rods because of their associations, the places they have brought me to. They have been part of my kit, when I travel, for many years. This magic wand has revealed to me some of the loveliest places on earth. That is the story of this book."*



*An imperturbable scene which fills you with contentment*

written. I was for a long time the librarian of the Piscatorial Society and they have some 2,000 angling books from Dame Juliana Berners onwards. I do not say that I read them all but I certainly skimmed them all and read the ones that tempted me further. I think perhaps there were a hundred of them worth reprinting and my first choice would always be *Going Fishing*."

"Whether Mr Farson is fishing for sea bass off the American coast, or for apple-green scarlet spotted trout in the snow streams of the Caucasus, it is really Mr Farson and the people he meets rather than the fish that matter. You do not need to be a fisherman to enjoy fishing." *The Sunday Times*

"It has a grace and an outdoor charm that repays reading." *New York Herald Tribune*

"Some of the grandest reading in all angling literature." *The Fishing in Print*, Arnold Gingrich:

For his introduction to an earlier edition Hugh Falkus wrote:

"I first read *Going Fishing* in 1943 when, as a prisoner-of-war, I was serving a term of solitary confinement following an escape attempt and a friendly guard smuggled the book into my cell. For a couple of months it was my only literature, so I can claim to have read it pretty thoroughly! But Negley Farson proved more than a solace; he was a revelation. Of all the fishing books I had read, his was the best. It still is."

In addition to the complete text of *Going Fishing*, this edition includes most of chapter IX of Farson's *Last Chance in Africa* (1949) on his experiences of trout during the Mau Mau

troubles in Kenya.

The book also contains 26 black and white illustrations by C.H. Tunnicliffe.

*Going Fishing* is indeed one of very few fishing books which can be described as a classic. Jack Hargreaves wrote:

"I think it is one of the three or four best fishing books ever

## SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	156 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	26 line illustrations
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	4



# SALMON-FISHING ON THE GRAND CASCAPEDIA

EDMUND W. DAVIS

**S**almon *Fishing on the Grand Cascapedia* by the American angler Edmund W. Davis was originally produced for private distribution in two fine printings of 100 copies by the celebrated De Vinne Press of New York in 1904. The result was both a rarity of American angling literature and a highly collectable specimen of the art of book making. A copy sold at a Massachusetts auction in April of 1990 brought a price of \$3190. Until now this rare and wonderful book has never been reprinted, and it seems fitting that Mr. Davis's book should be given a wider circulation in time for the ninetieth anniversary of its original publication and the centenary of the Cascapedia Club.

The Grand Cascapedia River in the Gaspé region of Quebec is one of the world's finest Atlantic salmon rivers. Springing from sources in the heart of the rugged Shickshock Mountains, some of the highest and most formidable peaks east of the Rockies, the Cascapedia flows eighty miles south through spectacular scenery to the Bay of Chaleur.

It is a river steeped in history and tradition. Starting in the 1870s, the government leased the river to a syndicate of wealthy Americans headed by Chester Alan Arthur, whose increasing activity in politics, leading to the White House, left an opening for the Marquess of Lorne, Governor General of Canada, to step-in, in 1878, and acquire the lease. His successors, Lords Lansdowne and Stanley, maintained possession of the river, but in 1893, a newly organised American syndicate won the auction to acquire the lease. These anglers founded the famous Cascapedia Club, which still fishes the river today. The eight original members included Edmund W. Davis.

The magnificence of the catches the river has produced is legendary. Virtually every North American

salmon weighing more than fifty pounds was taken from the Cascapedia's storied pools: from the long standing record 54lb. fish taken by R.G. Dun, June 20, 1886, to Mr. Kirby's 57lb. fish taken July 11, 1928, a record remaining unsurpassed in North American waters. Mr. Davis himself may possibly have just missed holding the record. In 1900 and again in 1901, Davis killed salmon heavier than his fishing camp's fifty pound scale could weigh. By the time these fish were brought into town to be accurately measured the following day, the crucial pounds making a new record - or equalling the old - had most probably been lost. His fish were logged in at 51 and 52

pounds. (The first of these, which Davis called 'the river goddess,' appears in the photograph.)

Although this book was produced as a personal memento intended only for family and friends, a wider audience today will treasure this account of fishing the Grand Cascapedia during a great era, and find useful, even 90 years later, the admonitions and advice of a very knowledgeable angler.



*'... For thirteen summers the Grand Cascapedia has been my home. Each year it grows dearer and dearer, and my only thought during the long winter months shall be, 'Will spring ever come, so that I may again visit this restful home in the Northern woods?'*

The 27 chapters are interspersed with 16 fine sepia photographs and three pages of beautiful flies in colour dressed by Forrest and Son of Kelso, Scotland. This reprinting includes additional material in the form of an accompanying essay by the angling scholar J. DAVID ZINCAVAGE which provides information previously unavailable on Davis's family background, education, and mysterious death in a shooting accident in 1908.

#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	206 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	3 colour plates and 16 monochrome plates
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	5





## ROD AND LINE

ARTHUR RANSOME

**R**od and Line by Arthur Ransome, famous author of *Swallows and Amazons* and all the other lakeland bestsellers, was originally published in 1929. The scarcity of the earlier editions of this work reflects recognition of these sensitive anecdotal writings from this distinguished writer, who, luckily for anglers, happened to be a passionate fisherman. On returning in 1919 from one of his assignments as a correspondent in Russia, he was arrested by the British Government on suspicion of being a Bolshevik: on being asked his politics, he answered: "Fishing".

*Rod and Line* consists of a collection of 50 beautifully written and entertaining articles on angling topics such as:

"On Tackle Shops" - *"The pleasures of fishing are chiefly to be found in rivers, lakes and tackle-shops and, of the three, the last are the least affected by the weather..."*

"The First Day at the River" - *"The pleasure of the first day at the river begins some months before it. It is in its beginning a little quiet, rippling pleasure like a stream near its source, made up of all kinds of*

*imaginings too remote to be very disturbing. It swells as time goes on. Tributaries join it, such as the pleasure on some cold winter's day of tying a few flies ready for the season, visits to fishing-tackle shops, a letter from a friend showing that he has not forgotten that you and he decided last year that you would open this season together, occasional inspections of tackle, oilings of reels, small varnishings, and other excuses for taking your fly-rod from its case..."*

"The Element of Surprise" - *"The salmon who rises to a gold-ribbed March Brown or a Butcher on a No. 1 or No. 2 hook thrown into the water to tempt his cousins, the trout, gives the fisherman the sort of surprise that a man gets when a friend coming up behind him thumps him on the back while he is thinking of something else."*

*Rod and Line* is delightful classic of fishing literature with universal appeal, even "To the Most Long-suffering of Fisherman's Wives"; Ransome's dedication of the book.

Important new biographical Introduction by JEREMY SWIFT.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 242 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 1 black and white half-tone plate  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 6

NEW TITLE

## MAINLY ABOUT FISHING

ARTHUR RANSOME

**M**ainly About Fishing by this famous author was published in 1959 and is now scarce. Its entertaining content reflects Ransome's passion for salmon angling to form a sort of anthology of personal experience, reaction and thought. To use his words: '...In fishing books instruction and reminiscence are inextricably plaited together.' His views are not assertive. For example, on angling literature:

*'... I propose to give no advice, but instead to look along my own shelves and give a free rein to favouritism. Which are the books to which most often I return? ...'*

*'Much of this book is concerned with the extraordinary relationship between the fly fisher and the salmon... on the pleasure and the impertinence of tying flies ... a series of notes on some of the old fly-dressers, the models they chose to imitate and the materials they used ... on fishing diaries (an envious chapter, for I have never been able to keep up my own), on a library of fishing books, on the fly rod as travelling companion .... I find fishermen as interesting as fish ....'*

As with Arthur Ransome's *Rod & Line* (1929), *Mainly About Fishing* is a fascinating read, certain to become a perennial favourite.



### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 276 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 1 black and white half-tone  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 7



# RIVER ANGLING FOR SALMON AND TROUT

JOHN YOUNGER

**R**iver *Angling for Salmon and Trout* was originally published in Kelso in 1840, followed by this revised edition of 1860, which includes a memoir of the author.

'Younger (1840), one of the best fisherman that ever lived' (J.W.Hills, 1921).

John Younger (1785-1861) was an exceptional character: from an impoverished background, self taught, village shoemaker, but lived as a poet, fly-dresser of renown, master angler and author of one of the most innovative and practical books in the history of angling. '... A man of original ideas and marked capacity.' (Westwood and Stachell: *Bibliotheca Piscatoria*, 1883).

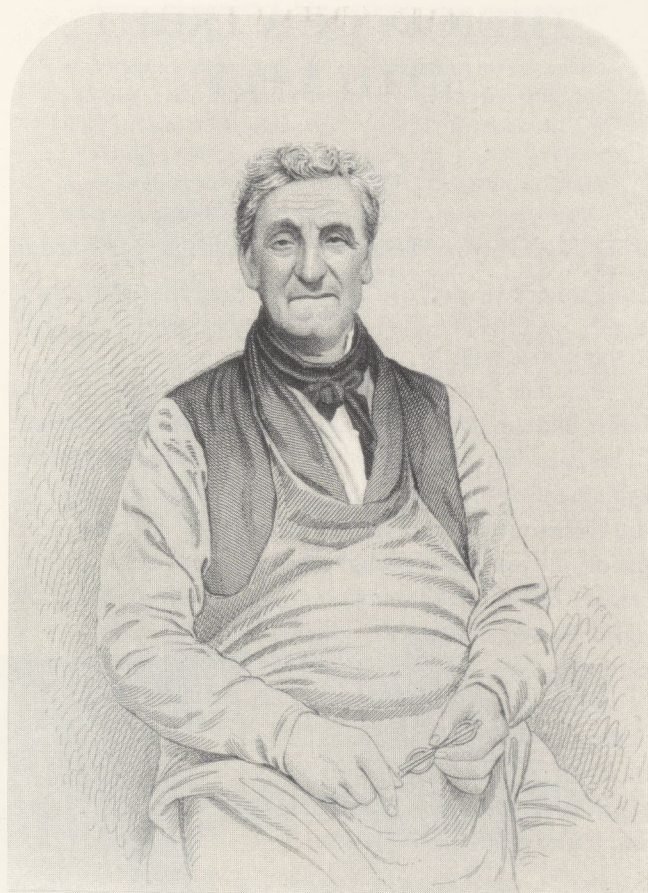
In 1955 Arthur Ransome wrote:

'... most lovable of all books on Tweedside fishing, there is *River Angling for Salmon and Trout* by John Younger the shoemaker of St. Boswells, who, proudly apologising for his style, said it was 'the very best style the author can possibly afford from thirty shillings' worth of scholastic education'. He was born in 1785, and, over a hundred years ago, suggested that when trout were feeding below the surface the angler should tie down the wings of his flies to near the tail, to give them an appearance 'something like the maggot released from its first case on the bottom stone and on its ascent to the surface' and 'as much as you can, let them sink low in the water', an early foreshadowing of the present-day dying and fishing of nymphs ...'

The contents of the book include much sound and important advice on salmon fishing which includes Younger's six fly dressings. Also, trout angling and trout flies. His observations are innovative and reflect an angler of exceptional river craft.

Ransome's renowned book *Mainly About Fishing*: 1959, devotes Chapter 8 (pages 42-51) to 'The Shoemaker of St. Boswells'. The Literary Executors of Arthur Ransome have generously allowed us to include this perceptive and sensitive text as an Introduction to the FCL edition.

John Younger's grave is inscribed: 'Of Pleasant Memory: Here lies John Younger shoemaker St.



*Affectionately yours*  
*John Younger*

Boswells Angler Poet and Essayist. Whose genial humour manly independence and ardent love of Literature won for him the esteem of men of every rank and drew around him the best friendship of the Border.'

John Younger's influence has since extended significantly beyond St. Boswells, Tweedside; his work remains a symbol of the unpretentious natural talent of a very fine and influential angler.

## SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	242 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	1 black and white half-tone
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	8





## THE WAY OF A TROUT WITH A FLY

G.E.M. SKUES

**T**he *Way of a Trout with a Fly* was first published in 1921; *The Flyfisher's Classic Library* edition includes the two further chapters added in 1949 to this classic work.

Few men have made such an impact on fly fishing in any form; Skues is the father of nymph fishing in chalk streams: "There are days and hours when the wet-fly has not a chance against the dry-fly, and there are days and hours when the dry-fly has not a chance against the wet-fly." He challenged the dry-fly purist and brought the angling world back to its senses. Skues was the antidote to the extremists who those days followed Halford and should be read along-side that author.

Skues wrote when the dry-fly was at the height of intolerant trout fishing dictatorship. Enthusiasts of Halford regarded Skues as a dangerous founder and leader of heresy.

"Much water has flowed under the bridges since then, and in that water many are the trout which have been caught on a sunk fly which would not have fallen to a dry." (*A Summer on the Test*: J.W. Hills, 1924).

Skues was a legend in his own time on the Itchen. *The Way of a Trout with a Fly* reflects his brilliant perception of the dry flies and nymphs. It contains

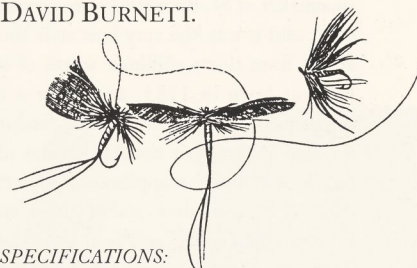


the superb original dressings for his revolutionary nymph patterns.

".. My favorite Skues book is the earlier *Way of a Trout with a Fly*, and it is filled with strikingly original speculation on many aspects of fly-fishing. There are studies in the sensory perceptions of the trout, with special emphasis on its visual powers. It explores the details of rise forms and their character. There are little essays on fly dressing, and the art and theory of the craft, as well as many anecdotal parables from his field experiences. The book discusses special problems in fly hatches, tactics in playing fish on light tackle, glycerine and amadou, the origins of the dry-fly method, the excommunication of wet-fly fishermen by Halford and his circle of acolytes, and observations on all types of flies. *The Way of a Trout with a Fly* is filled with intelligent debate ..." *Trout*, Vol I: Ernest Schwiebert (1978).

Undoubtedly Skues had thoroughly digested the angling literature that preceded him; his observation and intellect inevitably led him to unbroken ground where his clarity of mind with technical creativity enabled him to join the very finest in the literature of angling. Of Skues' several books, *The Way of a Trout with a Fly* will always be a necessary reference for today's angler.

Important new Introduction by  
DAVID BURNETT.



### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 302 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 4 black and white half-tone plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 9

## SILK, FUR AND FEATHER: THE FLY DRESSER'S HANDBOOK

G.E.M. SKUES

**F**ollowing the death of G.E.M. Skues on 9th August 1949, a series of fly-tying articles which had originally appeared in *The Fishing Gazette* were published under the title, *Silk, Fur and Feather: The Trout-Fly Dresser's Year* by "V.C.", the initials of Skues' pen name of "Val Conson". A concise list of feathers used in fly dressing is included as an addition. The first two paragraphs of the Foreword read:

"The series of articles on Fly Tying reprinted here from *The Fishing Gazette*, in the opinion of many Fly Dressers, are some of the best that were ever written on the subject.

"They will help a beginner to understand the method employed, and will give the expert much occasion for thought."

The *Flyfisher's Classic Library* has commissioned new reference drawings from ROBIN ARMSTRONG. This fine handbook by Skues, the master fly-dresser of imitative patterns is a rare treasure, almost unobtainable in the original edition.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 120 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: Line diagrams throughout  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 10



## FLY FISHING

SIR EDWARD GREY

Few have acquired angling fame by the publication of only one book, but Sir Edward Grey is an exception. Some consider his *Fly Fishing* (1899) to be the best fishing book ever written. A characteristic feature is his vivid appreciation of the joys of the sport.

The volume deals with trout, sea-trout and salmon. Grey places fishing for sea-trout on a pinnacle, and describes the greatness of salmon fishing. On trout, he was the first writer of importance on the dry-fly who really knew what the wet-fly meant. Although modest, he was an expert angler, and he detailed much that is useful and instructive. His prose is clear, vigorous and attractive — the book is a literary achievement of high order.

The Library has chosen the first Haddon Hall Library edition of 1899. This edition has many an added bonus: delightful graphics by Arthur Rackham, illustrations by Jessie Macgregor and William Hyde, and the two beautiful colour plates of "Dry and Wet Flies" and "Salmon and Sea Trout Flies" from specimens supplied by Hardy of Alnwick. In 1930, Lord Grey added two chapters for Dent's new edition. These are included in the *FCL* edition with engraving Fitch Daglish.

JEREMY PAXMAN ends his fascinating Introduction:

"... Grey made a point of claiming that he wasn't trying to give lessons in his book, merely passing on his enthusiasm for "one of the best and most wonderful recreations that have ever been known to man". His skill, of course, is there on every page. He was a brilliant dry fly fisherman, of whom a witness observed, "Fisherman, rod, line, cast and fly were all in unison. Without apparent effort, the line went out straight as an arrow, as light as thistledown, or the drag would be overcome by the exact amount of slack - it all looked so simple and so easy."

Those who are looking for tips on how to achieve such elegance of casting won't find them here. *Fly Fishing* is much more important than that, an elegy to the finest of sports.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 342 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 2 colour plates, 5 black and white half-tone plates and 17 line decorations  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 11



## DAYS & NIGHTS OF SALMON FISHING

WILLIAM SCROPE

William Scrope's *Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing*, first published in 1843, is one of the finest books about our sport ever written. It is also superbly illustrated in both colour and engraving by eight different artists including Edwin Landseer RA.

"Scrope has written one of the brightest volumes in the whole literature of angling. It is notable for charm, humour, anecdote and description, as well as for sound information." (*Notable Angling Literature*, James Robb, 1945)

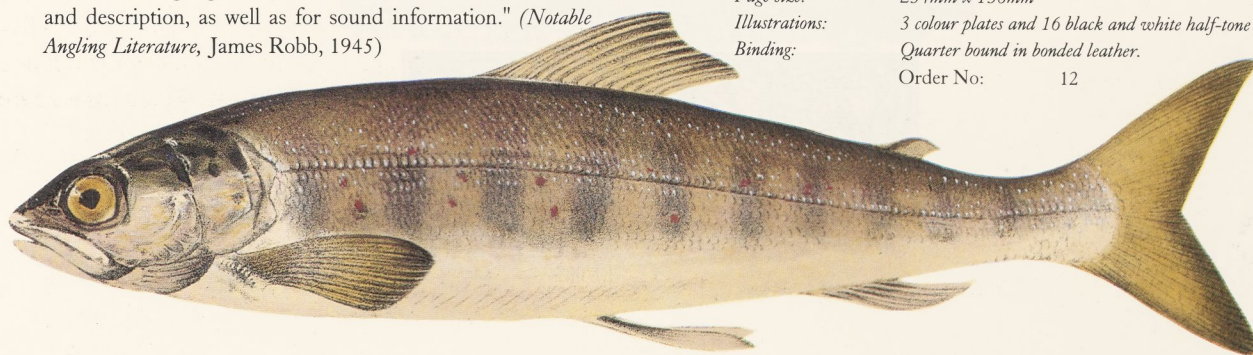
"Among the half-dozen books on that subject that invite and repay a dozen readings and re-readings." (*Mainly about Fishing*, Arthur Ransome, 1959)

"Put me ashore on the desert island and along with The Compleat Angler I'll beg for only one other book and that's Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing in the Tweed (1843)." (*Fishing in Print*, Arnold Gingrich (USA), 1974)

"Altogether this is one of the best fishing books ever written; it has been followed by a multitude of others, but surpassed by none." (*The Great Salmon Rivers of Scotland*, John Ashley Cooper, 1980)

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 298 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 3 colour plates and 16 black and white half-tone plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather.  
Order No: 12





# IRISH TROUT AND SALMON FLIES

E.J. MALONE

**I**rish Trout and Salmon Flies by E.J. Malone was originally published in 1984 and has been out of print for some years. This new edition restricted to one thousand copies will be signed by the author and incorporates significant revisions and additions, together with new colour illustrations and new typography. The colour plates will include a selection of fully dressed traditional old Irish patterns tied by Malone's protégé, Frankie Mc Phillips, regarded by many as Ireland's premier fly-dresser. No wonder the welcome:

"Given the wealth of individuality, invention and creativity of Irish fly-tiers through the last couple of hundred years, it is extraordinary that it has taken so long for a book like this to appear ... All in all, this new book finds an indispensable place in any Irish angling library. No fly-tier certainly should be without it and even a brief flick through its pages will make all of us better and more discerning anglers." *Irish Times*, Niall Fallon.

"... It is truly surprising that, given the wealth of fly-tying in Ireland during the past couple of centuries, it has taken so long for someone to bring it all together in a very readable form.

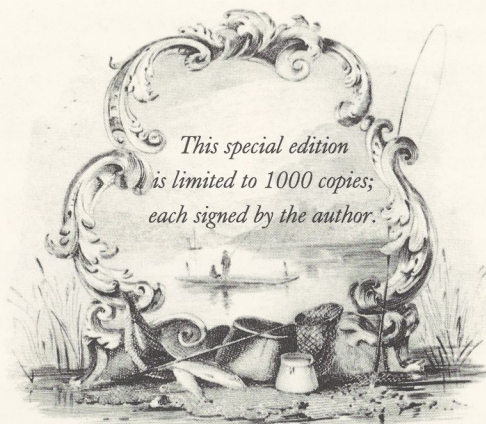
"There are individual sections on both trout and salmon fly dressings and when you consider that over 800 dressings are listed, it is not hard to see why this wonderful book fills such a vast gap in angling literature.

"The book is liberally laced with references to some of the great Irish fly-tyers - Rogan, O'Gorman and Hanna to name a few..." *Belfast Telegraph*, Larry Nixon.

"... This is not the type of book that merely provides another lengthy list of standard patterns. It introduces a host of subtle variations. For example, five variations of the Greenwell's Glory are listed; three dry, one nymph and one pupae .... Even then, there is more..." *Country Sports*.

"... He must have researched thoroughly to provide so many wonderful patterns... They are all beautifully illustrated in a book that will join my other "recipe" books close to my fly-tying desk... so clearly listed by Mr Malone in a book he can be proud of." *Country Life*, Ian Niall.

"Mr Malone's work... will become, at a stroke, a classic reference work on the Irish fly, probably the classic reference work..." *Trout & Salmon*, S. Parton.



*E. J. Malone*

The dressings cover a wide range of artificial flies which have been used by Irish anglers since fly-tying became firmly established in Ireland, and this most comprehensive collection will become one of the great standard references for the fly-tyer which in future years will be found on the book shelves of all those anglers who have deep interest in, not merely the catching of fish, but in the whole philosophy of angling.

Mr Malone brings his rare specialist knowledge of the great traditions of Irish fishing, fly-tying and its history to produce a classic, informative and definitive book.

## SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	296 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	15 colour plates
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	13





# BLACKER'S ART OF FLYMAKING

WILLIAM BLACKER



William Blacker arrived in London from Dublin around 1820 and set up shop as a fly-dresser and tackle dealer in Dean Street, Soho. His exciting patterns used exotic materials, creating

the salmon fly as an art form, seducing the fisherman as much as the fish. Superb craftsmanship produced the most beautiful and colourful flies, such as the famous 'Spirit' series, the sternest challenge to the modern fly-dresser, delicate objects from fur and feather. The influence of his flies spread to Scotland where on some stretches of the Tweed the new exotics were initially banned!

In 1842 Blacker produced his book and reissued it in 1855 with twenty engraved plates of flies, flymaking and tackle, of which 18 are coloured.

Westwood and Satchell (*Bibliotheca Piscatoria* 1883) described this edition:

'The work is a strange medley of practical usefulness and rhapsodical extravagance. The instructions for fly-making are peculiarly precise and clear ...'

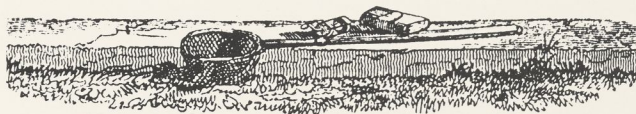
Beyond the importance of the instruction (he was the first to describe the detached body), materials, dressings and flies, this book contains some of the most gorgeous colour plates ever produced for an angling book, different in

character from the *Jones's Guide to Norway*, yet equal in creating visual magic.

An important addition to the book will be the Introduction by KEVIN MCKENNA of Dublin, bringing much new information on William Blacker's work and life. The FCL edition is the first reprint of this extremely rare and valuable 1855 edition: it will undoubtedly become an immediate collectors' item.

PATRONIZED BY H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.

BLACKER'S.  
ART OF FLYMAKING, & C.,  
COMPRISING ANGLING  
& DYEING OF COLOURS.  
WITH ENGRAVINGS  
OF SALMON & TROUT FLIES  
SHEWING THE PROCESS  
OF THE GENTLE CRAFT  
AS TAUGHT IN  
THE PAGES.  
WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF  
FLIES FOR THE SEASON  
OF THE YEAR.  
AS THEY COME OUT  
ON THE WATER.  
REWRITTEN & REVISED  
BY THE AUTHOR  
BLACKER, HIMSELF.  
FISHING TACKLE MAKER  
OF 54, DEAN ST., SOHO,  
LONDON.  
1855.



#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 330 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 21 colour plates and  
1 black and white  
half-tone  
Binding: Quarter bound in  
bonded leather with  
slip case.  
Order No: 14









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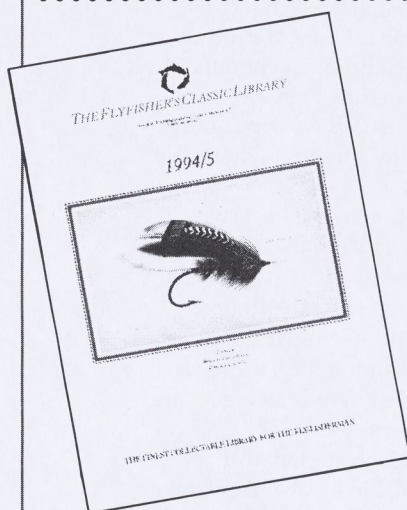
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# TROUT AND SALMON

DECEMBER 1993 ● ON SALE NOVEMBER 30

## BOOKSHELF



### CLASSICS FOR THE COLLECTOR

VIRTUALLY every fly-fisher has heard of books such as *The Way of a Trout with a Fly* by Skues and *Letters to a Salmon Fisher's Sons* by A.H.Chaytor, acknowledged classics in the field of fly-fishing literature. Many have wished to add such titles to their bookshelves, only to discover that the price of such long out-of-print books can reach hundreds of pounds. The work of authors such as Mottram, Ronalds, Halford, Stewart, Scrope and Waller Hills have been priced out of the reach of most of us, but no longer need this be so. The Flyfisher's Classic Library offers an increasing selection of superb facsimile editions of famous books at prices far below those quoted for

the originals, thus bringing important fly-fishing literature within the reach of everyone. For example, the 1885 edition of William Blacker's *Art of Fly-Making*, if you could find a copy, would set you back £1,000; the Library edition, the first reprint ever of this rare book, costs only £85. *Silk, Fur, and Feather*, Skues's fly-tying masterpiece, virtually unobtainable in its original edition, is available at only £28, with the additional attraction of drawings by

Robin Armstrong. Most F.C.L. editions include additions and revisions made to the original first edition, with special introductions by leading modern experts. All are quarter-bound, with real cloth, gold blocking, head and tail bands, and slip-case – often better quality than the originals. The Flyfisher's Classic Library is more than a book club. Members are obliged to buy only one title each year. Recent additions to the list of titles include *Jones's Guide to Norway* (Frederic Tolfrey), *Fly-Fishing: Some New Arts and Mysteries* (J.C.Mottram), and *The Practical Angler* (W.C. Stewart), mouthwatering words to any fly-fishing bibliophile.

Tom Saville

■ **Catalogue and details from the Flyfisher's Classic Library, Dartmoor View, Mary Street, Bovey Tracey, Newton Abbot, Devon. (Tel: 0626 834182).**



# FINANCIAL TIMES

Weekend January 15/January 16 1994

Fishing/Tom Fort

## A view from the casting couch

“ ... If contemporary writing is going through the doldrums,



the business of exhuming the jewels of the past proceeds apace. It is led by Justin Knowles, who is my nomination as publishing hero of the year.

His Fly Fisher's Classic Library continues to offer, in handsome reprints and at reasonable cost, classics which previously could be found only by assiduous skulkers around second-hand shops and delvers into specialist catalogues (people like me, in fact).

The discovery of the year was James O'Gorman's *The Practice Of Angling As Regards Ireland*. It was published in 1845 and, although I had heard of it, I had never read it until Knowles sent me his reprint. The title might be a touch cumbersome but the text is rollicking stuff – great stories, splendid characters, and a vigorous and humorous style. At £67, it is a snip. Like the others, it can be obtained from Dartmoor View, Mary Street, Bover Tracey, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ13 9HQ.

Negley Farson's *Going Fishing* (Fly Fisher's Classic Library, £32) is one of the deathless masterpieces. Farson was a seriously larger-than-life individual: war correspondent, womaniser, drinker, tale-teller. He was a habitual wanderer in wild and dangerous places and wherever he went – the high valleys of the Caucasus, the Gulf of Finland, the Andean foothills, the Dinaric Alps of Slovenia – he usually had a fishing rod with him. The writing style is all his own: laconic, lean, passionate and memorable.

Like Farson, Arthur Ransome was a newspaper correspondent in Russia at the time of the Bolshevik revolution. But Ransome's fishing pieces for the *Manchester Guardian* – collected under the title *Rod And Line* (Fly Fisher's Classic Library, £38) – have none of the border-hopping restlessness of the American.

Ransome's territory is domestic; his tone reflective, philosophical and inquiring. He roves where he wills over matters such as the wisdom of carp, the traditions of northern fly dressing, the piscatorial side-effects of an eclipse and the uncertain temper of bulls.

The book is one of my absolute favourites.

”





# PRICE LIST & ORDER FORM : 1994/5 CATALOGUE



Order ref.	Title	Cat. Page	Price \$ US	Qty
1	Jones's Guide to Norway: Tolfrey	3-5	130	
2	The Practice of Angling: O'Gorman (2 volumes)	6	125	
3	Fly-Fishing: Some New Arts and Mysteries: Mottram	7	55	
4	Going Fishing: Farson	8	55	
5	Salmon Fishing on the Grand Cascapedia: Davis	9	90	
6	Rod and Line: Ransome	10	65	
7	Mainly About Fishing: Ransome	10	60	
8	River Angling for Salmon and Trout: Younger	11	55	
9	The Way of a Trout with a Fly: Skues	12	75	
10	Silk, Fur and Feather: The Fly Dresser's Handbook: Skues	12	55	
11	Fly Fishing: Grey	13	70	
12	Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing: Scrope	13	80	*YES
13	Irish Trout and Salmon Flies: Malone - <i>Limited</i>	14	100	
14	Blacker's Art of Flymaking: Blacker	15-17	130	
15	Letters to a Salmon Fisher's Sons: Chaytor	18	70	
16	How to Tie Salmon Flies: Hale	18	65	
17	The Fly-Fisher's Entomology: Ronalds	19-21	80	
18	Floating Flies and How to Dress Them: Halford	22	90	
19	Dry-Fly Fishing : In Theory and Practice: Halford	22	75	
20	The Practical Angler: Stewart	23	55	
21	Where the Bright Waters Meet: Plunket Greene	24	65	
22	The Fly Fisher's Guide: Bainbridge	24	60	
23	A History of Fly Fishing for Trout: Hills	25	55	
24	The Compleat Angler: Walton and Cotton	26	80	
25	The 'Land And Water' Salmon Flies: Kelson	27-29	165	
26	Jones's Guide to Norway: Tolfrey - <i>Limited</i>	30	675	
27	The Modern Angler in a Series of Letters: Salter - <i>Limited</i>	30	180	
28	Salmon Flies and How to Make Them: Malloch - <i>Limited</i>	30	180	
29	Four Centuries of Compleat Angling: Paxman - <i>Limited</i>	30	180	
30	On Sea Trout / The Flyfisherman: Grey (2 vols.) - <i>Limited</i>	31	285	
14A	Portfolio of Blacker's Art of Flymaking: <i>Boxed set of 22 plates</i>		100	
14B	Portfolio of Blacker's Art of Flymaking: <i>Special Offer (for conditions see letter)</i>		30	

\* WAITING LIST: this title currently out of print. Please circle YES if you wish to be placed on the waiting list for the reprint.

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Your order will be acknowledged on receipt.

**Currency Fluctuation:** The suggested US dollar prices given opposite are calculated at the current rate of \$1.5 = £1. Any variance +/- will be taken into account at the time of invoicing.

**Method of Payment:** If you wish to pay by Barclaycard Visa, Mastercard or Eurocard, please fill in details opposite. Your card will not be charged until dispatch of book(s).

Alternatively, you may pay by US dollar bank check, Postal Order, or draft. Payment is due on receipt of invoice, which will be issued when books are ready for dispatch.

**Postage & Packing Contribution:** per book - this will be added to your invoice:

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	Airmail:	\$15.00

(For three or more books sent together you will be charged at mailing cost only.)

To ensure safe arrival, all books are individually packed in tissue paper and bubble wrap, within a custom-made book carton.

**Sequence of Book Dispatch:** Titles in stock will be sent on receipt of order, unless special delivery timing instructions are given. New titles will be sent on publication. You will be advised of the sequence of forthcoming 1994/5 titles, which will be dependent on production and editorial factors. We aim to produce at least one new book every 2 months.

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**FCL reserves** the right to alter book specifications, or postpone/cancel any title. Prices shown opposite are valid for orders placed by September 1994.





## THE FLYFISHER'S CLASSIC LIBRARY

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# ORDER FORM

January 1994

Addendum to 1994/5 Catalogue  
Reference 31

### **Blacker's Art of Flymaking : The Strandgaard Limited Edition**

A Limited Edition of Fifty copies. In addition to the twenty two outstanding colour plates, each book will incorporate one of three patterns : The No. 1, No. 2 or No. 3 from the plates of salmon flies, tied by the world class Henrik Strandgaard of Copenhagen.

Henrik is an authority on Blacker dressings and states "All the flies will be tied according to Blacker's descriptions and will look exactly like the flies in the plates, with original materials and on copies (hand crafted hooks) of Phillips of Dublin Limericks..."

As with the other FCL Limited Editions the craft binding will be of the finest quality, Nigerian Goatskin; each book individually numbered and signed.

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### **Blacker's Art of Flymaking** **The Strandgaard Edition • Limited to Fifty Copies** **Order Reference 31**

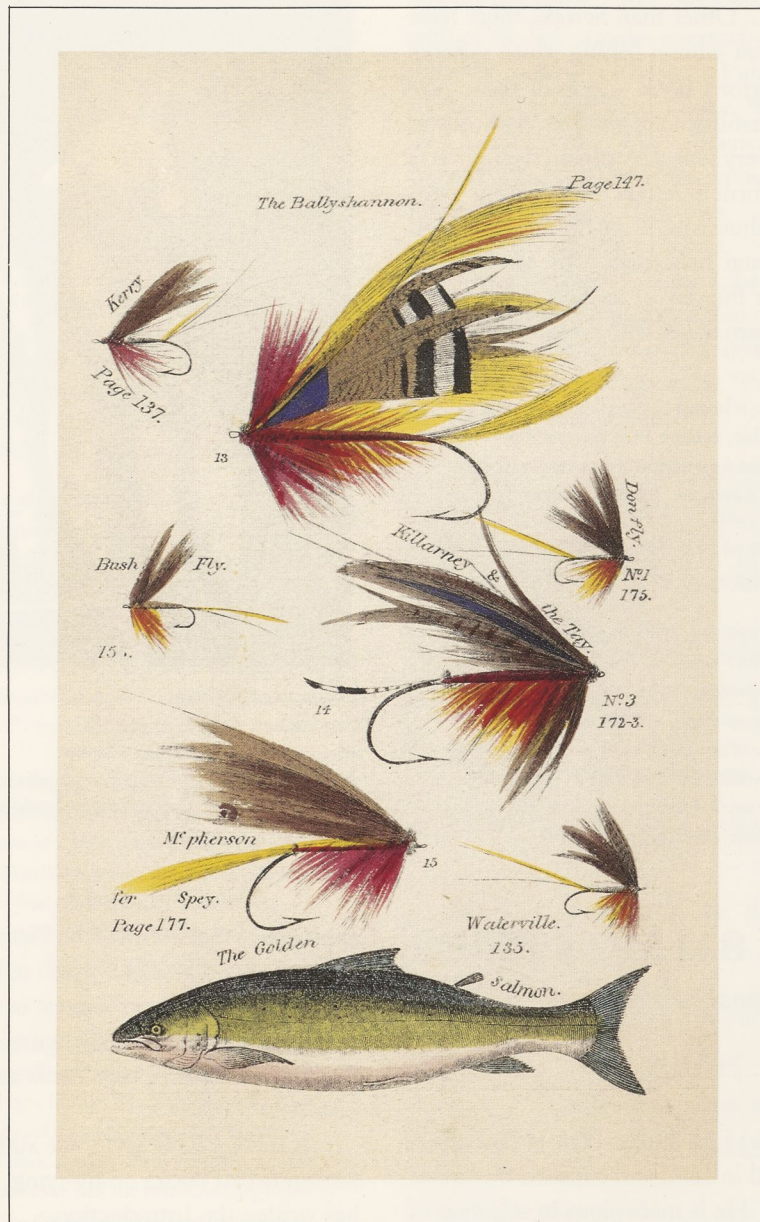
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See page 15: *Blacker's Art of Flymaking*



## LETTERS TO A SALMON FISHER'S SONS

A.H. CHAYTOR

A H. Chaytor published his *Letters to a Salmon Fisher's Sons* in 1910. Other than Scrope, there have been few books on salmon fishing which deserve the name of 'classic'. Chaytor's book is one of those rare exceptions. It is a unique distillation of wisdom, enthusiasm and experience, covering every aspect of salmon fishing. It is charmingly written in the form of letters to the author's two sons, showing the love, enthusiasm, acute observations and knowledge of a great salmon fisherman. Its advice is as relevant today as it was on the day of its first publication: Chaytor led the way to modern ideas, with a special influence on fly-dressing.

"His book is one of the elect; it brings to date the knowledge of the past, rejects the untenable, retains what has been proved useful and adds much new information; it is practical and well informed." (*Notable Angling Literature*, James Robb)

HUGH FALKUS, author of *Sea-Trout Fishing* and *Salmon Fishing*, writes in his Introduction:

"... When it comes to the practical 'what to do?' approach to salmon fishing, Chaytor offers some of the best advice ever written ... On the subject of where and when to expect salmon he is particularly good - voicing, as usual, an original thought ... If fate could give me the chance of spending a day with any salmon fisher of the past, I think I would choose Chaytor. It would be an education to watch him at work, teasing one out of the pool in dead low water after everyone else has given it best ..."



### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 352 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 8 black and white half-tone plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 15

## HOW TO TIE SALMON FLIES

*The Centenary Edition*

J.H. HALE

Captain (later Major) J.H. Hale's *How to Tie Salmon Flies* was published in 1892 and contains the dressings of forty flies. He is meticulous in selection of dressings and a devotee of exact feather for the right fly. The unpretentious text is very practical and is supported by fine illustrations of unusual clarity. This facsimile of the first edition is extended to include the unprecedented and invaluable list, as published in the second edition of 1919, of 361 salmon flies with their dressings detailed in alphabetical order by John J. Hardy of Hardy Bros, Alnwick.

This important book is a milestone in the history of fly tying and reflects the transition from the earlier 'Bainbridge'

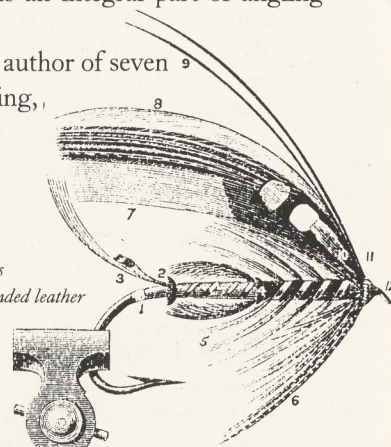
approach to the exotica of the Victorian era. Original editions are now very scarce and much in demand for reference.

Today's resurgent interest in the Victorian salmon fly is not surprising as the challenge of skill to the fly dresser and the fine aesthetic result forms an integral part of angling history.

JOHN VENIARD, the author of seven distinguished books on fly-tying, has written the Introduction.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 224 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 74 fine-line diagrams  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 16





# THE FLY-FISHER'S ENTOMOLOGY

ALFRED RONALDS

Alfred Ronalds published his brilliant *Fly-Fisher's Entomology* in 1836 and caused a sensation in the angling world. This important work remains one of the principal milestones in the history of angling literature; few books have had more influence:

"... Having always been an unbeliever in the word impossible, I determined to try and teach myself. Accordingly, with a copy of Ronalds' 'Fly Fisher's Entomology' opened before me, and a few indispensable materials, I commenced trying to puzzle out the mysteries of the craft. After many attempts, and almost as many failures, I succeeded in turning out something remotely akin in form and colour to the Red Spinner illustrated in that admirable treatise, and was further encouraged by finding a grayling sufficiently silly to take this bad imitation..." *Floating Flies and How to Dress Them*: F.M. Halford (1886).

"Few books have been more widely read, or had more influence. Ronalds is the father of the modern angler-naturalist...the best book on natural and artificial flies ever written." *A History of Fly Fishing for Trout*: J.W. Hills (1921).

"Occasionally a copy appears in a catalogue of second-hand books, but it is quite hard to procure one, especially of the earlier editions, and it may be deduced that anglers regard the book as one which they 'must have', from the practical as well as the collector's point of view.

...Ronalds...was the culminating point of the third period in the development of fly-fishing. But I think he was probably more than that - the instigator of a fresh interest in fly-fishing as an art which led to the fourth period and the dry-fly entomology of Halford... There never have been better pictures of the natural insects in any form accessible to the angler, and I do not suppose there ever will be..." Introduction to the title: H.T. Sheringham (1921).

"It's impossible to overstress the importance of Ronalds. Certainly he is the most significant figure in fly fishing after Cotton, whom he followed by a hundred and sixty years. And while *The Compleat Angler* was of course unique in its impact on the literary world, and will undoubtedly always remain so, it is safe to say that no single book ever had the revolutionary effect on the angling world - that is, the actual practice of angling, as opposed to the recording of its annals - of *The Fly-Fisher's Entomology* in 1836.

"Never has so little presumption preceeded such solid accomplishment... he did what hadn't been done before, he threw a bridge, so to speak, across between the practice of angling and the science of entomology. Without abandoning the vernacular names, he linked them for the first time with their technical or scientific names. True, he didn't accomplish this latter all in one fell swoop, and it wasn't until his fifth edition, in 1856 - a span of twenty years - that he completed the process.

"... While Ronalds' work has since been succeeded ... it has never really been superseded. He has a number of worthy successors, but while he has been supplemented by all of them he has been supplanted by none." *The Fishing in Print*: Arnold Gingrich (1974).

Few books related to angling are more beautiful than *The Fly-Fisher's Entomology*: the superb colour drawings of 47 flies, one for the natural and another for the artificial, result in a total of 94: See samples overleaf—plate III (General Directions for making a Fly and a Palmer) and plate XIII (Flies for June: No 28a Green Drake, No 28b Grey Drake and No 29 Orange Dun). The sequence follows the angling year, March to September. Descriptions of each fly are followed by the appropriate dressings. Needless to say the early editions are rare and valuable.

The Flyfisher's Classic Library's superb production of *The Fly-fisher's Entomology* is that of 1856, the fifth edition: It was the last published in Ronalds' lifetime and edited, to the satisfaction of the author, by "Piscator", nom-de-plume of the Rev. Barnard Smith.

## THE FLY-FISHER'S ENTOMOLOGY,

WITH COLORED REPRESENTATIONS  
OF THE NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL INSECT;  
AND A FEW OBSERVATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS  
ON TROUT- AND GRAYLING-FISHING

BY ALFRED RONALDS.

WITH TWENTY COLORED PLATES.

Fifth Edition revised, with Additions

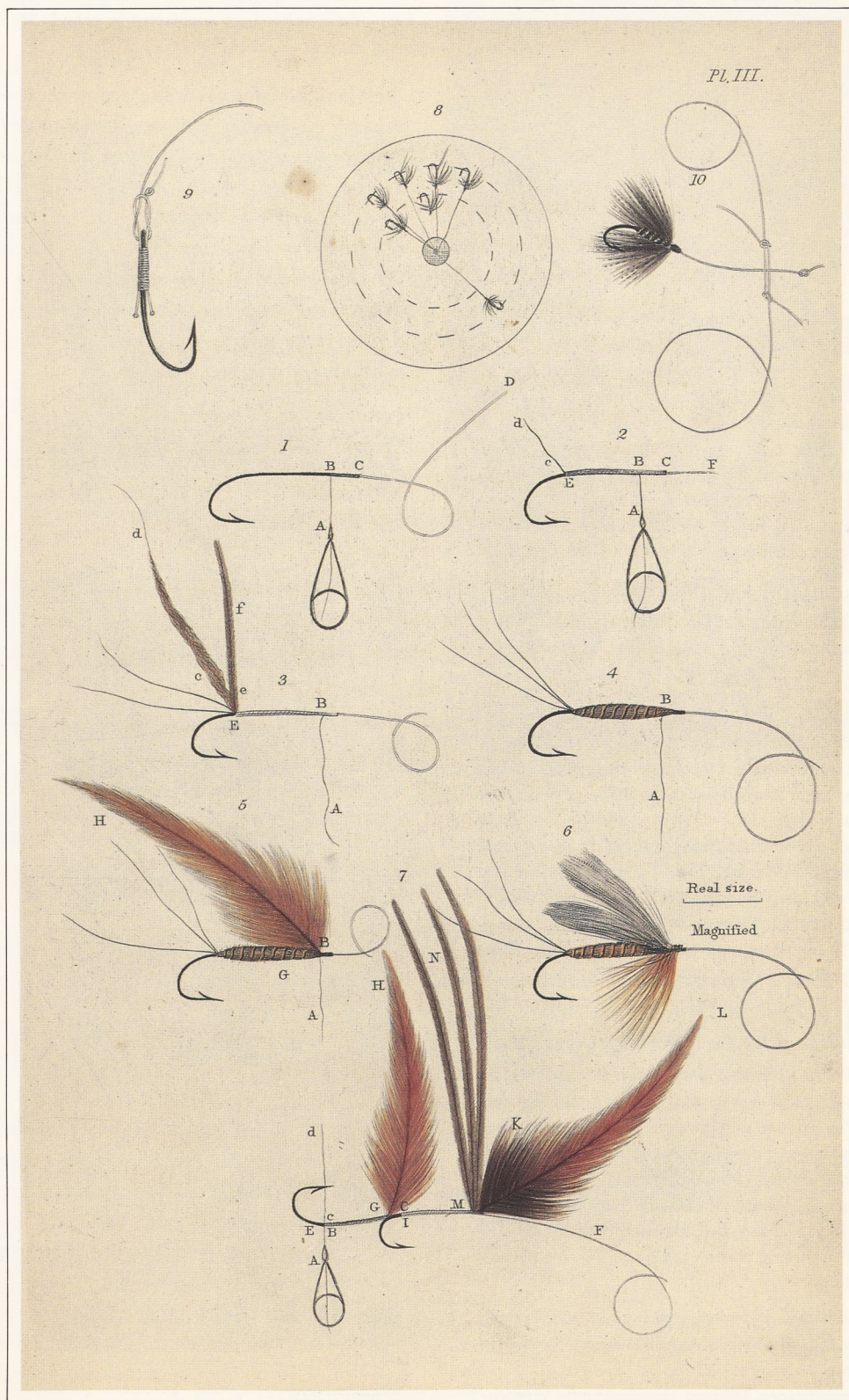
BY PISCATOR.

"Devouring Ephemerals! Can you not suffer the poor insects to sport out their day? They must be insipid eating—but here are some savoury exceedingly \*\*\*\*\* they carry *sauce piquante* in their tails. Do try the taste of this Bobber—but any of the three you please—There! Hold fast, Kirby—for that's a Whopper!"  
CHRISTOPHER NORTH.

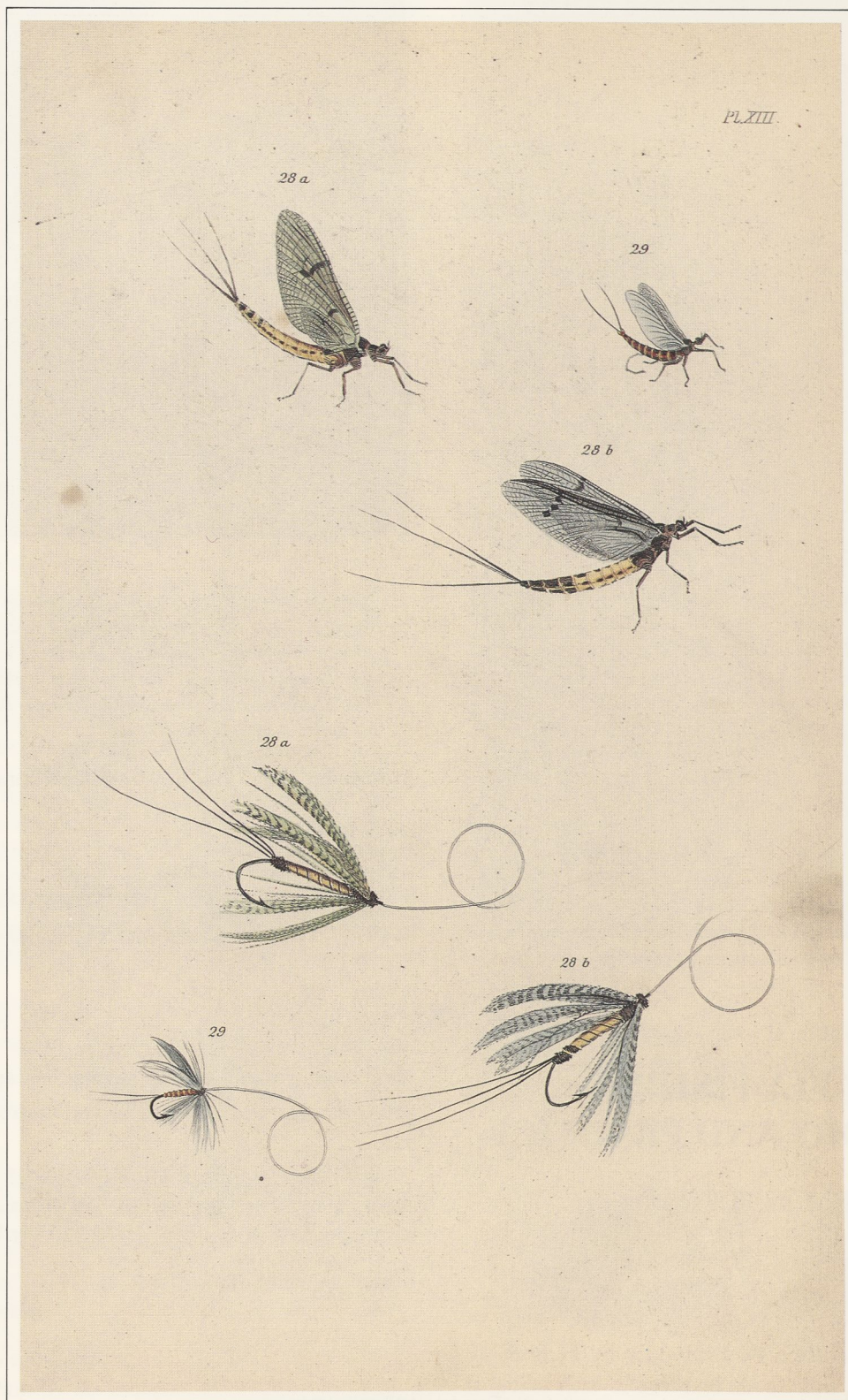
### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 194 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 19 colour plates and 1 black and white frontispiece  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 17









See page 19: *The Fly-Fisher's Entomology*



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## FLOATING FLIES AND HOW TO DRESS THEM

F.M. HALFORD

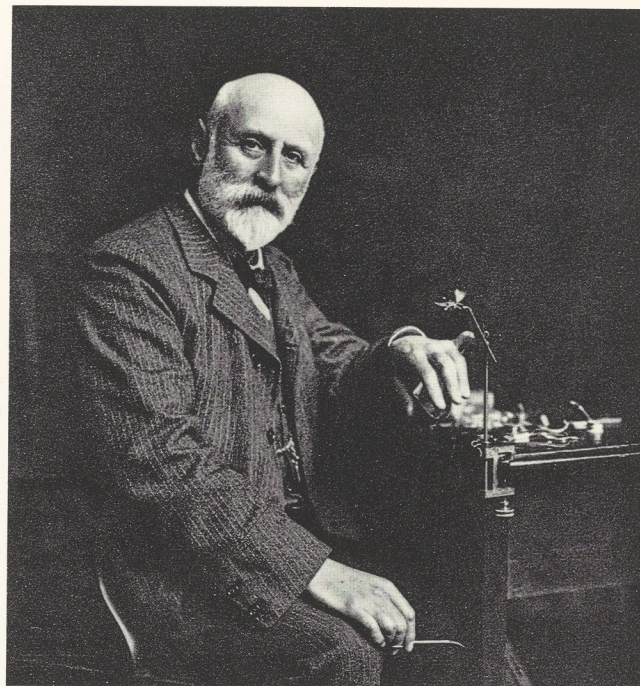
**F**loating *Flies and How to Dress Them* by Frederic M. Halford was his first book, published in 1886. With an edition of only 500 copies it is his scarcest and most valuable publication.

Based on years of painstaking research in the field (inspired by his talented friend and collaborator, the celebrated fly-fisher George Selwyn Marryat) Halford's book sets out to identify and provide dressings for all the chalkstream flies. Halford supervised every detail of the book's production, with rigorous perfectionism. The result is a masterpiece of Victorian publishing, with superb engravings hand-coloured in the original edition.

In Ernest Schwiebert's two volume definitive work, *Trout* (1978), he wrote,

*"(Floating Flies and How to Dress Them) ... established Halford as the principal writer on the chalkstreams and the emerging dry-fly method. He was a man of disciplined intelligence and strong opinions, and his influence led to the serious investigation of aquatic fly life on the trout streams of the United Kingdom, as well as a precise philosophy of the fly dressing and matching the hatch. His precision shows in every phrase of Floating Flies and How to Dress Them, as seen in the following definition of the dry-fly method:*

*'To define dry-fly fishing, I should describe it as presenting to the rising fish the best possible imitation of the insect on which he is feeding in its natural position. To analyse this further, it is necessary, firstly, to find a fish feeding on the winged insect, secondly, to present him a good imitation of this insect, both as to size and color;*



*thirdly, to present it to him in its natural position or floating on the surface of the water with its wings up, or what we technically term cocked; fourthly, to put the fly lightly on the water, so that it floats accurately over him without drag; and fifthly, to take care that all these conditions have been fulfilled before the fish has seen the angler, or the reflection of his rod."*

An absolute 'must' for every fly-fisher's library.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 150 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 10 colour plates, 73 line diagrams and 1 black and white frontispiece  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 18

NEW TITLE

## DRY-FLY FISHING: IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

F.M. HALFORD  
1889

*Centenary Edition 1989.*

Published as an edition of 1500 only by H.F. & G. Witherby in 1989, with 50 'de luxe' copies each selling at £200 each.

Acclaimed at the time, notably by G.E.M. Skues, as 'the greatest work, in my opinion, which has ever seen the light on the subject of angling for trout and grayling,' the

reputation of this work has survived in spite of modern developments and changes in techniques, tactics, and tackle.

FCL has acquired from Witherby the unbound sheets printed for a possible American edition which never appeared. Introduction by DERMOT WILSON.

Edition limited to 500 copies

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 224 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 25 black and white half-tone plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 19



# THE PRACTICAL ANGLER

W.C. STEWART

**W**.C. Stewart is one of the select few who have acquired angling fame by the publication of only one book.

*The Practical Angler* (or *The Art of Trout-Fishing* more particularly applied to clear water), first published in 1857, revolutionized tactics and rapidly became an influential classic, remaining in print for over 60 years. Stewart's upstream sunk-fly technique, using lightly dressed 'spiders', is described here, just one year before the birth of G.E.M. Skues, who applied the same idea to chalk stream fishing 50 years later.

'... There may be some who think that a book which first appeared so long ago can be of little practical value now. For many reasons it would be a profound mistake to ignore Stewart on that account, not the least being that his contribution goes right down to the fundamentals of the art, which do not greatly change with the lapse of time. He possesses a deep acquaintance with his subject coupled with success as an angler which few could equal and none excel in his day; he never makes a definite statement which he does not substantiate or strongly support, every point of view is thoroughly discussed and his reasoning is close and generally convincing, and, above all, he has the rare gift of the born teacher. *The Practical Angler* does not belie its title; it is practical in the extreme. Stewart states his purpose and he never deviates from it. Here it is, and it is the key-note of the book: 'It is our intention to treat of the different branches of angling solely with the view of showing how the greatest weight of trout can be captured in a given time ...' (James Robb, *Notable Angling Literature*, 1947)

J.W. Hills cites Stewart as one of the four most influential figures in the history of angling, and *The Practical Angler* as 'still of its kind the best book ever written'.

Conrad Voss Bark (*A History of Flyfishing*, 1992) writes:

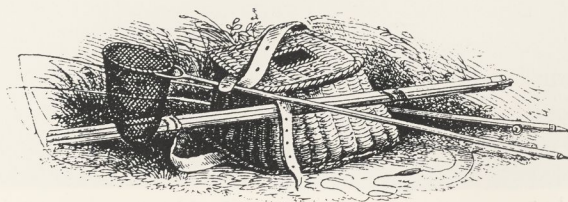
'... Having read Stewart's book a number of times, I have felt drawn close to him and to his friend James Baillie. This does not occur with many other books but there is something about the way Stewart wrote which speaks directly to my own feelings. He was a great man and I wish I had known him ...'

The FCL has commissioned a fascinating and important new Introduction by the archivist RICHARD HUNTER of Edinburgh, whose extensive research includes much previously unknown facts and background to W.C. Stewart's life. Hunter discovered the only surviving and previously unpublished photograph of W.C. Stewart and



W.C. Stewart (standing) with angling companion.

this will form the frontispiece. In addition, CONRAD VOSS BARK writes in his new Foreword of 'Stewart and his effect on fishing and fishermen.' This FCL edition will be the definitive edition of *The Practical Angler*.



## SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	252 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	2 black and white half-tones
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	20



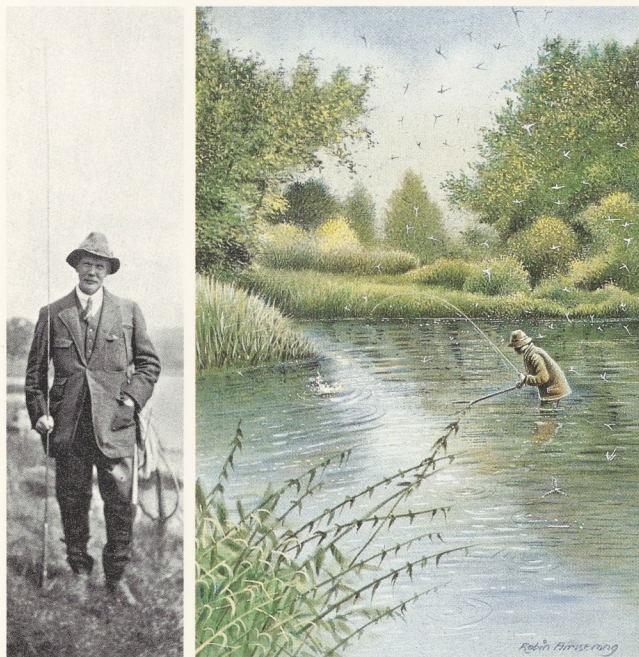
## WHERE THE BRIGHT WATERS MEET

HARRY PLUNKET GREENE

**W**here the Bright Waters Meet by Harry Plunket Greene was first published in 1924. Although this joyful book is nominally in praise of the Bourne, a tributary of the Test, the author writes of his fishing experiences on other rivers and in other countries. It is one of the most entertaining books ever written on angling and appeals to every kind of angler of every age.

"He was, moreover, a writer of real quality, and in *Where the Bright Waters Meet* he produced an outstanding angling autobiography, which is quite rightly regarded as a classic of the chalk-streams .... While he lays down no definite instructions, he brings us to his side when he is fishing, and leaves us to find out his true quality from watching him at work. It is a rare gift, this pictorial writing, and everywhere it illuminates his style, and so vivid are his descriptions that we might well be kneeling with him on the banks of the Bourne, or suffering a wading incursion through thick river mud in which he nearly drowns. Every yard of the way he describes with such tremendous zest and enjoyment that we can see him in action and learn from his various adventures. And adventurous is certainly the word for his fishing." (Howard Marshall, 1969)

I know of no book which celebrates the joy of dry-fly fishing for trout in a finer or more memorable manner than Harry Plunket Greene's *Where The Bright Waters Meet* ... The extraordinary charm of the book lies in the bond between writer and stream. (Tom Fort, *The Field*, May 1993).



*The Flyfisher's Classic Library* edition includes a specially commissioned new colour frontispiece by ROBIN ARMSTRONG in addition to an illustration of the author.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	228 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	One colour plate and one black and white half-tone plate
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	21

## THE FLY FISHER'S GUIDE

G.C. BAINBRIDGE

**F**irst published in Liverpool in 1816, George Cole Bainbridge's *The Fly Fisher's Guide* must be regarded as one of the earliest books on fly fishing. Though published less than 200 years ago, barely a dozen books on angling of any kind preceded it in the English language and of these only a few gave detailed information on fly fishing.

Not surprisingly, an original first edition of this charming and scarce book is very valuable.

Bainbridge blazed a trail for the scientific approach to imitative fly fishing that was to evolve in the nineteenth century. He described and illustrated in colour a calendar of natural insects of interest to the angler and gave dressings for their artificial imitations. In so doing, Bainbridge showed the

way for the great angler entomologists who were to follow him and who moulded our approach to fly fishing to this day.

In his general advice on fishing methods and stream-craft, Bainbridge's book went far beyond mere plagiarism of the earlier writers. He crystallised most of the fly fishing knowledge extant at that time, while adding a great deal of clear, detailed advice, culled from his own practical experience. Bainbridge was among the first to recommend upstream fishing on purpose, as opposed to merely when the wind dictated it. He also gave one of the first unequivocal descriptions of dry fly fishing and was an early advocate of long casting with a heavy fly line.

.... you will be surprised at his scientific approach to fly-tying. This is a work of an angler. It shines from every page that Bainbridge is delivering practical advice borne out from experience .... Do not shun this book because it is from a time when George III was on the throne and Waterloo was



news, not history. It has a great deal to offer today's anglers. (Keith Elliott, *The Field*, May 1992).

Introduction by TONY DEACON, editor of *The Flydresser*, who writes:

"... His book shines with common sense and detailed practical advice, conveyed with disarming humility ... Bainbridge undoubtedly took fly fishing a pace forwards. He showed the way for the great angler entomologists - Ronalds and Halford - who were to follow him ... he seems amazingly ahead of his time. Salt water fly fishing is still a distinctly minority pursuit in Britain, so it is a surprise to find Bainbridge discussing on mullet as a

fly rod quarry as long ago as 1816 ... for its time, a remarkably thorough and perceptive little volume."



**SPECIFICATIONS:**

Page extent: 184 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 8 colour plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 22

## A HISTORY OF FLY FISHING FOR TROUT

JOHN WALLER HILLS

First published in 1921, *A History of Fly Fishing for Trout* is an invaluable book covering the period from the close of the fifteenth century to the beginning of the twentieth, including much on Halford and Skues. It is no coincidence that distinguished writers on angling literature such as James Robb (*Notable Angling Literature*, 1947), Arnold Gingrich (*The Fishing in Print*: 1974), Paul Schullery (*American Fly Fishing*, 1987) and Conrad Voss Bark (*A History of Fly Fishing*, 1992) refer consistently to and quote often from this classic work.

The text of eleven chapters, with bibliography and index, is perceptive, clear, without bias and undoubtedly stems from very considerable research. Gingrich quotes extensively from Hills and even writes:

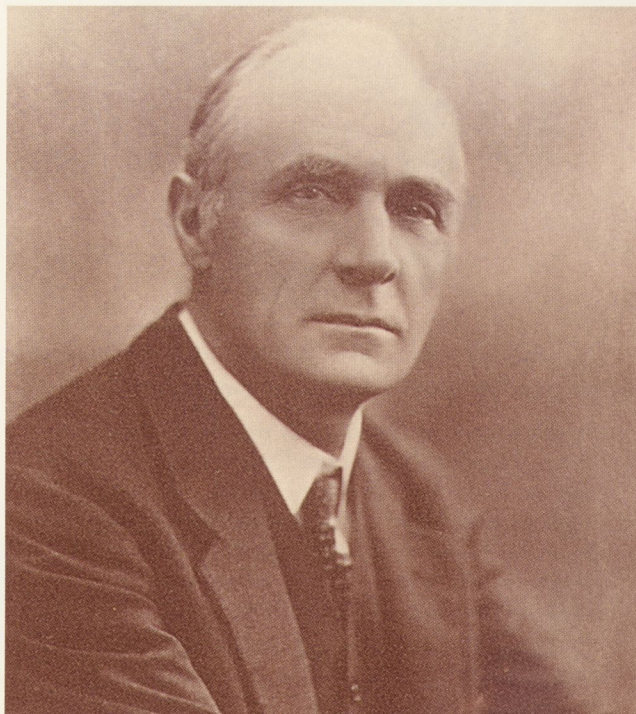
'Just as I would not like to try to talk about Halford when the words of John Waller Hills are available, to do the job better,...'

In the last paragraph of his book Major Hills writes:

'... Four and a quarter centuries have gone by since the Barnes Treatise appeared. I have tried to give an account of these centuries. I hope there are some readers whom this book will interest. As I have written it, and still more as I read over what I have written, I have been appalled at the thought that it was of no interest to anyone. Perhaps that is so. But on the other hand I know that there are some who read everything which is written about fishing, for I am of that number, and it is improbable that I am the only one. That is one consolation. And then I believe that there must be others also like myself, whom the history of the sport attracts, who are fascinated by the devices of other days, and

who are never weary of going back to the old writers, of reading them again, of getting at their real meaning and of seeing where they have anticipated us and where we have improved on them ...'

Although one of his other books (*A Summer on the Test*: 1924) is probably more widely known from its various editions, the scarcer *A History of Fly Fishing for Trout* is uniquely absorbing and an invaluable reference for every serious library, coupled with being a fascinating read.



**SPECIFICATIONS:**

Page extent: 252 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 1 black and white half-tone  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.  
Order No: 23

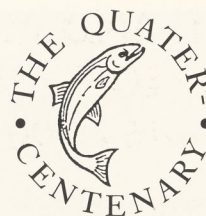
NEW TITLE



# THE COMPLEAT ANGLER OR CONTEMPLATIVE MAN'S RECREATION

*The 1993 Quatercentenary Edition  
(Izaak Walton born 1593).*

IZAAK WALTON & CHARLES COTTON



EDITION

**T**he *Compleat Angler* was first published in 1653 as a modest volume small enough to fit into an angler's pocket. This venerable book has lived through centuries and 460 editions to entertain today's anglers. Charles Cotton joined the history of fly-fishing and the world of literature in 1676 when Walton published the fifth edition, which included Cotton's *Being Instructions How to Angle for a Trout or Grayling in a Clear Stream*. His fine text and fly patterns have enshrined Cotton as the father of modern fly-fishing.

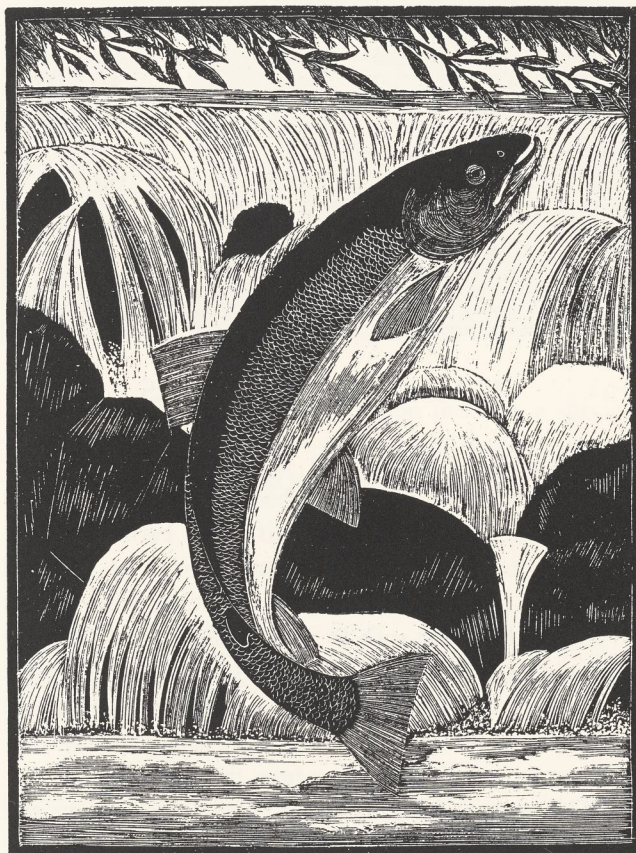


It is difficult not to praise *The Compleat Angler* too highly; like all great literature, it creates its own universe.

"If you love him, you'll read him on your own, probably again and again and year after year, and if you don't I despair of being able to make you like him, by random sampling, any better than you do . . . If there were such a thing, or had to be, as one fishing book then of course it would have to be Walton, by over three centuries of common consent . . . *The Fishing in Print* Arnold Gingrich: 1974.

"Even in reading him as the practical fisherman we find none of the dull stuff chronicled by scholars in the years following. To this day, nobody has written a more finely detailed study in the art of using live baits. Walton's eloquence lagged only when the subject of fly-fishing became too pressing, and here he turned to his friend, Charles Cotton. *McClane's Standard Fishing Encyclopedia* A.J. McClane: 1965.

From the hundreds of various editions of this great work, *The Flyfisher's Classic Library* has chosen the text and research of



the important edition of 1823 by John Major, combined with the sixteen Eric Fitch Daglish wood engravings of 1927. Furthermore the typography of the chosen edition is a joy compared to many of the near unreadable earlier editions.

Sound advice from that great Irish writer and angler, O'Gorman:

"I again recommend all my brother anglers to possess themselves of Walton and Cotton . . ."

The *FCL* recommends this outstanding and fine commemorative edition, even to those who already possess *The Compleat Angler* in another form.

#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	368 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	16 black and white plates
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	24



# "LAND AND WATER" SALMON FLIES 1886 - 1902

G.M. KELSON

The Flyfisher's Classic Library feels privileged to have acquired for publication G.M. Kelson's rare and so far unpublished *Land and Water Salmon Flies*. The collection was compiled on cards by Forrest of Kelso, probably the work of Johnny Mercer, who was Forrest's leading fly-dresser at the time: maybe to Edmund W. Davis! Each salmon fly with origin and dressing was issued in conjunction with the articles by Kelson in the magazine, 'Land and Water'. The 85 patterns are in superb full colour with detailed descriptions of their dressings. They date from 1886 prior to the appearance of Kelson's famous and monumental book *The Salmon Fly* with the sub-title: "How to dress and how to use it". 39 patterns are not illustrated in *The Salmon Fly* of 1895 and 11 of them not even mentioned in the book's text. Their extreme rarity cannot be over-stressed. Even more intriguing is that they have been entirely passed over in subsequent literature, probably because researchers and writers were simply not aware of the existence of the cards, which were probably lost or discarded. At that time Kelson was regarded as the first writer to whom the amateur would turn for proper guidance on salmon fly-dressing.

The number of outstanding colour illustrations for this

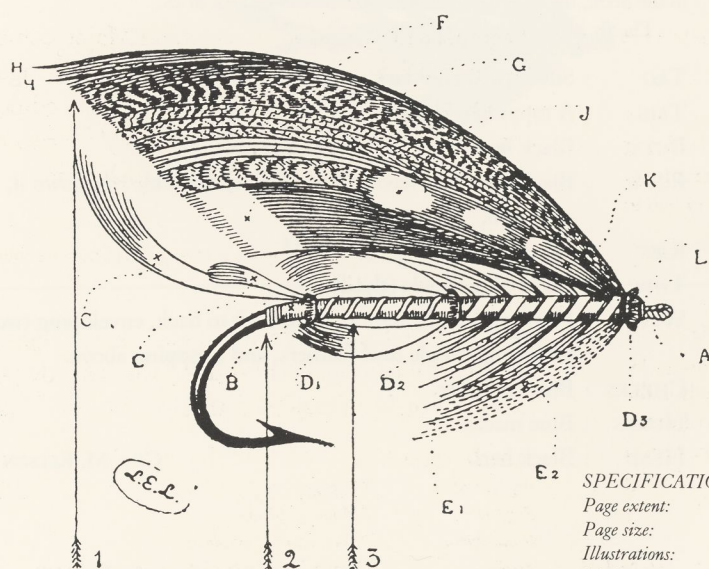
important publication necessitates a cost higher than those of other titles within the Library - although still significantly below the substantial current value of the 1895 edition of Kelson's *The Salmon Fly*. Moreover, this unique and beautifully produced book is certain to be an immediate collectors' item and a definitive reference on the subject.



Introduction by RONALD J.W. COLEBY, one of the world's most distinguished authorities on angling literature, whose contribution to this important work is more than just an Introduction. His fascinating and scholarly text begins:

"George Mortimer Kelson's influence on the course of salmon fishing as a sport outstripped that of any other person and I find it beyond the bounds of credibility that any individual can ever again dominate the field in such a fashion . . ."

ANALYTICAL DIAGRAM, illustrating parts and proportions of a Salmon-Fly.



"JOCK SCOTT" TYPE.

## SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	128 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	86 colour illustrations
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.
Order No:	25



No. 19 *Thunder and Lightning* (MR. WRIGHT.)

Thunder and Lightning has, during the last year or two, proved itself to be one of our best patterns for autumn fishing, especially when the water is more or less covered by the fall of leaf. In former days it was hardly ever tried in thick water; but if the river be not too muddy, it is, from my own experience and also that of others, to be highly recommended.

The dressing is comparatively simple, and may be described as follows:—

TAG : Gold twist and orange silk.  
 TAIL : A topping.  
 BUTT : Black herl.  
 BODY : Black silk.  
 RIBS : Gold tinsel (oval).  
 HACKLE : Orange (as illustrated).  
 THROAT : Jay.  
 WINGS : Mallard, with a topping.  
 SIDES : Jungle fowl.  
 HORNS : Blue macaw.  
 HEAD : Black herl.

GEO. M. KELSON.

No. 20 *The Black Ranger* (JAMES WRIGHT.)

As a general fly, The Black Ranger is very properly believed to be the best of its sort, and its reputation is to be attributed to its frequent influence over the fish in all kinds to weather and water.

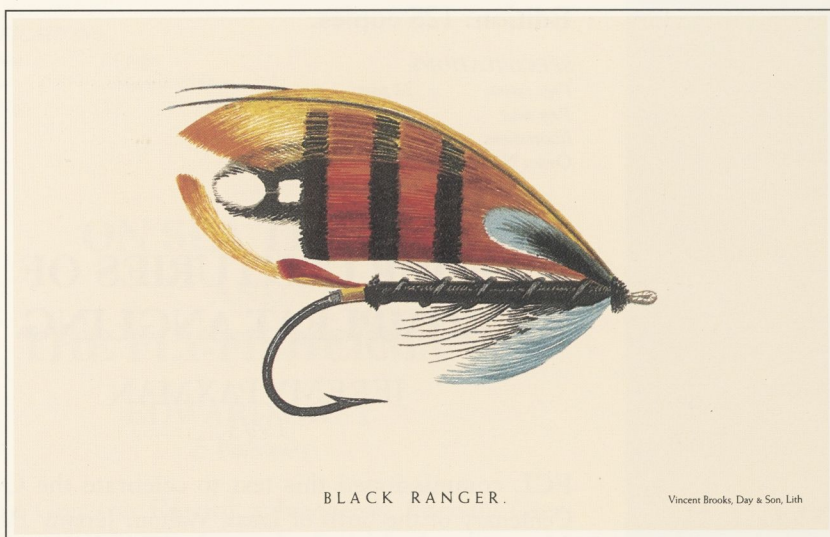
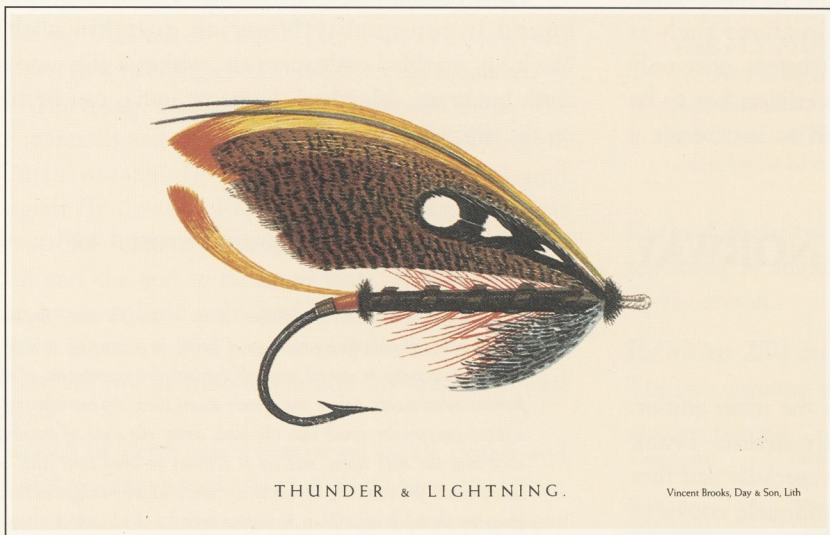
Another advantage with this pattern is that it can be dressed in almost all sizes; certainly from the smallest, or grilse size, up to the largest that the tippets can furnish with taste. In putting on the tippets, it will be found desirable to pinch the quill of each feather at the end of the fibres with the thumb and finger nails; this having been done, the extreme end is tapered off to ensure the head being more ship-shape—that is to say, not left square to skirt the water. It is also desirable to put them on in pairs, and set them in varnish, before the gossamer silk binds them to the hook, the latter being worked before the varnish dries.

The fly is described as follows:—

TAG : Silver twist and dark yellow silk.  
 TAIL : A topping and ibis.  
 BUTT : Black herl.  
 BODY : Black floss silk, having a natural black hackle run down it, as shown.  
 RIBS : Silver tinsel (oval).  
 THROAT : Light blue hackle (dyed).  
 WINGS : Four golden pheasant tippets, back to back, enveloping two projecting jungle fowl feathers, and a topping above.  
 CHEEKS : Blue chatterer.  
 HORNS : Blue macaw.  
 HEAD : Black herl.

GEO. M. KELSON.









## LIMITED EDITIONS



Although FCL's print quantities per title are relatively low (currently around 600 - 1,000) and now stated on the imprint page, FCL's policy is not to limit its mainstream collectable list. However, there are situations such as specified conditions by authors, literary trustees, once only material, specialist appeal etc, where an edition has to be limited. Therefore, FCL has decided to introduce a

section of *Limited Editions* for certain titles within these constraints in order to meet the interests of Members.

Each edition will be individually numbered, fully craft bound in top quality Nigerian goatskin with gold blocking, marbled endpapers etc. within a slip case of real cloth buckram. Member's name or initial can be blocked on the slipcase to order.

### JONES'S GUIDE TO NORWAY

TOLFREY  
1848

As explained within the information on the main edition (see pages 3,4,5), the distinguished fly-dresser Frank Myhre Hansen of Norway will produce specially tied flies from the Jones's specification and on handmade copies of 'Phillips of Dublin' hooks. Frank's flies are both technically and aesthetically superb, matching the best in the world. Hansen has chosen three:

*The Colonel: No. 5 size*

*The Butcher: No. 6 size*

*The Major: No. 5 size*

Each fly will be set within the special craft binding and will include Hansen's signature. The number is limited to 22 for each fly; one of each being retained by the fly-dresser and FCL archive.

**Edition: 66 copies**

**SPECIFICATIONS:**

Page extent: 292 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 8 colour plates and 2 black and white half-tones  
Order No: 26

### THE MODERN ANGLER IN A SERIES OF LETTERS

ROBERT SALTER  
(not to be confused with Thomas F. Salter)  
1811

An extremely scarce book with index and a charming text of 133 pages in the form of sixteen letters to a friend, Rev. Morgan Pryse. The content mainly comprises the use and detailed description of at least twenty seven flies. In

addition, various amusing pieces of sound advice such as the Wasp Bait:

*'In July, August, and September, from a wasp's nest, you can supply yourself plentifully with good baits, in procuring which it may be necessary to guard yourself against the resentment of the furious inhabitants, before you openly assail them, by introducing a lighted gunpowder squib into the nest, about the dusk of evening, then stop the hole close, and let it remain in that state half an hour, when you may dig the comb out without any danger of being stung by them; it must then be baked before a moderate fire, with a tin bonnet behind it, which will render the baits more tough and lasting, than in their natural state.'*

Originally printed for the author.

**Edition: 125 copies.**

**SPECIFICATIONS:**

Page extent: 32 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 11 black and white engravings  
Order No: 27

### FOUR CENTURIES OF COMPLEAT ANGLING

JEREMY PAXMAN  
1993

FCL commissioned this text to celebrate the Quater Centenary of the birth of Izaak Walton. Jeremy Paxman reflects on the man and his book; also Charles Cotton.

This well researched, controversial and superbly written text will no doubt become an important Waltonia collectable. 32 pages with illustrations from the *Complete Angler*: Sir Harris Nicolas edition, 1836.

**Edition: 125 copies.**

**SPECIFICATIONS:**

Page extent: 32 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Order No: 28



## SALMON FLIES AND HOW TO MAKE THEM

P.D. MALLOCH  
1890

Previously unpublished in book form, this text with 17 instructional line drawings, formed a series of articles in *The Fishing Gazette* of 1890. The FCL edition will incorporate new drawings improved from the originals, by Robin Armstrong, and include an Appendix listing the feather materials stated in the text with their full English and Latin names. In addition, the distinguished Norwegian fly-dresser, FRANK MYHRE HANSEN, has written an informative Introduction. He considers both Malloch and the text to be important: 'Nothing on fly-dressing has ever been published on him: it strikes me at once that it is written by a professional dresser; there is no hesitation in any of his statements on materials and techniques...'

Malloch of Perth was a renowned tackle dealer and author of *Life History and Habits of the Salmon, Sea-Trout, Trout and other Freshwater Fish*, 1910. However, these earlier writings are undoubtedly more significant for the fly dresser.

**Edition: 125 copies.**

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 24 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Order No: 29

## ON SEA TROUT AND THE FLY-FISHERMAN

EDWARD GREY  
2 Volumes

Edward Grey (Sir Edward, subsequently, Viscount Grey of Fallodon K.G.) had two distinguished careers, as naturalist-author and as a statesman of foreign affairs. Many cherish his classic book, *Fly Fishing*, first published in 1899: see page 13 of this catalogue.

In his address on *Recreation* to the Harvard Union, USA in 1919, Grey confessed ".... I have had a liking for more than one form of sport, but an actual passion for salmon and trout fishing ....".

Within Grey's various writings that "offer us the purest and most lasting joys of mind and heart" (G.M.

Trevelyan, *Grey of Fallodon*: 1937) are two outstanding essays:

### ON SEA TROUT: 1913

"..... Sometimes I think that sea trout fishing is the best of all sport. It combines the wildness of salmon fishing with the independence of trout fishing, and one may have all the excitement of hooking large fish without using a heavy rod and heavy tackle ...."

### THE FLY-FISHERMAN: 1926

".... Fly-Fishing is but one form of angling, and to enjoy it to the full a man must be born an angler. The passion may be latent, for years it may not discover itself owing to lack of opportunity, but if it is not revealed when opportunity comes, it is not there. ...."

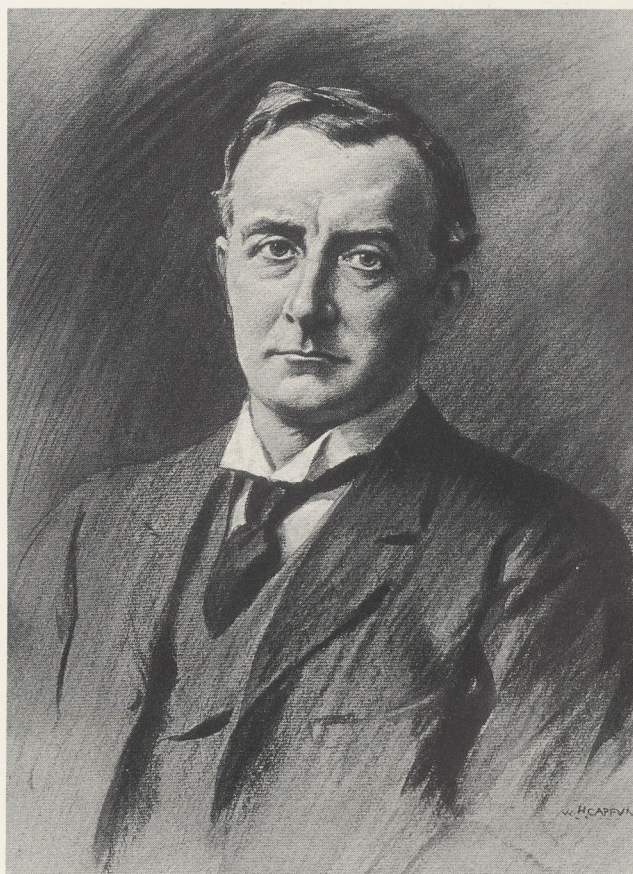
Each of these two classic writings represent a peak of sensitivity in angling literature to lift the very spirit of the fly-fisherman.

**Edition: 250 copies.**

The two volumes within one slip-case.

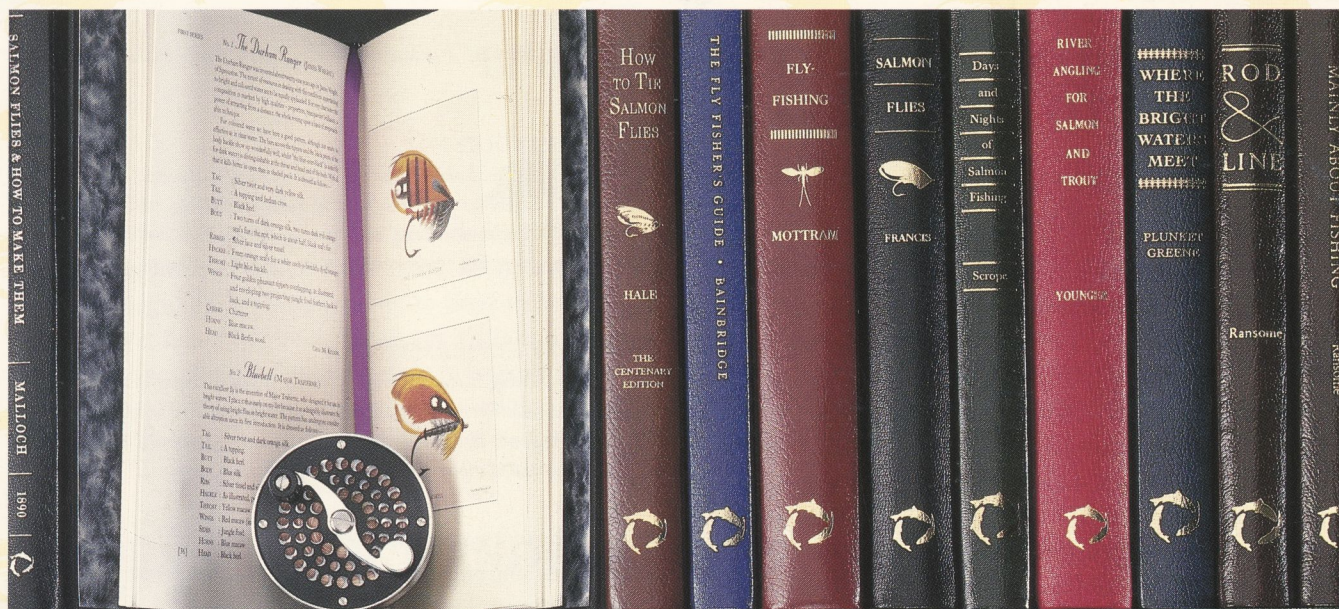
### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: On Sea Trout: 24 pages  
The Fly Fisherman: 24 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 1 black and white half-tone in each title  
Order No: 30



Edward Grey





FLY FISHING  
GREY

THE COMPLETE ANGLER  
WALTON & COTTON

THE FLYFISHERS ENTOMOLOGY  
RONALDS

SALMON FISHING  
O'DRISCOLL

THE ART OF FLY-MAKING  
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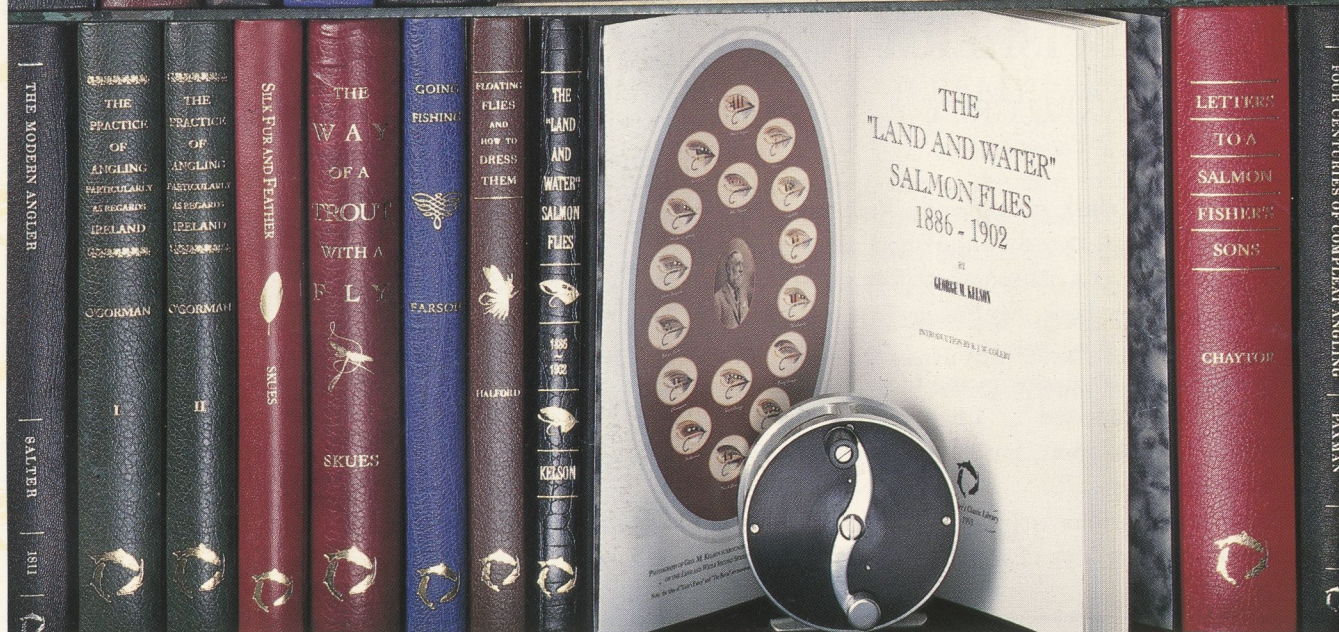
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TOLFRUP

FLY-FISHING FOR TROUT  
EULMAN

IRISH TROUT AND SALMON FLIES  
MALONE

THE FISHERMAN'S VADE MECUM  
MAUNSELL







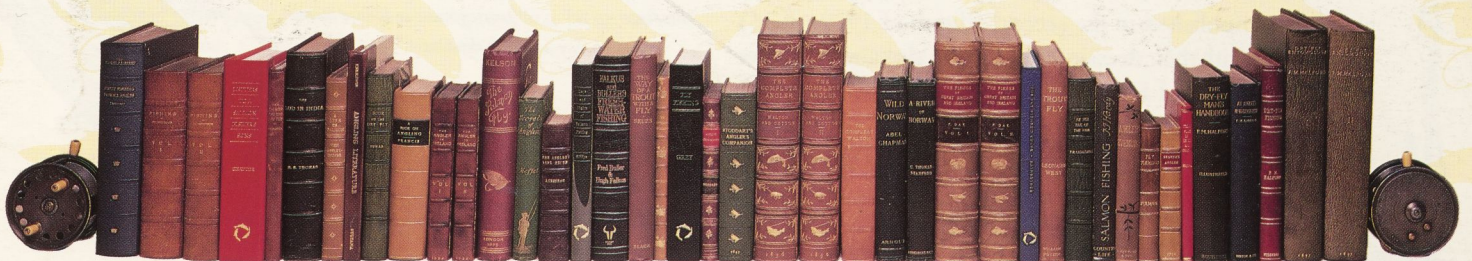
# THE FLYFISHER'S CLASSIC LIBRARY

*"Some of the best fishing is done not in water but in print"*

SPARSE GREY HACKLE



1993





## LETTERS TO A SALMON FISHER'S SONS

A.H. CHAYTOR

A H. Chaytor published his *Letters to a Salmon Fisher's Sons* in 1910. Other than Scrope, there have been few books on salmon fishing which deserve the name of 'classic'. Chaytor's book is one of those rare exceptions. It is a unique distillation of wisdom, enthusiasm and experience, covering every aspect of salmon fishing. It is charmingly written in the form of letters to the author's two sons, showing the love, enthusiasm, acute observations and knowledge of a great salmon fisherman. Its advice is as relevant today as it was on the day of its first publication: Chaytor led the way to modern ideas, with a special influence on fly-dressing.

"His book is one of the elect; it brings to date the knowledge of the past, rejects the untenable, retains what has been proved useful and adds much new information; it is practical and well informed." (*Notable Angling Literature*, James Robb)

HUGH FALKUS, author of *Sea-Trout Fishing* and *Salmon Fishing*, writes in his Introduction:

"... When it comes to the practical 'what to do?' approach to salmon fishing, Chaytor offers some of the best advice ever written ... On the subject of where and when to expect salmon he is particularly good - voicing, as usual, an original thought ... If fate could give me the chance of spending a day with any salmon fisher of the past, I think I would choose Chaytor. It would be an education to watch him at work, teasing one out of the pool in dead low water after everyone else has given it best ..."



### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 352 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 8 black and white half-tone plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.

## HOW TO TIE SALMON FLIES

*The Centenary Edition*

J.H. HALE

Captain (later Major) J.H. Hale's *How to Tie Salmon Flies* was published in 1892 and contains the dressings of forty flies. He is meticulous in selection of dressings and a devotee of exact feather for the right fly. The unpretentious text is very practical and is supported by fine illustrations of unusual clarity. This facsimile of the first edition is extended to include the unprecedented and invaluable list, as published in the second edition of 1919, of 361 salmon flies with their dressings detailed in alphabetical order by John J. Hardy of Hardy Bros, Alnwick.

This important book is a milestone in the history of fly tying and reflects the transition from the earlier 'Bainbridge'

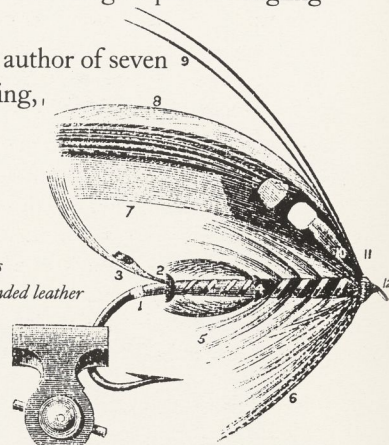
approach to the exotica of the Victorian era. Original editions are now very scarce and much in demand for reference.

Today's resurgent interest in the Victorian salmon fly is not surprising as the challenge of skill to the fly dresser and the fine aesthetic result forms an integral part of angling history.

JOHN VENIARD, the author of seven distinguished books on fly-tying, has written the Introduction.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 224 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 74 fine-line diagrams  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.

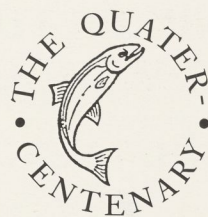




# THE COMPLEAT ANGLER OR CONTEMPLATIVE MAN'S RECREATION

*The 1993 Quatercentenary Edition  
(Izaak Walton born 1593).*

IZAAK WALTON & CHARLES COTTON



EDITION

**T**he *Compleat Angler* was first published in 1653 as a modest volume small enough to fit into an angler's pocket. This venerable book has lived through centuries and 460 editions to entertain today's anglers. Charles Cotton joined the history of fly-fishing and the world of literature in 1676 when Walton published the fifth edition, which included Cotton's *Being Instructions How to Angle for a Trout or Grayling in a Clear Stream*. His fine text and fly patterns have enshrined Cotton as the father of modern fly-fishing.

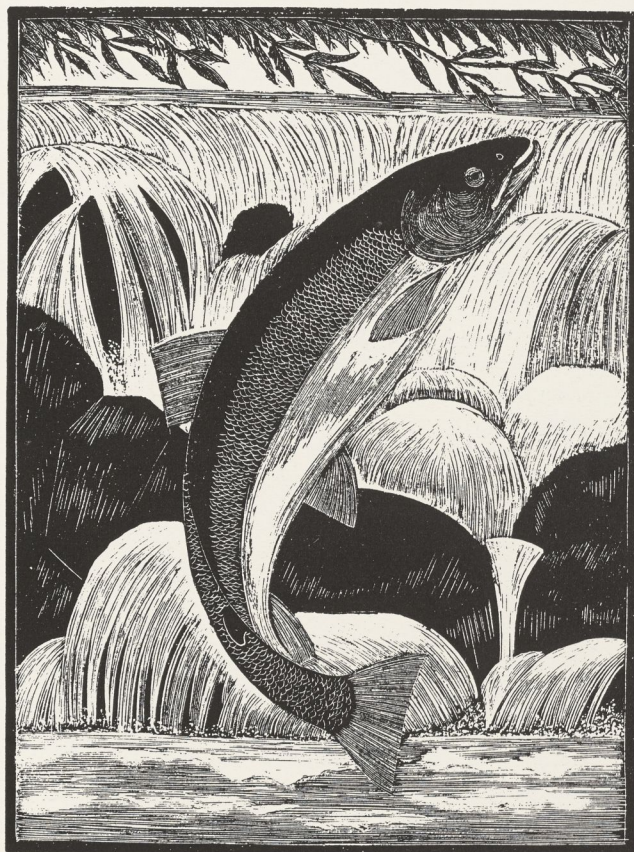


It is difficult not to praise *The Compleat Angler* too highly; like all great literature, it creates its own universe.

"If you love him, you'll read him on your own, probably again and again and year after year, and if you don't I despair of being able to make you like him, by random sampling, any better than you do . . . If there were such a thing, or had to be, as one fishing book then of course it would have to be Walton, by over three centuries of common consent . . . *The Fishing in Print* Arnold Gingrich: 1974.

"Even in reading him as the practical fisherman we find none of the dull stuff chronicled by scholars in the years following. To this day, nobody has written a more finely detailed study in the art of using live baits. Walton's eloquence lagged only when the subject of fly-fishing became too pressing, and here he turned to his friend, Charles Cotton. *McClane's Standard Fishing Encyclopedia* A.J. McClane: 1965.

From the hundreds of various editions of this great work, *The Flyfisher's Classic Library* has chosen the text and research of



the important edition of 1823 by John Major, combined with the sixteen Eric Fitch Daglish wood engravings of 1927. Furthermore the typography of the chosen edition is a joy compared to many of the near unreadable earlier editions.

Sound advice from that great Irish writer and angler, O'Gorman:

"I again recommend all my brother anglers to possess themselves of Walton and Cotton . . ."

The *FCL* recommends this outstanding and fine commemorative edition, even to those who already possess *The Compleat Angler* in another form.

## SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 368 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 16 black and white plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.





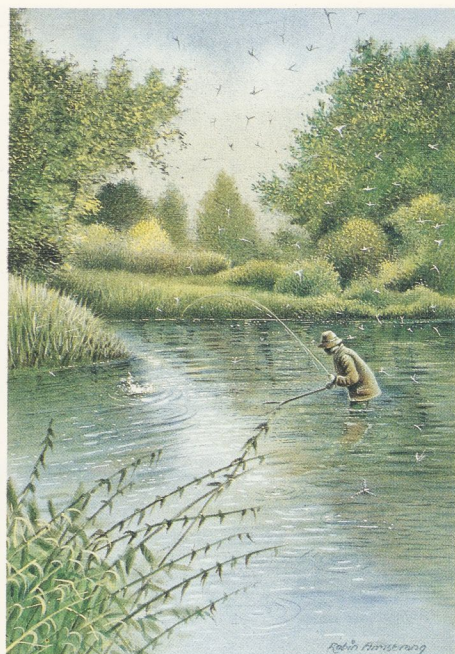
## WHERE THE BRIGHT WATERS MEET

HARRY PLUNKET GREENE

**W**here the Bright Waters Meet by Harry Plunket Greene was first published in 1924. Although this joyful book is nominally in praise of the Bourne, a tributary of the Test, the author writes of his fishing experiences on other rivers and in other countries. It is one of the most entertaining books ever written on angling and appeals to every kind of angler of every age.

"He was, moreover, a writer of real quality, and in *Where the Bright Waters Meet* he produced an outstanding angling autobiography, which is quite rightly regarded as a classic of the chalk-streams .... While he lays down no definite instructions, he brings us to his side when he is fishing, and leaves us to find out his true quality from watching him at work. It is a rare gift, this pictorial writing, and everywhere it illuminates his style, and so vivid are his descriptions that we might well be kneeling with him on the banks of the Bourne, or suffering a wading incursion through thick river mud in which he nearly drowns. Every yard of the way he describes with such tremendous zest and enjoyment that we can see him in action and learn from his various adventures. And adventurous is certainly the word for his fishing." (Howard Marshall, 1969)

The *Flyfisher's Classic Library* edition includes a specially



commissioned new colour frontispiece by ROBIN ARMSTRONG in addition to an illustration of the author.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 228 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: One colour plate and one black and white half-tone plate  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.

## THE FLY FISHER'S GUIDE

G.C. BAINBRIDGE

**F**irst published in Liverpool in 1816, George Cole Bainbridge's *The Fly Fisher's Guide* must be regarded as one of the earliest books on fly fishing. Though published less than 200 years ago, barely a dozen books on angling of any kind preceded it in the English language and of these only a few gave detailed information on fly fishing.

Bainbridge blazed a trail for the scientific approach to imitative fly fishing that was to evolve in the nineteenth century. He described and illustrated in colour a calendar of natural insects of interest to the angler and gave dressings for their artificial imitations. In so doing, Bainbridge showed the way for the great angler entomologists who were to follow him and who moulded our approach to fly fishing to this day.

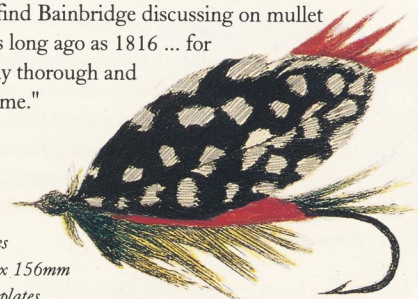
In his general advice on fishing methods and stream-craft, Bainbridge's book went far beyond mere plagiarism of the earlier writers. He crystallised most of the fly fishing knowledge extant at that time, while adding a great deal of clear, detailed advice, culled from his own practical experience. Bainbridge was among the first to recommend up-

stream fishing on purpose, as opposed to merely when the wind dictated it. He also gave one of the first unequivocal descriptions of dry fly fishing and was an early advocate of long casting with a heavy fly line.

Not surprisingly, an original first edition of this charming and scarce book is extremely valuable.

Introduction by TONY DEACON, editor of The Fly Dresser's Guild's quarterly magazine, *Flydresser*, who writes:

"... His book shines with common sense and detailed practical advice, conveyed with disarming humility ... Bainbridge undoubtedly took fly fishing a pace forwards. He showed the way for the great angler entomologists - Ronalds and Halford - who were to follow him ... he seems amazingly ahead of his time. Salt water fly fishing is still a distinctly minority pursuit in Britain, so it is a surprise to find Bainbridge discussing on mullet as a fly rod quarry as long ago as 1816 ... for its time, a remarkably thorough and perceptive little volume."



### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 184 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 8 colour plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.





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6.	HOW TO TIE SALMON FLIES – CENTENARY EDITION : <i>Hale</i>	\$65.00	
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- 1993 TITLES: As at December 1992, Titles 2-7 are available now (Title 1\* sold out; please state 'yes' to go on the waiting list). Titles 8-17 will be published approximately one every six weeks throughout 1993.
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Print A: Coming to the Fly

To encourage our Members to develop their Library, we are pleased to offer two rare and valuable de luxe colour prints by Robin Armstrong, the distinguished piscatorial artist.

Each print is one of a single edition limited to 500 copies, individually signed and numbered by the artist. They have been produced to the finest specification by the Oliver Swann Galleries in London – on 250 gsm Art paper, sized 25" x 17" (64cm x 44cm).

**Originally published in 1988, there are now only one hundred of each print available to the Library, so this very special gift will be reserved and allocated to individual Members on the following basis:**

- 1. Availability and Choice:** strictly on a 'first come first served' basis. Please indicate your choice of Print A or B overleaf along with your choice of titles from the 1993 catalogue.
- 2. Qualification:** One free print for any 8 titles purchased from the 1993 Catalogue between November 1992 and December 1993.
- 3. Despatch of Print:** On receipt of payment for your eighth qualifying book, we will despatch immediately post free.



Print B: The Leaping Salmon



## FLY FISHING

SIR EDWARD GREY

Few have acquired angling fame by the publication of only one book, but Sir Edward Grey is an exception. Some consider his *Fly Fishing* (1899) to be the best fishing book ever written. A characteristic feature is his vivid appreciation of the joys of the sport.

The volume deals with trout, sea-trout and salmon. Grey places fishing for sea-trout on a pinnacle, and describes the greatness of salmon fishing. On trout, he was the first writer of importance on the dry-fly who really knew what the wet-fly meant. Although modest, he was an expert angler, and he detailed much that is useful and instructive. His prose is clear, vigorous and attractive — the book is a literary achievement of high order.

The Library has chosen the first Haddon Hall Library edition of 1899. This edition has many an added bonus: delightful graphics by Arthur Rackham, illustrations by Jessie Macgregor and William Hyde, and the two beautiful colour plates of "Dry and Wet Flies" and "Salmon and Sea Trout Flies" from specimens supplied by Hardy of Alnwick. In 1930, Lord Grey added two chapters for Dent's new edition. These are included in the *FCL* edition with engravings by Fitch Daglish.

JEREMY PAXMAN ends his fascinating Introduction:

"... Grey made a point of claiming that he wasn't trying to give lessons in his book, merely passing on his enthusiasm for "one of the best and most wonderful recreations that have ever been known to man". His skill, of course, is there on every page. He was a brilliant dry fly fisherman, of whom a witness observed, "Fisherman, rod, line, cast and fly were all in unison. Without apparent effort, the line went out straight as an arrow, as light as thistledown, or the drag would be overcome by the exact amount of slack - it all looked so simple and so easy."

Those who are looking for tips on how to achieve such elegance of casting won't find them here. *Fly Fishing* is much more important than that, an elegy to the finest of sports.



### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	342 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	2 colour plates, 5 black and white half-tone plates and 17 line decorations
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.

## DAYS & NIGHTS OF SALMON FISHING

WILLIAM SCROPE

William Scrope's *Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing*, first published in 1843, is one of the finest books about our sport ever written. It is also superbly illustrated in both colour and engraving by eight different artists including Edwin Landseer RA.

"Scrope has written one of the brightest volumes in the whole literature of angling. It is notable for charm, humour, anecdote and description, as well as for sound information." (*Notable Angling Literature*, James Robb, 1945)

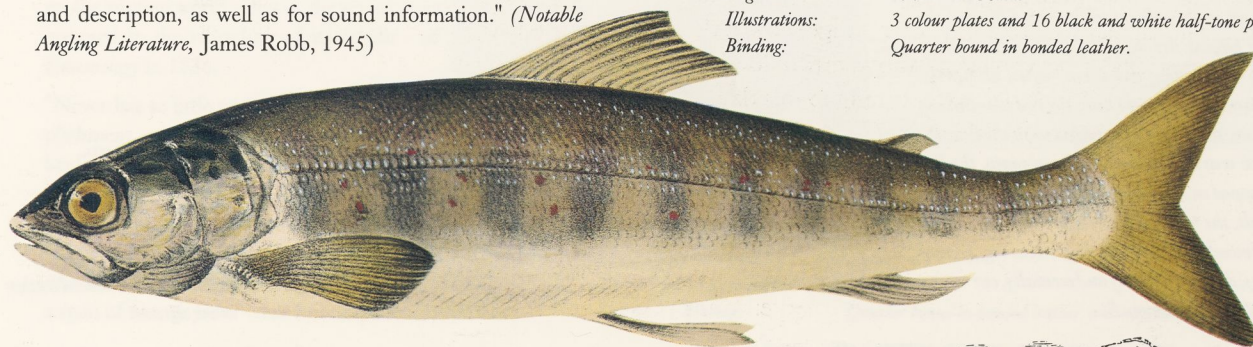
"Among the half-dozen books on that subject that invite and repay a dozen readings and re-readings." (*Mainly about Fishing*, Arthur Ransome, 1959)

"Put me ashore on the desert island and along with *The Compleat Angler* I'll beg for only one other book and that's *Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing in the Tweed* (1843)." (*Fishing in Print*, Arnold Gingrich (USA), 1974)

"Altogether this is one of the best fishing books ever written; it has been followed by a multitude of others, but surpassed by none." (*The Great Salmon Rivers of Scotland*, John Ashley Cooper, 1980)

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	298 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	3 colour plates and 16 black and white half-tone plates
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather.





# THE PRACTICE OF ANGLING PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS IRELAND

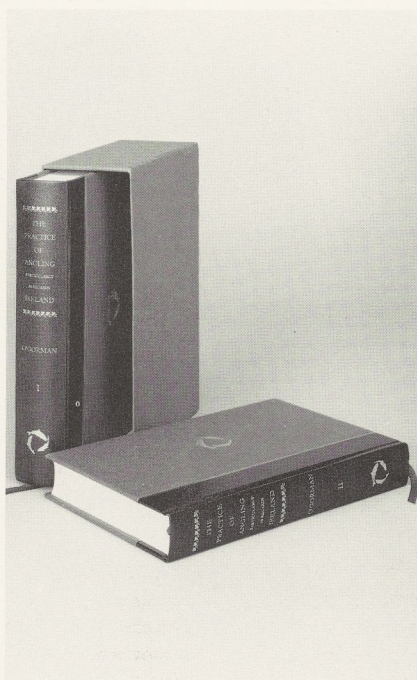
Volumes I & II

O' GORMAN

Cornelius O' Gorman's two volume book, *The Practice of Angling particularly as regards Ireland* (1845) is one of the most entertaining in the literature of angling. Certainly the important details of Irish fly dressings are significant as is his riverwise advice, but O' Gorman's talent as a natural angler combined with an outstanding wit creates a very special book, to raise more than a smile from most of us. Surprisingly, apart from the combination of the two volumes in 1855, there has never been a subsequent edition, as reflected by their scarcity and value.

Hugh Falkus selected a typical humorous extract from O' Gorman's book, in *Salmon Fishing: A Practical Guide* 1984, page 148. Beyond his great humour O' Gorman creates a sense of involvement in his wanderings in wildest Ireland, combined with innovation, perception, riverside lore, and the practical advice of a born angler.

"... I soon after got hold of a very nice fish about fourteen pounds in weight, got to shore, and managed him well. While I was playing him, a Captain Cotter came to the bank, attended by about a half-score of dogs, grey-hounds and pointers. He was a great angler, but had been disabled by a wound in a duel with Mr. Richard Harrison, which arose out of a difference about the right of fishing a stream on which his cot had been first placed, and in which he was undoubtedly in the right, though the fortune of war declared against him. Well, we got in the salmon with some difficulty, the gaff having slipped out of the handle, and the fish was getting out again, when all parties hastened to intercept him; the rod was thrown down, the dogs got entangled with the line, the hook was broken in the salmon's jaw, the line snapped in three or four places, and, to crown it all, the rod smashed nearly in pieces. Here followed confusion, cursing, swearing, kicking dogs, damning, openly and mentally, our visitor and his companions."



"When (in the fishing phrase) you "rise" a salmon, should he miss the fly, observe how he comes to it; if he shows himself well and eagerly, you may almost depend on hooking him; but don't throw over him for a few seconds, let the fly go deeply and slowly by him at first; you may then shake your hand a little, but observe that after rising he may possibly drop down a yard or so, in which case, you must lengthen your line a little, or fall down a step; if he should not then take, let him alone for about five minutes, and change your fly to one of a somewhat smaller size, and not so gaudy as the one you commenced with; try him again, but do not dog him; three or four casts will determine whether he will take or not.

If the river is narrow, and you can get over to the off side, throw from thence, so that the fly may come over him the reverse way to that he first observed, and it is ten to one he will then have you ..."

"... if a justification for any our sports can be pleaded, it must be for angling; for even nature points it out to us. There is not an insect, from the butterfly to the little midge, which has but a few hours' existence, which cannot imitate in shape, colour and appearance, with furs, mohairs, and silks; with feathers from the radiant plumage of the pheasant, macaw, cockatoo, peacock or other gaudy birds, to the humbler wing of the mallard, rale, partridge, bittern, caprimugus, starling, wren, thrush &c. Even the spotted brown-turkey feather has its merit, used as a substitute for the brown tail feather of the golden pheasant; this latter is difficult to be obtained. Then we have gold and silver cord and tinsel, to imitate the ribs of each fly; the heckles of the cock, rook, plover, grouse, &c. to supply the appearance of feet; little beads to form the eyes of some larger description of flies, and the fine and strong gut of the silk-worm to tie them on ..."

"... Note - Whenever you meet an old cock - a game cock is best - with deep-red heckle, buy or steal him: he is invaluable for either salmon or trout flies; but beware of St. Martin's day, which is generally fatal to this bird. The common Irish are as intent on the sacrifice of a cock to Saint Martin, as Socrates was to AEsculapius..."

If an Irish spirit could magic any one book to every angler's library, this would be it!

## SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	Volume 1: 352 pages, Volume 2: 272 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	Frontispiece
Binding:	Two separate volumes quarter bound in bonded leather in one slip case.



# THE FLY-FISHER'S ENTOMOLOGY

ALFRED RONALDS

**A**lfred Ronalds published his brilliant *Fly-Fisher's Entomology* in 1836 and caused a sensation in the angling world. This important work remains one of the principal milestones in the history of angling literature; few books have had more influence:

"... Having always been an unbeliever in the word impossible, I determined to try and teach myself. Accordingly, with a copy of Ronalds' 'Fly Fisher's Entomology' opened before me, and a few indispensable materials, I commenced trying to puzzle out the mysteries of the craft. After many attempts, and almost as many failures, I succeeded in turning out something remotely akin in form and colour to the Red Spinner illustrated in that admirable treatise, and was further encouraged by finding a grayling sufficiently silly to take this bad imitation..." *Floating Flies and How to Dress Them*: F.M. Halford (1886).

"Few books have been more widely read, or had more influence. Ronalds is the father of the modern angler-naturalist...the best book on natural and artificial flies ever written." *A History of Fly Fishing for Trout*: J.W. Hills (1921).

"Occasionally a copy appears in a catalogue of second-hand books, but it is quite hard to procure one, especially of the earlier editions, and it may be deduced that anglers regard the book as one which they 'must have', from the practical as well as the collector's point of view.

...Ronalds...was the culminating point of the third period in the development of fly-fishing. But I think he was probably more than that - the instigator of a fresh interest in fly-fishing as an art which led to the fourth period and the dry-fly entomology of Halford... There never have been better pictures of the natural insects in any form accessible to the angler, and I do not suppose there ever will be..." Introduction to the title: H.T. Sheringham (1921).

"It's impossible to overstress the importance of Ronalds. Certainly he is the most significant figure in fly fishing after Cotton, whom he followed by a hundred and sixty years. And while *The Compleat Angler* was of course unique in its impact on the literary world, and will undoubtedly always remain so, it is safe to say that no single book ever had the revolutionary effect on the angling world - that is, the actual practice of angling, as opposed to the recording of its annals - of *The Fly-Fisher's Entomology* in 1836.

"Never has so little presumption preceeded such solid accomplishment.... he did what hadn't been done before, he threw a bridge, so to speak, across between the practice of angling and the science of entomology. Without abandoning the vernacular names, he linked them for the first time with their technical or scientific names. True, he didn't accomplish this latter all in one fell swoop, and it wasn't until his fifth edition, in 1856 - a span of twenty years - that he completed the process.

"... While Ronalds' work has since been succeeded ... it has never really been superseded. He has a number of worthy successors, but while he has been supplemented by all of them he has been supplanted by none." *The Fishing in Print*: Arnold Gingrich (1974).

Few books related to angling are more beautiful than *The Fly-Fisher's Entomology*: the superb colour drawings of 47 flies, one for the natural and another for the artificial, result in a total of 94: See samples overleaf—plate III (General Directions for making a Fly and a Palmer) and plate XIII (Flies for June: No 28a Green Drake, No 28b Grey Drake and No 29 Orange Dun). The sequence follows the angling year, March to September. Descriptions of each fly are followed by the appropriate dressings. Needless to say the early editions are rare and valuable.

The Flyfisher's Classic Library's superb production of *The Fly-fisher's Entomology* is that of 1856, the fifth edition: It was the last published in Ronalds' lifetime and edited, to the satisfaction of the author, by "Piscator", nom-de-plume of the Rev. Barnard Smith.

## THE FLY-FISHER'S ENTOMOLOGY,

WITH COLORED REPRESENTATIONS

OF THE NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL INSECT;

AND A FEW OBSERVATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

ON TROUT- AND GRAYLING-FISHING

BY ALFRED RONALDS.

WITH TWENTY COLORED PLATES.

Fifth Edition revised, with Additions

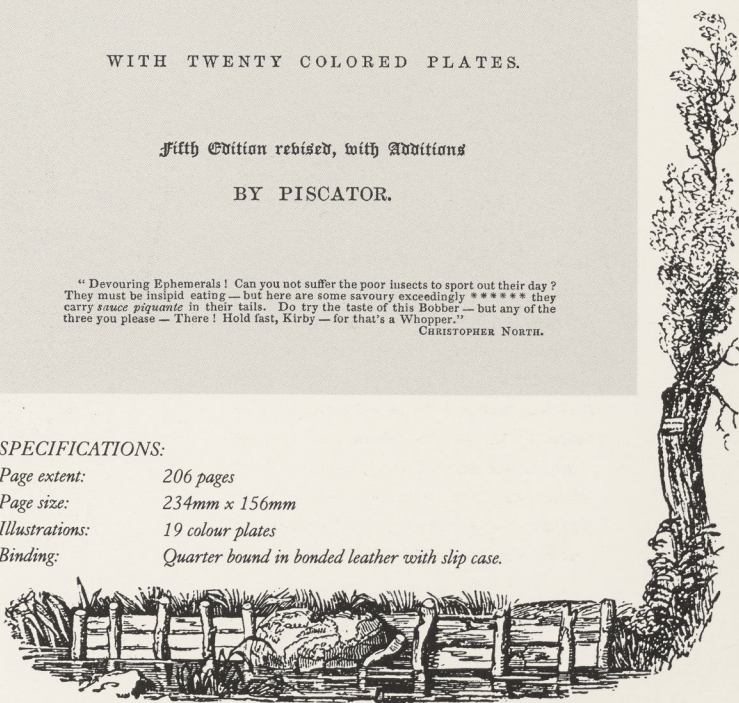
BY PISCATOR.

"Devouring Ephemerals! Can you not suffer the poor insects to sport out their day? They must be insipid eating—but here are some savoury exceedingly \*\*\*\*\* they carry sauce piquante in their tails. Do try the taste of this Bobber—but any of the three you please—There! Hold fast, Kirby—for that's a Whopper!"

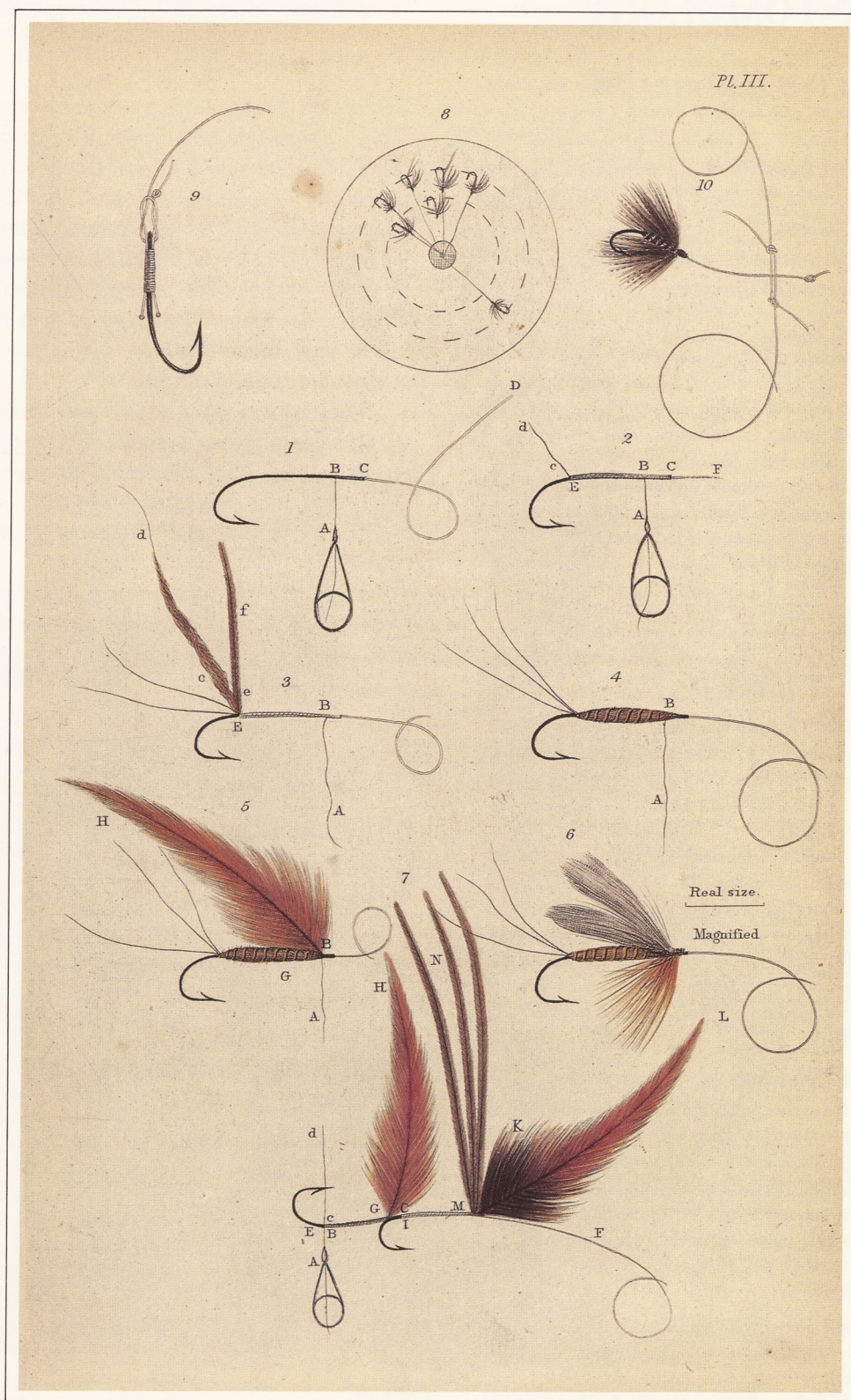
CHRISTOPHER NORTH.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 206 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 19 colour plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.











See page 7: *The Fly-fisher's Entomology*.



## THE WAY OF A TROUT WITH A FLY

G.E.M. SKUES

**T**he *Way of a Trout with a Fly* was first published in 1921; *The Flyfisher's Classic Library* edition includes the two further chapters added in 1949 to this classic work.

Few men have made such an impact on fly fishing in any form; Skues is the father of nymph fishing in chalk streams: "There are days and hours when the wet-fly has not a chance against the dry-fly, and there are days and hours when the dry-fly has not a chance against the wet-fly." He challenged the dry-fly purist and brought the angling world back to its senses. Skues was the antidote to the extremists who those days followed Halford and should be read along-side that author.

Skues wrote when the dry-fly was at the height of intolerant trout fishing dictatorship. Enthusiasts of Halford regarded Skues as a dangerous founder and leader of heresy.

"Much water has flowed under the bridges since then, and in that water many are the trout which have been caught on a sunk fly which would not have fallen to a dry." (*A Summer on the Test*: J.W. Hills, 1924).

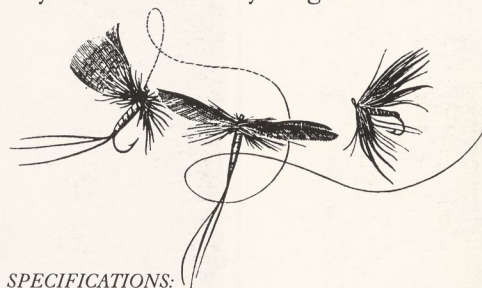
Skues was a legend in his own time on the Itchen. *The Way of a Trout with a Fly* reflects his brilliant perception of the dry flies and nymphs. It contains



the superb original dressings for his revolutionary nymph patterns.

".. My favorite Skues book is the earlier *Way of a Trout with a Fly*, and it is filled with strikingly original speculation on many aspects of fly-fishing. There are studies in the sensory perceptions of the trout, with special emphasis on its visual powers. It explores the details of rise forms and their character. There are little essays on fly dressing, and the art and theory of the craft, as well as many anecdotal parables from his field experiences. The book discusses special problems in fly hatches, tactics in playing fish on light tackle, glycerine and amadou, the origins of the dry-fly method, the excommunication of wet-fly fishermen by Halford and his circle of acolytes, and observations on all types of flies. *The Way of a Trout with a Fly* is filled with intelligent debate ..." *Trout*, Vol I: Ernest Schwiebert (1978).

Undoubtedly Skues had thoroughly digested the angling literature that preceded him; his observation and intellect inevitably led him to unbroken ground where his clarity of mind with technical creativity enabled him to join the very finest in the literature of angling. Of Skues' several books, *The Way of a Trout with a Fly* will always be a necessary reference for today's angler.



### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 294 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 2 colour plates and 1 black and white half-tone plate  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.

## SILK, FUR AND FEATHER: THE FLY DRESSER'S HANDBOOK

G.E.M. SKUES

**F**ollowing the death of G.E.M. Skues on 9th August 1949, a series of fly-tying articles which had originally appeared in *The Fishing Gazette* were published under the title, *Silk, Fur and Feather: The Trout-Fly Dresser's Year* by "V.C.", the initials of Skues' pen name of "Val Conson". A concise list of feathers used in fly dressing is included as an addition. The first two paragraphs of the Foreword read:

"The series of articles on Fly Tying reprinted here from *The Fishing Gazette*, in the opinion of many Fly Dressers, are some of the best that were ever written on the subject.

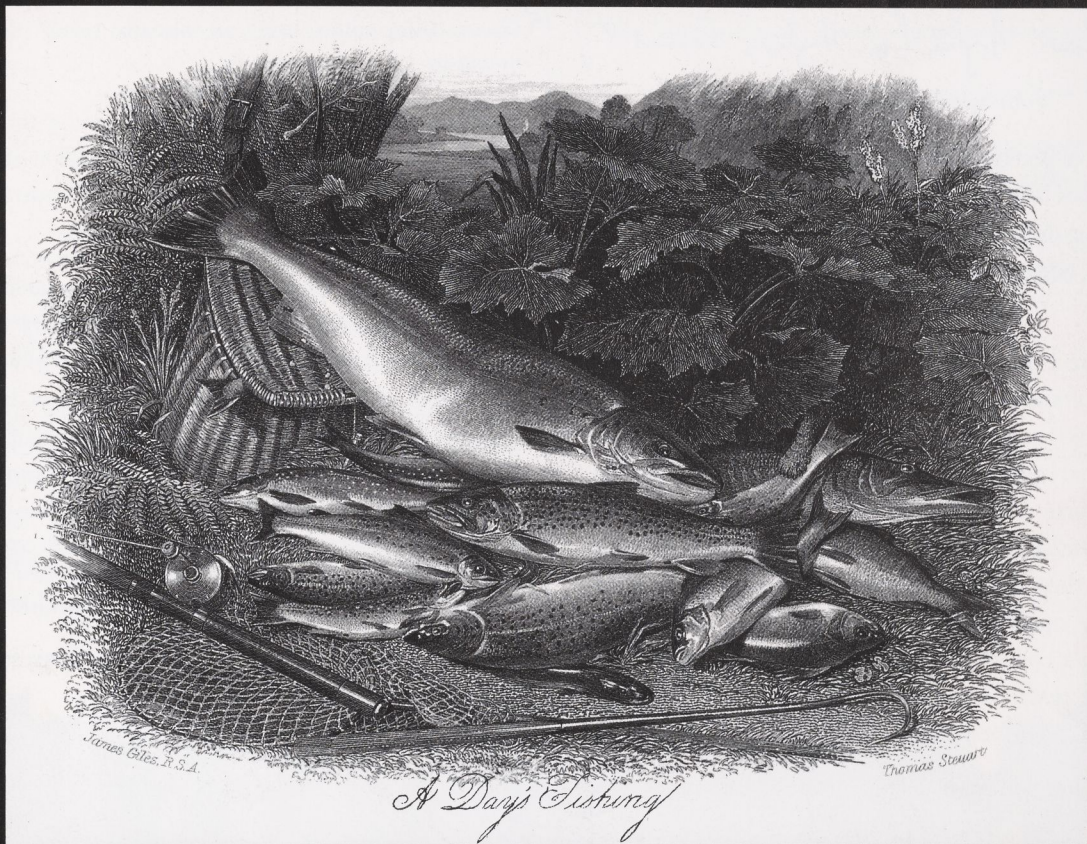
"They will help a beginner to understand the method employed, and will give the expert much occasion for thought."

*The Flyfisher's Classic Library* has commissioned new reference drawings from ROBIN ARMSTRONG. This fine handbook by Skues, the master fly-dresser of imitative patterns is a rare treasure, almost unobtainable in the original edition.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 120 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: Line diagrams throughout  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.





THE FLYFISHER'S CLASSIC LIBRARY



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"SOME OF THE BEST FISHING IS DONE NOT IN WATER BUT IN PRINT." SPARSE GREY HACKLE

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Dear Fellow Angler (or Angler's Friend!)

Your Special Invitation

Of the thousands of books written on fishing, only a select few are landmarks of classic angling literature: they are as profound and relevant today as on their original publication. It is no coincidence that the original editions are now very scarce and extremely valuable.

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*Justin Knowler* Editor



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## FROM THE MEMBERS:

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"... The Flyfisher's Classic Library does a great service to contemporary readership, providing the modern angler affordable access to the rich literature of our peerless sport." *The Flydresser*

"... The Flyfisher's Classic Library is something with a difference." David Profumo, *The Daily Telegraph Weekend*

"... The reproductions are works of art themselves. It is inevitable that they will become collector's items. It is important to realise that the books will not be available through book dealers, only through membership of the Library..." *Fly-Fishing & Fly-Tying Magazine*

"... no stringent and complex conditions of future purchasing as stipulated by many book clubs." *Salmon, Trout & Sea-Trout Magazine*

"... By collecting all the books, a superb library can be built up at a fraction of the cost of the original books. And remember, all of the planned titles are real classics, to be read and admired time after time." *Trout & Salmon Magazine*

"The books are great, almost as good as fishing itself..."

"... I must say that I would rather own your book than an original..."

"May I take this opportunity to congratulate you on the books you have supplied me with. I find the quality superb and the titles very interesting."

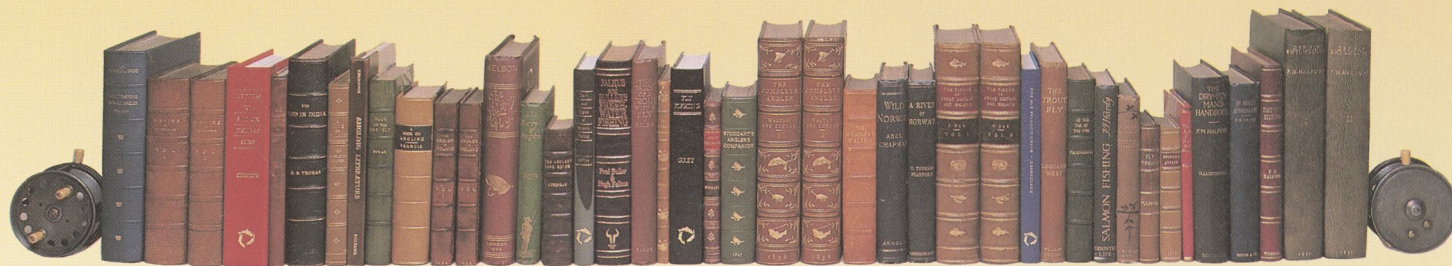
"Thank you again for a lovely book. I have actually seen the real Bainbridge and yours is absolutely standing up to it in print, but a new 're-binding' is far superior to the original..."

"I am delighted with the book - it has been beautifully printed and bound. You have really done justice to this classic..."

"The book is wonderful. I'm really looking forward to receiving the next one..."

"... Please regard me as a 'Full Subscriber', ie. one of everything..."

Please note: The unsolicited statements above are extracts from Members' letters held on FCL files.







THE FLYFISHER'S CLASSIC LIBRARY: 1992/1993 TITLES



BAINBRIDGE:

*The Fly Fisher's Guide* (1816)

CHAYTOR:

*Letters to a Salmon Fisher's Sons* (1910)

DAVIS:

*Salmon-Fishing on the Grand Cascapedia* (1904)

FARSON:

*Going Fishing* (1942)

GREY:

*Fly Fishing* (1899)

HALE:

*How to Tie Salmon Flies* (1892). 1992: *Centenary Edition*.

HALFORD:

*Floating Flies and How to Dress Them* (1886)

KELSON:

*Salmon Flies 1886-1902: "Land and Water" Series.* (1993)

WALTON & COTTON:

*The Compleat Angler* (1676: *Daglish Edition* 1927)

MALONE:

*Irish Trout and Salmon Flies* (1984)

O' GORMAN:

*The Practice of Angling, particularly as regards Ireland* (1845)

PLUNKET-GREENE:

*Where the Bright Waters Meet* (1924)

RANSOME:

*Rod and Line* (1929)

RONALDS:

*The Fly-fisher's Entomology* (1836)

SCROPE:

*Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing* (1843)

SKUES:

*The Way of a Trout with a Fly* (1921)

SKUES:

*Silk, Fur and Feather: The Fly-Dresser's Handbook* (1950)

Please note: The Flyfisher's Classic Library edition is usually a facsimile of the first edition, and incorporates revisions and additions (even new chapters and appendices) from subsequent editions, thus providing the most complete text and finest illustrations available. Many of our books include newly commissioned Introductions by leading experts. The specifications are more often than not

superior to the original editions. Furthermore, the quantity of each FCL edition is restricted, often lower than many of today's 'Limited Editions': there are indications that the Library's works, exclusive to Members, are already becoming collectors' items. Full details by title, with sequence of publication, will be presented in our Catalogue.



## ROD AND LINE

ARTHUR RANSOME

**R**od and Line by Arthur Ransome, famous author of *Swallows and Amazons* and all the other lakeland bestsellers, was originally published in 1929. The scarcity of the earlier editions of this work reflects recognition of these sensitive anecdotal writings from this distinguished writer, who, luckily for anglers, happened to be a passionate fisherman. On returning in 1919 from one of his assignments as a correspondent in Russia, he was arrested by the British Government on suspicion of being a Bolshevik: on being asked his politics, he answered: "Fishing".

*Rod and Line* consists of a collection of 50 beautifully written and entertaining articles on angling topics such as:

"On Tackle Shops" - "The pleasures of fishing are chiefly to be found in rivers, lakes and tackle-shops and, of the three, the last are the least affected by the weather..."

"The First Day at the River" - "The pleasure of the first day at the

river begins some months before it. It is in its beginning a little quiet, rippling pleasure like a stream near its source, made up of all kinds of imaginings too remote to be very disturbing. It swells as time goes on. Tributaries join it, such as the pleasure on some cold winter's day of tying a few flies ready for the season, visits to fishing-tackle shops, a letter from a friend showing that he has not forgotten that you and he decided last year that you would open this season together, occasional inspections of tackle, oilings of reels, small varnishings, and other excuses for taking your fly-rod from its case..."

"The Element of Surprise" - "The salmon who rises to a gold-ribbed March Brown or a Butcher on a No. 1 or No. 2 hook thrown into the water to tempt his cousins, the trout, gives the fisherman the sort of surprise that a man gets when a friend coming up behind him thumps him on the back while he is thinking of something else."

*Rod and Line* is delightful classic of fishing literature with universal appeal, even "To the Most Long-suffering of Fisherman's Wives"; Ransome's dedication of the book.

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 298 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 1 black and white half-tone plate  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.

## GOING FISHING

NEGLEY FARSON

**N**egley Farson was a great journalist and foreign correspondent for the *Chicago Daily News* in the Twenties and Thirties. And wherever he went, he would always take his fishing rod with him. His latter years, after a fantastic globe-trotting life, were spent in Devon.

*Going Fishing* was first published in 1942. It begins:

"This is just the story of some rods, and the places they take you to. It begins with surf-casting on the New Jersey coast, when I was thirteen, and carries on to such scenes as fly-fishing the headwaters of the Kuban in the upper Caucasus, and casting for rainbow trout in the rivers of southern Chile, with a volcano erupting every ten minutes within plain view. There is not a record, or even a very big, fish in it; and some of the finest things fishing has given me I have found beside the streams of the West Country of England. I do not know the names of a tenth of the flies in the book, and thank the Lord I don't want to. I would not be at all upset if you opened my own fly-boxes and showed me a dozen strangers... I love rods, I suppose, with the same passion that a carpenter, a violinist, or a Monaco pigeon shot love their implements. I love using them. But, if I can't, I can get a lot of fun by just taking them out of their cases and looking at them. A pair of trout rods helped to keep me alive when I was facing a riddle of poverty out in British Columbia where they provided free food; and I've used them for politics - to make a wild Irishman talk, when he wouldn't have otherwise... But chiefly I love rods because of their associations, the places they have brought me to. They have been part of my kit, when I travel, for many years. This magic wand has revealed to me some of the loveliest places on earth. That is the story of this book."

*Going Fishing* is indeed one of very few fishing books which can be described as a classic. Jack Hargreaves wrote:

"I think it is one of the three or four best fishing books ever written. I was for a long time the librarian of the Piscatorial Society and they have some 2,000 angling books from Dame Juliana Berners onwards. I do not say that I read them all but I certainly skimmed them all and read the ones that tempted me further. I think perhaps there were a hundred of them worth reprinting and my first choice would always be *Going Fishing*."

"Whether Mr Farson is fishing for sea bass off the American coast, or for apple-green scarlet spotted trout in the snow streams of the Caucasus, it is really Mr Farson and the people he meets rather than the fish that matter. You do not need to be a fisherman to enjoy fishing." *The Sunday Times*

"It has a grace and an outdoor charm that repays reading." *New York Herald Tribune*

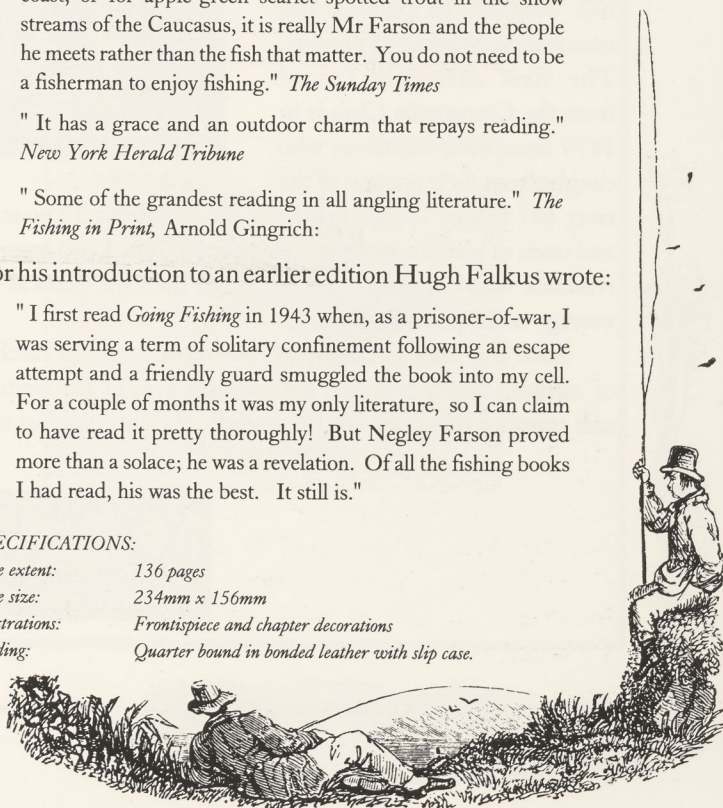
"Some of the grandest reading in all angling literature." *The Fishing in Print*, Arnold Gingrich:

For his introduction to an earlier edition Hugh Falkus wrote:

"I first read *Going Fishing* in 1943 when, as a prisoner-of-war, I was serving a term of solitary confinement following an escape attempt and a friendly guard smuggled the book into my cell. For a couple of months it was my only literature, so I can claim to have read it pretty thoroughly! But Negley Farson proved more than a solace; he was a revelation. Of all the fishing books I had read, his was the best. It still is."

### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 136 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: Frontispiece and chapter decorations  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.





# SALMON-FISHING ON THE GRAND CASCAPEDIA

EDMUND W. DAVIS

**S**almon *Fishing on the Grand Cascapedia* by the American angler Edmund W. Davis was privately printed in 1904 (New York) in a Limited Edition of 100 copies only. Until now there has never been a subsequent edition of this extremely rare and wonderful book.

The Grand Cascapedia River in the Gaspé region of Canada is one of the world's finest Atlantic salmon rivers, steeped in tradition and history.

Starting in the 1870s, the government leased the river to a succession of Governor Generals of Canada. From 1893 a syndicate of American anglers bought the lease and formed the famous Cascapedia Club. There were only eight original members, including the author of this book, E.W. Davis.

The magnificence of this big fish river is legendary. For example, Lord Lansdowne and his friends caught 1,245 salmon in the four year period 1884-87, averaging 10.7 kilos (23.5 pounds); 210 of these fish weighed 30 pounds and over and the heaviest 45 pounds. The first authentic record from the Cascapedia Club is in 1879 from three members who caught from their portion of the river 647 fish in 53 days with 135 fish weighing 30 pounds and over, of which 6 were over 40 pounds. The Club records continue with consistent heavy catches over the years at an average of 23 pounds and over.

Such is a brief background, but recording vast catches of salmon clearly was not the author's reason for writing and printing this book for his friends; the entertaining text

and remarkable photographs reflect a real love of this superb river, the sport of salmon fishing coupled with exciting anecdotes and much valuable advice. He wrote:

*"...For thirteen summers the Grand Cascapedia has been my home. Each year it grows dearer and dearer, and my only thought during the long winter months shall always be, 'Will spring ever come, so that I may again visit this restful home in the Northern woods?' ..."*

*"When you have risen a fish early in the season it is a good plan to leave the fly instead of casting again; for the salmon will often, after missing the fly the first time, immediately turn and seize it, whereas if you had taken it away he might have gone on up the river. At this season they are moving along during the day as well as at night, so it is always best to try this plan. When your fly is in the water keep your eyes on it; pay attention; fish. But just as soon as you find yourself looking at objects about you, - gazing at the clouds scudding across the mountain-tops or doing anything else you should not, - then take out the pipe and rest a little until you feel like fishing again. Unless you do this you will cast badly and very likely lose the chance of hooking the biggest fish of the season."*

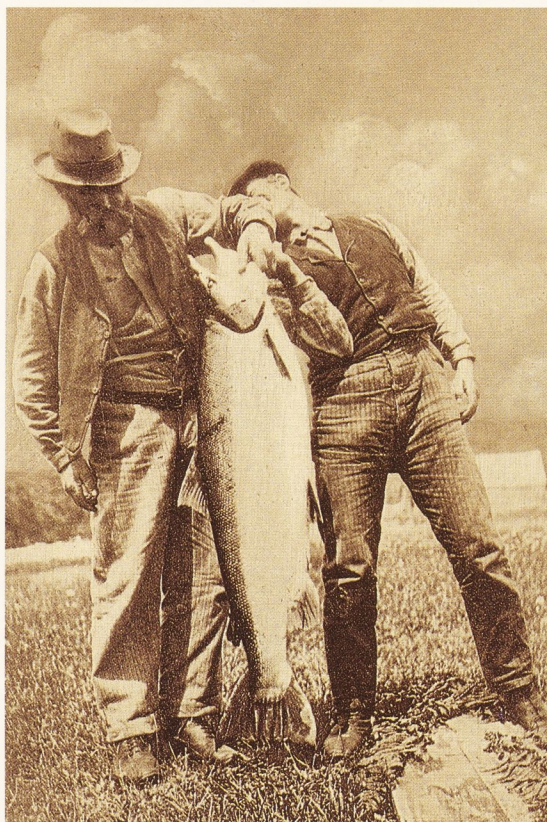
*"To strike when a salmon rises to the fly is a simple matter. Almost all beginners do this feat perfectly; but to strike at the right moment so as to hook the fish - that is quite another thing..."*

The 27 chapters are interspersed with 16 fine sepia photographs and three pages of beautiful flies in colour made by Forrest and Sons, Kelso, Scotland. Apart from being a fascinating book for every salmon fisher's inspiration and a valuable addition to the collectors'

library, the work gives the reader an intimate insight into fishing the Grand Cascapedia during a great era.

#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent:	206 pages
Page size:	234mm x 156mm
Illustrations:	3 colour plates and 16 monochrome plates
Binding:	Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.





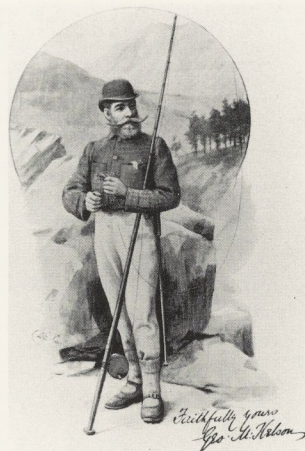
# "LAND AND WATER" SALMON FLIES 1886 - 1902

G.M. KELSON

**T**he Flyfisher's Classic Library feels privileged to have acquired for publication G.M. Kelson's rare and so far unpublished *Land and Water Salmon Flies*. The collection was compiled on cards by Forrest of Kelso, probably the work of Johnny Mercer, who was Forrest's leading fly-dresser at the time: maybe to Edmund W. Davis! Each salmon fly with origin and dressing was issued in conjunction with the articles by Kelson in the magazine, 'Land and Water'. The 85 patterns are in superb full colour with detailed descriptions of their dressings. They date from 1886 prior to the appearance of Kelson's famous and monumental book

*The Salmon Fly* with the sub-title: "How to dress and how to use it". 39 patterns are not illustrated in *The Salmon Fly* of 1895 and 11 of them not even mentioned in the book's text. Their extreme rarity cannot be over-stressed. Even more intriguing is that they have been entirely passed over in subsequent literature, probably because researchers and writers were simply not aware of the existence of the cards, which were probably lost or discarded. At that time Kelson was regarded as the first writer to whom the amateur would turn for proper guidance on salmon fly-dressing.

The number of outstanding colour illustrations for this important publication necessitates a cost higher than those of



## *The Jungle Hornet*

(KELSON.)

*Tag:* Gold twist (plenty).

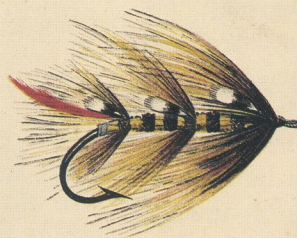
*Tail:* Ibis; two strips.

*Butt:* No.1 hackle, a coch-a-bonddu, slightly tinged in Bismarck brown; cheeked with Jungle.

*Body:* Twelve alternate coils of yellow and black chenille. No. 2 hackle in centre, No. 3 at head, cheeked as before.

"This Grub is an improvement on 'Ajax' - one of the oldest of the 'Scorpion' tribe - and it may be easily varied for different rivers. The tail, for instance, may be composed of yellow Macaw with or without Summer duck. The body instead of yellow may have either blue or red chenille; and then it is called the yellow Jungle Hornet or the Blue. I have found it useful in all kinds of water, and especially so when the stream is slightly discoloured. It may be remembered that in '82 on the Blyn Stream, a few miles above Usk, I took, in one day, a fish of 31 or 32 lb. in weight, and another of 26-lb. But its services are not limited to any one river or indeed to any one district."

GEO. M. KELSON.



16. THE JUNGLE HORNET.

## *The Duchess*

(TURNBULL.)

*Tag:* Silver twist and light yellow silk.

*Tail:* Two toppings, Indian Crow and Blue Chatterer.

*Butt:* Peacock herl.

*Body:* Black silk.

*Ribs:* Silver lace and silver tinsel.

*Hackle:* Black from second turn.

*Throat:* Jay.

*Wings:* Six toppings.

*Sides:* Summer duck.

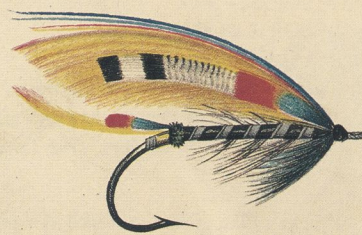
*Cheeks:* Indian Crow and Chatterer.

*Horns:* Red and Blue Macaw and light green Parrot.

*Head:* Black herl.

"Among the most valuable standards for bright weather and water. Mr. Turnbull's Duchess takes high rank. Its value consists in the extra brilliancy of the dressing when compared with any ordinary Sun Fly. I have sometimes succeeded with it when others of this type have failed. The illustration will give anglers a good idea of the inventor's mode of dressing, for he sent the fly to me himself, and I did not feel it necessary to make one specially for the artist."

GEO. M. KELSON.



16. THE DUCHESS.

(92)





other titles within the Library - although still significantly below the substantial current value of the 1895 edition of Kelson's *The Salmon Fly*. Moreover, this unique and beautifully produced book is certain to be an immediate collectors' item and a definitive reference on the subject.

Introduction by RONALD J.W. COLEBY, one of the world's most distinguished authorities on angling literature, whose contribution to this important work is more than just an Introduction. His fascinating and scholarly text begins:

"George Mortimer Kelson's influence on the course of salmon fishing as a sport outstripped that of any other person and I find it beyond the bounds of credibility that any individual can ever again dominate the field in such a fashion . . ."

#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 120 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 86 colour illustrations  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.

## IRISH TROUT AND SALMON FLIES

E.J. MALONE

**I**rish *Trout and Salmon Flies* by E.J. Malone was originally published in 1984 and has been out of print for some years. This new edition restricted to one thousand copies will be signed by the author and incorporates significant revisions and additions, together with new colour illustrations and new typography. The colour plates will include a selection of fully dressed traditional old Irish patterns tied by Malone's protégé, Frankie Mc Phillips, regarded by many as Ireland's premier fly-dresser. No wonder the welcome:

"Given the wealth of individuality, invention and creativity of Irish fly-tiers through the last couple of hundred years, it is extraordinary that it has taken so long for a book like this to appear ... All in all, this new book finds an indispensable place in any Irish angling library. No fly-tier certainly should be without it and even a brief flick through its pages will make all of us better and more discerning anglers." *Irish Times*, Niall Fallon.

"... It is truly surprising that, given the wealth of fly-tying in Ireland during the past couple of centuries, it has taken so long for someone to bring it all together in a very readable form.

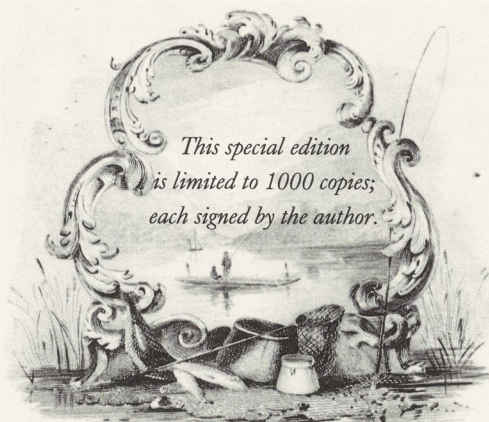
"There are individual sections on both trout and salmon fly dressings and when you consider that over 800 dressings are listed, it is not hard to see why this wonderful book fills such a vast gap in angling literature.

"The book is liberally laced with references to some of the great Irish fly-tyers - Rogan, O'Gorman and Hanna to name a few..." *Belfast Telegraph*, Larry Nixon.

"... This is not the type of book that merely provides another lengthy list of standard patterns. It introduces a host of subtle variations. For example, five variations of the Greenwell's Glory are listed; three dry, one nymph and one pupae .... Even then, there is more..." *Country Sports*.

"... He must have researched thoroughly to provide so many wonderful patterns... They are all beautifully illustrated in a book that will join my other "recipe" books close to my fly-tying desk... so clearly listed by Mr Malone in a book he can be proud of." *Country Life*, Ian Niall.

"Mr Malone's work... will become, at a stroke, a classic reference work on the Irish fly, probably the classic reference work..." *Trout & Salmon*, S. Parton.



*E.J. Malone*

Mr Malone brings his rare specialist knowledge of the great traditions of Irish fishing, fly-tying and its history to produce a classic, informative and definitive book.

The dressings cover a wide range of artificial flies which have been used by Irish anglers since fly-tying became firmly established in Ireland, and this most comprehensive collection will become one of the great standard references for the fly-tyer which in future years will be found on the book shelves of all those anglers who have deep interest in, not merely the catching of fish, but in the whole philosophy of angling.

#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 236 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 11 colour plates  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.



# FLOATING FLIES AND HOW TO DRESS THEM

F.M. HALFORD

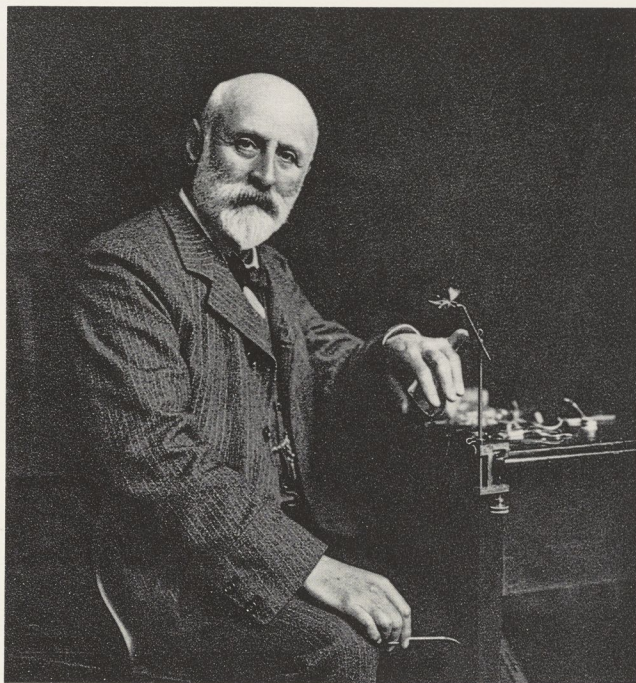
**F**loating *Flies and How to Dress Them* by Frederic M. Halford was his first book, published in 1886. With an edition of only 500 copies it is his scarcest and most valuable publication.

Based on years of painstaking research in the field (inspired by his talented friend and collaborator, the celebrated fly-fisher George Selwyn Marryat) Halford's book sets out to identify and provide dressings for all the chalkstream flies. Halford supervised every detail of the book's production, with rigorous perfectionism. The result is a masterpiece of Victorian publishing, with superb engravings hand-coloured in the original edition.

In Ernest Schwiebert's two volume definitive work, *Trout* (1978), he wrote,

"(*Floating Flies and How to Dress Them*) ... established Halford as the principal writer on the chalkstreams and the emerging dry-fly method. He was a man of disciplined intelligence and strong opinions, and his influence led to the serious investigation of aquatic fly life on the trout streams of the United Kingdom, as well as a precise philosophy of the fly dressing and matching the hatch. His precision shows in every phrase of *Floating Flies and How to Dress Them*, as seen in the following definition of the dry-fly method:

'To define dry-fly fishing, I should describe it as presenting to the rising fish the best possible imitation of the insect on which he is feeding in its natural position. To analyse this further, it is necessary, firstly, to find a fish feeding on the winged insect, secondly, to present him a good imitation of this insect, both as to size and color;



thirdly, to present it to him in its natural position or floating on the surface of the water with its wings up, or what we technically term cocked; fourthly, to put the fly lightly on the water, so that it floats accurately over him without drag; and fifthly, to take care that all these conditions have been fulfilled before the fish has seen the angler, or the reflection of his rod."

An absolute 'must' for every fly-fisher's library.

## SPECIFICATIONS:

Page extent: 172 pages  
Page size: 234mm x 156mm  
Illustrations: 10 colour plates and 73 line diagrams  
Binding: Quarter bound in bonded leather with slip case.

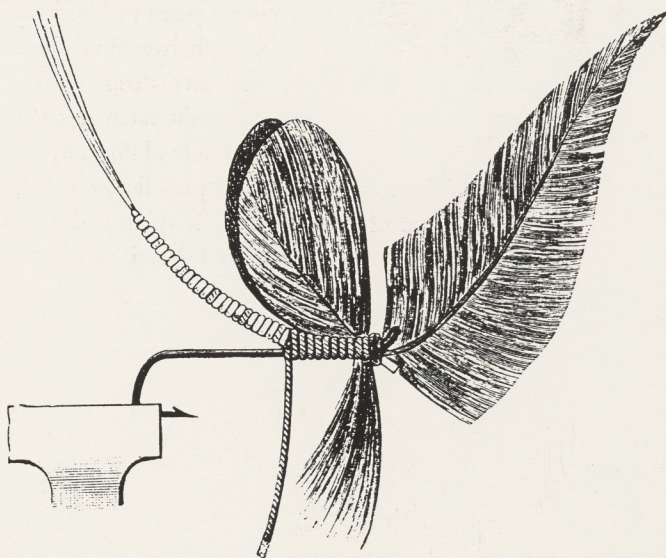


Fig. 72.

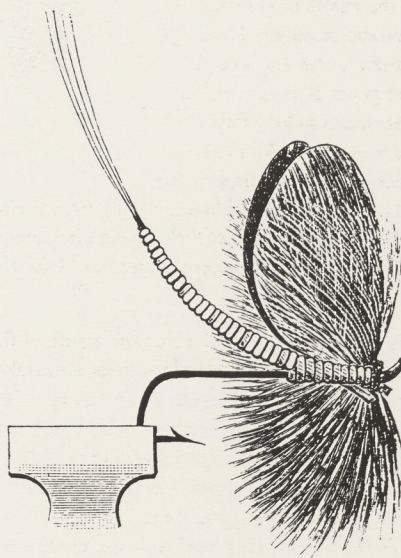


Fig. 73.





FRONT COVER ILLUSTRATION:

*Portrait of G.M. Kelson  
with hand-painted Salmon Flies  
c. 1902*

Private Collection.



*THE FLYFISHER'S CLASSIC LIBRARY*

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