

**SEA & COAST FISHING,  
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE  
TO CALM WATER FISHING  
IN INLETS AND ESTUARIES**

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Sea & Coast Fishing, with Special Reference to Calm Water Fishing in Inlets and Estuaries by F. G. Aflalo

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**F. G. AFLALO**

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## SEA AND COAST FISHING



A LIKELY SPOT FOR A BASS.  
(From a Photograph by the Author.)

# SEA & COAST FISHING

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CALM  
WATER FISHING IN INLETS  
AND ESTUARIES

BY

F. G. AFLALO

AUTHOR OF 'SEA-FISHING ON THE ENGLISH COAST'; JOINT-EDITOR OF  
'THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SPORT'

FULLY ILLUSTRATED FROM DRAWINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

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"You can have no idea of what a glorious pleasure there is in fishing in a new sea in ignorance of what you are going to catch."

"Always fish with fine tackle, for some have in this way entertained angels unawares."

MS. NOTES OF DR. KINGSLEY.



## INTRODUCTION

MR. RICHARDS has asked me to write for him a handbook of the latest practical methods of sea-angling for sport, and without any of the usual prefatory apology, praise of this particular branch of fishing, description of the scenery, the birds, the fisherfolk, such as come in so handy to make a book "pan out" over a given number of pages. This course I am quite content to take, as it relieves me of the necessity of drawing on a literary style of doubtful quality, and enables me to plunge forthwith into the purely practical aspect of my subject. Presumably, however, a word may be permitted as to the title chosen for the book. *Sea and Coast Fishing!* some will object: why two names for one pastime? and not even the sub-title will explain the difficulty. Well, the meaning was simply this. So many people are deterred from joining the ranks of amateur sea-fishers by the indifferent sport obtainable, at any rate in the summer holiday season, from most of our piers, and the indifferent pleasure afforded by tossing in a small boat on an unruly sea, that it is my aim in a portion of this book to indicate to them methods and localities that offer sport with most of our sea-fish—of those, at any rate, like the bass,

mackerel, and whiting, that chiefly attract the amateur—in water no more turbulent than the river Thames at Richmond. This estuary-fishing, as distinguished from what I have preferred to style "coast-fishing," *i.e.* off the open coast, has not, I venture to think, been made of sufficient importance by previous authors (including him who here offends again), for it has a few special features of great technical interest, and it is at times very enjoyable, not alone for those whose nervous system shuns the deeper and more ruffled waters outside, but even for old sportsmen who know all that there is to know of the pollack- and whiting-grounds in the offing, of bottom-fishing for bream or cod, whiffing for mackerel, or night-fishing for conger. Not that it is my intention in these pages to omit descriptions of any of these methods familiar to the practised sea-fisherman. I shall begin at the beginning, taking for granted indeed that folks want to know how to catch sea-fish with rod or hand-line, particularly if they can do so without any chance of either sea-sickness or shipwreck, but also taking for granted their absolute ignorance of the how, when, and where. I address myself, then, to the beginner and not primarily to my fellow British Sea Anglers; though if these do me the kindness of taking up the book, they may, with the help of the index, find perchance some new wrinkle, especially as regards new localities.

And here, I think, these brief introductory remarks may end. The plan of the following half-dozen chapters is sufficiently simple to need no explanation: the fish, tackle, baits, and the how, when, and where of the art, are subdivisions that must surely suggest themselves in

any review of the subject. Of the illustrations I will say only this: that the photographs were, in every case but, I think, two, taken specially for the book; and that in the case of the drawings there is no need to make even this solitary exception, since every piece of tackle that figures in these pages was drawn under my own eye from models lent by the various makers. No favouritism has been shown in this. Each maker was invited to lend anything novel; I used my own judgment; the tackles were drawn and returned to their owners. And they make, at any rate, I venture to hope, a somewhat welcome change from the trade blocks, with the use of which some of us have too freely economised in previous books.