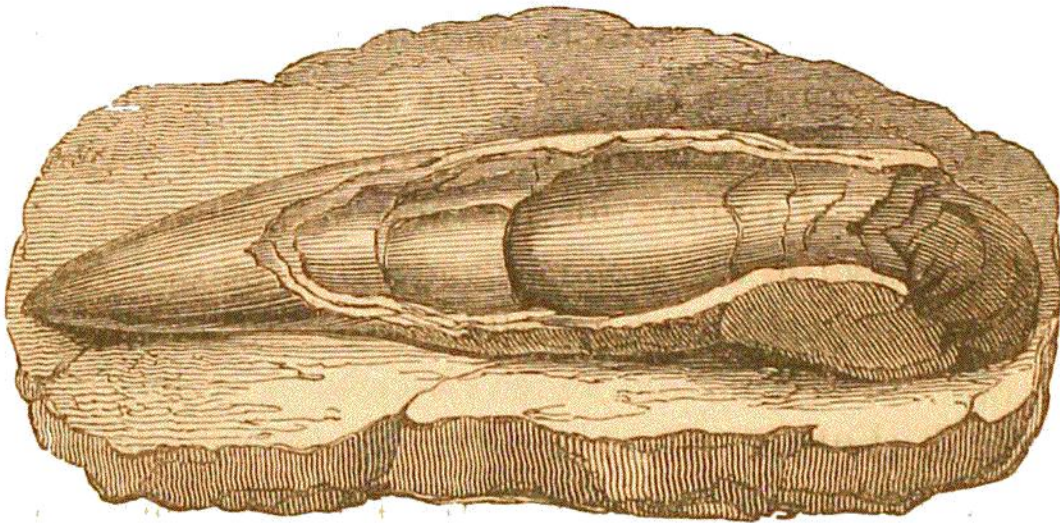


limestone at Soleure. It is a very flat species, and probably attained two feet in length. The ribs of a *trionyx* (which is also a fresh-water turtle), have been discovered in the shale of Pounceford, and grit of Tilgate Forest; the external surface of the ribs or dorsal plates is shagreened all over, as is usual in these turtles, which have no shelly covering, but only a thick, tough skin, or integument; the recent species inhabit the Nile and Euphrates.*

53. FOSSIL CROCODILES.—The skeletons of the crocodiles, alligators, and gavials, those well-known reptiles of Egypt, India, and America, possess characters which render their fossil bones easily recognisable by the comparative anatomist. The



TAB. 80.—TOOTH OF CROCODILE IMBEDDED IN SANDSTONE; FROM TILGATE FOREST.

peculiar structure of the teeth, as you may observe in this specimen (Tab. 80), affords certain indications

* Geology of the South-East of England, p. 255.