

The ichthyosaurus had the beak of a porpoise, the teeth of a crocodile, the head and sternum of a lizard, the paddles of cetacea, and the vertebræ of fish. This restoration (Tab. 93) shows its general configuration. There are eight or more species, some of which attain a magnitude equal to that of young whales. The teeth are conical, sharp, and striated, resembling those of crocodiles in the power of reproduction, but differing in the number, situation, and mode of regeneration; one species has 110 in the upper, and 100 in the lower jaw. The orbit is very large, and the sclerotic, or outer coat of the eye is made up of thin bony plates, arranged round the central opening or pupil, as in the owl and other birds; a mechanism by which the power of the eye is materially increased, and vision adapted to near or remote objects at will.* The bones forming the sternum, or chest, which protect the organs of respiration, are very strong and largely developed, and those of the sternal arch offer a remarkable correspondence with those of the sternum of the *platypus*, of Australia.

Like turtles, the animal had four paddles, composed of numerous bones enveloped in one fold of integument, so as to appear an entire fin, as in the cetacea; the fore-paddles are large, and in some species are formed of one hundred bones; the hind are smaller, and contain but thirty or forty (Tab. 94.) The internal structure of these instruments,

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