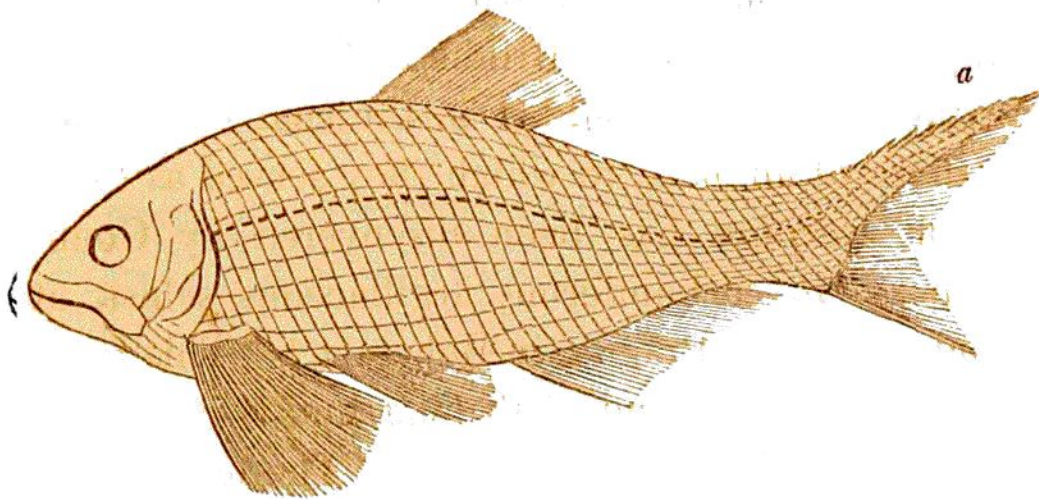


50. FISHES OF THE CARBONIFEROUS AND DEVONIAN SYSTEMS.—Although the remains of fishes are of comparatively rare occurrence in these formations, yet ten or twelve species, belonging to extinct and very remarkable genera, have been established by M. Agassiz.

The *amblypterus* (Tab. 135) is an extinct genus



TAB. 135.—RESTORED FIGURE OF AMBLYPTERUS; A FISH PECULIAR TO THE CARBONIFEROUS SYSTEM.

(By M. Agassiz.)

One-sixth the natural size.

of fish, which is restricted to the carboniferous system: four species have been found in nodules of ironstone at Suarbrück, in Lorraine; they also occur in similar nodules on the coast of Scotland, near Leith. From the character of the teeth, which are small, numerous, and set close together like a brush, these fishes appear to have fed on decayed sea-weed, and soft animal substances.* This ichthyolite furnishes an example of

* Dr. Buckland.