

1, 8.) But the most remarkable fish of the Sauroid family, that inhabited the sea which deposited the chalk, is the *Macropoma*, belonging to the group of sauroids, having an elongated fusiform body, with a regular tail.

MACROPOMA MANTELLI. *Wond.* p. 334. (*Foss. South D.* Tab. XXXVII. XXXVIII.)—This fish is generally from one to two feet in length, of an elongated, fusiform shape, with a large head, and two dorsal fins; the anterior fin is imbedded, and has seven or eight strong spinous rays, the two first of which have numerous spines. The opercula are very long and large; the scales are garnished with adpressed spines, disposed in semicircular rows (see *Lign.* 126, fig. 2.). The teeth are small, conical, and numerous.

Several specimens of this fish are almost perfect; from the snout to the extremity of the tail. The bones of the cranium, the jaws, teeth, opercula, branchial rays, palatine arches, the surface of the body covered with scales, all the fins, the pelvic bones, the vertebræ and their apophyses, all remain.

In one example, the *vomer*, covered with minute teeth, is exposed. But the most extraordinary fact relating to these Ichthyolites, is the preservation, in every specimen, of the *stomach*; even its membranes remain, and separate in flakes; and the ramification of the minute vessels is visible, with a high magnifying power. In some instances the stomach is displaced and much distended; but in general it occupies its natural position, and retains its elongated,