

— this earliest-born of the Ganoids yet known — was at least as bulky as a large porpoise.

It was small, however, compared with specimens of the *Asterolepis* found elsewhere. The hyoid plate figured in page 110, (fig. 36,) — a Thurso specimen which I owe to the kindness of Mr. Dick, — measures nearly fourteen inches, and the cranial buckler of the same individual, fifteen one fourth inches, in breadth. The latter, when entire, must have measured twenty-three one half inches in length; and the fish to which it belonged, if formed in the proportions of the *Glyptolepis*, ten feet six inches; and if in those of the *Diplopterus*, from twelve feet five to thirteen feet eight inches in length. Did the shield still exist in its original state as a buckler of tough, enamel-crusted bone, it might be converted into a Highland target, nearly broad enough to cover the ample chest of a Rob Roy or Allan M'Aulay, and strong enough to dash aside the keenest broadsword. Another hyoid plate found by Mr. Dick measures sixteen one half inches in breadth; and a cast in the British Museum, from one of the Russian specimens of Professor Asmus, (fig. 46,) twenty-four inches. The individual to which this last plate belonged must, if built in the shorter proportions, have measured eighteen, and if in the longer, twenty-three feet in length. The two hyoid plates of the specimen of *Holoptychius* in the British Museum measure but four and a half inches along that transverse line in which the Russian *Asterolepis* measures two feet, and the largest Thurso specimen sixteen inches and a half. The maxillary bone of a cod-fish two and a half feet from snout to tail measures three inches in length. One of the Russian maxillary bones in the possession of Professor Asmus measures in length twenty-eight inches. And that space cir-