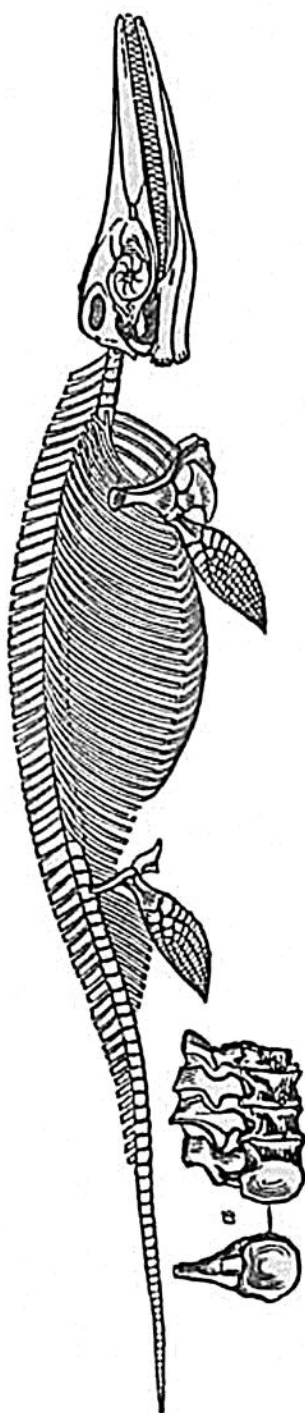


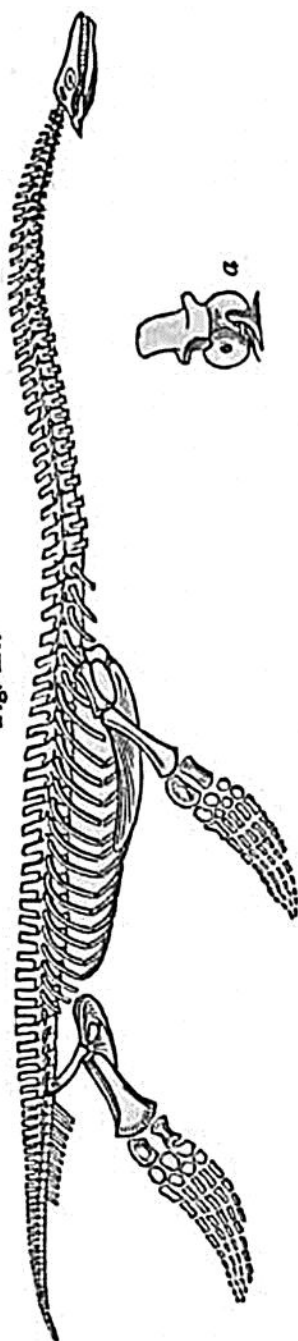
Fig. 415.



Skeleton of *Ichthyosaurus communis*, restored by Conybeare and Cuvier.

a. Costal vertebra.

Fig. 416.



Skeleton of *Plesiosaurus dolichodermus*, restored by Rev. W. D. Conybeare.

a. Cervical vertebra.

beyond its osseous framework, and deviating widely in its fish-like rays from the ordinary reptilian type. In fig. 417, the posterior bones, or digital ossicles of the paddle, are seen near *b*; and beyond these is the dark carbonized integument of the terminal half of the fin, the outline of which is beautifully defined.\* Prof. Owen believes that, besides the fore-paddles, these short and stiff-necked saurians were furnished with a tail-fin without radiating bones, and purely tegumentary, expanding in a vertical direction; an organ of motion which enabled them to turn their heads rapidly.†

\* Geol. Soc. Transact. Second Series, vol. vi. p. 199, pl. xx.

† Geol. Soc. Transact. Second Series, vol. v. p. 511.