

food; some using them merely for seizing and securing their prey, as the lizards, frogs, crocodiles, and the great majority of fishes. In such animals, the teeth are nearly all alike in form and structure, as for instance, in the alligator, (Fig. 71,) the porpoises, and many fishes. A few of the latter, some of

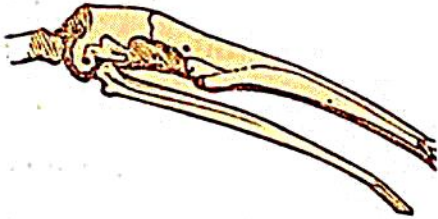


Fig. 70.

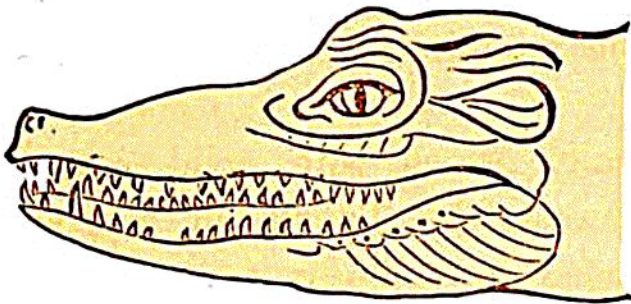


Fig. 71.

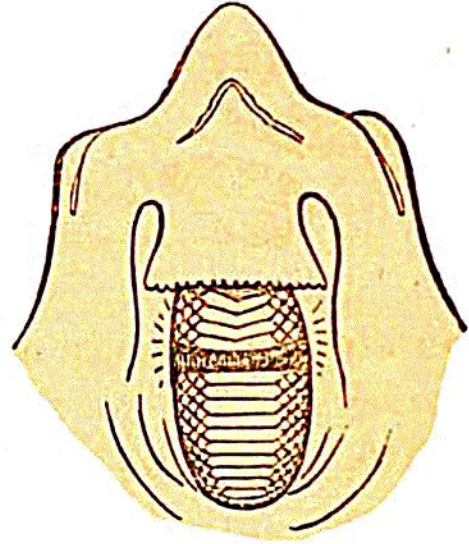


Fig. 72.

the Rays, for example, have a sort of bony pavement, (Fig. 72,) composed of a peculiar kind of teeth, with which they crush the shells of the mollusks and crabs on which they feed.

218. The Mammals, however, are almost the only vertebrates which can properly be said to masticate their food. Their teeth are well developed, and present great diversity in form, arrangement and mode of insertion. Three kinds of teeth are usually distinguished in most of these animals, whatever may be their mode of life; namely, the cutting teeth, *incisors*, the

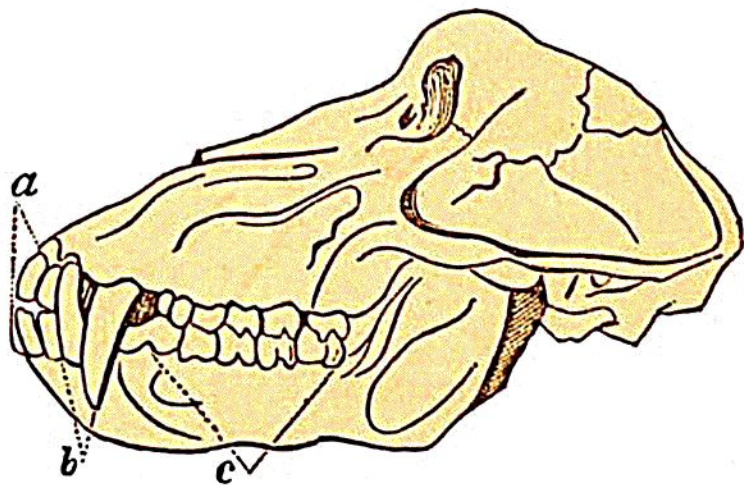


Fig. 73.