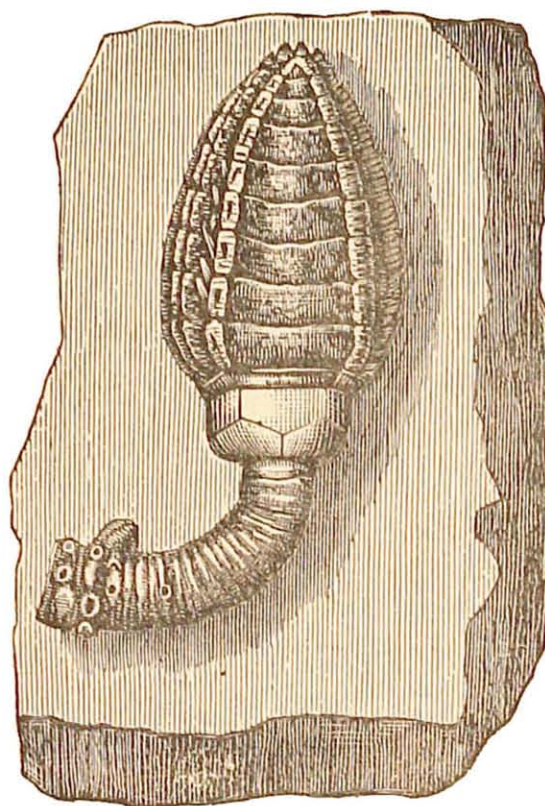


Fig. 95.



ENCRINITES MONILIFORMIS.  
(Trias.)

Fig. 96.



CUPRESSOCRINUS CRASSUS.  
(Old Red Sandstone.)

composed of about a hundred thousand separate pieces, had all the flexibility, though formed of solid lime, of a *drift* of nets, and yet were so nicely jointed, tooth fitting into tooth in all their numerous parts, and the whole so bound together by ligament, that, with all the flexibility, they had also all the toughness and tenacity, of pieces of thread net-work. Human ingenuity, with the same purposes to effect, *i. e.* the sweeping of shoals of swimming animals into a central receptacle, would probably construct a somewhat similar machine; but it would take half a lifetime to execute one equally elaborate.

In carefully examining, for purposes of restoration, some of the earliest ganoidal fishes, I was not a little impressed by the peculiar mechanical contrivances exhibited in their largely developed dermal skeletons. In some cases these