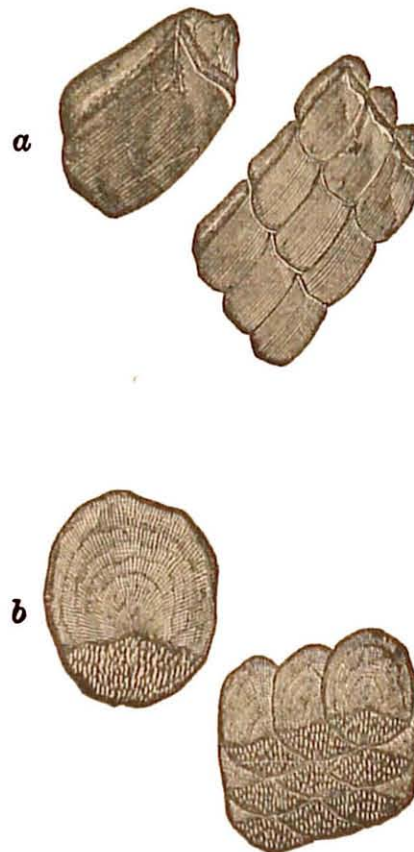


contrivances were sufficiently simple, resembling those which we find exemplified in the humbler trades, originated in comparatively unenlightened ages ; and yet their simplicity had but the effect of rendering the peculiarly *human* cast of the mind exhibited in their production all the more obvious. The bony scales which covered fishes such as the *Osteolepis* and *Diplopterus* of the Old Red Sandstone, or the *Megalichthys* of the Coal Measures, were of considerable mass and thickness. They could not, compatibly with much nicety of finish, be laid over each other, like the thin horny scales of the salmon or herring ; and so we find them curiously fitted

Fig. 98.



a, CHAMFERED SCALES. (*Osteolepis*.)
b, IMBRICATED SCALES. (*Glyptolepis*.)
 (Old Red Sandstone.)

flexure without risk of dislocation. The uppermost joint shows two lateral cavities for the articulation of auxiliary arms.