

diles, but are ranged in one long continuous furrow, (Pl. 11, B, c,) of the maxillary bone, in which the rudiments of a separation into distinct alveoli may be traced in slight ridges extending between the teeth, along the sides and bottom of the furrow. The contrivance by which the new tooth replaces the old one, is very nearly the same in the Ichthyosauri as in the Crocodiles (Pl. 11, A, B, c); in both, the young tooth begins its growth at the base of the old tooth, where, by pressure on one side, it causes first a partial absorption of the base, and finally a total removal of the body of the older tooth, which it is destined to replace.*

As the predaceous habits of the Ichthyosauri exposed them, like modern Crocodiles, to frequent loss of their teeth, an abundant provision has in each case been made for their continual renewal.

* In Pl. 11, Fig. A, shows the manner in which the older tooth in the Crocodile becomes absorbed, by pressure of a younger tooth rising within the cavity of its hollow base. Fig. c, represents a transverse section of the left side of the lower jaw of an Ichthyosaurus, showing two teeth in their natural place, within the furrow of the jaw; the younger tooth, by lateral pressure, has caused absorption of the inside portion of the base of the older tooth. Fig. B, represents a transverse section of the entire snout of an Ichthyosaurus, in which the lower jaw exhibits on both sides, a small tooth (a), which has caused partial absorption of the base of the larger tooth, (c). In the upper jaw, the bases of two large teeth (d, d,) are seen in their respective furrows.