

of these is a sharp and serrated edge, extending on each side downwards, from the point to the broadest portion of the body of the tooth. (See Figs. 1, 2, 6, 8, 12, &c.)

The second provision is one of compensation for the gradual destruction of this serrated edge, by substituting a plate of thin enamel, to maintain a cutting power in the anterior portion of the tooth, until its entire substance was consumed in service.\*

Whilst the crown of the tooth was thus gradually diminishing above, a simultaneous absorption of the root went on below, caused by the pressure of a new tooth rising to replace the old one, until by this continual consumption at both extremities, the middle portion of the older tooth was reduced to a hollow stump, (Figs. 10, 11), which fell from the jaw to make room for a

\* This perpetual edge resulted from the enamel being placed only on the front of the tooth, like that on the incisors of Rodentia. As the softer material of the tooth itself must have worn away more readily than this enamel, and most readily at the part remotest from it, an oblique section of the crown was thus perpetually maintained, with a sharp cutting edge in front, like that of the nippers. (See Figs. 7. 8. 12.)

The younger tooth, (Fig. 1), when first protruded, was lancet-shaped, with a serrated edge, extending on each side downwards, from the point to its broadest portion, as in the living Iguana. (Pl. 24. *f.* 13, and Fig. 4.) This serrature ceased at the broadest diameter of the tooth, i. e. precisely at the line, below which, had they been continued, they would have had no effect in cutting. (Pl. 24. *f.* 2. 6. 8. 9. 12.) As these saws were gradually worn away, the cutting power was transferred to the enamel in front,