

us to refer those very common, but little understood fossils, which have been called Ichthyodorulites, to extinct genera and species of the sub-family of Cestracionts. (See page 286). Several living species of the great family of Sharks have

are distinguished from those of true Sharks by being plicated, both on the external and internal surface of the enamel. (See Plate 27^d. B. Figs. 8, 9, 10). Plate 27^d C. 1.^{re} represents a rare example of a series of teeth of *Hybodus reticulatus*, still adhering to the cartilaginous jaw bones, from the Lias of Lyme Regis. Striated teeth of this family abound in the Stonesfield slate and in the Wealden formation.

Another genus in the sub-family of Hybodonts, is the *Onchus*, found in the Lias at Lyme Regis; the teeth of this genus are represented, Pl. 27^d. B. 6, 7.

In the third, or Squaloid division of fossils of this family, we have the character of true Sharks; these appear for the first time in the Cretaceous formations, and extend through all the Tertiary deposits to the present era. (Pl. 27^d. B. 11, 12, 13.) In this division the surface of the teeth is always smooth on the outer side, and sometimes plicated on the inner side, as it is also in certain living species; the teeth are often flat and lancet-shaped, with a sharp cutting border, which, in many species, is serrated with minute teeth. Species of this Squaloid family alone, abound in all strata of the Tertiary formation.

The greater strength, and flattened condition of the teeth of the families of Sharks (Cestracionts and Hybodonts), that prevailed in the Transition and Secondary formations beneath the Chalk, had relation, most probably, to their office of crushing the hard coverings of the Crustacea, and of the bony enamelled scales of the Fishes, which formed their food. As soon as Fishes of the Cretaceous and Tertiary formations assumed the softer scales of modern Fishes, the teeth of the Squaloid sub-family assumed the sharp and cutting edges that characterise the teeth of living Sharks. Not one species of the blunt-toothed Cestraciont family has yet been discovered in any Tertiary formation.