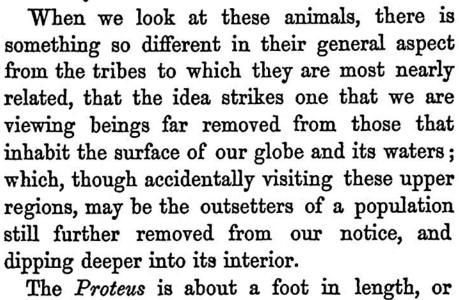
thirty miles distant, and he supposes that those found in both places might be thrown up by the same subterranean lake.‡ In the year 1833 there were two living specimens in the museum of the Zoological Society, where I had the pleasure of seeing them; and from one of them the accurate figure here given (fig. 107), by the kind permission of the Society, was taken by Mr. C. M. Curtis.

Fig. 107.



The *Proteus* is about a foot in length, or something more, and about an inch in thickness; the body is cylindrical, tapering to the tail; its colour is a pale red; its skin is transparent and slimy, so as easily to elude the grasp. It has four short slender legs; the anterior pair, placed just behind the head, having three; and the posterior pair, which are shorter, and placed just before the vent, having only two toes without claws. The head terminates in a flat, very obtuse muzzle, somewhat resembling the beak of a duck; its maxillæ are armed with teeth; the eyes are extremely minute, and scarcely discernible; they are concealed, and apparently rendered useless by an opaque skin; but as this animal is said to avoid

Proteus Anguinus. a. a. the Gills.

* Consolat, in Trav. 183-188.