

of extinct species, not observed in more recent deposits. Thus there are several species of dorsal rays that are wide at the base, and bent backwards, with the posterior margin destitute of teeth (named *Onchus*, from their hooked form), in the Carboniferous, Devonian, and Silurian formations; also immense compressed spines, having small teeth on the posterior margin, and the surface covered with longitudinal striæ, and finely toothed, transversely; hence termed *Ctenacanthus*, or pectinated-spine (*Murch. Sil. Syst.* p. 596.).

Some Ichthyodorulites have the surface richly ornamented with stellular tubercles (*Asteracanthus*, or starry-spine); and there are very large spines of this kind in the Oolite and Kimmeridge Clay.\*

The Ichthyodorulites of the *Rays* have no cavity like those of the Sharks, and are of a depressed form, and more or less flattened; they are armed with teeth along their exterior margins, and not on the posterior edge, as in the latter family.

FOSSIL TEETH OF FISHES.—From the durable nature, and striking appearance of many of the fossil teeth of fishes, and their prodigious numbers in some deposits, they are familiar objects to the collector. By far the largest proportion of the

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\* Many of these fossils were first figured and described by Dr. Buckland and Sir H. De la Beche. For particular information on Ichthyodorulites, *Poiss. Foss.* Tom. III. chap. i. should be consulted. About seventy species are enumerated.