

## CHAPTER XVI.

FOSSIL ICHTHYOLOGY ; COMPRISING THE GANOID, CTENOID,  
AND CYCLOID FISHES.

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THE fishes we have hitherto examined belong to the first order, the *Placoidians*; we now pass to the fossil remains of the second order, the *Ganoidians*, which are distinguished by their brilliant angular scales, formed of osseous, or horny plates, densely covered with enamel. This order contains six or more families, comprising many genera and numerous species; our investigation must be restricted to a selection from the principal genera of the *Ganoids*, properly so called, and of the *Sauroids*, or lizard-like fishes.\*

The first family, termed LEPIDOIDES, contains several genera, which are defined as possessing either numerous rows of brush-teeth, or of obtuse conical teeth; flat, rhomboidal scales, arranged

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\* The fishes of this order are described in *Poiss. Foss.* Tom. II.