

to be due to the presence of phosphate of iron, which has communicated a similar tint to the Ichthyolites of the Caithness Schist.*

FOSSIL SAUROID FISHES. (*Poiss. Foss.* Tom. II.)
—The family of Ganoid fishes termed *Sauroid*, or lizard-like, by M. Agassiz, are so named in consequence of certain peculiarities in their organization which are found in no other animals of this class, but exist in reptiles. There are but two living genera; namely the *Lepidosteus*, of which there are many species that inhabit the rivers of America; and the *Polypterus*, that contains two species, one inhabiting the Nile, and the other the rivers of Senegal. In these fishes the bones of the skull are closely connected by sutures; the teeth are large, conical, and longitudinally striated, as in the crocodile, plesiosaurus, &c. the spinous processes are united to the bodies of the vertebræ by suture, as in most reptiles; and the ribs are articulated to the extremities of the transverse processes; the skeleton is osseous. Even in the soft parts many analogies are presented; thus the *Lepidosteus* has a glottis, as in the *Siren*; and a cellular air-bladder, with a tracheal vessel, resembling the lungs of an Ophidian (*serpent*). These fishes are the only living representatives of those voracious tribes of the most

* Murch. Sil. Syst. p. 588; see also a detailed description of the *Cephalaspis*, *Holoptychus*, and other Devonian Ichthyolites, by M. Agassiz, p. 589—601.