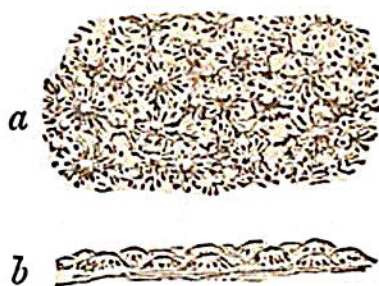


lated pap-like shape, but not rarely confluent, or of an elongated or bent form; and when to these the characteristic rays were added, the stars produced were of a rather eccentric order, — stars somewhat resembling the shadows of stars seen in water. Individual specimens have already been found, on which, if we recognize the form of the tubercle as a specific character, several species might be erected. The accompanying wood-cut (fig. 24) represents, from a Thurso specimen, what seems to be the true normal pattern of these cerebral carvings. Seen in profile (*b*) the tubercles resemble little hillocks, perforated at their base by single lines of thickly-set caves; while seen from above, (*a*), the narrow piers of bone by which the caves are divided take the form of rays. The reader will scarce fail to recognise in this print the coral *Monticularia* of Lamarck, or to detect, in at least the profile, the peculiarity which suggested the name.

The scales which covered the creature's body (fig. 25) were, in proportion to its size, considerably smaller and thinner than those of the *Holoptychius*, which, however, they greatly resemble in their general style of sculpture. Each, on the lower part of its exposed field, was, we see, fretted by longitudinal anastomosing ridges, which, in the upper part, break into detached angular tubercles, placed with the apex downwards, and hollowed, leaf-like, in the centre; while that covered portion which was overlaid by the scales immediately above we find thickly pitted by microscopic hollows, that give to this part of the field, viewed under a tolerably high

Fig. 24.



*Dermal tubercles of Asterolepis.*  
(Mag. two diameters.)