

*Sil. Syst.*, Plate VII.) The upper part, or head, forms a crescent; the body rises out of the concave with a sweep somewhat resembling that of a Gothic arch; the outline of the whole approximates to that of an egg, the smaller end terminating in a sharp point. Let him remark, further, that this creature was a *crustaceous* animal, of the crab or lobster class, and then turn up the brief description of the Old Red Sandstone in the same volume, page 454, and mark the form of the *Cephalaspis*, or buckler-head — a *fish* of a formation immediately over that in which the remains of the trilobite most abound. He will find that the fish and the crustacean are wonderfully alike. The fish is more elongated, but both possess the crescent-shaped head, and both the angular and apparently jointed body.\* They illustrate admirably how two distinct orders may meet. They exhibit the points, if I may so speak, at which the plated fish is linked to the shelled crustacean. Now, the *Coccosteus* is a stage further on; it is more unequivocally a fish. It is a *Cephalaspis* with an articulated tail attached to the angular body, and the horns of the crescent-shaped head cut off.

Some of the specimens which exhibit this creature are

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\* Really jointed in the case of the trilobite; only apparently so in that of the *Cephalaspis*. The body of the trilobite, like that of the lobster, was barred by transverse, oblong, overlapping plates, and between every two plates there was a joint; the body of the *Cephalaspis*, in like manner, was barred by transverse, oblong, overlapping scales, between which there existed no such joints. It is interesting to observe how nature, in thus bringing two such different classes as fishes and crustacea together, gives to the higher animal a sort of pictorial resemblance to the lower, in parts where the construction could not be identical without interfering with the grand distinctions of the classes.