

Fig. 217.

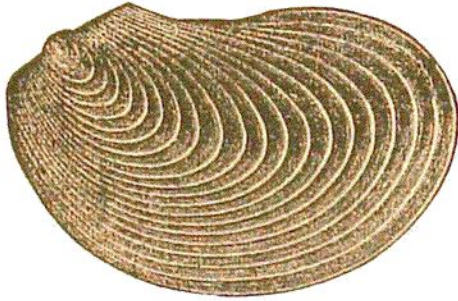
*Posidonomya Beecheri.*

Fig. 219.

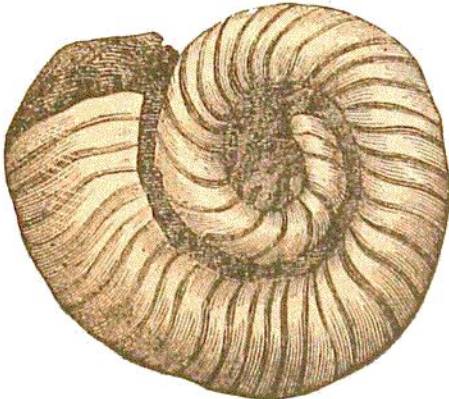
*Cyrtoceras undulatus.*

Fig. 218.

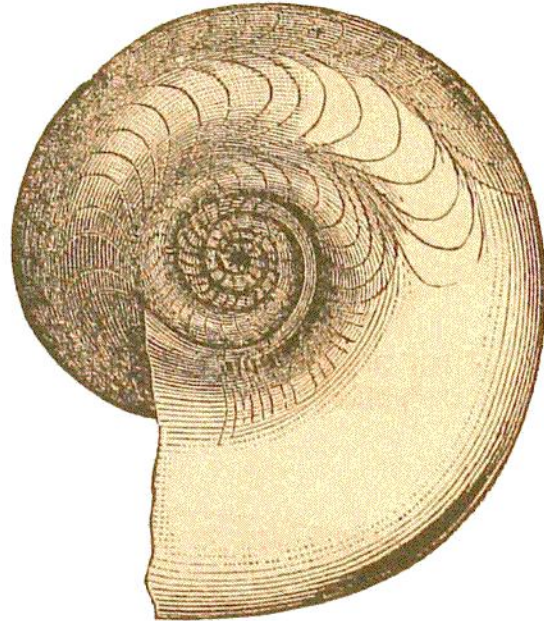
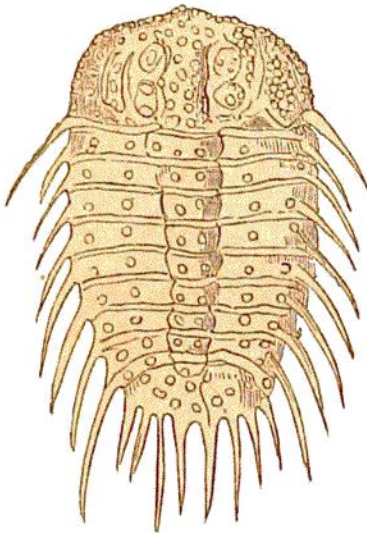
*Goniatites costulatus.*

Fig. 220 shows a Devonian trilobite, the *Acidaspis elliptica*.

Fig. 220.



*Fishes.*—The most characteristic feature of the Devonian rocks is the great development of fishes which they present. With the exception of a few species near the close of the Upper Silurian Period, this is their earliest appearance; and they present many strange forms, and are largely developed in all the subsequent formations. This is not true of any other class of vertebral animals, and hence the history of the fossil fishes is peculiarly instructive. It is said that not less than 1700 species are found fossil, and 10,000 are now living. Professor Agassiz estimates the number of species that have lived in

all past periods, at not less than 30,000 species.