

the dentary margins of the jaws; they only adhere to the integuments of the mouth, and the covering of the maxillæ; they possess, in most of the Sharks, great mobility. They are generally disposed in rows; the anterior ones, being first used, fall out, and are replaced by those on the inner series. New teeth are also continually formed behind those which exist, and advance successively towards the anterior rows as the latter are shed, and in their turn occupy the front rank. An examination of the fossil and recent teeth of Sharks and Rays, proves that the prevailing existing generic types have but few, if any, representatives in the fossils, except in those which belong to the Tertiary and Cretaceous formations; while the genera that appear isolated, as it were, in the present seas, have numerous analogous genera in the secondary strata.

The fossil teeth of this family may be divided into two grand divisions; namely, those which are more or less of a polygonal, obtusely conical, or depressed form, having a tessellated arrangement in the mouth; and those of a triangular, lanceolate shape, with cutting, or serrated edges, disposed in a series of rows on the jaws. The teeth of the first group have most analogy to those of the living genus *CESTRACION* (*Port-Jackson Shark*); the second to the *SHARKS*, commonly so called.

The *Cestracionts* are the only living representatives of a numerous family of squaloid fishes of a peculiar type, whose remains occur even in the