

Of the CYPRINOIDS, or fishes of the Carp family, the recent species of which are inhabitants either of fresh-water, or the brackish waters of the mouths of rivers, many fossil species occur in the fluviatile and lacustrine deposits of the Tertiary formations. In their character of omnivorous fishes, the Carps then, as now, formed the principal mass of the finny population of the lakes, and in their turn served as food to the carnivorous tribes, as the pikes, eels, &c. Several species are found in a beautiful state in the schists of Æningen, and in the Tertiary marls at Aix. Many of the layers of marl at the latter locality are covered with groups of fishes of the family *Cyprinodonts*, the recent species of which are of a small size, and inhabit the fresh-water lakes of temperate zones. *Lign.* 125, p. 587, represents a portion of a large slab of marl in the cabinet of Mr. Murchison, which is covered with scores of a species resembling a recent fish (*Lebias*) in the profile of its head, and the form of its fins. It is named *LEBIAS cephalotes*, from the relative largeness of its head. The black appearance of the abdomen in many of these Ichthyolites indicates the original situation of the intestines, and of the liver, which is largely developed in the fishes of this family, and contains much colouring matter.

SAUROCEPHALUS AND SAURODON. *Lign.* 136.—In the same quarry, near Lewes, from which the first entire fish of the Sussex Chalk was obtained, teeth of a very peculiar character were, many years