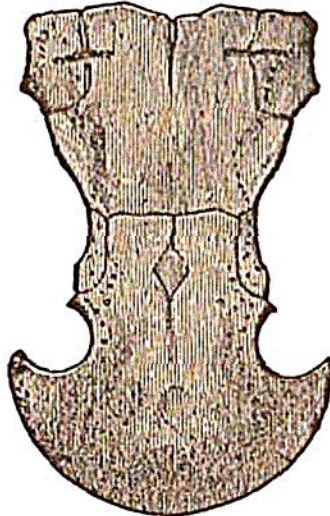


orbits, 2, 2, seemed all that was necessary in order to render the resemblance complete. But as I disinterred the buried edges of the specimen with a graver, the form, though it grew still more elegant, became less that of the ancient coat of armor; the snout expanded into a semicircle; the eye orbits gradually deepened; and the entire fossil became not particularly like any thing but the thing it once was,— the cranial buckler of the *Diplopterus*. The print (fig. 17)

Fig. 17.



CRANIAL BUCKLER OF DIPLOPTERUS.

exhibits its true form. It consists of two main divisions, occipital (A) and frontal, (C, fig. 16;) and in each of these we find a pair of smaller divisions, with what seem to be indications of yet further division, marked, not by lines, but by dots; though I have hitherto failed to determine whether the plates which these last indicate possess their independent centres of ossification. Not unfrequently, however, has the comparative anatomist to seek the analogues of two bones in one; nor is it at least *more* difficult to trace in the faint divisions of the cranial buckler of the *Diplopterus*,