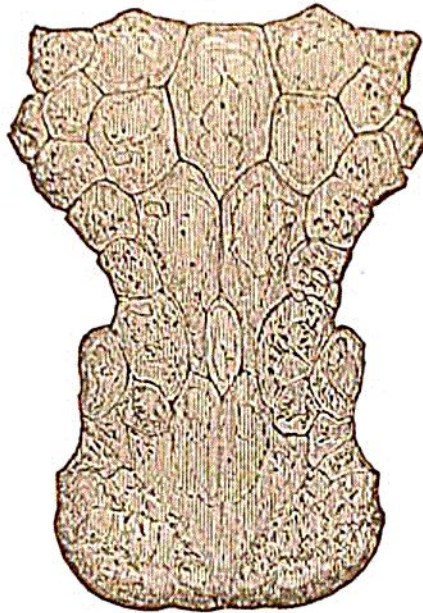


more prudently and more intelligently than if he had avoided the error by rashly uniting parts which in their separate state indicate no tie of connection.

The cranial buckler of the *Dipterus* (fig. 19) was, like

Fig. 19.



CRANIAL BUCKLER OF DIPTERUS.

that of the *Diplopterus*, of great beauty. In some of the finer specimens, we find the enamel ornately tattooed, within the more strongly-marked divisions, by delicately traced lines, waved and bent, as if upon the principle of Hogarth; and though the lateral plates are numerous and small, and defy the homologies, we may trace in those of the central line, from the snout to the nape, what seem to be the representatives of the frontal, parietal, and occipital bones,—the parietals ranging, as in the skull of the carp and in that of most of the mammals, in their proper place in the medial line. But the under surface of the cranium, armed, as on the upper surface, with plates of bone, exhibited an arrange