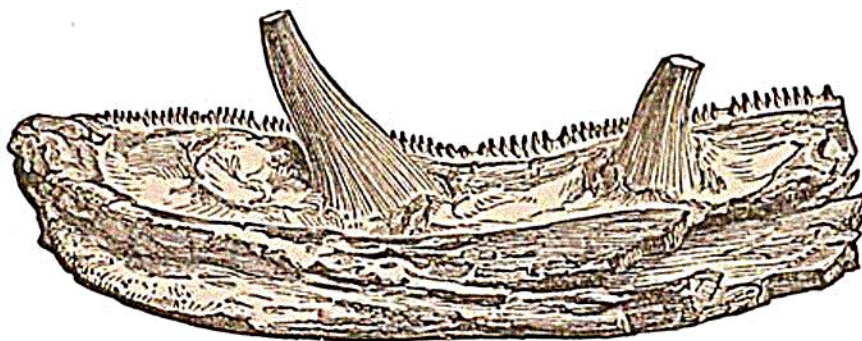


his work on fossils, that, in a fine ichthyolite in the British Museum, not only the *teeth* should have been preserved, but also the *lips*; but we now know enough of the construction of the ancient Ganoids to cease wondering. The *lips* were formed of as solid bone as the teeth themselves, and had as fair a chance of being preserved entire; just as the metallic rim of a *cogged* wheel has as fair a chance of being preserved as the metallic *cogs* that project from it. Immediately behind the front row,—in which the teeth present the ordinary ichthyic appearance,—there ran a thinly-set row of huge *reptile* teeth, based on an interior platform of bone, which formed the top of the cartilage-enclosing box composing the jaw. These were at once bent outwards and twisted laterally, somewhat like nails that have been drawn out of wood by the claw of a carpenter's hammer, and bent awry with the wrench, (fig. 31.) They were furrowed

Fig. 31.



PORTION OF UNDER JAW OF ASTEROLEPIS, (INNER SIDE.)

(One half nat. size.)

longitudinally from point to base by minute thickly-set striæ, and were furnished laterally, in most of the specimens, though not in all, with two sharp cutting edges. The reptile had as yet no existence in creation; but we see its future