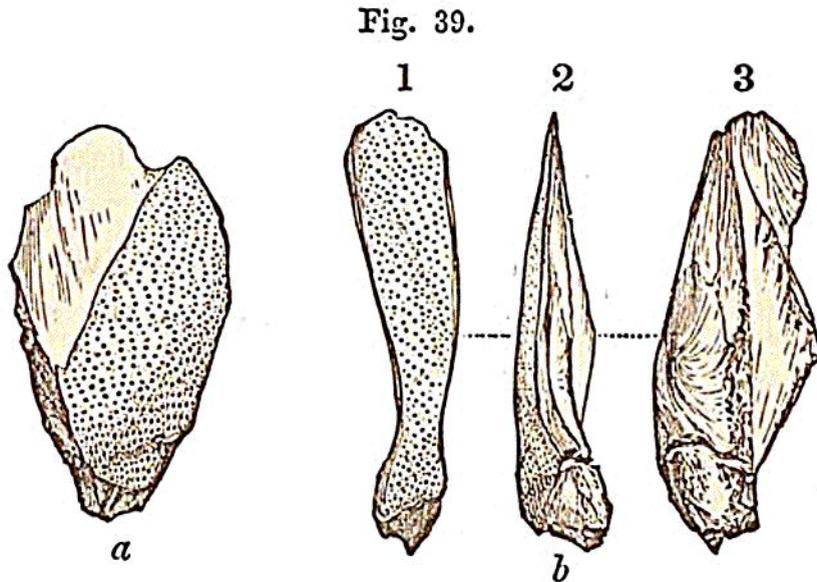


rative anatomist will ever qualify him to complete the work of restoration without it. I have submitted to the reader the cranial bucklers of *five* several genera of the ganoids of the Old Red Sandstone; but no amount of study bestowed on these would enable even the most skilful ichthyologist to restore a *sixth*; nor is the lateral area of the head, which was, I find, variously occupied in each genus, less difficult to restore than the buckler which surmounted it. Two of the more entire of these dermal bones I have figured (fig. 39, *a* and *b*) in the hope of assisting future inquirers, who, were



DERMAL BONES OF ASTEROLEPIS.

(One third nat. size, linear.)

they to pick up all the other plates, might yet be unable, lacking the figured ones, to complete the whole. The curiously-shaped plate *a*, represented in its various sides by the figures 1, 2, 3, is of an acutely angular form in the transverse section, (the external surface, 1, forming an angle which varies from thirty to forty-five degrees with the base, 3;) and as it lay, it is probable when in its original place,