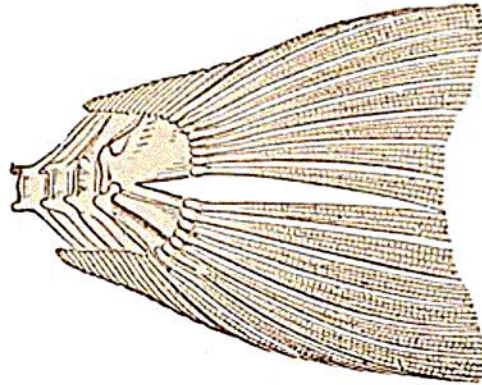


behind abruptly-terminating vertebræ, (fig. 52,) in the same

Fig. 52.



TAIL OF PERCH

period in which, by a strange process of degradation, the four ichthyic limbs are first gathered into a cluster, and hung about the neck.*

* In the following diagram a few simple lines serve to exhibit the progress of degradation. Fig. *a* represents the symmetrical Placoids of the Silurian period, consisting of head, neck, body, tail, fore limbs and hinder limbs; fig. *b* represents those heterocercal Ganoids of the Old Red Sandstone, Coal Measures, and Permian System, in which the neck is extinguished, and the fore limbs stuck on to the occiput; fig. *c*, those homocercal Ganoids of the Trias Lias, Oolite, and

