

codile, but rather the structure and lightness of those of Fishes. The section of these vertebræ presents two hollow cones, connected only by their summits to the centre of the vertebræ, which would

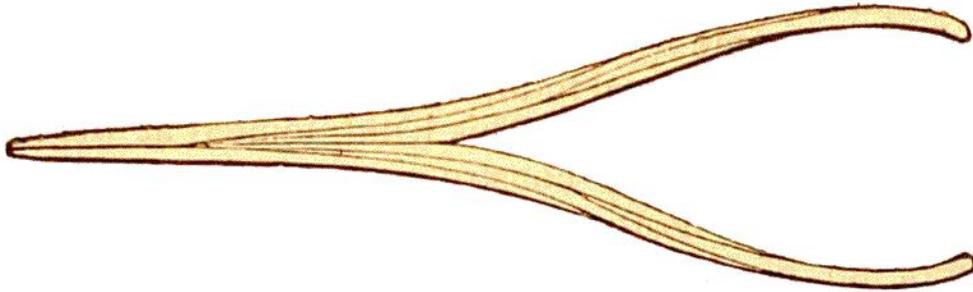


Fig. 97.—Lower jaw of Ichthyosaurus. (Dr. Buckland.)

permit of the utmost flexibility of movement. The ribs extended along the entire length of the vertebral column, from the head to the pelvis. The bones of the sternum, or that part of the frame which supported the paddles, present the same combinations with those of

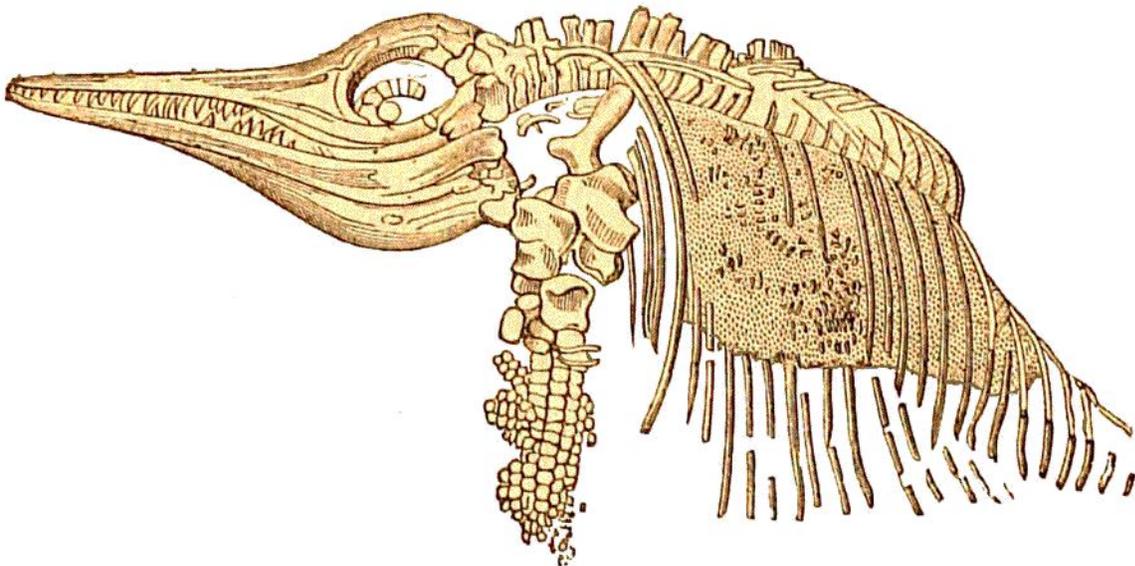


Fig. 98.—Skeleton of Ichthyosaurus.  
Containing teeth and bones of Fishes in a coprolitic form. One-fifteenth natural size.

the sternum in the Ornithorhynchus, or Duck-billed Platypus, of New Holland, an animal which presents the singular combination of a mammalian furred quadruped having the bill of a duck and webbed feet; which dived to the bottom of the water in search of its food, and returned to the surface to breathe the air. In this phenomenon