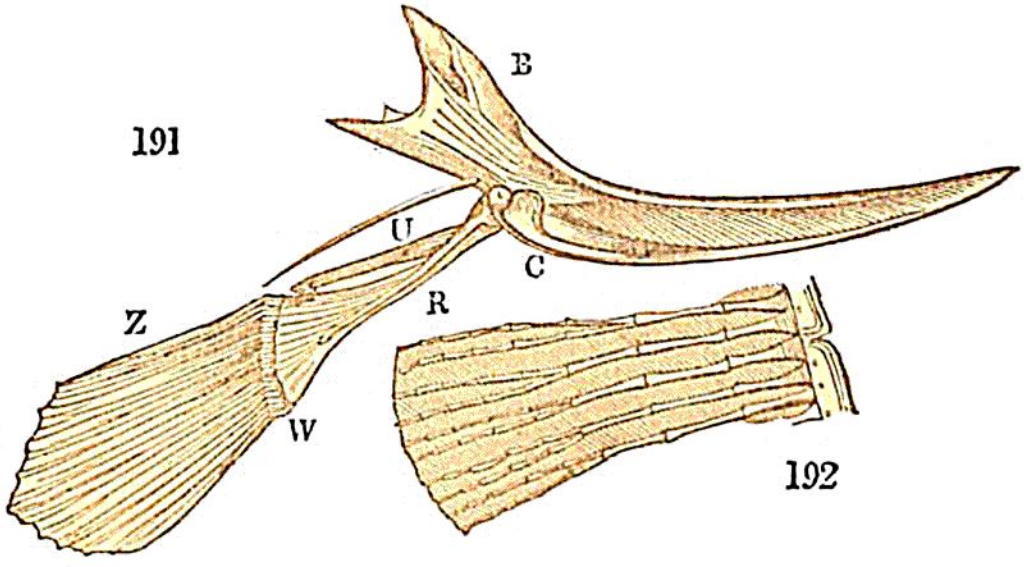
http://www.geology.19thcenturyscience.org/books/Bridgewater-Treatises/index.html

in all fishes; and they consist of a series of osseous pieces, in which we may often recognise with tolerable precision the analogous bones composing the anterior extremities of a quadruped; such as the scapula, clavicle, humerus, ulna, and radius.* These two latter bones are very distinctly marked in the *Lophius piscatorius*, or Angler, as may be seen in Fig. 191, where B is the scapula; C, the clavicle; U, the ulna; and R, the radius. The carpus may also be recog-



191

192

nised in a chain of small bones, W, interposed between the radius and the Phalanges, Z. In the *Ray* these phalanges are very numerous, and each is divided into several pieces by regular articulations: these are shown in Fig. 192: they are arranged close to one another in one plane, and form an effectual base of support to the integument which covers them. The scapula, according to Cuvier, is sometimes detached from the rest of the skeleton, and at other times connected with the spine: in most cases, however, it is suspended from the cranium; a fact which may be cited in

* Those anatomists who are fond of pursuing the theory of analogies, maintain that all these bones are merely developments of certain ribs, proceeding from the spine in its anterior parts. A similar origin has been assigned to the pieces of bone to which the ventral fins are attached: but it is difficult to reconcile this theory with the fact that these bones do not proceed from the spine, and are quite detached from the rest of the skeleton. It is evident, therefore, that if they are to be considered as analogous to the bones of the hinder extremities in the mammalia, they must be in a condition of very imperfect development.