

*Fishes of the Magnesian Limestone,
or Zechstein.*

The Fishes of the Zechstein at Mansfeld and Eisleben have been long known, and are common in all collections; figures of many species are given by M. Agassiz. Examples of the Fishes of the Magnesian limestone of the north of England, are described and figured by Professor Sedgwick, in the Geol. Trans. of London, (2d Series, Vol. iii. p. 117, and Pl. 8, 9, 10). He states in this paper (p. 99), that the occurrence of certain Corals and Encrinites, and several species of Producta, Arca, Terebratula, Spirifer, &c. shews that the Magnesian limestone is more nearly allied in its zoological characters to the Carboniferous order, than to the calcareous formations which are superior to the New red sandstone. This conclusion accords with that which M. Agassiz has drawn from the character of its fossil Fishes.

tail is regular and symmetrical. In certain bony Fishes of the secondary period, the upper lobe of the tail is partly covered with scales, but without vertebræ. The bodies of all these Fishes also have an integument of rhomboidal bony scales, covered with enamel.

No species of Fish has been found common to the Carboniferous group, and to the Zechstein or Magnesian limestone; but certain genera occur in both, e. g. the genus Palæoniscus and Polypterus.