

An account of a ganoid fish from Queensland (Ceratodus)

Date : 30/06/24 8:59 AM

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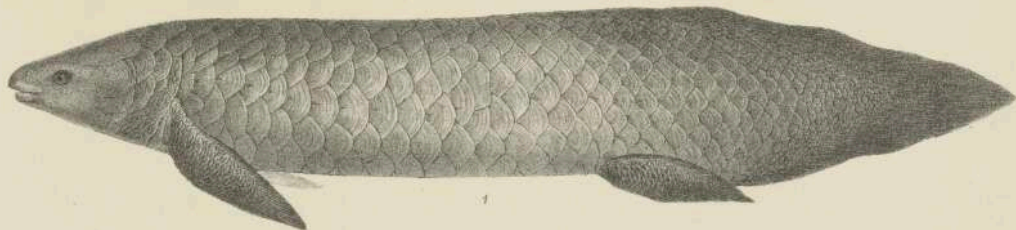
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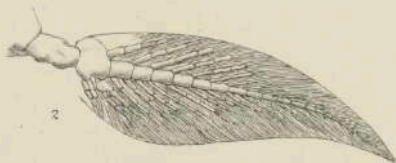
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Dr. Günther.

A ganoid Fish from Queensland (Ceratosuchus)

W. West & Co. lith.

genus (*Ceratodus*) testify to its presence; no further trace of it has been found until the present period, where it reappears in three genera (*Ceratodus*, *Lepidosiren*, *Protopterus*), one of which is identical with that of the Mesozoic era. Now, at present scarcely any zoologist will deny that there must have been a continuity of the Dipnoous type, and it is only a proof of the incompleteness of the palæontological record that we have to derive all our information regarding it from only three so very distant periods of its existence.

In conclusion I may add a synoptical table, from which the systematic views advocated above, and more especially the position of *Ceratodus* in the system, may be readily understood. After the separation of *Amphiosus* and the Lampreys as types of two distinct sub-classes (*Leptocardii* and *Cyclostomata*), the remaining host of fishes are referred to two other sub-classes:—

SUB-CLASS: *Teleostei*. Heart with a rigid bulbus aortæ; intestine without spiral valve; optic nerves decussating (living species, nearly 9,000).

SUB-CLASS: *Palæichthyes*. Heart with a contractile conus arteriosus; intestine with a spiral valve; optic nerves non-decussating.

Order I.—*Plagiostomata*, or *Marine Palæichthyes* (sharks and rays; living species, nearly 300).

Order II.—*Holocephala* (four living species).

Order III.—*Ganoidei*, or *Freshwater Palæichthyes*.

Sub-order 1.—*Amioidei* (one species).

Sub-order 2.—*Lepidosteoidei* (three species).

Sub-order 3.—*Polypteroidei* (two species).

Sub-order 4.—*Chondrostei* (sturgeons, thirty species).

Sub-order 5.—*Dipnoi*.

Fam. a.—*Sirenidæ*.

Sub-fam.—*Ceratodontina* (*Ceratodus*).

Sub-fam.—*Protopterina* (*Lepidosiren*, *Protopterus*).

Fam. b.—*Ctenodipteridæ* (*Ctenodus*, *Dipterus*).

Fam. c.—*Phaneropleuridæ* (*Phaneropleuron*).