

however, sections made in various parts show that the notochord is continuous and persistent, and that the centra of the vertebræ are only very thin rings of bone. The abdominal vertebræ are short, deeply pitted, sixty in number; they are provided with very short zygapophyses, feeble neural spines, and, below, with rudimentary ribs which can scarcely be distinguished from fibrous ligaments. The caudal vertebræ are very similar to those of the trunk, and provided with very feeble, needle-like neural and hæmal spines. Those constituting the extremity of the tail are very narrow and elongate, and consist of a centrum only. The first interneural is a broad lamella with a pair of diverging ridges, and attached to the neural spines of the thirty-first, thirty-second, and thirty-third vertebræ. Interhæmal spines rather short and feeble.

The scapular arch (fig. 2) is very simple and weak. The clavicle (*cl*) is a narrow, slightly curved, sword-shaped bone, tapering at the symphysis, and terminating in a short point at its junction with the supraclavicle. It is suspended from the skull by two supraclavicles, of which the upper (*scl*) is the shorter, and slightly dilated at its distal end. The scapula (*sc*) and coracoid (*co*) form an extremely thin lamina, subcircular in shape. The pectoral rays are joined to four minute basalia. A postclavicle is absent.

The pubic bones are also very weak, consisting of a thin semicartilaginous rod, dilated inwards into a very thin and weak, bony lamella; their base is swollen for the insertion of the fin-rays and cartilaginous.

### *Halosaurus owenii*.

*Halosaurus owenii*, Johns., Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1863, p. 406, pl. xxxvi. fig. 2.

„ „ Günth., Fish., vol. vii. p. 482.

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Snout produced; its præoral portion being nearly one half of its length. Eye rather large, the length of its diameter being two-fifths of the postocular portion of the head, and much more than the width of the interorbital space. The maxillary reaches the vertical from the front margin of the eye. The length of the head is more than its distance from the ventral fin, the base of which is entirely in front of, and somewhat remote from the base of the dorsal. Pectoral fin with narrow base, very long, extending nearly to the root of the ventral. Scales of the lateral line scarcely larger than the others, without phosphorescent organs being visible in the only specimen known. Anterior portion of the dorsal fin covered with small scales; anal fin scaleless. Brownish, silvery on the abdomen; gill-cover blackish.

The typical specimen from Madeira,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, is still the only individual known of this species.