

But the most remarkable animals which these limestone slates contain, are the flying lizards, which I have named *Pterodactyli*.

They are reptiles whose principal characters are, a very short tail, a very long neck, the muzzle much elongated, and armed with sharp teeth; the legs also long, and one of the toes of the anterior extremity excessively elongated, having probably served for the attachment of a membrane adapted for supporting them in the air, accompanied with four other toes of ordinary size, terminated by hooked claws. One of these strange animals, whose appearance would be frightful did they occur alive at the present day, may have been of the size of a thrush\*, the other of that of a common bat†; but it would appear from some fragments that larger species had existed ‡.

A little above the limestone slates is found the nearly homogeneous limestone of the Jura ridges. It also contains bones, but always of reptiles, crocodiles, and fresh-water tortoises, of which a vast quantity is found in particular in the neighbourhood of Soleure. They have been very carefully searched for by M. Hugi; and, from the fragments which he has already

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\* Researches, vol. v. part ii. p. 358. *et seq.*

† Ibid. p. 376.

‡ Ibid. p. 380.