

crocodiles, of these tortoises, of these flying reptiles, of these immense megalosauri, of these monstrous plesiosauri, that some small mammifera are said to be first detected. It is certain that jaw bones, and some bones discovered in England belong to this class, and particularly to the family of didelphides, or those of insectivorous animals.

It may, however, be suspected that the stones which incrust them have originated from some local recomposition subsequent to the epoch of the formation of these layers. However that may be, we find still that the reptile tribe predominated exclusively for a long time.

The ferruginous sands placed in England above the chalk, abound with crocodiles, tortoises, megalosauri, and particularly with a reptile which presents the singular character of using his teeth like our herbivorous mammifera.

Mr. Mantell, of Lewes, in Sussex, discovered this peculiar animal, as well as other large reptiles, in the sands beneath the chalk. He named it the *iguanodon*. (1)

In the chalk itself there are only reptilia, we find remains of tortoises and crocodiles. The famous soft sandstone quarries (*carrières de tuffau*) of the mountain of St. Peter, near Maestricht, which belong to the formation of chalk, have given beside the very large sea tortoises and a vast quantity of shells and marine zoophytes, a genus of lizards, not less gigantic than the megalosauri, which has become famous from the researches of Camper, and by the figures which Faujus has given of its bones in his history of this mountain.

It was upwards of twenty-five feet long; its great jaws were armed with very strong teeth, conical,

(1) See Recherches, pp. 161, 132 and 350.