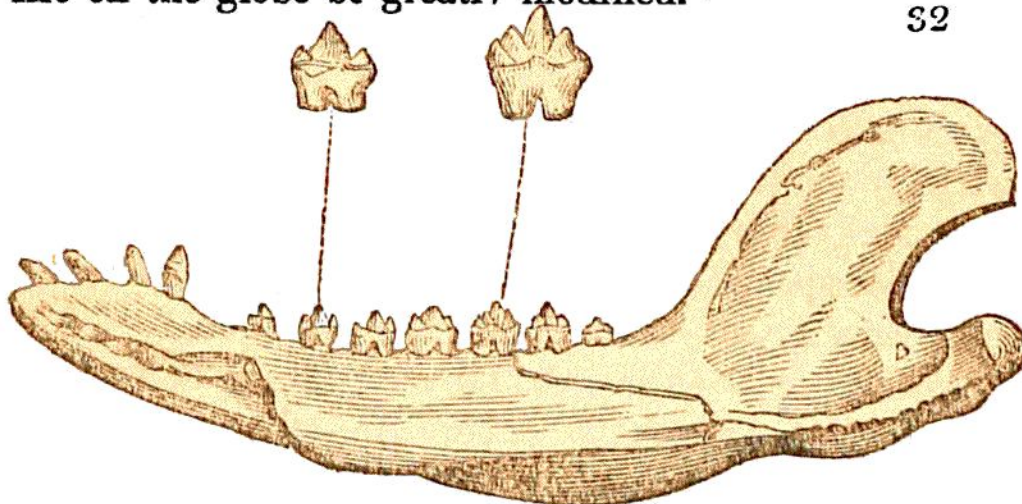


known, two of which are in the hands of Dr. Buckland, one belongs to Mr. Broderip *, one to M. Prevost, and the fifth (*fig. 32.*) was selected by the author of this Volume, from an ancient collection of fossils, the property of the Rev. C. Sykes, of Rooss, in Yorkshire, by whom it was presented to the museum of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. These specimens are of inestimable value, for were they unknown, the whole of the positive testimony that the earth, during the secondary periods of geology, nourished land mammalia, would vanish, and the course of inferences as to the succession of organic life on the globe be greatly modified.



From Buckland's Bridgwater Treatise.

Those persons who, confiding in what are somewhat hastily called general views, believe too strictly in the gradual change and sequence of organic life on the globe, and have pictured to themselves the early land and sea as tenanted only by the simpler (and, as they are erroneously termed, inferior or imperfect) forms of life, while in each succeeding period new, more complicated, and more exalted plants and animals were called into being, till man was at last awakened to the supremacy of creation, will find this fossil quadruped of Stonesfield a very puzzling anomaly. On the contrary, the geologist who, in the full spirit of Cuvier, regards the systems of life as definitely related now, and at all past periods, to the contemporaneous physical conditions of the globe, and uses the remains of plants and animals as monu-

* Since transferred to the British Museum.