

The ocean of the chalk appears to have possessed the principal existing marine types of organization ; it teemed with many species of dog-fish, lamna, galeus, and other genera of the shark family—with fishes related to the chimera, salmon, smelt, pike, dory, and ray, together with many of genera now extinct. Nautili and other cephalopoda abounded, as in our tropical seas ; and the family of echinodermata, or sea-urchins, was profusely developed : star-fish, encrinites, and other radiaria ; crustacea allied to the crab, lobster, shrimp, and prawn ; univalve and bivalve mollusca ; all these leading divisions of marine existence inhabited its waters. And although we have proof that numerous genera now no more, together with others of excessive rarity in the present seas, then swarmed in prodigious numbers ; and negative evidence that the cetacea, as the whale, porpoise, seal, &c. were not among its inhabitants ; yet the varied forms of animal life whose presence in the ocean of the chalk is attested by their fossil remains, unquestionably establish that the sea presented the same general conditions, and bore the same relation with the atmosphere and with light, as at the present time. The most remarkable peculiarity in the zoological character of the chalk is presented in the class of reptiles. With the exception of a lizard belonging to the family of the *Iguanidæ*, which inhabits the sea off the coast of South America, turtles are the only known living marine reptiles ;