

which inhabits the hot regions of America. They live upon food which is found stationary at the bottoms of rivers; in the stomachs of several procured from the Ganges, Col. Sykes found large quantities of muscles, the shells of which were broken into small angular fragments; and I have fossil bones of a trionyx (*T. Bakewelli*) from Tilgate Forest, imbedded in a mass of shells of the same genus; a collocation which might be expected in a fluviatile formation. The form of the ribs, and other parts of the skeleton, differs in the land, river, and marine turtles, so that the fossil bones can, for the most part, be readily referred to their respective genera.

29. FOSSIL TURTLES.—The remains of turtles are among the earliest indications of the reptile tribe, and occur in the new red sandstone. The impressions of their feet, or pats, are seen in the quarries of that rock, in Dumfriesshire; and entire tracks of these prints are preserved on the surface of the stone; “one slab exhibits twenty-four continuous impressions of feet, forming a regular track, with six distinct repetitions of the marks of each foot, the fore-foot being different from the hind-foot: the appearance of five claws is discernible in each fore-paw.”* The remarks on the rippled sandstone of the wealden (page 356), and on the impressions of human feet in stone (page 76), in the previous lectures, render it unnecessary to explain this phenomenon. In the lias and oolite,

* Dr. Duncan.