

in those of the lizard tribe. A crocodile, nearly twenty feet long, has been discovered in the lias of Yorkshire; teeth of crocodiles have been found in the Stonesfield slate; two species of gavial in the Kimmeridge clay of Havre, by M. Alexandre Brongniart; and two species in the lias of Wirtemberg, by Dr. Jaeger. Species of several related genera occur in the oolite and Jura limestone. The wealden affords two or three species; the chalk an equal number; the tertiary strata of the London basin, one species with concavo-convex vertebræ; and similar remains abound in the newer pliocene deposits of North and South America, the Sub-Himalayas, &c. Neither the iguanodon, megalosaurus, hylæosaurus, ichthyosaurus, or plesiosaurus, have ball and socket vertebræ. This peculiarity of the vertebral column is very remarkable, and seems to indicate some general condition of the earth during the secondary period requiring such a modification of structure in the reptile tribes.* This family of reptiles, like the testudinata, extends through the vast periods of the secondary and tertiary eras to the present time. As the crocodiles frequent fresh-water, and not the sea, their remains testify the existence of regions watered by streams and rivers.

31. *ICHTHYOSAURUS*, (*fish-like lizard*.)—In the lias of the west of England, bones and teeth, supposed to belong to crocodiles, had for many years