

to the mode of reproduction in these animals.* Some of the Batrachians are edentulous, like the Turtles, but others have numerous small, conical, uniform, closely-arranged teeth, placed either in a single row, or aggregated like the rasp-teeth in fishes.†

FOSSIL BATRACHIANS.—The skeletons, vestiges of the soft parts, and imprints of the feet of several genera of Batrachians, occur in a fossil state, in tertiary deposits, all of which, like the existing races, appear to belong to fresh-water or terrestrial species. In the pliocene, or recent tertiary strata, on the banks of the Rhine, at Ceningen, and in the *papierkohle* of the Eifel, several species of Frog, Toad, and Newt, have been discovered.

A celebrated fossil of this class is the gigantic Salamander, three feet in length (*Wond.* p. 495.), found at Ceningen (see *Wond.* p. 250.), which a German physician of some note (*Scheuchzer*) supposed to be a fossil man!‡ and described it in an essay entitled “*Homo Diluvii testis*,” as being the moiety, or nearly so, of a human skeleton, with the bones and flesh incorporated in the stone.§ A fine example

* See Dr. Roget's Bridgewater Essay, p. 395.

† The variations in the dental system of these animals are described in detail by Prof. Owen; *Odontography*, Chap. II. p. 187.

‡ *Phil. Trans.* for 1726, Vol. XXXIV.

§ An admirable illustration of this highly interesting fossil is given by Baron Cuvier, *Oss. Foss.* Tom. V. p. 431.