

in the alluvial deposits of the existing streams and rivers of the north island of New Zealand. These bones have been described in a highly interesting memoir (published in the Transactions of the Zoological Society) by Professor Owen, who refers them to a tridactyle Struthious bird, one-third larger than the African ostrich, and resembling the *Apteryx* (see *Wond.* p. 118.), in the proportions of the tibia to the metatarsus; probably also in the rudimental state of the wings. This bird Professor Owen has named *Dinornis Novæ Zelandiæ*; and states that its shank-bone is large enough to have sustained three toes, equivalent to produce impressions equalling in size those of the largest American Ornithichnites. The author further observes, that it seems most reasonable to conclude that the Ornithichnites are the impressions of the feet of birds, which had the same low grade of organization as the *Apteryx* and the *Dinornis*; and that these last may be regarded as the remnants of an apterous (*wingless*) race of birds, which seems to have flourished at the epoch of the *New Red* sandstone of Connecticut and Massachusetts.* These bones were sent to England by Rev. W. Williams, who collected them from the alluvial mud at Poverty Bay;† among these remains are a tibia (large bone

* American Journal of Science, Vol. XLV. p. 187.

† It may be questioned whether these bones are not washed by the streams out of an ancient alluvial deposit, and transported into the river; for my son, Mr. Walter