

which burrow in the mud; and, what was still more interesting to me, the distinct footmarks of birds in regular sequence, faithfully representing in their general appearance the smaller class of Ornithicnites of high antiquity in the valley of the Connecticut before described. (Vol. I., p. 252).

I learnt from Dr. Harding of Kentville, and Mr. Pryor of Horton, who were my guides, that these recent footprints were those of the sandpiper (*Tringa minuta*), a species common to Europe and North America, flights of which I saw daily running along the water's edge, and often leaving thirty or more similar impressions in a straight line, parallel to the borders of the estuary. The red mud had cracked in hardening in the sun's heat, and was divided into compartments, as we see clay at the bottom of a dried pond, and I was able to bring away some pieces to England. One of these I have figured in the annexed plate (VII.). In fig. 1 we see the upper surface of the slab, on the left side of which are six perfect foot-marks in the same line, with part of a seventh, and another, *a*, probably belonging to a distinct line. A small ball or protuberance will be seen near the base of the middle toe, as at *a*, *b*, or sometimes about the middle of the impression of the middle toe, as at *c*. This is caused by the mud which is displaced by the prominent metatarsus or instep bone, which has thrust forward a small mound of earth, in consequence of the slanting position of the leg as the bird advances. On splitting the slab, and reducing it to the thickness expressed in the transverse section, *fig. 3*, I was fortunate enough to lay open an under surface, on which two other lines of foot-prints