

we know that many of that class inhabited Europe at this period. That some of these may be discovered in America, I can hardly doubt; but the fact is worthy of remark, as connected with the weight due to negative evidence. When strata have been formed far from land, so as to afford few, if any, indications of land plants, we must not look for indications of air-breathing quadrupeds, nor infer their non-existence, if it be so difficult to discover them even at Claiborne, where the land at the period of the deposition of the marine strata, can not have been far distant.*

* Since writing the above, I hear that Mr. Hale, of Mobile, has met with some bones of land quadrupeds in these strata. For remarks on the strata at Claiborne, see a paper by the author, "Quart. Journ. of Geol. Society of London," vol. iv. p. 10, June, 1848.