

with scales or bony plates, and almost always possess four extremities; their eyelids are movable, and their two jaws move vertically like those of higher animals. The serpents are equally clothed with scales, but their bodies are more elongated, and destitute of limbs; their eyelids are immovable, and each of their jaws is in two pieces; and they have, besides, an extra pair of jaw-pieces in the roof of the mouth. The extinct orders are Pterodactyls, or flying reptiles, Enaliosaurs, or marine reptiles, and Labyrinthodonts, or reptiles with very complicated structure in the substance of their teeth, and, sometimes at least, with frog-like forms. They possess affinities both with true reptiles and with batrachians.

In 1828, Dr. Duncan, a Scotchman, had his attention arrested by what appeared to be tracks of a reptile imprinted upon the surface of solid sandstone at Dumfriesshire. A few years later, tracks somewhat resembling the impression of a human hand were observed upon similar sandstone in Saxony. These were also attributed to reptiles. In this country, Dr. Deane and Professor Hitchcock noticed upon red sandstones, in the valley of the Connecticut River, numerous tracks which they were inclined to attribute to birds, as they were evidently made by *three-toed bipeds*. In 1836, Professor Hitchcock published the first systematic account of these footprints, in which he pronounced them to be mainly the tracks of birds—*Ornithichnites*—a conclusion which is very questionable. In 1844, Dr. King, of Philadelphia, also described several kinds of footprints upon rocks then supposed to be carboniferous, but since shown to be of the same age as the sandstones upon which all the other known tracks had been observed. The rocks are the "New Red Sandstone," belonging to the lower part of the Jurassic system, or the upper part of the Triassic. The position is a considerable distance above the coal.