

sublime philosophy of paleontological studies, and assures us that one enduring and infinite Intelligence has planned and executed every part of creation.

Crowds of reptile forms have passed before our view, but we have only just arrived at the culmination of the reign of reptiles—the *Herpetarchy* of the world's history. The Jurassic Age followed the Triassic. Before this time the Trilobites of the Paleozoic Ages were known only in history. The plain-chambered shells had been followed by lobulate-chambered shells—the *Goniatites*—and these were now, to a great extent, superseded by the *Ammonites*, a family of chambered shells with dorsal siphons and extremely complicated partitions between the chambers. So the complexity of Nature's products increased with her age. Most of the Ammonites were closely coiled. In their modifications and decorations the exuberance of Nature effloresced in hundreds of distinct species. Six hundred representatives of this peculiarly European family are exhibited in the museum of the University of Michigan—one of the results of the tireless industry of Dr. C. Rominger. The land was clothed with a vegetation quite similar to that of the present day; but the climate was yet warmer than at present, and many types of plants and animals, which to-day are confined within the tropics, were then enabled to range to the Arctic circle (Fig. 70).

The great feature of the age was its reptiles. These were represented in all their orders except serpents. Batrachians also existed, if we may judge from some remains found in North Carolina and Pennsylvania in sandstones accumulated probably during this age. These remains belong to the genus *Composaurus*, and reveal, like the Carboniferous Batrachians, some relationship with the Labyrinthodonts. Better characterized Labyrinthodonts have been described under the name of *Centemodon*, from the