

ring in Great Britain. The six volumes appeared in parts, and comprise 604 cleverly-drawn coloured plates with explanatory text. The material is not arranged in any systematic order, the descriptions and figures have clearly been prepared in the succession in which the specimens came into the hands of the authors. A work of this character could not have a very high scientific value, yet both the Sowerbys were indefatigable collectors, good conchologists, and expert draughtsmen, and their work did much to advance the study of fossils.

Among the monographs that appeared about this time, one of the best was J. C. M. Reinecke's *Monograph of the Ammonites occurring in Coburg and Franconia* (1818), a work describing and figuring forty species of cephalopods from the Jurassic and Triassic limestones of that area. Another valuable local work was that of Brocchi on the Tertiary mollusca of Italy, *Conchyliologia fossile subapennina* (Milan, 1811).

Very little was known about fossil *Arthropods* up to the year 1820. Fossil crabs had been found in the lithographic shales of Bavaria and the Tertiary strata of Upper Italy and Tranquebar; trilobites had been found in England, Sweden, and Bohemia, and occasionally insects had been recognised and figured in the older palæontological works. But no thorough scientific investigation of any group of arthropods had been undertaken.

Fossil *Fishes* play a not unimportant rôle in the history of geology and palæontology. The teeth of sharks had led Palissy and Steno to correct conceptions about the significance of fossils, and the early observations on fossil teeth were incorporated in all great works on the rocks. Most of the names given to them were fanciful—*e.g.*, "serpents' tongues," "birds' tongues," "swallow stones"; of the more learned terms, "glossopetra" and "lamiodonta" were the most usual.

Impressions and skeletons of fishes were sometimes found in an excellent state of preservation in the copper slate of the Mansfeld district, in the Jurassic shales of Solenhofen and Eichstätt, the calcareous marls of Oeningen, the black slates of Glarus, the Tertiary calcareous shales of Monte Bolca, and in other localities. Volta published in 1796 a splendidly illustrated monograph of the fossil fishes of Monte Bolca. Faujas de Saint-Fond, in his *Essay on Geology*, and later Blainville in his *Dictionary of Natural History* (1818), gave a