

series of links and gradations, from the corresponding parts of the highest mammalia, to their least perfect form in the fins of fishes. In the fore paddle of the Plesiosaurus, we have all the essential parts of the fore leg of a quadruped, and even of a human arm; first the scapula, next the humerus, then the radius and ulna, succeeded by the bones of the carpus and metacarpus, and these followed by five fingers, each composed of a continuous series of phalanges. (see Pl. 16, 17, 19.) The hind paddle also offers precisely the same analogies to the leg and foot of the Mammalia; the pelvis and femur are succeeded by a tibia and fibula, which articulate with the bones of the tarsus and metatarsus, followed by the numerous phalanges of five long toes.

From the consideration of all its characters, Mr. Conybeare has drawn the following inferences with respect to the habits of the Plesiosaurus Dolichodeirus, "That it was aquatic is evident, from the form of its paddles; that it was marine is almost equally so, from the remains with which it is universally associated;

still more numerous and angular joints of the paddle of the Ichthyosaurus, and the phalanges of land quadrupeds, which are more or less cylindrical; in these sea Lizards they were flattened, for the purpose of giving breadth to the extremities as organs of swimming. As its paddles give no indication of having carried even such imperfect claws, as those of the Turtles and Seals, the Plesiosaurus apparently could have made little or no progress in any other element than water.