

all these points of agreement, with the type of Lizards, and of difference from the character of birds, leave no doubt as to the place in which the Pterodactyles must be ranged, among the Lizards, notwithstanding the approximation which the possession of wings seems to give them to Birds or Bats.

The number and proportions of the bones in the fingers and toes in the Pterodactyle, require to be examined in some detail, as they afford coincidences with the bones in the corresponding parts of Lizards, from which important conclusions may be derived.

As an insulated fact, it may seem to be of little moment, whether a living Lizard or a fossil Pterodactyle, might have four or five joints in its fourth finger, or its fourth toe; but those who have patience to examine the minutiae of this structure, will find in it an exemplification of the general principle, that things apparently minute and trifling in themselves, may acquire importance, when viewed in connexion with others, which, taken singly, appear equally insignificant. Minutiae of this kind, viewed in their conjoint relations to the parts and proportions of other animals, may illustrate points of high importance in physiology, and thereby become connected with the still higher considerations of natural theology. If we examine the fore-foot of the existing Lizards, (Pl. 22, B.) we