

shire may be seen by reference to Pl. 26. They traverse the rock in a direction either up or down, and not across the surfaces of the strata, which are now inclined at an angle of 38° . On one slab there are twenty-four continuous impressions of feet, forming a regular track, with six distinct repetitions of the mark of each foot, the fore-foot being differently shaped from the hind-foot; the marks of claws are also very distinct.*

Although these footsteps are thus abundant in the extensive quarries of Corn Cockle Muir, no trace whatever has been found of any portion of the bones of the animals whose feet they represent. This circumstance may perhaps be explained by the nature of the siliceous sandstone having been unfavourable to the preservation of organic remains. The conditions which would admit of the entire obliteration of bones,

* On comparing some of these impressions with the tracks which I caused to be made on soft sand, and clay, and upon unbaked pie-crust, by a living *Emys* and *Testudo Græca*, I found the correspondence with the latter sufficiently close, allowing for difference of species, to render it highly probable that the fossil footsteps were also impressed by the feet of land Tortoises.

In the bed of the Sapey and Whelpley brooks near Tenbury, circular markings occur in the Old Red Sandstone, which are referred by the natives to the tracks of Horses, and the impressions of Patten-rings, and a legendary tale has been applied to explain their history. They are caused by concretions of Marlstone and Iron, disposed in spherical cases around a solid core of sandstone, and intersected by these water courses.