state of our knowledge of existing Fishes. The inaccessible recesses of the waters they inhabit, renders the study of their nature and habits much more difficult than that of terrestrial animals. The arrangement of this large and important class of Vertebrata was the last great work undertaken by Cuvier, not long before his lamented death, and nearly eight thousand species of living Fishes had come under his observation. The full development of their history

rently shaped feet, armed with nails. Many of these (Pl. 26') resemble the impressions on the sandstone of Dumfries, and are apparently the steps of Tortoises.

Professor Kaup has proposed the provisional name of Chirotherium for the great unknown animal that formed the larger footsteps, from the distant resemblance, both of the fore and hind feet, to the impression of a human hand; and he conjectures that they may have been derived from some quadruped allied to the Marsupialia. The presence of two small fossil mammalia related to the Opossum, in the Oolite formation of Stonesfield, and the approximation of this order to the class of Reptiles, which has already been alluded to, (page 73, note), are circumstances which give probability to such a conjecture. In the Kangaroo, the first toe of the fore-foot is set obliquely to the others, like a thumb, and the disproportion between the fore and hind feet is also very great.

A further account of these footsteps has been published by Dr. Sickler, in a letter to Blumenbach, 1834. Our figure (Pl. 26'), is copied from a plate that accompanies this letter; on comparing it with a large slab, covered with similar footmarks, from the same quarries, lately placed in the British Museum, (1835) I find that the representations, both of the large and small footsteps, correspond most accurately. The hind foot (Pl. 26"), is drawn from one on this slab. Pl. 26" is drawn from a plaster