

and numbers, and of the functions they discharge in the economy of nature, he has left to his able successors.

The fact of the formation of so large a portion of the surface of the earth beneath the water, would lead us to expect traces of the former existence of Fishes, wherever we have the remains of aquatic Mollusca, Articulata, and Radiata. Although a few remarkable places have long been celebrated as the repositories of fossil Fishes, even of these there are some, whose geological relations have scarcely yet been ascertained, while the nature of their Fishes remains in still greater obscurity.*

The task of arranging all this disorder has

cast in the British Museum, taken from another slab found in the same quarries, and impressed with footsteps of some small aquatic Reptile.

Some fragments of bones were found in the same quarries with these footsteps, but were destroyed.

A thin deposit of Green Marl, which lay upon the inferior bed of sand, at the time when the footsteps were impressed, causes the slabs above and below it to part readily, and exhibit the casts that were formed by the upper sand, in the prints that the animals had made on the lower stratum, through the marl, while soft, and sufficiently tenacious to retain the form of the footsteps.

* The most celebrated deposits of fossil Fishes in Europe are the coal formation of Saarbrück, in Lorraine; the bituminous slate of Mansfeld, in Thuringia; the calcareous lithographic slate of Solenhofen; the compact blue slate of Glaris; the limestone of Monte Bolca, near Verona; the marlstone of Oeningen, in Switzerland; and of Aix, in Provence.

Every attempt that has yet been made at a systematic arrange-