thickness of thirty or forty feet. In the marl-stone, leaves and stems of plants, insects, shells, crustacea, fishes, turtles, a large aquatic salamander, birds, and a perfect skeleton of a fox, have been discovered. The fox was obtained by Mr. Murchison, for whom I developed it, and removed the stone so as to expose the entire skeleton: this extraordinary fossil, which does not differ in its osteology from the recent species, is figured and described in the Geological Transactions for 1832. A tortoise, three feet in length, with the head, neck, tail, and three of the paws, well preserved, has since been discovered. Mr. Murchison concludes that these fresh-water deposits are the contents of a lake, belonging to the newer pliocene epoch, but that the period of their formation must have long preceded the present condition of the country, the Rhine having subsequently worn a channel through them to the depth of several hundred feet.

39. Fossil fishes of Monte Bolca.—I will here notice another interesting assemblage of tertiary strata—the celebrated ichthyolite quarries of Monte Bolca—and then proceed to the consideration of the effects of volcanic action during the geological epochs embraced in this discourse. Monte Bolca is situated on the borders of the Veronese territory, about fifty miles NN.W. of the lagunes of Venice, and forms part of a range of hills of moderate elevation; volcanic deposits abound in the neighbouring Vicentin, and the summit of the