

animal when running; the shortest, when walking at a moderate pace. These footsteps indicate proportions so far exceeding those of all known living bipeds,—for the foot of the African ostrich is but ten inches long,—that the geologist may be pardoned for having hesitated to adopt the opinions of the American savans, in the absence of any relics of the osseous structure of the supposed Birds; although sanctioned by the high authority of Dr. Buckland, who, from the first, concurred in the views of Professor Hitchcock (*Bd.* II. p. 39.). But much scepticism prevailed among our geologists concerning the true nature of these impressions; and I candidly confess my incredulity, until a series of specimens sent to me by Dr. Deane, (and which was laid before the Geological Society of London), accompanied with a graphic description of the circumstances connected with their position in the strata, brought conviction to my mind. Professor Hitchcock is of opinion that upwards of thirty species of foot-prints may be distinguished.

DINORNIS (*fearfully great bird.*).—An insuperable obstacle to the adoption of the views of the American philosophers, with some distinguished geologists, was the enormous size of the largest foot-prints; but this objection has been removed by a discovery as unexpected and marvellous as that of the Ornithichnites of Connecticut; namely, of the skeletons of several species of unknown birds, with feet equal in magnitude to the largest foot-prints,