

Several other jaws with similar tricuspid teeth of larger dimensions, found by Mr. Beckles, indicate the existence of another species of *Triconodon* of a more elongated form, and about one-third larger in size. From one of these the following evidence of its marsupial character was pointed out to me by Dr. Falconer. 1. The plurality of true molars. 2. The strong, inflected angular process. 3. (And this is considered by him the most significant of all), the broad, salient, everted rim of the ridge which is decurrent on the outer side from the condyle along the inferior margin, exactly as in the carnivorous marsupials. 4. The marked development of the mylo-hyoid groove. He also adds, that these two species of *Triconodon*, from the cutting character of their teeth, and their comparatively formidable canines, together with the form of the ascending ramus, are more like small ferine animals than mere insectivorous marsupials. It is most probable that they fed on prey less minute than insects.

Among the jaws of many smaller insectivora is one allied to the type of the Stonesfield *Amphitherium*, but generally distinct.*

The following observations by Professor Owen, on the genus *Triconodon*, extracted from a letter which I received from him January 27, 1857, are not the less interesting as having been written before the more decisive proofs above enumerated of the marsupial characters of *Triconodon* had been elicited from more perfect specimens obtained about a month later:—"The Purbeck fossil (the smaller *Triconodon*) is most nearly allied to the Stonesfield insectivorous genera, and shows characters intermediate between *Phascolotherium* and *Thylacotherium*. The three-coned tooth presents the same type as in the molars of these genera, but the first and third cones are developed to nearer equality with the second or mid-cone. The cingulum in *Triconodon* develops the same front and back talon. In the size of the canine, and in the depth and other proportions of the jaw, *Triconodon* resembles *Phascolotherium*, and so much so in the jaw-bone characters that if one be marsupial the other should be; but I cannot get a clear evidence of the inward bend of the angle, or of its extension backwards.

"In the superior number of molars, *Triconodon* resembles *Thylacotherium*, and also *Myrmecobius*, which, by the way, has a somewhat similar type of molar tooth. The above-cited genera and *Spalacotherium* have enough of characters in common, so far as regards mandible and mandibular teeth, to suggest their all belonging to the same natural

of them three subequal sharp-pointed cusps, rising nearly vertically into the same longitudinal plane, with basal end lobules, but without additional interior complication. They are so arranged, in a continuous and compact series, as to present a uniform serrated edge, like the teeth of a saw.—*Dr. Falconer.*

◦ In this species the lower jaw has an elongated slender ramus, containing 7 uniform back molars in situ, and the empty alveoli of 4 or 5 false molars in front, together with a prominent lanianiform tooth. The dental formula agrees numerically with that of the *Amphitherium*, but differs from it in the double-rowed and complex arrangement of the crown-cusps.—*Dr. Falconer.*