

the bones seem to indicate that the animal had feet resembling those of birds: three toes pointing forward, and sometimes one pointing backwards. Owen says that the "formation of the skull has brought to light modifications of the lacertine structure leading towards Chelonia and Birds which before were unknown."

Two well-marked examples of mamiferous animals have at length been found as low as the upper part of the trias, or certainly not higher than the lower part of the lias. One is the *Microlestes*, a small insectivorous quadruped, found both in Germany by Professor Plieninger, and in England by Charles Moore, though determined by Professor Owen. Among living mammals the small *Myrmecobius*, an insectivorous marsupial, comes nearest to the *Microlestes*. The other genus is the *Dromatherium*, sylvestve discovered, and named by Professor E. Emmons in the North

Fig. 267.



*Tracks of Cheirotherium Barthii.*