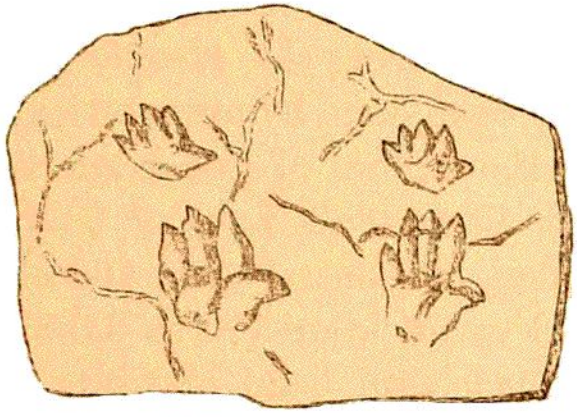
On the whole, the same kind of arguments already applied to the Permian strata, may, with increased force, be used in relation to the New Red Sandstone and marl, especially the occurrence of rock-salt, gypsum, the red colour of the rocks, and the prevalence of the foot-prints and bones of Labyrinthodont Amphibia, and the remains of crocodiles, land lizards, Deinosauria, and plants. To me there remains no trace of a doubt that the New Red Sandstone was deposited in an inland lake, or lakes, possibly fresh, but probably brackish, and that

FIG. 33.



Labyrinthodon giganteus.

Estheria minuta.

Triassic Fossils.

the overlying Keuper or New Red Marl beds were formed in a great salt lake, or lakes, if we take all Europe into account.

But inferences still more striking may be drawn respecting the Physical Geography of the time.

By referring to the descriptions of the Old Red

are known in the Bunter beds, chiefly Ferns, Calamites, Cycads, and Coniferæ, and with them fish and Labyrinthodont amphibia, and marine mollusca of the genera *Trigonia*, *Mya*, *Mytilus*, and *Posidonia*, so few in number, that in connection with the Labyrinthodonts, &c., they suggest the idea not of an open ocean, but of a salt lake. Teeth of a Marsupial mammal (*Microlestes antiquus*) occur in a bed between the Keuper and Liassic strata in Würtemburg.