

same geological period appeared the *Orohippus*, a creature of about the same size, but with only four toes in front and three behind. Traced upward into younger divisions of the Tertiary series, the size of the animal increases, but the number of digits diminishes, until we reach the modern *Equus*, with its single toe and rudimentary splint-bones.

Another remarkable example, that of the camels, is cited by Prof. E. D. Cope. The succession of genera is seen in the same parts of the skeleton as in the case of the horse. The metatarsal and metacarpal bones are or are not co-ossified into a cannon bone; the first and second superior incisor teeth are present, rudimentary or wanting, and the premolar number from four to one. The chronological succession of genera is given by Mr. Cope as follows:

	No cannon bone.	Cannon bone present.
	Incisor teeth present.	Incisors 1 and 2 wanting.
	4 premolars.	3 premolars. 2 premolars. 1 premolar.
Lower Miocene.....	Poebrotherium.	
Upper Miocene.....	Protolabis.	
	Procamelus.	
	Pliauchenia.	
Pliocene and recent.		Camelus.
		Auchenia.

According to this table, the Camelidæ have gradually undergone a consolidation of the bones of the feet, with a great reduction in the number of the incisor or premolar teeth. Mr. Cope indicates an interesting parallel between the palæontological succession and the embryonic history of the same parts of the skeleton in the living camel.³⁵ Among the Carnivora, as M. Gaudry has pointed out, it is possible not only to trace the ancestry of existing species, but to discover traits of union between genera which at present seem far removed.³⁶

It is not necessary here to enter more fully into the biological aspect of this wide subject. While the doctrine of evolution has now obtained the assent of the great

³⁵ *American Naturalist*, 1880, p. 172. M. Gaudry traces an analogous process in the foot-bones of the ruminants of Tertiary time, "Les Enchaînements du Monde Animal," vol. i. p. 121.

³⁶ *Op. cit.* p. 210.