Satisfactory evidence of the occurrence of fishes in rocks of Silurian age is supplied by Mr. Walcott, who has described from the Lower Silurian rocks of Cañon City, Colorado, a number of fish remains, among which he has been able to identify dermal plates and scales belonging to genera like Asterolepis and Holoptychius, which play so important a part in the Devonian fauna.[65] According to Dr. J. V. Rohon, all the so-called "Conodonts" are not annelidian, but include undoubted teeth of fishes with recognizable dentine, enamel, and pulp-cavity. He describes from the Glauconite Sand of St. Petersburg forms belonging to two new genera named by him Palæodus and Archodus.[66]

Up to the present time no trace has been detected of any vertebrate land-animals of Silurian age. In Sweden, France, Scotland, and the United States, however, the discovery of remains of arachnid and insect life in Silurian rocks may herald the ultimate detection of higher forms of life. From the Upper Silurian strata of the island of Gothland a true scorpion has been discovered, which appears to differ in no essential respect from recent forms, except in the walking limbs, which are dumpy in form, and terminate in a single claw. One of the breathing stigmata on the second ventral scute shows clearly that the animal was an air-breather.[67] Subsequently a still more perfect example of the same genus (Palæophoneus) was described from the Upper Silurian rocks of Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire (Fig. 347). The presence of a poison-gland and sting at the extremity of the tail shows that, like their modern representatives, these ancient animals

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[65] Bull. Geol. Soc. America, iii. 1892, p. 153.
[66] J. V. Rohon, Bull. Acad. Imp. Sci. St. Petersbourg, xxxiii. 1890, p. 269.
[67] G. Lindström, Comptes Rend. xcix. 1884; T. Thorell and G. Lindström, K. Svensk. Vet. Akad. Handl. xxi. No. 9, 1885.