

The toes of the fore-foot are terminated by large and powerful claws of great length; the bones, supporting these claws, are composed partly of an axis, or pointed core, (o,) which filled the internal cavity of the horny claw; and partly of a bony sheath, that formed a strong case to receive and support its base. These claws were set obliquely to the ground, like the digging claws of the Mole, a position which made them instruments of greater power for the purpose of excavation.

Posterior Extremities.

The *pelvis* of the Megatherium (Pl. 5, Fig. 2. p.) is of vast solidity and expanse; and the enormous bones of the ileum (r) are set nearly at right angles to the spine of the back, and at their outer margin, or crest, are more than five feet asunder, very much exceeding the diameter across the haunches of the largest Elephant: the crest of the ileum, (s,) is much flattened, as if by the pressure of the armour. This enormous size of the pelvis would be disproportionate and inconvenient to an animal of ordinary stature and

instrument of peculiar power for the purpose of digging; and each presenting an extraordinary enlargement and elongation of the extreme bones of the toes, for the support of long and massive claws. At Pl. 5, Figs. 18, 19, the anterior parts of these animals are represented, and show how large a proportion the claws bear to the other parts of the body.