

(Fig. 20,) the pea-hen; (Fig. 19,) and the turkey, (Fig. 18,) we see the hind toe turned inward, almost exactly as in the fossil specimen, as shown on the Proportional view of the Ornithichnites appended. But in the foot marks of a bird, probably of the genus Tetrao, that I lately met with, (see Fig. 13,) the hind toe seems to be merely a prolongation of the middle toe backwards. In the tracks of the hen, exhibited in Fig. 20, it will be noticed, that the hind toe is seen only in some of the tracks, because it is situated so high up the tarsus, that it made an impression only when the bird sunk deep into the mud. In the tracks of the pea-hen, the hind toe appears sometimes only as an insulated and rounded impression, as if made by the end of a stick; because of its peculiar position, form, and direction, in that bird.

These facts render it probable, that some of the specimens of Ornithichnites, which I regard as produced by a three toed bird, may have been made by one with four toes; indeed, in some instances, in which I had referred the specimen to *O. diversus*, careful cleavage has brought to light the fourth toe. Yet I am confident that such a discovery would rarely be made. And in regard to the larger tracks, I have not noticed any thing that resembles a fourth toe, even if it should turn out that *O. diversus* is possessed of one.

To the examples above named of living birds, I might have added that of the whooping crane, (*Ardea Americana*,) the tallest bird in the United States. Its hind toe does not reach the ground where it is hard; but in deep mud it may make an impression.

*O. palmatus*. Four toed, and *all the toes directed forward*. The fourth toe is very short, proceeding from the inner part of the foot. The heel is broad, and the toes proceed from it somewhat in pairs; that is, the two inner and the two outer ones are closer together, and radiate less, than the two middle ones. Toes very slender: foot from two and a half to three inches long. Length of the step, in the only specimen where it could be measured, eight inches.

This is a remarkable species, and as I discovered it only on my last visit to the Horse Race, I do not feel certain that I may not have mistaken its characters; yet the specimens in my possession are very distinct. One in particular contains two tracks, and as naturalists may probably doubt whether they were made by a bird, I have given in Fig. 15, as accurate a sketch of them as possible, and of the natural size, although the distance between them, which on the stone is eight inches, is much diminished on the drawing. The toes in one of the tracks are turned slightly to the left, and on the other