

as the external markings of the surface of a shell may be ascertained, when the shell itself is lost or destroyed, and a smooth, stony cast of the internal cavity only is left (see p. 443.). The same remark will apply to the bones of reptiles and other animals; for example, the perfect femur of a young *Iguanodon* may be imbedded in a block of limestone; but when exposed by breaking the stone, a portion of the shaft may alone remain attached, and both extremities be shattered to pieces by the concussion of the blow; yet, if the impression remains, the entire form of the original may be determined. Had the shank-bone of the *Palæornis*, *Lign.* 149, been found imbedded in the rock, notwithstanding the loss of both extremities, the perfect form might have been determined by a cast taken from the cavities left in the stone; and thus more certain data have been obtained of the nature of the original.

The *foot-prints*, not only of birds, but of reptiles, and other animals, should be diligently sought for on the surfaces of laminated strata of sand and clay, and especially where the presence of ripple-marks, and the impressions of rain-drops, indicate that the beds were deposited in shallow water. The sandstones around Horsham (in Sussex), and particularly at Stammerham, are deeply rippled (see *Geol. S. E.* p. 213.); and it is therefore probable that the foot-prints of some of the Wealden reptiles, and perhaps of the *Palæornis*, will, sooner or later, be discovered.