

The existence of undoubted mammalia in strata of so remote an epoch, was first made known by Dr. Buckland (in 1823), who, upon the authority of Baron Cuvier, stated that the two specimens then discovered belonged to marsupials allied to the Opossum (*Didelphys*). These fossils were two left branches of two lower jaws, and both were imbedded in the stone by the external surface, the inner side only being visible. One of these specimens had ten molar teeth in a row; the other is the beautiful fossil (now in the British Museum), fig. 1. *Lign.* 157, which has seven molars, one canine tooth, and three incisors. Four other specimens have since been found; and the whole are figured in Professor Owen's *Brit. Foss. Mam.* p. 15—70; with ample details of their anatomical characters, and physiological relations. The Hunterian Professor has clearly demonstrated that the *Amphitherium* had thirty-two teeth in the lower jaw, sixteen on each side; it is presumed to have been insectivorous, and its marsupial affinities are doubtful. The *Phascolotherium* had four true molar teeth, and three or four false molars, one canine, and three incisors in each branch of the lower jaw; and closely approximates to marsupial genera now restricted to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. It is, indeed, as Professor Owen remarks, an interesting fact, that the other organic remains of the British Oolite correspond with the existing forms now confined to the Australian continent and