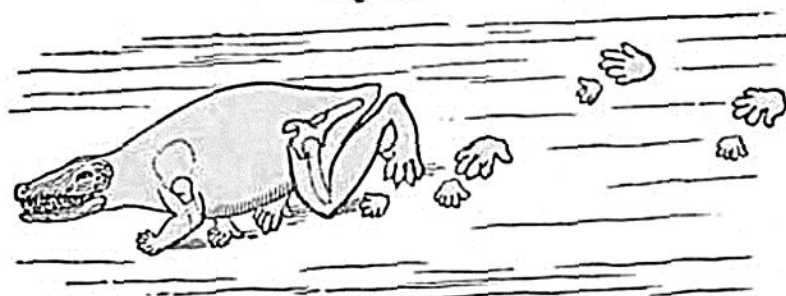


conviction that the *Cheirotherium* and *Labyrinthodon* are one and the same.

In order to show the manner in which one of these formidable *Batrachians* may have impressed the mark of its feet upon the shore, Prof. Owen has attempted a restoration, of which a reduced copy is annexed

Fig. 439.

Restored outline of *Labyrinthodon pachygnathus*, Owen.

The only bones of this species at present known are those of the head, the pelvis, and part of the scapula, which are shown by stronger lines in the above figure. There is reason for believing that the head was not smooth externally, but protected by bony scutella. This character and the presence of strong conical teeth implanted in sockets, together with the elongated form of the head, induce many able anatomists, such as Von Meyer and Mantell, to regard the *Labyrinthodons* as more allied to crocodiles than to frogs. But the double occipital condyles, the position of some of the teeth on the vomer and palatine bones, and other characters, are considered by Messrs. Jäger and Owen to give them superior claims to be classed as batrachians. That they occupy an intermediate place is clear, but too little is yet known of the entire skeleton to enable us to determine the exact amount of their affinity to one or other of the above-named great divisions of reptiles.

Triassic Mammifer (Microlestes antiquus, Plieninger).—In the year 1847, Professor Plieninger, of Stuttgart, published a description of two fossil molar teeth, referred by him to a warm-blooded quadruped,* which he obtained from a bone-breccia in Würtemberg occurring between the lias and the keuper. As the announcement of so novel a fact has never met with the attention it deserved, we are indebted to Dr. Jäger, of Stuttgart, for having recently reminded us of it in his Memoir on the Fossil Mammalia of Würtemberg.†

Fig. 440 represents the tooth first found, taken from the plate published in 1847, by Professor Plieninger; and fig. 441 is a drawing of the same executed from the original by Mr. Hermann Von Meyer, which he has been kind enough to send me. Fig. 442 is a second and larger molar, copied from Dr. Jäger's plate lxxi., fig. 15.

* Würtembergisch. Naturwissen Jahreshefte, 3 Jahr. Stuttgart, 1847.

† Nov. Act. Acad. Cæsar. Leopold. Nat. Cur. 1850, p. 902. For figures, see ibid. plate xxi. figs. 14, 15, 16, 17.