

One of the distinctive palæontological features of the Trias is the remarkable assemblage of amphibian and reptilian remains found in it. The ancient order of Labyrinthodonts still flourished; numerous prints of their feet have been observed on surfaces of sandstone beds, and the bones of some of them have been found (*Trematosaurus*, *Mastodonsaurus*, etc.). The rhynchocephalous reptiles, which are now almost extinct, first appear in Permian, and are well represented in Triassic rocks. Bones, and sometimes even nearly entire skeletons, of several have been discovered, the most important genera being *Telerpeton*, *Hyperodapedon*, and *Rhynchosaurus*. It is noteworthy that while these various forms are by no means abundant in the Triassic system generally, they have been obtained in considerable numbers from one or two localities. In Britain the most prolific deposit for them is the pale sandstone of Elgin, in the north of Scotland, formerly believed to be Upper Old Red Sandstone. This rock contains the remains chiefly in the form of empty casts. Besides the small lizard, *Telerpeton*, described by Mantell in 1852, as well as the larger possibly allied form *Hyperodapedon*, the sandstone has recently yielded a number of new forms of Anomodonts which present a curious resemblance to those found in the South African deposit to be immediately referred to. These skulls and skeletons have been skilfully worked out and described by Mr. E. T. Newton of the Geological Survey.² One of them, *Gordonia*, was nearly allied to *Dicynodon* (Owen), *Geikia* was closely related to *Ptychognathus*, while *Elginia* was a remarkable many-horned animal distantly allied to *Pareiasaurus* (Owen). The South African formation, to which allusion has been

² Phil. Trans. 1893.