

The structure of the scapula, already noticed, seems to show that the fore leg was adapted to co-operate with the tusks and teeth, in digging and separating large vegetables from the bottom. The great length attributed to the body, would have been no way inconvenient to an animal living in the water, but attended with much mechanical disadvantage to so weighty a quadruped upon land. In all these characters of a gigantic, herbivorous, aquatic quadruped, we recognize adaptations to the lacustrine condition of the earth, during that portion of the tertiary periods, to which the existence of these seemingly anomalous creatures appears to have been limited.

## SECTION II.

### MEGATHERIUM.

As it will be quite impossible, in the present Treatise, to give particular descriptions of the structure, even of a few of the fossil Mammalia, which have been, as it were, restored again to life by the genius and industry of Cuvier; I shall endeavour to illustrate, by the details of a single species, the method of analytical investigation, that has been applied by that great philosopher to the anatomy both of fossil and recent animals.

The result of his researches, as recorded in the *Ossemens Fossiles*, has been to show that all