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# Palaeontology Or a Systematic Summary of Extinct Animals and Their Geological Relations

By Richard Owen

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tenuirostris with those of the gangetic Gharrial, an equal degree of strength and of alveolar border for teeth result from two very different proportions in which the maxillary and premaxillary bones are combined together to form the upper jaw. The prolongation of the snout has evidently no relation to this difference; and we are accordingly led to look for some other explanation of the disproportionate development of the premaxillaries in Q the Ichthiosaums. It appears to me to give additional proof of the collective tendency of the affinities of the Ichthyosawas to the labyrinthodont and lacertian types of structure. The backward or antorbital position of the nostrils, like that in whales, is related to their marine existence. But in the Labyrinthodonts and Lacertians, the nostrils being nearer the fore part of the head, their anterior boundaries are formed by the premaxillaries; it appears,...



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