

the animal's weight would be borne by the pubes, the base of the tail, and the feet, the legs being well bent at the knee with the thighs directed forward and slightly outward, in fact very much in the position in which the left limb was found when the type skeleton was discovered (Figure 6). This position of rest, and particularly the recumbent one of repose at full length (Figure 48d) were probably those most frequently assumed by a reptile having the form, and the supposed sluggish disposition of *Gorgosaurus*. The fore legs were probably of assistance in minor changes of position when prone, or when rising to a sitting posture, and also for receiving the weight of the fore part of the body when bringing its full length to the ground.

It is believed that *Gorgosaurus* did not eat while standing but that a semicrouching posture (Figure 48c) was adopted when feeding. The minute fore limbs were too short to be of any use in this connexion and the hind feet were incapable of grasping an object as the first digit was not opposed to the other three. The powerful, clawed toes may have been used to tear flesh from bones. It may be supposed that after a carcass had been sufficiently torn by the claws that the animal sank to a crouching posture for its meal.

An interesting fact in connexion with the type of *Gorgosaurus* is that none of the teeth shows signs of wear to any extent. The tips of the teeth where most abrasion would be expected, especially in the larger side ones, are almost perfect, the delicate denticulations of the sharp edges remaining intact to and over the pointed end. This indicates either extreme juvenility, or that the food eaten had little abrasive effect on the teeth and was obtainable with little exercise of strength. But the type of *Gorgosaurus* represented an individual of large size which though not aged had probably reached maturity, and it follows, therefore, that the only conclusion to be drawn from the state of the teeth is that the food was soft, non-abrasive, and obtainable without much effort. It is believed, therefore, that *Gorgosaurus* confined itself to feeding upon carcasses of animals that had not been freshly killed, that it was not as an intrepid hunter but as a scavenger that it played its useful part in nature, and no doubt its services were fully required when we consider the immense numbers of trachodonts, ceratopsians, stegosaurs, and other dinosaurs and reptiles that lived and died at this particular time of the Cretaceous period.

The prevalence of tree trunks and leaves in the Belly River formation of Alberta indicates that this western land was well wooded in Cretaceous times. The country was low lying, dotted with lakes, and traversed by eastwardly flowing rivers. Glades and sparsely wooded tracts no doubt interspersed the heavily timbered areas affording suitable environments for the varied and numerous reptiles both large and small. The