therefore, abound as fossils; but an extinct group (the Mosasauroids) was marine in its habits, and has consequently been pretty fully preserved. The Crocodilia, again, are so essentially aquatic in their habits, that their comparative frequency in aqueous deposits is no matter of wonder, especially if we recollect that many of the extinct members of the order seem to have frequented the sea itself. Of the extinct orders of Reptiles the great Ichthyosauri, and the Plesiosauri and their allies, were marine in their habits, and their remains occur in what may fairly be called profusion. The flying Reptiles or Pterodactyles would not seem to have any better chance of being preserved than birds, if as good; yet their remains occur by no means very rarely in certain formations. The terrestrial Deinosaurs, again, come very much under the laws which regulate the preservation of Mammals as fossils; and their remains are chiefly, but not exclusively, to be found in fluviatile deposits.

As regards *Birds*, their powers of flight, as pointed out by Sir Charles Lyell, would save them from many destructive agencies, and the lightness of their bones would favour the long floating of the body in water and thus increase the chances of its being devoured by predaceous animals. In accordance with these considerations, the most abundant remains of birds are referable to large wingless forms, to which the power of saving themselves from their enemies by flight was denied, whilst most of the bones were filled with marrow instead of air. Next after these come the remains of birds which frequent the sea-shore, lakes, estuaries, or rivers, or which delight in marshy situations.

As regards *Mammals*, the record is far from being a full one, and from obvious causes. The great majority of Mammals live on land, and, therefore, are not likely to be buried in aqueous and especially marine accumulations. That this cause is the chief one which has operated against the frequent preservation of Mammalian remains is shown by the fact that when we exhume an old land-surface amongst the later rocks, the remains of Mammals may be found in tolerable plenty. The strictly aquatic Mammals—Whales, Dolphins, and the like—are, of course, much more likely to have been preserved as fossils than the terrestrial forms; but their want of integumentary hard structures places them at a disadvantage in this respect, as compared with fishes. In a general way, we may conclude that the preservation of the terrestrial Mammals as fossils is due to the com-