

and destroyed their animals, left great deposits, which still form, at a trifling depth, the basis of our great plains: then it retired again, and yielded vast surfaces to a new population, of which the relics are to be found in the sandy and muddy layers of all known countries.

It is to this tranquil deposit of the sea that we should ascribe some cetacea very much like those of the present time; a dolphin similar to our epaulard,(1) and a whale(2) very similar to our rorquals, both exhumed in Lombardy by M. Cortesi; a large whale's head found in the very centre of Paris,(3) and described by Lamanon and by Daubenton; and a genus entirely new, which I discovered and named *ziphius*, and which at least consists of three species. It is allied to the cachalots and hyperoodons.(4)

In the population which fills our post-diluvial and superficial strata, and which has existed in the deposit we have just mentioned, there are no longer palæotheria, anoplotheria, nor any of this peculiar genus. The pachydermata, however, still were found there; the gigantic pachydermata, elephants, rhinoceroses, hippopotami, accompanied by innumerable horses, and many large ruminantia. Carnivora of the size of lions, tigers, and hyænas, desolated the new animal kingdom. Its general character, even in the extreme north, and on the banks of our Icy Sea, was similar to that now only presented by the torrid zone; and yet there was no species exactly similar to those of the present day.

Amongst these animals, in particular, was the elephant, called by the Russians the mammoth (*ele-*

(1) Recherches, vol. v. part first, p. 309.

(2) Ibid. p. 390.

(3) Ibid. p. 393.

(4) Ibid. pp. 352—357.