

Within this space, which is almost equal in extent to the whole of Europe, fossil ivory is everywhere to be found; and the tusks are so numerous, and well preserved, especially in Northern Russia, that thousands are annually collected, and form a lucrative article of commerce. In Siberia alone, the remains of a greater number of elephants have been discovered, than are supposed to exist at the present time all over the world. In a low island in the Frozen Sea (72° north latitude) bones of mammoths are seen imbedded; and they also abound in an iceberg on the north-west angle of the American continent, near to Behring's Straits. The turquoises of Simone are composed of mammoths' bones impregnated with some metallic oxide.

18. MAMMOTH AND RHINOCEROS IMBEDDED IN ICE.—But the most remarkable fact relating to these remains, is the preservation, not merely of the bones, but of entire animals, with their flesh and skin, in ice-bergs and frozen gravel! In 1774, near Vilhoui, the carcass of a rhinoceros was taken from the frozen sand, where it must have been concealed for ages, the soil of that region being always frozen to within a few inches of the surface. The carcass was a complete natural mummy, part of the skin being still covered with long hairs, and forming a warmer covering than that of the African rhinoceros. The discovery of a mammoth, under similar circumstances, is yet more interesting. It appears, that towards the close of the last century,