

a Tungusian fisherman observed in a cliff of ice and gravel, on the banks of the river Lena, a shapeless mass, the nature of which he was unable to determine. In the course of the next year it was more visible, and on the third a large tusk was seen projecting from the ice-cliff, and at length became detached. On the fifth year, an early thaw set in, and the entire carcass of a mammoth was exposed, and at length fell upon the ground. It was twelve feet high, and about sixteen feet in length; the tusks were nine feet long. The flesh was in such a state of preservation, that it was devoured as it lay by wolves and bears, and the hunters fed their dogs with the remains. The skin was covered with hair consisting of black bristles, thicker than horsehair, and fifteen inches in length; of wool of a reddish brown, and hair of a fawn colour; and with a mane on the neck. Upwards of 30lbs. of hair were collected; specimens of which may be seen in the Hunterian museum, of the College of Surgeons. The ear remained dry and shrivelled; the brain and even the capsule of the eye were preserved! the bones and part of the integuments, and a considerable quantity of the hair, are in the Museum of Natural History at St. Petersburg. The accompanying sketch (Tab. 23) represents the skeleton in its present state.

The occurrence of large mammalia, in latitudes where but few forms of animal life can now possibly find the means of subsistence, is a fact of so much