

stomach of the animal. In another instance, traces of the trunk or proboscis were observed. The tusks are composed of ivory, and vary in their curvature. The bones of this colossal quadruped are found remarkably fresh and well preserved; they are generally impregnated with iron, and have evidently been buried in the earth for ages. No living instance of this creature is on record, and no doubt can exist that its race has long been extinct. The Indians believe that men of similar proportions were coeval with the mastodon, and that the Great Spirit destroyed both with his thunder.* There are several species, some of which have been found in North America only, and others in Europe. That eminent philosopher Baron Humboldt discovered a tooth of the mastodon near the volcano of Imbaburra, at an elevation of 1,200 fathoms. A very fine skull, with teeth, of the great mastodon, from Big-bone Lick, has lately been placed in the British Museum, and is well worthy your notice when visiting that magnificent collection. This specimen, which was purchased for 150 guineas, consists of the cranium with two perfect grinders, and the sockets of the other two. The length of the skull, from the occiput to the sockets for the tusks, is 36 inches.

21. MASTODONS FOUND IN THE BURMESE EMPIRE.—I now request your attention to the remains

* Cuvier. See an admirable English Epitome of Cuvier's Fossil Animals, by Edward Pidgeon, Esq. 1 vol. 8vo. 1833.