

examined, as well as with the remains found in more ancient deposits. In various parts of the south of France large molar teeth, resembling in their form and structure the teeth of tapirs, have occasionally been found; they are described by Cuvier under the name of the "Gigantic Tapir." Models of the principal specimens deposited in the Museum at Paris, have been presented to me by Baron Cuvier, together with others which I shall place before you on a future occasion. Subsequent discoveries in Bavaria, Austria, and particularly at Eppelsheim, about twelve leagues south of Mayence, have made us acquainted with the form and structure of the original, which appears to have been one of the largest of lacustrine animals, the skeletons showing that some individuals were eighteen feet in length! The scapula, or shoulder-blade, was like that of the mole, and the fore leg must therefore have been adapted for digging up the earth. The most extraordinary deviation from ordinary types consists, however, in the curved tusks, which are fixed in the lower jaw in a downward direction, as those of the walrus are in the upper; the lower jaw is four feet in length. From the structure of the anterior portion of the cranium, and the disposition of the nasal fossæ, it is certain that the creature had a proboscis; besides, it possesses no incisor teeth with which to seize its food, and the jaws do not even close together in front. The tusks were probably weapons of defence, like