

forests, and lacustrine marls, certainly of *post-glacial* date, we find in Yorkshire a great and prevalent difference: the Elephant, Rhinoceros, Hippopotamus, Lion, Tiger, and Hyæna, are absent. We find the great Irish Elk, the Red Deer, the Fallow Deer, the *Bos longifrons*, the common Ox, the Goat, Sheep, Horse, and Boar.

By the absence of the great pachydermata and carnivora, this fauna differs from that of the pre-glacial period, but by no characters is it clearly separable from the series of mammalia now inhabiting this country. The Irish Elk and *Bos longifrons* may perhaps be appealed to for this purpose, for both are now extinct; but the latter at least survived to accompany some of the old British tribes, and its skull has been found with that of the Red Deer, from which the antlers had been *cut off*. There is nothing in the vegetable remains which occur in the peat and lacustrine marls different from what now grows in this region, and we are not warranted in refusing to connect the later part of this post-glacial fauna with the earliest known human inhabitants of the British Isles.

So that we have now passed the æra of what have been called earlier creations—

. ecœtaque tellus
Vix animalia parva creat, quæ cuncta creavit
Sæcla.—*Lucretius*.

In fact, the great buried forests of Hatfield Chace and Thorne Waste furnish positive proof that their æra, which is apparently that of the later post-glacial period, was within the historical ages of Britain. In them Mr. De la Pryme* found “vast multitudes of the roots and trunks of trees of all sizes, great and small, and of most of the sorts that this island either formerly did, or that at present it does produce; as firs, oaks, birch, beech, yew, thorn, willow, ash, &c. . . . Many of the trees have been burnt, sometimes quite through; others chopped, squared,

* Philosophical Transactions, 1701.