

being diminished by central subsidence and long-continued sub-aerial waste, the mountain of Beinn More in Mull is now only 3,172 feet in height.

No shells of any kind have yet been found in the Bovey beds, nor have any been seen in the Hebrides, but in Mull, at the headland of Ardtun, the Duke of Argyll discovered in 1851 three thin leaf-bearing beds of shale, intercalated among beds of basaltic lava, and tufas or volcanic ashes. These vegetable remains consist of a conifer, *Sequoia Langsdorfi*, together with *Corylus Mac Quarrii*, a plane tree, *Platanus aceroides*, and a fern, *Filicites hebridica*, as yet only found in Mull. These, and I believe also the Flora of Antrim, are partly considered to belong to a more northern type of vegetation than the plants of Bovey Tracey, and two of the species, the *Coryllus* and *Platanus*, are also found in Iceland.

Associated with the volcanic rocks of Skye and the Faröe Islands, similar phenomena occur, with an analogous but still more northern flora, and the early volcanic eruptions of Iceland date back to the Miocene period. There, in beds of lignite called *Surturbrand*, are found the remains of Pines, Poplars, Elms, Plane-trees, Maples, Oaks, Tulip-trees, and Vines, in latitudes where nothing larger than dwarf-birches now grows. Only two of the Iceland species, as stated above, occur in Britain, and even the genera are distinct from those of Bovey, with the exception of *Sequoia* and an Oak. In Spitzbergen a similar flora of Miocene age occurs, and also in Greenland, far north of the Arctic Circle.

It may seem remarkable that, within the broad area of the British Islands, no mammalian remains have been found in the Miocene strata, for surely a land covered with a wealth of trees, grasses, and other plants could