

survey the extinct as well as the living animals, there was a regular series, from the Asiatic elephant to the mastodon of the Ohio. If we consider that tooth to be the most perfect, which is most capable of resisting attrition, either from the mode of its growth or its structure, we shall begin with the great Asiatic elephant. The grinding tooth of this animal consists of alternate layers of the ivory and enamel, and, from the closeness with which these parts are laid together, of a third portion, called *crusta petrosa*. The tooth of the African elephant is easily distinguished, by the wide interstices between the layers of enamel. On the banks of the Irawadi, the tooth of a new species of mastodon is found, where the mammillary processes are so high, and the interstices are so deep that if a section be made of it, it resembles the tooth of the African elephant, and stands intermediate between that and the mastodon giganteum of North America.

Let us consider this principle in another light, and see how the neck and head are accommodated for feeding, when there is no trunk or proboscis, and when the animal has a short neck. The elk is a strange, uncouth animal, from the setting on of its head. The weight of the horns is enormous : and if the head and horns were extended forwards from the body of the animal on an elongated neck, it would be