

boar. Bones and teeth of the large animal, called the mastodon, are found both in Europe and America. The great mastodon had pointed grinders; it was a native of North America, and equalled in size the elephant, which in many particulars, it resembled. Entire skeletons of the mastodon have been found in salt marshes; but what is more extraordinary, parts of the flesh and the stomach have been found with them. Among the vegetable substances in the stomach, were distinguished the remains of some plants known in Virginia. The Indians believe that this animal is still living north of the Missouri, and the above circumstances render it probable, that this species of mastodon has not been long extinct. Bones of other species of the mastodon are found in Europe and South America; these are probably more ancient. Teeth of a gigantic species of tapir, equal in size to the rhinoceros have been found in France and Germany;* the bones of horses are also found in great abundance, with the bones of the above mentioned animals. Bones and horns of the elk, the stag, and of various species of deer, and of oxen, some of which closely resemble existing species, are often intermixed with the bones of elephants, and other ancient animals. With these animal remains, are also found the bones of carnivorous animals, of the size of the lion, the tiger and the hyena; the bones of bears are numerous particularly in caverns.

The number of bones belonging both to the order of pachydermata, and of ruminant and carnivorous quadrupeds, is so great in various parts of Europe, as to leave no doubt that the animals were inhabitants of northern or temperate climates. In America have been found the bones of two large animals, of extraordinary form. The megatherium is of the size of the rhinoceros; it unites part of the structure of the armadillo with that of the sloth; its claws are of vast length and size. The megalonyx was nearly similar in form but smaller.

Bones of the camel have been occasionally found in some parts of Europe, but they are of rare occurrence. For a knowledge of nearly all the above species of fossil mammiferous quadrupeds, we are indebted to the researches of Cuvier. "Their bones," he observes, "are found in that mass of earth, sand and mud, that diluvium which covers our large plains, fills our caverns, and chokes up the fissures in many of our rocks. They incontestably formed the population of the continents, at the epoch of the great catastrophe which has destroyed their races, and has prepared the soil on which the animals

* The most perfect tooth of this animal, which is at present known, was found near Grenoble; the enamel is as fresh as that of a recent tooth. This tooth, of which there are models in the principal museums in Europe, is in the author's collection: it was purchased by him, at the sale of the late M. Faujas St. Fond, together with the tooth of a South American mastodon, found in the volcano of Imbabura in the Cordilleras, and the tooth of a European mastodon, found with that of the gigantic tapir near Grenoble.