

the bones of the fossil elephant (*Elephas primigenius*), the remains of a pike, closely resembling the common European species, have lately been discovered.\*

The exception above alluded to, is a little fish (*Mallotus villosus*), which inhabits the shores of Iceland; and fossil specimens occur in nodules of indurated marl or clay, along the coasts of that island. It is supposed that these Ichthyolites are of very recent date; and that similar fossils are in the progress of formation.†

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GEOLOGICAL DISTRIBUTION OF FOSSIL FISHES.—  
From the incidental notices of the geological habitats of the fossil fishes enumerated in our survey of this class of beings, the reader cannot fail to have remarked, that the most recent strata abounded in forms related to the inhabitants of the existing seas and rivers; while the most ancient teemed with species and genera of families altogether extinct, or of prodigious rarity in the recent fauna.

In general terms, it may be stated, upon the authority of M. Agassiz, that the Ichthyolites of the Tertiary deposits approach in their characters to the living genera, but all the species are extinct. The

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\* Poiss. Foss.

† See Poiss. Foss. Tom. V. pl. 60, in which the skeleton of the recent fish, and specimens of their fossil remains, are represented.