

skinned kangaroo, called *Diprotodon Australis*. This head was three feet long, and its size, as compared with that of man, may be judged of by the human skull placed by its side.

The number of species of the different orders of mammalia found in the post-tertiary or alluvial strata, may be seen in the general table of fossils which we shall give at the close of this Section. Among them we notice only a few.

These remains occur, not merely in the common aqueous deposits of alluvium, but many of the most interesting have been obtained from caverns, where the bones are preserved by the deposition of stalagmite, which has dripped down from the cavern's roof to the floor, enveloping the bones. We give, in Fig. 398, a section of the cave of Gailenreuth, in Franconia, where the situation of the stalagmite, the bones, etc., is obvious to inspection.

Because they are so large, and found in Europe and America in regions too far north for the living elephant, the Mastodon and the Mammoth excite great interest. We have already indicated the difference between these two genera from the character of their teeth. The Mastodon appeared earliest; three species being found in the miocene tertiary, and eight in the pliocene. In still newer strata three species are described. They occur in Europe, North and South America, and in that famous locality of mammalian bones, the Sewalik Hills of India.

In this country the most remarkable locality of fossil mastodons, elephants, and other animals, is the Big Bone Lick, in Kentucky, about twenty miles southwest of Cincinnati. It is estimated that the bones of 100 mastodons, 20 elephants, two oxen, two deer, and one megalonyx, have been carried from this spot.

In general the bones of the mastodon in our country occur in superficial deposits; many of them in peat bogs, where the animal is sometimes found standing. The largest and most perfect skeleton ever found, we believe, occurred in such a situation, in Newburgh, Orange County, New York, from whence, many years before, another specimen had been obtained, and was put up in Peale's Museum in Philadelphia. That found in 1845 was from a peat bog, with marl beneath, and weighed 2,000 pounds. In the place where the stomach lay was found a quantity of broken twigs, perhaps of the white cedar. This was his last supper. A poor sketch of this mastodon is given in Fig. 399. It was purchased and fully described by the late Prof. John C. Warren of Boston, and by him placed, with many other splendid analogous fossils, in a fire-proof cabinet in Boston, where they now are, the property of his heirs.