

upon the surface of what is now England, where they now lie, previous to the period of the boulder-clay, and as the boulder-clay is, as shown by its remains, decidedly marine, it must have been deposited during a period of depression, when what had been a forest-bearing surface was lowered beneath the level of the sea. None of the trees of these ancient pre-glacial forests seem to be of extinct species: the birch and Scotch fir are among their commonest forms, especially the fir. I find it stated, however, as a curious fact, that along with these, the *Abies Excelsa*, or Norwegian spruce-pine, is found to occur,—a tree which, though introduced by man into our country, and now not very rare in our woods, has not been of *indigenous* growth in any British forest since the times of the boulder-clay. Though the species continued to live in Norway, it became extinct in Britain; and it has been suggested, that as it was during the Drift period that it disappeared, it may have owed its extirpation to the depression of the land, while its contemporaries the birch and fir were preserved on our northern heights. When this Norwegian pine flourished in Britain, the island was inhabited by a group of quadrupeds now never seen associated, save perhaps in a menagerie. Mixed with the remains of animals still native to our country, such as the otter, the badger, and the red deer, there have been found skeletons of the *Lagomy*, or tail-less hare, now an inhabitant of the cold heights of Siberia, and horns of the rein-deer, a species now restricted in Europe to Northern Scandinavia, and those inhospitable tracts of western Russia that border on the Arctic Sea. And with these boreal forms there were associated, as shown by their bones and tusks, the elephant, the rhinoceros, and the hippopotamus, all, however, of extinct species, and fitted for living under widely different climatal conditions from those essential to the well-being of their intertropical congeners.¹ Scotland,

¹ The true mammoth, with the tichorine rhinoceros and the musk buf-