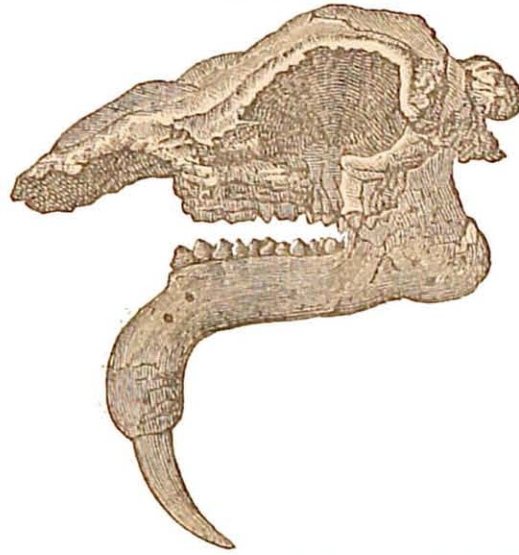


Fig. 93.



SKULL OF DINTHERIUM GIGANTEUM.

*(Miocene.)*

bulbs of the Tertiary lakes and rivers. There also are the massive heads and spreading horn-cores of the *Bos primigenius*, and the large bones and broad plank-like horns of the great Irish elk. And there too, in the same apartment, but leaning against its farther wall,—last, as most recent, of all the objects of wonder in that great gallery,—is the famous human skeleton of Guadaloupe, standing out in bold relief from its slab of gray limestone. It occurs in the series, just as the series closes, a little beyond the mastodon and the mammoths; and, in its strange character as a fossil-man, attracts the attention scarce less powerfully than the great Palæozoic plants, the great Secondary reptiles, or the great Tertiary mammals.

I last passed through this wondrous gallery at the time when the attraction of the Great Exhibition had filled London with curious visitors from all parts of the empire; and a group of intelligent mechanics, fresh from some manufacturing town of the midland counties, were sauntering on through its chambers immediately before me. They stood amazed beneath the dragons of the Oolite and Lias; and,