

bison's grandfather"—which, many moons ago, thundered across the plains, and sent terror to the heart of the savage. The Great Man, they say, slew them, because they were destroying the Indians' game. That these creatures existed down to the period of Indian occupation is evinced also, by the discovery of arrow-heads buried in the same peats with these bones, or in peats at greater depths even than some which conceal the bones.

Such relics have been discovered also, in the Old World, and former generations have been strongly inclined to attribute them to a race of giants now extinct. An intelligent inspection of these bones, however, shows that they never belonged to human giants, and can not, therefore, be the remains or testimonials of the "giants" of antediluvian times. Modern science has shown that they belonged to elephant-like creatures, of two different genera. One of these was the true Elephant, and the other is known as Mastodon. The Mastodon has not been seen during historic times; but we conclude from the relics remaining, that it was very similar to the Elephant, and differed chiefly in the structure of the grinding teeth. The molars of the Elephant are enormously large, and only one is in use in each jaw on each side, at one time. It may be regarded, however, as a compound tooth, consisting of ten or twenty simple flat teeth standing closely, and firmly compacted together by means of a substance called *cement*. The molar of the Mastodon has more the appearance of an ordinary tooth, with three, four, or five transverse prominences, rising like steep and furrowed ranges of mountains. It is smaller than the elephant molar; and three or four were in use at once on each side of each jaw.

Commonly, as already indicated, the bones of the extinct Elephant and Mastodon have been discovered in peat deposits. Such deposits are explained in Talk VIII, and rest upon the top of the Drift, and are more recent than the Drift. But in Europe bones of the Elephant have sometimes been met with in the modified Drift. They also occur in many caverns which are believed to have been occupied by wild beasts in the