

but remarkably constant, layer of green-coated flints resting directly on the Chalk. According to Mr. Whitaker, it is doubtful if proof of actual erosion of the Chalk can anywhere be seen under the Tertiary deposits in England, and he states that the Thanet Sand everywhere lies upon an even surface of Chalk with no visible unconformability.¹⁹ Prof. Phillips, on the other hand, describes the Chalk at Reading as having been "literally ground down to a plane or undu-

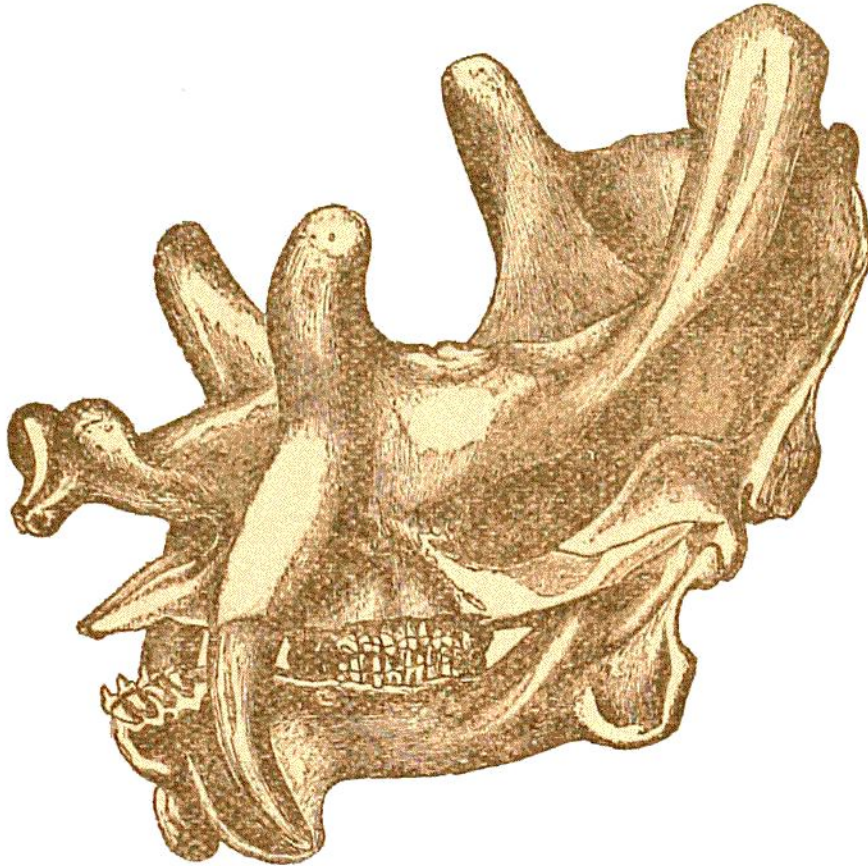


Fig. 431.—Skull of *Tinoceras* (*Uintatherium*) *ingens*, Marsh (about $\frac{1}{10}$).

lated surface, as it is this day on some parts of the Yorkshire coast," and having likewise been abundantly bored by lithodomous shells.²⁰ The Thanet Sand appears to have been formed only in the London basin; at least it has not been recognized at the base of the Eocene series in Hampshire. It has yielded numerous organic remains in East Kent, but is almost unfossiliferous further west. Its fossils comprise about 70 known species (all marine except a few fragments of terrestrial vegetation). Among them are several foraminifera, numerous lamellibranchs (*Astarte tenera*, *Cyprina scutellaria* [planata], *Ostrea bellovacina*, *Cucullæa*

¹⁹ "Geology of London," p. 107.

²⁰ "Geology of Oxford," p. 442.