animals, prior to the last period, assume a size much greater than that of the present congenerate species and attain even a gigantic size.

The *megatherium* unites one portion of the generic character of the armadilloes with a portion of that of the sloth, and in size it equals the largest rhinoceros. Its nails must have been of monstrous length and power; all its frame has vast solidity. It has yet only been found in the sandy strata of North America.(1)

The *megalonyx* resembled it much in its characteristics, but was somewhat less; its nails were longer and sharper. Some of its bones and entire toes have been found in certain caverns in Virginia, and in an island on the coast of Georgia.(2)

These two enormous edentata have only deposited their remains in America; but Europe possessed one which did not yield to them in bulk. It is not known by a single terminating toe-joint; but this is sufficient to convince us that it very much resembled a pangolin, but a pangolin is nearly twenty feet long. It lived in the same districts as the elephant, the rhinoceros, and the immense tapir; for we find its bones with theirs in a sandy layer near Darmstadt, not far from the Rhine.(3)

The osseous brecciæ also contain, but very rarely, bones of carnivora,(4) much more numerous in caverns, that is to say, in cavities larger and more complicated than the clefts or veins containing osseous brecciæ.

The Jura formation particularly is celebrated for

(1) Recherches, p. 174; and part second, p. 519.
(2) Ibid. p. 160.
(3) Ibid. part first, p. 193.
(4) Ibid. v. iv. p. 193.