

herbivorous Megatheria, the Mastodons, and other gigantic Pachydermata, long since become extinct. But with these lost races many existing species were contemporary; including the Monkey tribes, which, of all animals, approach nearest to man in their physical organization. Thus, by slow, and almost insensible gradations, we arrive at the present state of animate and inanimate nature. But even after the existing continents had attained their present configuration, in the period immediately antecedent to the human epoch, innumerable tribes of carnivorous animals swarmed throughout the temperate climates of Europe; the Tiger lurked in the jungle; the Lion slept in his lair; the Hyena prowled through the woods; the Bear inhabited the caverns; and gigantic elks, oxen, horses, and deer, tenanted the plains.

But of MAN, and of his works, not a vestige appears throughout the vast periods embraced in this review. Yet were any of the existing islands or continents to be engulfed in the depths of the ocean, and loaded with marine detritus, and in future ages be elevated above the waters, covered with consolidated mud and sand, how different would be the characters of those strata from any which have preceded them! Their most striking features would be the remains of Man, and the productions of human art—the domes of his temples, the columns of his palaces, the arches of his stupendous bridges of iron and stone, the ruins of his towns and cities,