

would be lost to the delta, because, on reaching the sea, it would be swept away to indefinite distances by the rapid currents which set for many months every year across the mouth of the Mississippi. By this loss the advance of the delta must be considerably retarded.

Independently, also, of all these calculations, an additional lapse of thousands or tens of thousands of years would seem to be demanded to express the antiquity of the mastodon of Natchez, because, to account for its position, we are called upon to allow time for the deposition of the fluviatile loam or loess, No. 2, fig. 26, p. 200, 'Antiquity of Man,' and not only that, but for the changes in physical geography which were subsequent to the embedding of the mastodon in the loess. With this extinct pachyderm the human bone is said to have been associated, and to be of equal antiquity.*

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(p. 235.)

CONTINENTAL ICE OF GREENLAND.

IN the twenty-third volume of the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London for 1853 (p. 151), in an abstract given of a paper on the continental ice of Greenland by Dr. H. Rink, the following passages occur : —

'The elevation above the sea of this icy plain, at its junction with the *outskirts* of the country and where it begins to lower itself through the valleys to the friths, is, in the ramifications of the Bay of Omenak, found to be 2,000 feet, from which level it gradually rises towards the interior. The author (Dr. Rink) has in his journeys observed twenty-three such icy steps or platforms, to which must be added five or six delineated according to description.'

In accordance with these statements I have described, in my first edition of this work, the ice of Greenland, in its extension inland, as rising by a succession of steps or platforms ascending higher and higher in an eastward direction. But I learn from Dr. Otto Torell

* See Dana's *Manual of Geology*, pp. 643-645.