

the great Palæotherium, peaceful flocks of which must have inhabited the valleys of the plateau which surrounds the ancient basin of Paris ; in the lacustrine formations of Orleans and Argenton ; in the Tertiary formations of Issil and Puy-en-Velay, in the department of the Gironde ; in the Tertiary formations near Rome ; and in the beds of limestone\* at the quarries of Binsted, in the Isle of Wight,

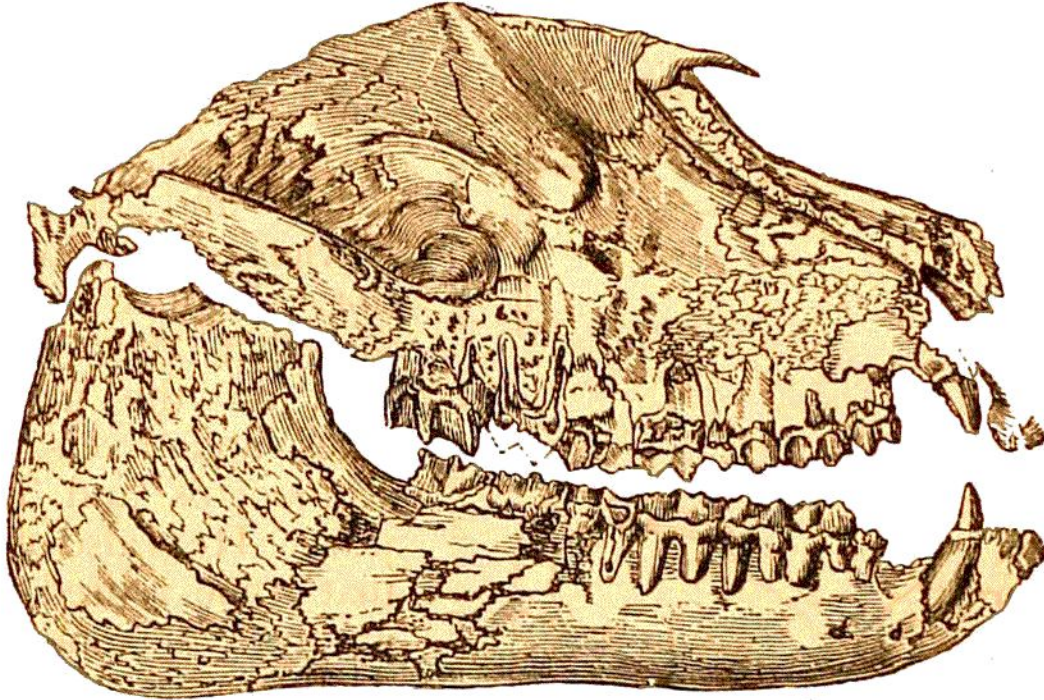


Fig. 152.—Skull of Palæotherium magnum.

Fig. 151 represents the great Palæotherium, after the design, in outline, given by Cuvier in his work on *fossil bones*.

The discovery and re-arrangement of these and other forms, now swept from the face of the globe, are the noblest triumphs of the great French zoologist, who gathered them, as we have seen, from heaps of confused fragments, huddled together pell-mell, comprising the bones of a great many species of animals of a former age of the world, all unknown within the historic period. The generic characters of Palæotherium give them forty-four teeth, namely, twelve *molars*, two *canines*, and twenty-eight others, three toes, a short proboscis, for the attachment of which the bones of the nose were shortened, as represented in Fig. 153, leaving a deep notch below them. The molar teeth bear considerable resemblance to those of the Rhinoceros. In the structure of that part of the skull intended to support the short

\* This limestone belongs to the Bembridge beds, and forms part of the Fluvio-marine series. See "Survey Memoir on the Geology of the Isle of Wight," by H. W. Bristow.