

to the bones, were not decomposed. Jefferson called this species the *Megalonyx*. It resembled in many respects the Sloth. Its size was that of the largest ox; the muzzle was pointed; the jaws were armed with cylindrical teeth; the anterior limbs much longer than the posterior; the articulation of the foot oblique to the leg; two great toes, short, and armed with long and very powerful claws; the index finger

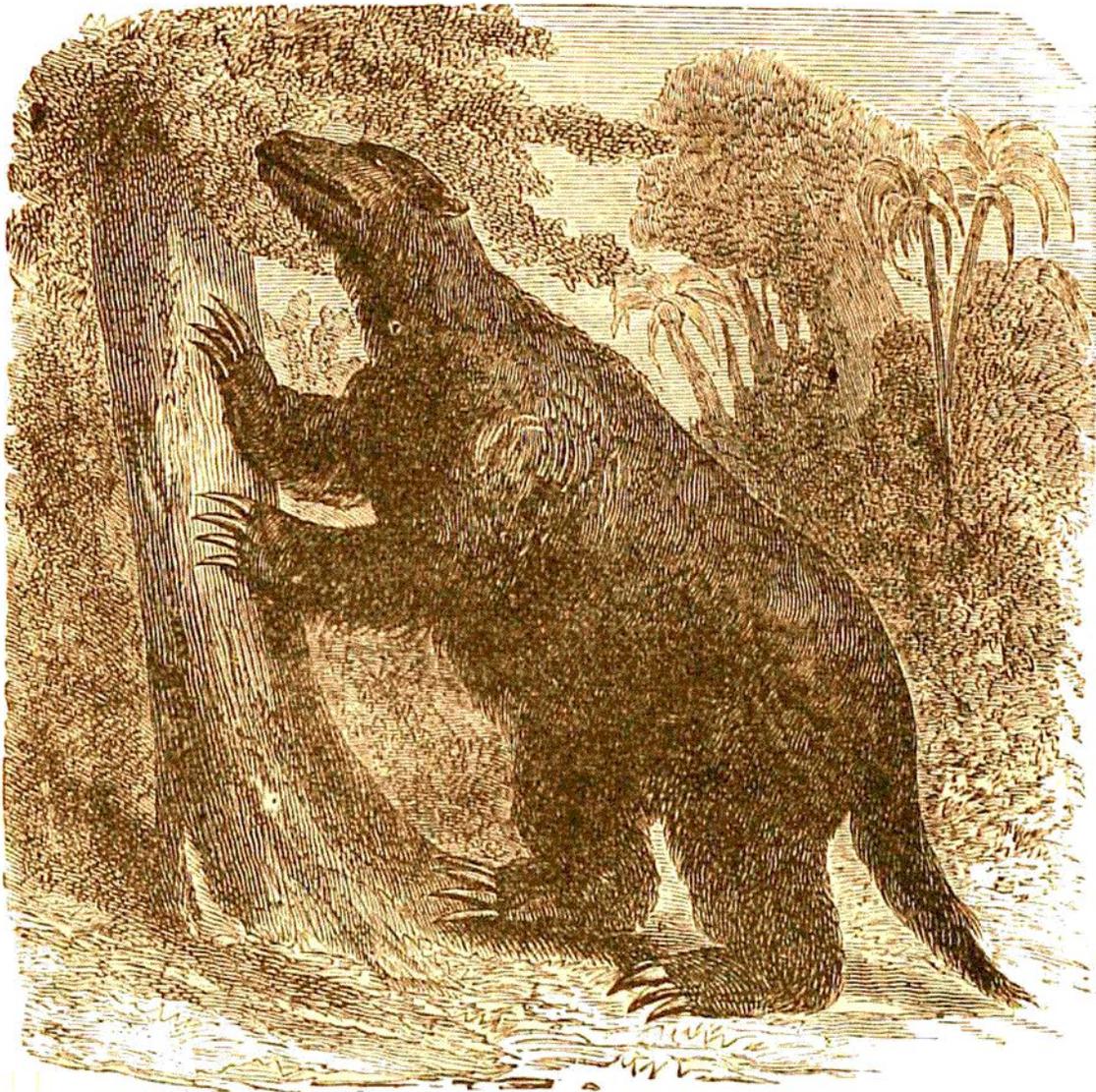


Fig. 189.—*Mylodon robustus*.

more slender, and armed also with a less powerful claw; the tail strong and solid: such were the salient points of the organisation of the *Megalonyx*, whose form was a little slighter than that of the *Megatherium*.

The country in which the *Megatherium* has been found is described by Mr. Darwin as belonging to the great Pampean formation, which consists partly of a reddish clay and in part of a highly calcareous marly rock. Near the coast there are some plains formed from the