

yielded a number of elephant bones and teeth referred to *Elephas meridionalis*, and pointing to an Upper Pliocene age.

Belgium and Holland.—The sea in which the English Pliocene deposits were laid down probably extended across Belgium, Holland, and the extreme north of France, but no trace of its presence has yet been found eastward in Germany. In Belgium the base of the Pliocene is found to rest with a strong unconformability on all older deposits, even on the Miocene sands (Bolderian and Anversian). The older Pliocene group consists chiefly of sand, and has been named Diestian from the locality where it is typically developed. At Antwerp, Utrecht, and other places it has yielded a large assemblage of fossils (190 species), all of which save 22 occur in the English Coralline Crag and Lenham beds. This horizon may be paralleled with the Plaisancian group of southern France and Italy. Above the Diestian sands comes the group known as Scaldesian, which is likewise made up mainly of sands inclosing a fauna closely resembling that of the lower part of the English Red Crag (Walton Crag). The higher groups seen in England have not yet been identified by means of fossils in Belgium and Holland. Yet the Pliocene deposits attain in these countries a far greater thickness than they do in England. At Amsterdam, for example, a deep boring has passed through younger Tertiary strata to a depth of 1093 feet below sea-level, and yet it is doubtful, according to Mr. Reid, whether any portion of this great thickness is so old as the Diestian group.¹⁰⁵ Belgian Pliocene deposits, of which the precise horizons have not been determined, have yielded a large number of bones of marine mammalia, including seals, dolphins, and numerous cetaceans, as well as remains of fishes (*Carcharodon*, *Lamna*, *Oxyrhina*, etc.).

France.—In the north of this country unfossiliferous sands which cap the hills between Boulogne and Calais at heights of 400 or 500 feet, and stretch eastward into French Flanders, are believed to be continuations of the Lenham and Diestian group.¹⁰⁶ In central France, younger Pliocene deposits associated with the volcanic materials of that region have preserved an interesting record of the terrestrial fauna of the time. The trachytic conglomerate of Perrier and the ossiferous deposits of other localities in Auvergne have

¹⁰⁵ C. Reid, op. cit. p. 220.

¹⁰⁶ Op. cit. p. 50.