

THE *PROBOSCIDEANS*, ONCE VARIED AND ABUNDANT OVER MUCH OF THE WORLD, ARE NEARING EXTINCTION.

THE TRUNK AND TUSKS (ELONGATED FRONT TEETH) ARE MOST CHARACTERISTIC OF THE GROUP. EVOLVED FROM THE PIG-SIZED MOERITHERIUM OF THE AFRICAN EOCENE, THE LATER PROBOSCIDEANS ATTAINED GREAT SIZE, EXCEEDED ON LAND ONLY BY CERTAIN DINOSAURS AND ONE RHINOCEROS (INDRICOTHERIUM).



DEINOTHERES WERE ELEPHANT-SIZED PROBOSCIDEANS WITH TUSKS ONLY IN THE LOWER JAW, AN EVOLUTIONARY SIDE BRANCH. THEY LIVED UNTIL THE PLEISTOCENE IN EURASIA AND INTO THE PLEISTOCENE IN AFRICA.



MASTODON
This animal was alive during the last Ice Age, which ended 10,000 years ago.



THE COLUMBIAN MAMMOTH WAS A MEDIUM-SIZED SOUTH-WESTERN FORM.



THE AMERICAN MASTODON WAS ABUNDANT IN NORTH AMERICA'S TEMPERATE LOWLANDS UNTIL A FEW THOUSAND YEARS AGO. THE LAST OF ITS GROUP. IT HAD ONLY UPPER TUSKS, AND ONLY TWO CHEEK TEETH IN EACH JAW-HALF AT ANY ONE TIME.

THE MASTODONTIDAE WERE THE MASTODONS MOST FAMILIAR TO US, BUT AS A GROUP THEY ARE RELATIVELY FEW AND UNIMPORTANT. THE TEETH HAD LOW CROWNS AND SIMPLE RIDGES.

BUNOMASTODONTS (GOMPHOTHERIIDAE) COMPRISE BY FAR THE MOST IMPORTANT AND VARIED GROUP OF MASTODONS. SOME HAD FOUR TUSKS; SOME HAD SHOVEL-LIKE LOWER TUSKS; FROM THIS GROUP THE ELEPHANTS EVOLVED AS THE TEETH OF SOME DEVELOPED TRANSVERSE INFOLDED RIDGES.

THE BARK TEETH OF LOXODONTA, THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT, ARE LOWER AND NARROWER, AND HAVE FEWER RIDGES, THAN THOSE OF THE INDIAN ELEPHANT (ELEPHAS). ELEPHAS HAS A SHORTER MORE DOME HEAR, AND DOWNWARD DIRECTED TUSKS, AND IS MORE SIMILAR TO THE MAMMOTH.



THE COLD-CLIMATE WOOLLY MAMMOTH WAS WELL KNOWN TO EARLY MAN IN EUROPE. COMPLETE FROZEN CADAVERS HAVE BEEN FOUND IN SIBERIA AND ALASKA.

MAMMOTHS ARE EXTINCT ELEPHANTS.

THE JEFFERSON MAMMOTH ROAMED THIS REGION IN POST-GLACIAL TIMES. IT WAS SOMEWHAT LARGER AND LESS ABUNDANT, AND DISAPPEARED SOONER THAN OUR MASTODON.

AMERICAN MASTODON TEETH HAVE A FEW LOW CURBS AND

THE TEETH OF MAMMOTHS AND ELEPHANTS HAVE MANY TRANSVERSE ENAMEL FOLDS, WITH DEMENT BETWEEN, FORMING A HIGH, RATHER FLAT-TOPPED CROWN, ONLY

LOERNTHERIUM, OF TAPIR-LIKE APPEARANCE, SHOWS THE BEGINNINGS OF PROBOSCIDEAN TEETH AND EVIDENCE

ELASMODONTA WERE CHARACTERIZED BY A FEW LOWER JAW TEETH

FIGURE 10 IN THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, NEW YORK