

From the foregoing it would appear that of the ancient fauna of America, which included representatives of many of our present domestic animals, some species have undoubtedly become extinct; but I confess I am not yet prepared to admit from any evidence yet adduced, or from my own examinations, that all of the living species are distinct from those found fossil in the post-pliocene. The teeth and bones of the rabbit, raccoon, opossum, deer, elk, hog, dog, sheep, ox and horse, are often found in these beds, and though associated with those known to be extinct, such as mastodon, megatherium, hipparion, &c., need not necessarily be referred to extinct races also; since their remains cannot be distinguished from the bones and teeth of the living species.

It has been just remarked that about ninety-five per cent., or nearly all of the one hundred and fifty shells of molluscous animals from these beds are specifically identical with the recent or living species of the coast,—two are found only at the south of this, and two are extinct. Of the vertebrates from the same bed, the tapir, peccary, raccoon, opossum, deer, musk-rat, rabbit, beaver, and elk have still their living representatives, generically, if not specifically; and even of the identity of species there seems to be no doubt, as no anatomical differences can be discerned. Two of these species, like the mollusca just alluded to, no longer live in South Carolina; the tapir and peccary are only found in South America and Mexico; the musk-rat, elk, and beaver, though extinct on the Atlantic coast, are still living in the interior of the country. And though it has been acknowledged that the mastodon, megatherium, elephant, glyptodon, and two species of Equine genera, &c., are entirely extinct, yet the discoveries made of the remains even of some of these, would indicate that they still existed at a period so recent, that, in the language of Professor Leidy, "it is probable the red man witnessed their declining existence."

The peccary, or Mexican hog, an animal common in Mexico, is not indigenous to the Atlantic United States; but his bones have been found associated with human remains in caves used as cemeteries by the Aborigines. "A tomb in the city of Mexico," according to Clavigero, (?) "was found to contain the bones of an entire mammoth, the sepulchre appearing to have been formed expressly for their reception." And "Mr. Latrobe relates that during the prosecution of some excavations, near the city of Tezeuco, one of the ancient roads or causeways was discovered, and on one side, only three feet below the surface, in what may have been the ditch of the road, there lay the entire skeleton of a mastodon. It bore every appearance of having been coeval with the period when the road was used."

Again says Professor Holmes, I extract from Professor Leidy's letter:

"The early existence of the genera to which our domestic animals belong, has been adduced as presumptive evidence of the advent of man at a more remote period than is usually assigned. It must be remembered, however, even at the present time, that of some of these genera only a few species are domesticated; thus of the existing six species of *Equus* (horse) only two have ever been freely brought under the dominion of man.

"The horse did not exist in America at the time of its discovery by Europeans; but its remains, consisting chiefly of molar teeth, have now been so frequently