

attempting to answer this question, it may be remarked that Professor Asa Gray, of America, Professor Oswald Heer, of Switzerland, Sir Joseph Hooker, of England, Otto Kuntze, of Germany, and Count Saporta, of France, have all been more or less prominently associated with the establishment of this new doctrine."

From the Miocene fossils of the highest attainable Arctic latitudes it appears that on the continent that once flourished at the North Pole there actually grew "every tree that is pleasant to the sight, or good for food." Limited as have been the explorations among these fossils, as Sir Charles Lyell remarks, "more than *thirty species* of Coniferæ have been found, *including several Sequoias allied to the gigantic Wellingtonia* of California. There are also beeches, oaks, planes, poplars, walnuts, limes, and even a magnolia, two cones of which have lately been obtained, proving that this splendid evergreen not only lived but ripened its fruit within the Arctic Circle. Many of the limes, planes, and oaks were large-leaved species, and both flowers and fruits, besides immense quantities of leaves are in many cases preserved. . . . Even in Spitzbergen, within 12° of the Pole, no less than *ninety-five* species of plants have been obtained." In speaking of the extraordinarily rank and luxuriant vegetation of the Arctic regions in Miocene time, Dr. Warren remarks in passing :— "Had the Book of Genesis described one of the trees of Eden as three hundred and twenty feet in height and twenty feet in diameter at the base, not only all the Voltaires of modern history, but also—until the discovery of California—all naturalists of the advanced Anti-Christian variety, would have made no end of sport over the unscientific or mythical 'Botany of Moses.' But the *Sequoia Gigantea* is a living, indisputable fact. Though not the oldest of the Coniferæ, it illustrates some of the earlier possibilities of vegetable life."

But the exuberance of *animal* life in the Miocene period is not less remarkable than the abundance of plant life. "The Arctic rocks tell of a more wonderful lost Atlantis than Plato's. The fossil ivory beds of Siberia excel everything of the kind in the world. From the days of Pliny, at least, they have constantly been undergoing exploitation, and still they are the chief headquarters of supply. The remains of the mammoth