

snows. Worlds do not grow cold in order that snows may fall. Snows fall and tropic scenes vanish because they fall. Had men attended to this fact, what an amount of fruitless theorizing might have been avoided. But before we go further, we will quote what Cuvier says : " To-day may be found the skeletons of the hairy mammoth imbedded in pure, clear ice ; whole carcasses preserved, their hair, skin and eyes, their flesh becoming the food for other animals ; the contents of their stomachs undigested, showing that they luxuriated in coniferous forests up to the time or day of their death. Their history was written then, and from it we glean the incontestable evidence that they were suddenly overwhelmed by a downfall of snow. These facts give no room for speculation."

Since the beginning of the present century many carcasses of both the mammoth and the woolly rhinoceros have been found in the frozen north. The first mammoth was found in 1799, one hundred years ago next July, in a glacier near the mouth of the Lena River in Siberia. It was exposed by the melting away of the ice wall, and hung for a long time in a lofty escarpment, " forty feet above the earth's surface and two hundred feet below the top of the glacier." Plainly that animal was overtaken by falling snows, for, be it remembered, " pure, clear *glacier* ice " is only formed from snow. The conclusion must be that very recently in geologic times the mammoth and his huge congeners roamed in vast numbers in what is now the frozen north world. We are forced to this conclusion both by these well-preserved bodies in ice and the vast quantities of their bones and teeth scattered all over the north. Then we must conclude that there was a time when all that north-land was free from the chains of winter.

The condition in which the Siberian mammoth was found, the condition in which a number of others have since been found, gives no possible escape from the conclusion that the snows that buried them were avalanches from the arctic skies. Putrefaction had not even begun. The tissues of the flesh, the blood vessels and the vesicles showed that death was sudden, and that,