

officers, when the following gentlemen were elected for the current year:—President, A. Billings, jr., Esq.; 1st Vice-President, N. B. Webster, Esq., A.M.; 2nd Vice-President, George Hay, Esq., Secretary, Thomas Austin, Esq.; Curator and Librarian, E. Van-cortland, Esq., M.D.; Committee of Management: J. Thorburn, Esq., A. M.; Duncan Thompson, Esq., and Thomas Daniel, Esq.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

*Description of Elephantine Molars in the Museum of the University.* By Prof. A. WINCHELL.

(In a letter to one of the Editors of this Journal.)

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Aug., 1863.

MY DEAR SIR,

Your favour of 25th June was duly received, and I thank you for its various items of information. Relative to the remains of fossil elephants in the museum of the University, I regret to say that you have been misinformed. We have a cast of an entire lower jaw and a tusk of a mastodon from near St. Thomas, C. W., obtained from Thomas Barret, of Niagara Falls, and not unlikely you are in possession of similar casts. Probably this jaw has given rise to the report of which you speak. Of elephant remains the museum contains only three molars. As a description of these may furnish some items of desirable information for you, I have delayed somewhat my reply to your letter with the view of obtaining time to make such observations as might be necessary for a description of them.

1. The first is a cast of a left upper molar received by me from Prof. Tuomey, of Alabama, who had the cast executed from a specimen found in that state.

The anterior extremity of the tooth seems to have been broken off, and I think it is proper to allow one inch (including two plates) for this loss. The alveolar portion of the tooth is furnished with several fang-like prolongations, the anterior one of which reaches a length of nearly two inches. The outer side of the tooth exhibits a curvature having a radius of about eight inches; the inner side is nearly straight. The crown presents a slight convexity longitudinally, and is flat transversely. The plates extend with slight, irregular undulations, continuously from side to side. The posterior ones—especially those behind the grinding surface—are somewhat curved in their prolongation from the crown to the roots of the tooth.