

of the specimen first alluded to was not entirely due to organic action.

SAMUEL T. HENSEL.

#### BONES OF A MASTODON FOUND.

LABORERS engaged in digging out muck have recently found in a swamp near Newburgh, N. Y., some of the bones of a mastodon. So far, there have been secured the lower jaw, with teeth in place; the teeth of the upper jaw; one tusk; eighteen ribs, or seven complete ones and fragments of four others; fifteen sections of the vertebræ; bones of the foot; and what is probably the skull, though in many small fragments. These bones laid at a depth varying from two to eight feet below the surface of the ground, a few in the muck, but most of them in the shell marl that underlies it. The swamp, about two acres in extent, is three quarters of a mile west of the Hudson River, one mile north of the northern limit of the city of Newburgh, and about one hundred and eighty feet above the river level. There is gently rising ground on the north and east, but directly west of the swamp the hills rise quite abruptly to a height of eighty or one hundred feet. The underlying rock beneath this muck bed appears to have a general slope to the southeast. The muck averages two feet in thickness, below which is marl, varying from a few inches to twelve feet in thickness, and under this, boulders and pebbles that form a solid bottom.

The bones found were scattered over an area about fifty by twenty feet, and in this respect they differ from those of the three mastodons found in Orange County in former years, and which were exhumed in almost the relative places they occupied when the animal was alive. The tusk found is curved, seven feet long and nearly seven inches in diameter at the root, and is in fair condition, though it showed signs of disintegration soon after removal from its resting place. Owing to the accumulation of water in the excavation, the progress of finding and removing the bones is very slow; but in a few days it may be possible to announce the finding of some other parts of the skeleton.

REGINALD GORDON.

#### THE AMERICANIST CONGRESS IN NEW YORK.

THE 13th session of the International Congress of Americanists will open at noon, Monday, October 20, and continue during the week, in the halls of the American Museum of Natural History. The hotel headquarters will be the Hotel Majestic. Lunch will be served daily at the Museum to all members. Thursday will be devoted to a trip through the parks, and visits to Columbia University, the Botanical Garden and Zoological Garden. More than eighty papers have already been offered to the Congress from nearly all the active students of Americanist subjects. The membership fee is three dollars which entitles one to all of the privileges of the meeting and to the volume of proceedings to be published later. The address of the general secretary is M. H. Saville, American Museum of Natural History, New York. It is expected that a large number of the anthropologists of the country will be present, and among the official foreign delegates are: Professor Dr. Seler, Professor Dr. von der Steiner, of Berlin, representing Prussia; Professor Dr. Stolfe, of Stockholm, Sweden; Professor Dr. Schmeltz, of Leiden, Holland; Professor Lejeal, of Paris, France; Alfredo Chavero Chavero, Dr. Leon, Francisco Belmar, of Mexico; Dr. Pittier, Dr. Ferraz, of Costa Rica. After the meeting the foreign guests will be given an excursion to Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Chicago to visit the scientific and educational institutions of those cities. A visit will be made to the ancient fort in Ohio known as Fort Ancient. As this is the first meeting of the Americanist Congress in the United States it is hoped that there will be a large attendance of those interested in the work of this organization, namely, to bring together students of the archeology, ethnology and early history of the two Americas, and by the reading of papers and by discussions to advance knowledge of these subjects.

#### THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN ASSOCIATIONS.

IN its report of the Belfast meeting of the British Association *Nature* says: