

## New materials on Russian mastodonts

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Of the Turgai faunas of mammals after the “Indricotheria” (Upper Oligocene), the later (lower Miocene) Drzilanchik<sup>†</sup> fauna furnishes the most interesting material. Its chief elements are the various rhinoceroses and mastodonts. The rhinoceroses possess a European character and attest to the above-mentioned age of the fauna. The mastodonts, unexpectedly for so early a time, present a considerable variety and differentiation of forms. Thus there are representatives of *Tetrabelodon angustidens*, and then a second much larger form, and finally a third form that can best be analyzed as belonging to the American genus *Serridentinus*. This circumstance speaks in behalf of the idea that the mastodonts from Africa (the original center of their development) migrated at the beginning of the Miocene age, not into Europe as is usually thought to be the case, but into Asia, where they were rapidly differentiated, and whence they were already transmigrating into Europe on the one hand and into North America on the other.

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<sup>†</sup> This is probably a locality name, or a Russianized form of a word of non-Russian origin [Tr].