

him for eighteen years, and was completed in 1893. It stands alone as a compendium of palæontology.

Among the post-Darwinians there has been no more stimulating worker than Prof. Edward Drinker Cope (1840-1897), nor any whose work more strikingly illustrates the influence of the evolution-idea as an abiding thought. "Though, perhaps, often premature, and sometimes mingled with much error, which a more cautious inquirer would have avoided by waiting for additional evidence, his remarkable speculations—some have even dared to regard them as wild guesses—have had an influence on the progress of modern biological research which it is impossible to estimate."

His studies on fossil fishes and primitive vertebrates, on labyrinthodont amphibians, on anomodont reptiles, on extinct ungulates, and many more, stand out as monumental contributions to palæontology. The primitive mammal *Phenacodus*, a generalized type believed to have affinities with several of the orders of mammals, and with ungulates in particular, was one of his most interesting discoveries; while his "Tritubercular Theory", which traces back all the forms of molar teeth to a simple three-cusped or tritubercular type, may serve as an instance of his most successful morphological inductions. Osborn calls it "one of the chief anatomical generalizations of the present century".

Along with his friend Alpheus Hyatt, well known for his researches on the shells of extinct cephalopods, Cope founded the American school of Neo-Lamarckians. Palæontology seemed to him to furnish decisive proof of the inheritance of acquired characters, and to this belief in use-inheritance he added a theory, which has cropped up in many guises, that organisms were moved to vary by an inherent growth-force which he termed "bathmism".

Darwin himself insisted on the fundamental importance of palæontological facts as evidences of the Doctrine of Descent, and Huxley once said that if evolution had not already been an accepted theory, the palæontologists would have been forced to invent it. As with other depart-