

have honored their memories by bestowing upon them such names as *Thylacotherium*, *Phascolotherium*, and *Dromatherium*, the latter of which was discovered by Professor Emmons in North Carolina, and all of which occupy a low position in their class.

The Cretaceous Age followed the Jurassic, and the Wealden epoch was its first chapter—unless we adopt the late suggestion to annex it to the Jurassic. The herpetology of this epoch has been worked out by that eminent geologist and good man, the late Dr. Mantell. Besides its flying reptiles, and crocodiles, and turtles, here was the jubilee of those enormous saurians just mentioned. The Dinosaurs were characterized by the presence of a medullary cavity in their long bones, as in mammals; by their short-toed feet, like those of the rhinoceros; by their sacrum, composed of five or more vertebræ consolidated, while in all other reptiles it consists of two or less; by the articulating of the lower jaw so as to adapt it for lateral or grinding movements; by the double head of their ribs, and by the elevation of the body from the ground when walking. In all these characters they show an approach toward the class of mammals. The age of mammals was not yet; but it was prophesied and heralded from afar by these few sentences transcribed upon the bulletin of creation. The length of the femur or thigh-bone of the *Iguanodon* was, when full grown, more than four feet and a half, while its circumference around the head was fifty inches, and around the smallest part of the bone twenty-five inches. The teeth were obtusely conical and laterally compressed, so as to present a cutting edge, which was serrated, thus resembling the teeth of the Mexican iguana, from which the fossil reptile was named. It was, undoubtedly, eminently terrestrial in its habits, and subsisted by browsing from the trees of the time, as was the habit of the mastodon of a