

later period. Twigs of cypresses have been found fossil in its stomach; and Dr. Mantell possessed a jaw in which the teeth had been worn down by trituration of food to half their original length.

With peculiar pleasure I turn now to results of the study of American cretaceous reptiles, which are no less brilliant and no less marvelous than those of Mantell and Owen in the Old World. Thanks to the skill of Dr. Leidy and Professor Cope, both of Philadelphia, the cretaceous beds of New Jersey have been forced to yield up the secrets of their life-history. We now know that while the chalk was accumulating in Europe, the marshes, and jungles, and bayous of the American shores were the scene of as busy and intense a life as swarmed upon the coasts of England, France, or Germany. The Cimoliasaur (*Cimoliasaurus magnus*, Leidy) and Elasmosaur (*Elasmosaurus orientalis*, Cope) presented the form of huge sea-serpents from twenty-five to forty feet in length. The body was swollen out to dimensions exceeding those of an ox, and was furnished with a pair of flippers like the whale. The neck and tail were elongated, and in the latter the tail was flattened, and probably used as an oar in sculling. These were carnivorous monsters, and probably made fierce war upon the feeble representatives of the waning dynasty of fishes. The wrecks of the Mosasaur, of another order of reptiles, are strewn along the ancient coast-line from New Jersey to Alabama, where, at Selma and Cahawba, I have seen fragments of their ponderous skeletons protruding from the face of the limestone cliffs cut down by the Alabama River. The turtles of the period contributed a unique variety to the reptile fauna. Not less than twenty-two species have been described from the cretaceous sands of New Jersey. Nine of these were marine "snapping turtles." One of the latter (*Euclastes platyops*, Cope)