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OTHNIEL CHARLES MARSH.

The last of the famous trio of American vertebrate paleontologists has passed into
the unknown, and the rich legacy of discovery and advancement in biological
knowledge which they have bequeathed to the world will ever stand as an enduring
monument to their untiring energy and greatness in the realm of thought. It
seems, therefore, especially fitting that the unveiling of this splendid monument and
the final pronouncing of judgment upon the labors of these truly great Americans should
take place in the closing years of the century, notable alike for the variety and
brilliance of its achievements in almost every department of learning.

At the time when the doctrine of Evolution was finally formulated and brought
prominently before the thinking world by the labors of Darwin the direct and positive
evidence in favor of such an hypothesis was inconclusive and uncertain. True, it re-
ceived more or less powerful support from Mr. Darwin’s own particular field of re-
search, as well as from the embryological studies which the Germans had brought
into especial prominence, but the court of the last resort, the tribunal of final judgment
in which the case was to be argued and decided was that of the Geological
Record, or, in other words, a direct appeal to the animals and plants themselves,
which had inhabited the earth in times
Editor's Summary