

Leith Adams have been engaged in the palæontological research of fossil Mammalia.

The broad plains of Russia have afforded numerous specimens of Diluvial fossil Mammals, the Tertiary formations in the vicinity of Odessa and Bessarabia have yielded remains of the oldest fossil Mammals, more especially of Cetacea and Pinnipedia. The leading investigators of these remains have been J. F. Brandt, A. von Nordmann, and M. Pavlow. A rich fossil Mammalian fauna was discovered by Forsyth Major (1887) on the island of Samos, in formations contemporaneous with those of Pikermi.

Many Mammalian remains in the Diluvial deposits of North America were known as early as the eighteenth century. In the year 1857 Emmons discovered the famous *Dinotherium* jaw from the Triassic rocks of Virginia. A strict scientific investigation of fossil Mammalia was first inaugurated in North America by Joseph Leidy, the late Professor of Anatomy at the University of Philadelphia. In the year 1853, Leidy's *Monograph on the Mammalian Remains of Nebraska* revealed a fauna quite different from all European faunas then known. Two later works (1869 and 1873) showed that Mammalian faunas, of which no one had previously any conception, were interred in the successive Tertiary deposits in the Far West of North America.

The excellent publications of Leidy inspired O. C. Marsh and E. D. Cope to begin in the early seventies their prolonged series of valuable researches on the fossil Mammalian faunas in the Far West. Immense sums of money were required, and were readily procured, for the disinterment of the fossil remains. To the penetration of Marsh¹ and his well-trained collectors, palæontology owed the discovery of

¹ Othniel Charles Marsh, nephew of the rich philanthropist Peabody, was born on the 29th October 1831, at Lockport, in New York State; studied in Yale College at New Haven, in Berlin, Heidelberg, and Breslau, and travelled in Germany, the Alps, and other parts of Europe during his student days. After his return to America, he was in 1866 appointed Professor of Palæontology at Yale University, and Director of the Geological and Palæontological Department of the Museum founded by Peabody, a post which he occupied for thirty years. He organised numerous expeditions to the Far West, which was then a most inhospitable region, and secured over a thousand new species of fossil Mammalia. He bequeathed his private collection, formed at his own expense, to the Peabody Museum. The specimens collected at the expense of the State are now in Washington. He died at New Haven, in March 1899.