

OBITUARY, O. C. MARSH.

OTINIEL CHARLES MARSH, professor of palæontology in Yale University, New Haven, vertebrate palæontologist of the United States Geological Survey and president of the National Academy of Sciences from 1883 to 1895, a past president of the American Association for the advancement of science, corresponding member of learned and scientific societies in France, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Austria, and Denmark, died in his sixty-eighth year at his residence, New Haven, Connecticut, after a brief illness. Prof. Marsh was one of the most brilliant and distinguished palæontologists in the world.

He was educated at Yale, Berlin, Heidelberg and Breslau. He achieved a vast amount of work before he died and had in his hands a very large amount of material to describe and illustrate had the untimely hand of death not snatched him, as if in an instant, from his favourite studies and researches. Honours were showered upon him by the Institut de France, the Geological Society of London and other distinguished bodies.

Prof. Marsh crossed the Rocky Mts. twenty-one times, visited the Alps and Hills of Germany and carried on many explorations in the Western portion of the New World. He brought to light more than 1,000 species of extinct vertebrates, birds with teeth, flying reptiles, two new orders of mammals, the earliest monkeys and bats in the New World and series of specimens illustrating the evolution of the horse, together with the discovery of gigantic reptiles, dinosaurs, both χ carnivorous and herbivorous are to be numbered amongst his best known finds. He has left a monument behind him of great importance and significance. The vast amount of treasures he had gathered during the forty-five years of his active life, when properly housed and cared for and exhibited to advantage, as we trust it will be ere long, will form a magnificent series which will illustrate a most important phase of the past history of North America in an admirable manner.