

Its outline, as seen from the front, is flat below with a slight, abrupt rise at midwidth, rounded at either side, and broadly lowered medially above, so that the height is least at the middle, indicating the position of the olfactory lobes, one at either side.

Piercing the cranium from side to side where it is narrowest in the lower part of the orbitosphenoids is a passage of considerable size vertically in line with the anterior end of the basisphenoid. This passage occupied by the optic chiasma also communicates widely upward with the brain-cavity through the floor below the space for the cerebrum; it is in advance of, and at a slightly higher level than the pituitary fossa with which it is confluent behind. The external openings of the passage are oblique to the longitudinal axis of the skull, and set at an angle to each other, approaching each other in front, and facing decidedly downward and forward. They are oval in outline and nearly twice as long as high. The median opening above is 30 mm. wide transversely. It was by means of the lateral openings that the optic nerves (II) found exit.

Behind and at a slightly lower level than the transverse perforation just described, and separated from it by a bar of bone about 14 mm. broad, is a large, almost circular foramen apparently for the common exit of the oculomotor (III) and trochlear (IV) nerves. It occurs in the back part of the decided concavity marking the lateral compression of the lower, front portion of the brain-case. It opens through the upper part of the side walls of the pituitary cavity (infundibulum) its upper curve being about on a level with the posterior rim of the pituitary fossa. Running forward from the lower margin of the foramen is the suture defining the upper limit of the front part of the basisphenoid. Whether this opening is wholly within the alisphenoid, or, as its position suggests, bounded behind by the alisphenoid and in front by the orbitosphenoid has not been determined, complete coalescence between these two elements having apparently taken place.

Behind the foramen for the third and fourth cranial nerves, at a somewhat higher level and separated from it by a space of about 27 mm., is an opening of large size, the foramen ovale or trigeminal nerve (V) exit. This foramen occupies its characteristic position in the reptilian skull in front of the proötic. It lies for the most part within the alisphenoid with the proötic bounding it posteriorly, and is a short distance above the hinder end of the base of the flange directed outward from the upper portion of the basisphenoid. Its outer opening is larger than the inner one but its greatest diameter is attained within the thickness of the bone where the size of its passage through is considerably increased by excavation forming a fossa.

This foramen is best preserved on the right side in the paratype of *Edmontosaurus* where externally it is longer than high, subtriangular in outline and highest in front, measuring 24 mm. in length and 18 mm. in height. On the left side of the specimen the opening has been reduced in height by crushing. Leading forward from it anteriorly is an open channel or groove which marks the position of the ophthalmic branch of the trigeminal nerve (V) (see also p. 52). The suture between the alisphenoid and the proötic reaches the opening posteriorly from above.

In the floor of the brain-cavity, midway between and at a slightly lower level than the trigeminal nerve (V) exits, are two small openings,