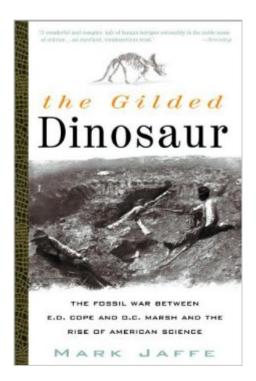
The book was found

The Gilded Dinosaur: The Fossil War Between E.D. Cope And O.C. Marsh And The Rise Of American Science





Synopsis

It was an age of counterfeit giants, corrupt politicians, and intrepid pioneers. It was a time of scientific ferment. The second half of the 19th century â " the so-called Gilded Age â " was a time when Americans were exploring the West and building a nation which stretched from coast to coast. It was also when scientists began finding dinosaur fossils across the western half of the nation.Could the answer to the history of life and the proof of evolution be found in these bones? That was the question two young American paleontologists â " Edward Drinker Cope and Othniel Charles Marsh â " set out to answer. But what began as a friendly contest quickly turned into a bitter rivalry that would spill over into American science and politics and rage relentlessly for nearly three decades.Despite their Gilded Age celebrity, the names of Cope and Marsh have disappeared into the recesses of the library and archive. In The Gilded Dinosaur, Mark Jaffe exhumes from those archives the notes, journals, and letters of these two great opponents to reanimate and retell one of the most fierce rivalries in the history of science.

Book Information

Paperback: 432 pages Publisher: Three Rivers Press (March 20, 2001) Language: English ISBN-10: 0609807056 ISBN-13: 978-0609807057 Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.1 x 1.1 inches Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (13 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #1,419,069 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #628 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Paleontology #3537 in Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Archaeology #6650 in Books > Science & Math > Evolution

Customer Reviews

What could be drier than a book devoted to two men battling over collecting fossils and gaining the rights to name creatures extinct for over 100 million years - and this having taken place over 125 years ago at that. Well it could be dry and stuffy but not when Mark Jaffe takes his broad brush to his canvas and we find that intertwined in this story traipse the likes of: P.T. Barnum, Red Cloud, Crazy Horse, George Custer, and even Buffalo Bill Cody. We also will find U.S. Grant's cronies siphoning off aid that was supposed to go to the Indians. Add to the mix a few thousand Sioux

warriors to liven up the story. At the core is the story of O.C. Marsh and E. D. Cope in the 1870's building the foundation of modern paleontology. These two totally different personalities immediately began to clash and we have one of the more interesting personal warfares in the history of science. Each built a coterie of supporters but at times the various personae and the shifting of loyalties begins to make the story seem like Tolstoy's War and Peace. There is never a dull moment. We have T.H. Huxley musing with O.C. Marsh's in Marsh's precious bone room at Yale. We see Marsh banging on doors in Washington until he eventually meets with Grant himself to try and right the injustice he sees happening to the Indians. It's always a race against time and in his haste Cope puts the head of one of his dinosaurs on the end of the tail. Marsh will forever remind Cope and the world of his folly. True, an innocent enough mistake, but in this world no one gives any quarter, especially Marsh.Is it political infighting you like? Like really nasty stuff? You've got it.

When it was first suggested that I read this volume I was resistant, as I had already read Lanhamâ [™]s The Bone Hunters and felt I had been sufficiently schooled in the Cope/Marsh dinosaur fossils â œwarâ •. While Lanhamâ [™]s book did a good job of introducing the battle, it was a mere shadow of what, according to this volume, actually occurred and what were the ramifications of those actions. As is true with all books dealing with history or historical events, there are many names, dates, events that are mentioned in both books and such information can be tedious and cause the book to get a context of when, however, they are mentioned in a context of clear timeline, the breadth and significance of those names/dates/events connect â œthenâ • with â œnowâ • in a manner that is surprising and enlightening. Mr. Jaffe is to be commended for doing such in as concise manner. Edward Drinker Cope was reared in a prosperous shipping family near Philadelphia. His Quaker parents instilled in him an ethic of hard work, intelligence, piety and devotion to task that was to serve him well in his life. Othniel Charles Marsh was born into modest means in the Northwest New York town of Lockport. Because of his innate curiosity, superior intellect and the generosity of his uncle, financier George Peabody, he was able to study at Yale and THE centers of learning in Europe. Both men were of vast intelligence, strong wills and egos that seem to be connected to such traits. Initially, they were collegial if not colleagues in their interest in the budding field of Paleontology. As their careers began to bloom, the desire to be recognized for their contributions likewise grew.

Download to continue reading...

The Gilded Dinosaur: The Fossil War Between E.D. Cope and O.C. Marsh and the Rise of American Science Vietnam War: The Vietnam War in 50 Events: From the First Indochina War to

the Fall of Saigon (War Books, Vietnam War Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 6) World War 2 History's 10 Most Incredible Women: World War II True Accounts Of Remarkable Women Heroes (WWII history, WW2, War books, world war 2 books, war history, World war 2 women) Fossil Capital: The Rise of Steam Power and the Roots of Global Warming World War 1: World War I in 50 Events: From the Very Beginning to the Fall of the Central Powers (War Books, World War 1 Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series) World War 1: Soldier Stories: The Untold Soldier Stories on the Battlefields of WWI (World War I, WWI, World War One, Great War, First World War, Soldier Stories) World War 2: World War II in 50 Events: From the Very Beginning to the Fall of the Axis Powers (War Books, World War 2 Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 4) Captive Audience: The Telecom Industry and Monopoly Power in the New Gilded Age Fashions of the Gilded Age, Volume 1: Undergarments, Bodices, Skirts, Overskirts, Polonaises, and Day Dresses 1877-1882 The Scarlet Sisters: Sex, Suffrage, and Scandal in the Gilded Age St. Augustine in the Gilded Age (Postcard History: Florida) Newport Mansions: Postcards of the Gilded Age The Gilded Rage: A Wild Ride Through Donald Trump's America How to Build a Dinosaur: The New Science of Reverse Evolution Rise Sister Rise: A Guide to Unleashing the Wise, Wild Woman Within Key West Bounce (Jack Marsh Action Thrillers Book 2) The Key West Boneyard (Jack Marsh Action Thrillers Book 4) Key West Storm Warning (Jack Marsh Action Thrillers Book 5) The Key West Smackdown (Jack Marsh Action Thrillers Book 1) The Water Margin: Outlaws of the Marsh: The Classic Chinese Novel (Tuttle Classics)

<u>Dmca</u>