



As portrayed in a restoration by Charles R. Knight, from a skeleton in the American Museum of Natural History reconstructed under the direction of Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn

## The BRONTOSAURUS (Thunder Lizard)

MILLIONS of years ago, during the Age of Reptiles—long before the higher forms of animal life had developed—lived the Thunder Lizard. He was one of the largest quadrupeds that ever inhabited the earth. He flourished in the waters and marshes which covered vast areas of Europe, Asia and western North America. His body was 67 feet long, and his whiplash tail measured another 10 feet. Standing on all fours, he was 12 feet high. If he rose on his hind legs he towered over 30 feet into the air. The thigh-bone of the mounted skeleton in the American Museum is nearly 6 feet long and weighs 570 pounds. Scientists estimate that the animal in life must have weighed between 30 and 40 tons. Yet, in spite of his remarkable size, the Thunder Lizard was probably a harmless vegetarian, slow and clumsy in his movements, seldom if ever coming up on dry land, but wading about in the river channels and back waters, where he was safe from the attacks of fierce, predacious reptiles that inhabited dry land.

