

**FROM THE GREEKS TO
DARWIN: AN OUTLINE
OF THE DEVELOPMENT
OF THE EVOLUTION IDEA**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649128389

From the Greeks to Darwin: an outline of the development of the evolution idea by Henry
Fairfield Osborn

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HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN

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Columbia University Biological Series.

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FROM THE GREEKS TO DARWIN

AN OUTLINE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE EVOLUTION IDEA

BY

HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN, Sc.D.

DA COSTA PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY IN COLUMBIA COLLEGE; CURATOR IN THE
AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

SECOND EDITION



QH361
081f
1894
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New York

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

LONDON: MACMILLAN & CO., LTD.

1896

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Set up and electrotyped July, 1894. Reprinted September, 1896.

Norwood Press
J. S. Cushing & Co. — Berwick & Smith
Norwood Mass. U.S.A.

TO
MY REVERED TEACHER IN PHILOSOPHY

James McCosh

EX-PRESIDENT OF PRINCETON COLLEGE



PREFACE.

THIS volume has grown out of lectures first delivered in Princeton in 1890, upon the period between Buffon and Darwin, and completed in a fuller course delivered in Columbia in 1893, which covered also the period before Buffon. When I began the study, my object was to bring forward the many strong and true features of pre-Darwinian Evolution, which are so generally passed over or misunderstood. When all the materials were brought together from the earliest times, the evidence of continuity in the development of the idea became more clear, and to trace these lines of development has gradually become the central motive of these lectures. More thorough research, which may, perhaps, be stimulated by these outlines will, I believe, strengthen this evidence.

I am greatly indebted to my friends Professor George Macloskie and Professor Alexander T. Ormond for assistance and critical advice in connection with the revision of the proofs.

H. F. O.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, July 11th, 1894.

