

Southern Protestant Publications

Psa. 149: 5 Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. 6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand; 7 To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people; 8 To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron; 9 To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the Lord.

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A Brief Consideration of the Bible's Teaching on Dinosaurs and Their Witnesses Among the Ancient, Middle-Age and Modern Writers

By The Southern Israelite

[The Biblical Witness](#)

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The Biblical Witness

*Job 40:15 Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox. 16 Lo now, his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly. 17 **He moveth his tail like a cedar:** the sinews of his stones are wrapped together.*

The opening scripture is *prima facie* evidence of the Brontosaurus in the Ancient world. The Hebrew word for move in this passage is *chaphets* which refers to a move of the will or the pleasure of the will. The word for cedar is *erez*.¹ This word is used three ways in scripture:

a. It is used in Leviticus as the cedar wood used to craft the priestly instruments of the Levites.

¹ <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=H730&t=KJV>

Lev 14:4 Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar H730 wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

b. It is used to denote a whole cedar tree:

Num 24:6 As the valleys are they spread forth, as gardens by the river's side, as the trees of lign aloes which the LORD hath planted, and as cedar trees H730 beside the waters.

1Ki 4:33 And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes.

1Ki 5:6 - Now therefore command thou that they hew me cedar trees H730 out of Lebanon;

2 Ki 19:23 - By thy messengers thou hast reproached the Lord, and hast said, With the multitude of my chariots I am come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down the tall cedar trees H730 thereof, and the choice fir trees thereof: and I will enter into the lodgings of his borders, and into the forest of his Carmel.

c. It is also used to specific the species of cedar in distinction to other species of trees.

2Sa 5:11 And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar H730 trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David an house.

1Ki 5:10 - So Hiram gave Solomon cedar H730 trees and fir trees according to all his desire.

1Ki 9:11 (Now Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar H730 trees and fir trees, and with gold, according to all his desire,) that then king Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.

Keil and Delitsch states of Job 40:15-17 that the cedar is only to denote a branch of a cedar tree:

“therefore: ligaments and muscles) of its clumsy belly. The brush of a tail, short in comparison with the monster itself, is compared to a cedar (a branch of it), *ratione glabritiei, rotunditatis, spissitudinis et firmitatis*(Bochart); since the beast is in general almost without hair, it looks like a stiff, naked bone, and yet it can bend it like an elastic cedar branch; קִפָּח is Hebraeo-Arab., (hfd)”

Lange's Commentary agrees and refers this passage to the Hippo. The problem is Job uses two words to specifically refer to a branch of a tree: *yowneqeth*² and *kippah*³ and the book doesn't use them here.

² <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=H3127&t=KJV>

³ <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=H3712&t=KJV>

Job 41:19 "Out of his mouth go burning torches; Sparks of fire leap forth. 20 "Out of his nostrils smoke goes forth As from a boiling pot and burning rushes. 21 "His breath kindles coals, And a flame goes forth from his mouth. (NASB)

The Hebrew words for the Dragon's fire always refer to literal burning lamps, firebrands and fire. Yet John Gill says this is a hyperbole! Lange says Leviathan is a crocodile and the water spouting out of its nose is water that shines like fire. This is utterly preposterous. Job is obviously describing ancient Dinosaurs and the western man had not yet attained enough knowledge on the subject to speak intelligently about it.

Isa. 14:29 Rejoice not thou, whole Palestina, because the rod of him that smote thee is broken: for out of the serpent's root shall come forth a cockatrice, and his fruit shall be a fiery flying serpent.

John Gill comments saying,

"that is, from the posterity, of Uzziah king of Judah, who greatly annoyed the Philistines, for which reason he is compared to a "serpent", should arise Hezekiah compared to a "cockatrice", because he would be, and he was, more harmful and distressing to them; see (2 Kings 18:8) :

and his fruit [shall be] a fiery flying serpent;

not the fruit of the cockatrice, but of the serpent; and intends the same as before, Hezekiah, likened to such a creature, because of the fury and swiftness with which he was to come, and did come, against the Philistines, and the hurt he did to them: the "serpent" to which he is compared is called "fiery", or "burning", because it inflames where it bites; of which see (Numbers 21:6) and "flying", not because it has wings, **though some serpents are said to have them;** but because, when it leaps or darts upon a man, it is with such swiftness, that it seems to fly; the serpent called "acontias", or "serpens jaculus", is here alluded to. The Targum applies the passage to the Messiah, thus,

“ for out of the children's children of Jesse shall come forth the Messiah, and his works shall be among you as a flying serpent.”

Num. 21:6 And the Lord sent fiery(saraph) serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

There is no evidence at all that this word mean *venomous*.

Thus, we see abundant evidence from scripture of the existence of massive reptiles in the ancient world.

The Ancient Witness

- [Ishtar Gate depicting Dragons](#)
- *The History of Animals* by Aristotle, Part 20:

“River-fish and lake-fish also are exempt from diseases of a pestilential character, but certain species are subject to special and peculiar maladies. For instance, the sheat-fish just before the rising of the Dog-star, owing to its swimming near the surface of the water, is liable to sunstroke, and is paralysed by a loud peal of thunder. The carp is subject to the same eventualities but in a lesser degree. **The sheatfish is destroyed in great quantities in shallow waters by the serpent called the dragon.** In the balerus and tilon a worm is engendered about the rising of the Dog-star, that sickens these fish and causes them to rise towards the surface, where they are killed by the excessive heat. The chalcis is subject to a very violent malady; lice are engendered underneath their gills in great numbers, and cause destruction among them; but no other species of fish is subject to any such malady.”⁴

- Herodotus, *The Histories*, Book 2 Sections 75-76:

“There is a place in Arabia not far from the town of Buto where I went to learn about the winged serpents. When I arrived there, I saw innumerable bones and backbones of serpents: many heaps of backbones, great and small and even smaller. [2] This place, where the backbones lay scattered, is where a narrow mountain pass opens into a great plain, which adjoins the plain of Egypt. [3] **Winged serpents are said to fly from Arabia at the beginning of spring, making for Egypt; but the ibis birds encounter the invaders in this pass and kill them.** [4] The Arabians say that the ibis is greatly honored by the Egyptians for this service, and the Egyptians give the same reason for honoring these birds.

Now this is the appearance of the ibis. It is all quite black, with the legs of a crane, and a beak sharply hooked, and is as big as a landrail. Such is the appearance of the ibis which fights with the serpents. Those that most associate with men (for there are two kinds of ibis¹) [2] have the whole head and neck bare of feathers; their plumage is white, except the head and neck and wingtips and tail (these being quite black); the legs and beak of the bird are like those of the other ibis. **The serpents are like water-snakes. [3] Their wings are not feathered but very like the wings of a bat.** I have now said enough concerning creatures that are sacred.”⁵

- Strabo, *Geography*, Volume 7, Book XVI, 2. 17 pg. 261,⁶

⁴ http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/history_anim.8.viii.html

⁵ <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Hdt.+2.75&fromdoc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0126>

⁶ <https://archive.org/stream/in.gov.ignca.2919/2919#page/n271/mode/2up>

GEOGRAPHY, 16. 2. 16-17

17. As for the plains, the first, beginning at the sea, is called Macras, or Macra-Plain. Here, as reported by Poseidonius, was seen the fallen dragon,

¹ "Trachones" means "Rugged, strong tracts" (see 16. 2. 20).

² See critical note.

³ Instead of σφάδρα, E reads χθόνα.

⁴ After μῆκος Dhl read μέν ; so Corais.

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GEOGRAPHY, 16. 2. 17-19

the corpse of which was about a plethrum¹ in length, and so bulky that horsemen standing by it on either side could not see one another; and its jaws were large enough to admit a man on horseback, and each flake of its horny scales exceeded an oblong shield in length.

¹ About 100 feet.

² Now Beyrout.

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- Pliny the Elder, *Natural History*, Book 8, C. 11,

“CHAP. 11. (11.)—IN WHAT COUNTRIES THE ELEPHANT IS FOUND; THE ANTIPATHY OF THE ELEPHANT AND THE DRAGON.

Africa produces elephants, beyond the deserts of the Syrtes, and in Mauritania; they are found also in the countries of the Æthiopians and the Troglodytæ as mentioned above.¹ But it is India that produces the largest,² as well as the dragon,³ which is perpetually at war with the elephant, and is itself of so enormous a size, as easily to envelope the elephants with its folds, and encircle them in its coils. The contest is equally fatal to both; the elephant, vanquished, falls to the earth, and by its weight, crushes the dragon which is entwined around it.⁴”⁷

Book VIII, Chap 13,

⁷<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.02.0137%3Abook%3D8%3Achapter%3D11>

“CHAP. 13. (13.)—DRAGONS.

Æthiopia produces dragons, not so large as those of India, but still, twenty cubits in length.¹ The only thing that surprises me is, how Juba came to believe that they have crests.² The Æthiopians are known as the Asachæi, among whom they most abound; and we are told, that on those coasts four or five of them are found twisted and interlaced together like so many osiers in a hurdle, and thus setting sail, with their heads erect, they are borne along upon the waves, to find better sources of nourishment in Arabia.”⁸

- Alexander the Great tells of the great dragon in India,⁹

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AELIAN

ON THE CHARACTERISTICS
OF ANIMALS

III

BOOKS XII—XVII

⁸<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.02.0137%3Abook%3D8%3Achapter%3D13>

⁹<https://archive.org/stream/L449AelianCharacteristicsOfAnimalsIII1217/L449-Aelian%20Characteristics%20of%20Animals%20III%3A12-17#page/n123/mode/2up>

ON ANIMALS, XV. 19-21

21. When Alexander threw some parts of India into a commotion and took possession of others he encountered among many other animals a Serpent which lived in a cavern and was regarded as sacred by the Indians who paid it great and superstitious reverence. Accordingly Indians went to all lengths imploring Alexander to permit nobody to attack the Serpent; and he assented to their wish. Now as the army passed by the cavern and caused a noise, the Serpent was aware of it. (It has, you know, the sharpest hearing and the keenest sight of all animals.) And it hissed and snorted so violently that all were terrified and confounded. It was reported to measure 70 cubits although it was not visible in all its length,

A monstrous Snake

⁵ Bernhardt: ἔχηρε.
⁷ καὶ ἐφάνη μὲν.

⁶ Ges: προερέπωντο.

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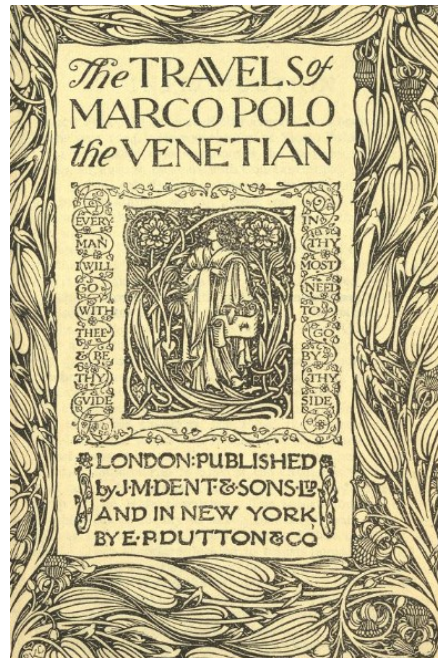
ON ANIMALS, XV. 21-23

for it only put its head out. At any rate its eyes are said to have been the size of a large, round Macedonian shield.

The Middle-Age Testimony

- [The Legend of the Gargoille.](#)
- Marco Polo tells of the great dragons of the Mongolian province of Karazan,¹⁰

¹⁰ <https://archive.org/details/marcopolo00polouoft/page/246>



several of their spices. It is thus prepared for persons of the higher class, but the poorer sort only steep it, after mincing, in a sauce of garlic, and then eat it as if it were dressed.

CHAPTER XL

OF THE PROVINCE NAMED KARAZAN

LEAVING the city of Yachi, and travelling ten days in a westerly direction, you reach the province of Karazan, which is also the name of its chief city.¹ The inhabitants are idolaters. The country belongs to the dominion of the grand khan, and the royal functions are exercised by his son, named Kogatin.² Gold is found in the rivers, both in small particles and in lumps; and there are also veins of it in the mountains. In consequence of the large quantity obtained, they give a saggio of gold for six saggi of silver. They likewise use the before-mentioned porcelain shells in currency; which, however, are not found in this part of the world, but are brought from India. As I have said before, these people never take virgins for their wives.

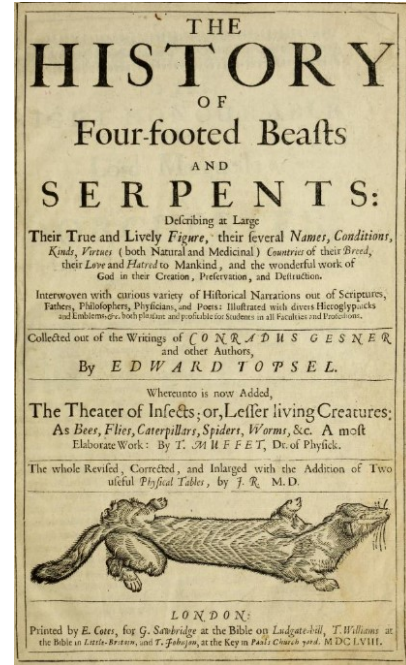
Here are seen huge serpents, ten paces in length, and ten spans in the girth of the body. At the fore part, near the head, they have two short legs, having three claws like those of a tiger, with eyes larger than a fourpenny loaf (*pane da quattro denari*) and very glaring. The jaws are wide enough to swallow a man, the teeth are large and sharp, and their whole appearance is so formidable, that neither man, nor any kind of animal, can approach them without terror.³ Others are met with of a

The Modern Testimony

- The developers of modern Zoology acknowledge the existence of dragons.

The history of four-footed beasts and serpents (Foundation of modern Zoology) by Topsell, Edward, 1572-1625?; Gessner, Conrad, 1516-1565; Moffett, Thomas, 1553-1604; Rowland, John, M.D published =1658:¹¹

[[pg. 701](#)]



¹¹ <https://archive.org/stream/historyoffourfoo00tops#page/701/mode/1up>

Gillius. They are never so fierce, violent, or wilde, but the sight of a Ram tameth and dismayeth them, for they fear his horns; for which cause the Egyptians picture an Elephant and a Ram to signify a foolish King that runneth away for a fearfull sight in the field. And not only a Ram, but also the gruntling clamour or cry of Hogs: by which means the *Romans* overthrew the *Carthaginians* and *Pyrrhus* which trusted overmuch to their Elephants. When *Antipater* besieged the *Megarians* very straitly with many Elephants, the Citizens took certain Swine and anointed them with pitch, then set them on fire and turned them out among the Elephants, who crying horribly by reason of the fire on their bodies, so distempered the Elephants, that all the wit of the *Macedonians* could not restrain them from madness, fury, and flying upon their own company; only because of the cry of the Swine. And to take away that fear from Elephants, they bring up with them when they are tamed, young Piggess and Swine ever since that time. When Elephants are chased in hunting, if the Lions see them, they run from them like Hinde-calves from the Dogs of Hunters, and yet *Ipbicrates* sayeth, that among the *Hesperian* or western *Ethiopians*, Lions set upon the young Calves of Elephants and wound them: but at the sight of the mothers, which come with speed to them, when they hear them cry, the Lions run away, and when the mothers finde their young ones imbrued in their own blood, they themselves are so enraged that they kill them, and so retire from them, after which time the Lions return and eat their flesh. They will not indure the savour of a Mouse, but refuse the meat which they have run over: in the river *Ganges* of *India*, there are blew Wormes of sixty cubits long having two armes; these when the Elephants come to drink in that river, take their trunks in their hands and pull them off. There are Dragons among the *Ethiopians*, which are thirty yards or paces long, these have no name among the inhabitants but Elephant-killers. And among the *Indians* also there is as an inbred and native hateful hostility between Dragons and Elephants: for which cause the Dragons being not ignorant that the Elephants feed upon the fruits and leaves of green trees, do secretly convey themselves into them or to the tops of rocks: covering their hinder part with leaves, and letting his head and fore part hang down like a rope, on a suddain when the Elephant cometh to crop the top of the tree, she leapeth into his face, and diggeth out his eyes, and because that revenge of malice is too little to satisfie a Serpent, she twineth her gable like body about the throat of the amazed Elephant, and so transfereth him to death.

Ælianus. The cruelty of the females to their wounded Calves.
Solinus.
Stat. Sebofi.
Ælianus.

[Pg. 156]¹²

[A Dictionary of the English Language by Samuel Johnson, 1768,](#)

DRAGON. / (*draco*, Lat.) 1. A kind of winged serpent. *Rome.* 2. A fierce violent man or woman. 3. A constellation near the North pole

- There have been numerous modern reports of Pterosaurs as well as ancient Mythologies about them.

O7TV, Real Pterosaur spotted over Idaho, USA?, Published on Jul 29, 2015 -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kf9k0MBT7WI>

<http://www.laattorneyvideo.com/nonlegal/pterosaurs/Indonesia/>

https://www.livepterosaur.com/LP_Blog/archives/1910

¹² <https://archive.org/stream/historyoffourfoo00tops#page/156/mode/1up>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kongamato>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thunderbird_\(mythology\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thunderbird_(mythology))

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piasa>

- Loch Ness Monster is a modern day Plesiosaur.

<http://www.nessie.co.uk/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/article/41997932/2017-has-been-a-record-year-for-sightings-of-the-loch-ness-monster>

<http://www.lochnesssightings.com/index.asp?pageid=498361>

<http://www.lochnesssightings.com/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Monster-Hunt-Tim-Dinsdale/dp/087491325X>

- Bessie of Lake Erie is also a modern record of the plesiosaur.

[link](#)

<http://paleo.cc/paluxy/eriebaby.htm>

- The Ogopogo in Okanagan Lake, British Columbia, Canada, is a modern report of the Basilosaurus.

In Search of Ogopogo by Gaal Arlene

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ogopogo>

Creation Camp, Arlene Gaal:

[YouTube Link](#)

- The Seadragon of 1749 off the Coast of Suffolk is clearly a Kronosaurus or Basilosaurus: *Encyclopaedia Perthensis*, Or, Universal Dictionary of the Arts, Volume 20, pg. 337: (Image to the right)

(2.) SEA-DOG. See SQUALUS, N^o 1, 5, and 7.
SEA DRAGON, a monster of a very singular nature. In the Gentleman's Magazine for 1749, we have the account of a sea dragon which was said to be taken between Orford and South Wold, on the coast of Suffolk, and afterwards carried round the country as a curiosity by the fishermen who caught it. "Its head and tail (says the writer) resemble those of an alligator; it has two large fins, which serve it both to swim and to fly; and though they were so dried that I could not extend them, yet they appear, by the folds, to be shaped like those which painters have given to dragons and other winged monsters, that serve as supporters to coats of arms. Its body is covered with impenetrable scales; its legs have two joints, and its feet are hooped like those of an ass: it has five rows of very white and sharp teeth in each jaw, and is in length about four feet, though it was longer when alive, it having shrunk as it became dry. It was caught in a net with mackerel; and being brought on shore, was knocked down with a stretcher or boat-hook. The net being opened, it suddenly sprung up and flew above fifty yards: the man who first seized it, had several of his fingers bitten off; and the wound mortifying, he died. It afterwards fastened on the man's arm who shows it, and lacerated it so much, that the muscles are shrunk, and the hand and fingers distorted; the wound is not yet healed, and is thought to be incurable. It is said by some to have been described by naturalists under the name of the *Seadragon*." See Plate CCCIV.

- The Lake Champlain Monster, or Champ, is a modern day Plesiosaur:

[*American Myths, Legends, and Tall Tales* edited by Christopher R. Fee, Jeffrey B. Webb, pg. 205.](#)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Champ_\(folklore\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Champ_(folklore))

<https://www.lakechamplainregion.com/heritage/champ>

- [Moore's Beach Monster of 1925, the Sea Monster of Santa Cruz was also a recently recorded Plesiosaur.](#)

<http://www.trueauthority.com/cryptozoology/moore.htm>

See also *Mysterious Sea Monsters of California's Central Coast Paperback* by Randall A. Reinstedt.

- The Brontosaurus has many recent witnesses in Africa: [*Beasts and Men* by Carl Hagenbeck \(1909\), pg. 96.](#)

Some years ago I received reports from two quite distinct sources of the existence of an immense and wholly unknown animal, said to inhabit the interior of Rhodesia. Almost identical stories reached me, firstly, through one of my own travellers, and, secondly, through an English gentleman, who had been shooting big-game in Central Africa. The reports were thus quite independent of each other, and, as a matter of fact, the Englishman and my traveller had made their way into Rhodesia from opposite directions, the one from the north-east and the other from the south-west. The natives, it seemed, had told both my informants that in the depth of the great swamps there dwelt a huge monster, half elephant, half dragon. This, however, is not the only evidence for the existence of the animal. It is now several decades ago since Menges, who is of course perfectly reliable, heard a precisely similar story from the negroes; and, still more remarkable, on the walls of certain caverns in Central Africa there are to be found actual drawings of this strange creature. From what I have heard of the animal, it seems to me that it can only be some kind of dinosaur, seemingly akin to the brontosaurus. As the stories come from so many different sources, and all tend to substantiate each other, I am almost convinced that some such reptile must be still in existence. At great ex-

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mokele-mbembe>

New York Herald, “Is a Brontosaurus Roaming Africa's Wilds”, Feb. 13, 1910,



[A Living Dinosaur?: In Search of Mokele-Mbembe by Roy P. MacKal](#)

“There Could be Dinosaurs” by Ivan T. Sanderson, *Saturday Evening Post*, Jan. 3, 1998,

ON THE TRACK OF
UNKNOWN
ANIMALS

BERNARD HEUVELMANS, D.S.C.



In 1932 a young South African big-game hunter called F. Grobler returned to Cape Town after five years in Central Africa and told the Press about a monstrous lizard which lived in the huge marshes where the Belgian Congo, Angola and Northern Rhodesia meet. Different and sometimes contradictory versions of his story were printed in different newspapers – even his name was misspelt¹ – but as I shall later show where he got his information from, this hardly matters. The version of his remarks about the animal which was published in the *Rhodesia Herald* of 15 July 1932 is as follows:

It is known by the native name of 'Chepekwe.' The natives in Central Africa used to call it the water lion.

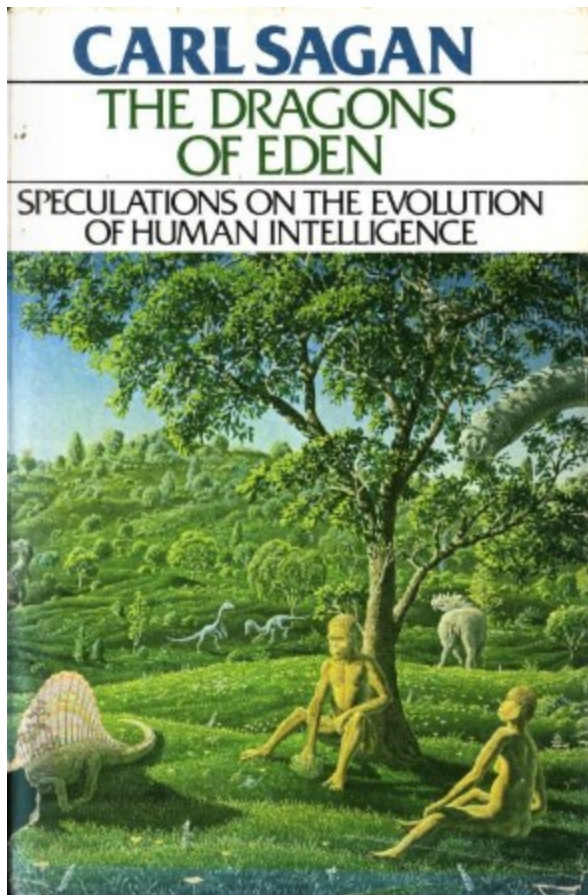
It can best be described as a huge leguan [iguana], the weight of which is estimated at about four tons or more. It was discovered about six months ago by a German scientist in the Dilolo swamps in Angola, and while I was in that country I saw photographs of it.

I went to Lake Dilolo myself to look for it, but I did not see it. The natives say it is extremely rare and seldom seen, but they are convinced as I am of its existence.

It lives only in swamps, and from what I was told it attacks rhino, hippo, and elephant. I have seen a photograph of the 'Chepekwe' on top of a hippo it had killed.

[Pg. 526]

- [1907 - Lieutenant-Colonel Percy Fawcett of the British Army witnessed a Diplodocus in Brazil.](#)
- [The Great New England Sea Serpents.](#)



The Atheist Establishment dismisses all this evidence as an elaborate hoax and esoteric symbolism. Carl Sagan says these endless reports of Dinosaurs and Dragons throughout world history were mental symbols of our struggle for survival.¹³

He couches this in the Darwinian theory of the origin of Human cognition which has been soundly refuted by Noam Chomsky.

¹³ Carl Sagan, [The Dragons of Eden](#), 140-148