

principle upon which the natural classification of animals should be based—namely, their structure. It is the study of the anatomy of the creatures and their comparison which affords the only sound basis of a classification. The work which had the greatest influence upon the scientific public is his ‘*Règne animal distribué d’après son Organisation*,’ 1817. The system which he propounded in this book gradually came to have almost world-wide fame, and, in spite of its many obvious deficiencies, still lingers in some of our most recent text-books.

A standard work is his ‘*Leçons d’Anatomie comparée*,’ and, in truth, he is the founder of that kind of comparative anatomy which was brought to such a high state by his pupil, the late Sir Richard Owen. Cuvier discovered the law of ‘correlation of growth,’ and was the first to apply this law to the reconstruction of animals from fragments: see his monumental work entitled ‘*Recherches sur les Ossements fossiles*,’ 1812.