

have vied with one another as to the number of plants which they could name, and the precision—often becoming preciosity—with which they could describe them, a qualitative advance towards a natural system of classification was made by others who discerned and developed the more esoteric doctrines of their master. The establishment of a classification based on genuine structural resemblances was the outcome of the labours of a long succession of workers from the Jussieus, Joseph Gärtner, Auguste Pyrame de Candolle, and Robert Brown, to Endlicher and Lindley, and the systematists of to-day. For more than a hundred years after Linnæus, the classification slowly grew in stability and reality, but quite unillumined by any thought of evolution. It was helped by the study of development, and by the increased precision of anatomical analysis, but it remained strictly Linnæan in one sense at least—that it was dominated by the dogma of the constancy of species.

Develop-
ment of the
Natural
System.

Bernard de Jussieu (1699–1777), memorable to the zoologist for having, along with Peissonel, first denounced the prevalent view that corals were plants, laid out the beds in the royal garden of Trianon, so as to express his views on the natural affinities of the orders. These views were based on Linné's fragment of a natural system, and they doubtless led on to his nephew's much stronger work.

Antoine Laurent de Jussieu (1748–1836) is forever memorable for his *Genera Plantarum* (1789), the main feature of which was the characterization of the *families* of plants. As Sachs says, Bauhin gave characters to species, Tournefort defined genera, Linnæus grouped genera, the younger Jussieu diagnosed families. In other words, he effected an induction of a higher order of complexity than those which his predecessors had achieved.

Joseph Gärtner (1732–1791) did service to natural classification by his monograph on fruits and seeds, which Jussieu and a few others were able to appreciate. He was one of those remarkable men whose records