

Galen had only been permitted to dissect monkeys, and human anatomy was largely conjectural until Vesalius placed it on a sure basis in the sixteenth century. This was not only important in itself, but it raised a standard of accuracy which gave a stimulus to the zoological anatomist—a stimulus which has often been repeated in the history of the science. Many zoologists have acknowledged their indebtedness to their discipline in human anatomy.

In the encyclopædic period anatomical researches began to become common, monographs on different groups were published, and huge treatises, like Gesner's *Historia Animalium* (1551–1558), with 4500 folio pages, made their appearance. In these, however, there seems to have been rarely any deep morphological note; there was dissection but without comparison, analysis but without synthesis. In Belon's *Birds* (1555) there is "a comparison of the skeletons of Bird and Man in the same posture, and as nearly as possible bone for bone"; and in 1645 Severinus published his *Zootomia Democritæa*, "the first book devoted exclusively to the general subject of comparative anatomy".

In the seventeenth century Harvey discovered the circulation of the blood (1616, announced 1628), and carefully dissected the heart; some of the early microscopists, e.g. Malpighi and Swammerdam, turned their attention to the structure of the lower animals; and the progress of classification in the hands of Ray and Linnæus reacted on anatomy.

In the eighteenth century there were some great workers more or less on comparative lines. John Hunter dissected and observed with untiring industry, and Vicq d'Azyr struck an even clearer morphological note.

Georges Cuvier (1769–1832) was not only great in himself and his work, but in his school, for he dominated most of the zoological work of the first half of the nineteenth century. He dissected many animals which had not previously been touched; he insisted on the anatomical basis of classification; and he recognized that there were several divergent types of structural architecture (Vertebrate, Molluscan,

Rise of
Comparative
Anatomy.

Cuvier and
Correlation.