

that while his predecessors had restricted their attention almost exclusively to the readily available chick, he has the credit of founding *comparative embryology*. As Bergh says, Von Baer broadened embryology as Cuvier had broadened anatomy, by making it comparative. He thus paved the way for Johannes Müller and his famous school, and there is a fairly continuous filiation from Von Baer to Balfour.

It was Von Baer, also, who first showed the importance of embryology as an aid to classification, and although his actual achievements in this connection are hardly acceptable nowadays, he has the credit of first suggestion. Even those who are now very cautious as to the use of "the embryological criterion of homology", will allow that without it the problems of relationship would be much more obscure than they are.

It was Von Baer who first clearly discriminated the great events in a life-history: (*a*) The primary processes of egg-cleavage, and the establishment of the germinal layers; (*b*) the gradual differentiation of the tissues (histogenesis); and (*c*) the blocking-out of the organs (organogenesis), and the shape-taking of the entire organism (morphogenesis).

But Von Baer is, perhaps, best remembered on account of his formulation of certain laws of development, which are discussed later on. What is often called "Von Baer's law", is the generalization that the individual development recapitulates the racial history, but it is by no means correct to father this hazardous conclusion on Von Baer. On the contrary, it was one of his endeavours to show that this generalization, carelessly credited to him, was far from correct.

The broadening out of embryological inquiry, which began with Von Baer, was continued in the work of Ratke, Kölliker, Lovén, Sars, Johannes Müller, Kowalevsky, Metschnikoff, and many others, until it became possible for Francis Balfour to gather up a thousand scattered papers into an ordered whole in his epoch-making work on comparative embryology (1880-1881).

Early in the century the poet Chamisso, who accompanied Kotzebue on his circumnavigation of the globe,