

well feel astonishment at the courage of the man in accepting the appointment and resolving to make himself master of another science. The title of his chair was "Professor of Zoology; of insects, of worms and of microscopic animals," and the annual stipend 2868 livres or about £115 sterling. Having made up his mind to undertake the new duties, he threw himself with such courage and zeal into them, that before many years he was acclaimed as an even more accomplished and original zoologist than he had been a botanist. Yet he continued to find time for excursions into physical science. He went on for a succession of years publishing meteorological reports, which may be regarded as in some respects forerunners of the weather-charts of recent times. He also entered the lists against the prevalent chemical and physical opinions of the day, propounding some extraordinary views which had no experimental basis and were generally regarded as too eccentric to require refutation.

In the course of his zoological studies Lamarck was led directly and indirectly to make important contributions towards the advance of geology. In dealing with the invertebrata, especially with the mollusca, he studied and described the varied assemblage of fossil shells so abundantly and perfectly preserved among the Tertiary deposits of the Paris basin. Correlating the living with the extinct forms, he was enabled to present a far broader and more accurate picture of the invertebrate division of the animal kingdom than had ever before been attempted. Cuvier has been claimed as the great founder of vertebrate Palæontology; Lamarck may with at least equal justice be regarded as the founder