

special disquisitions on parts of the Natural System; as on Jussieu's *Proteaceæ*:¹⁶ on the *Asclepiadeæ*, a natural family of plants which must be separated from Jussieu's *Apocynæ*:¹⁷ and other similar labors.

We have, I think, been led, by our survey of the history of Botany, to this point;—that a Natural Method directs us to the study of Physiology, as the only means by which we can reach the object. This conviction, which in botany comes at the end of a long series of attempts at classification, offers itself at once in the natural history of animals, where the physiological signification of the resemblances and differences is so much more obvious. I shall not, therefore, consider any of these branches of natural history in detail as examples of mere classification. They will come before us, if at all, more properly when we consider the classifications which depend on the functions of organs, and on the corresponding modifications which they necessarily undergo; that is, when we trace the results of Physiology. But before we proceed to sketch the history of that part of our knowledge, there are a few points in the progress of Zoology, understood as a mere classificatory science, which appear to me sufficiently instructive to make it worth our while to dwell upon them.

[2nd Ed.] [Mr. Lindley's recent work, *The Vegetable Kingdom* (1846), may be looked upon as containing the best view of the recent history of Systematic Botany. In the Introduction to this work, Mr. Lindley has given an account of various recent works on the subject; as Agardh's *Classes Plantarum* (1826); Perleb's *Lehrbuch der Naturgeschichte der Pflanzenreich* (1826); Dumortier's *Florula Belgica* (1827); Bartling's *Ordines Naturales Plantarum* (1830); Hess's *Uebersicht der Phanerogenischen Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien* (1832); Schulz's *Natürliches System des Pflanzenreich's* (1832); Horaninow's *Primæ Lineæ Systematis Naturæ* (1834); Fries's *Corpus Florarum provincialium Sueciæ* (1835); Martins's *Conspectus Regni Vegetabilis secundum Characteres Morphologicos* (1835); Sir Edward F. Bromhead's System, as published in the *Edinburgh Journal* and other Journals (1836–1840); Endlicher's *Genera Plantarum secundum Ordines Naturales disposita* (1836–1840); Perleb's *Clavis Classicum Ordinum et Familiarum* (1838); Adolphe Brongniart's *Énumération des Genres de Plantes* (1843); Meisner's *Plantarum vascularium Genera secundum Ordines Naturales digesta* (1843); Horaninow's *Tetractys Naturæ, seu Systema quinquemembre omnium Naturalium*

¹⁶ *Linn. Tr.* vol. x. 1809. ¹⁷ *Mem. of Wernerian N. H. Soc.* vol. i. 1809.