

a term first applied to anatomy by the philosophers of Germany; and this term Mr. Owen adopts, to the exclusion of terms more loosely denoting identity or similarity. And the Homology of the various bones of vertebrates having been in a great degree determined by the labors of previous anatomists, Mr. Owen has proposed names for each of the bones: the condition of such names being, that the homologues in all vertebrates shall be called by the same name, and that these names shall be founded upon the terms and phrases in which the great anatomists of the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries expressed the results of their researches respecting the human skeleton. These names, thus selected, so far as concerned the bones of the Head of Fishes, one of the most difficult cases of this Special Homology, he published in a Table,¹ in which they were compared, in parallel columns, with the names or phrases used for the like purpose by Cuvier, Agassiz, Geoffroy, Hallman, Scemmering, Meckel, and Wagner. As an example of the considerations by which this selection of names was determined, I may quote what he says with regard to one of these bones of the skull.

“With regard to the ‘squamosal’ (*squamosum*. Lat. *pars squamosa ossis temporis*.—Scemmering), it might be asked why the term ‘temporal’ might not be retained for this bone. I reply, because that term has long been, and is now universally, understood in human anatomy to signify a peculiarly anthropotomical coalesced congeries of bones, which includes the ‘squamosal’ together with the ‘petrosal,’ the ‘tympanic,’ the ‘mastoid,’ and the ‘stylohyal.’ It seems preferable, therefore, to restrict the signification of the term ‘temporal’ to the whole (in Man) of which the ‘squamosal’ is a part. To this part Cuvier has unfortunately applied the term ‘temporal’ in one class, and ‘jugal’ in another; and he has also transferred the term ‘temporal’ to a third equally distinct bone in fishes; while to increase the confusion M. Agassiz has shifted the name to a fourth different bone in the skull of fishes. Whatever, therefore, may be the value assigned to the arguments which will be presently set forth, as to the special homologies of the ‘*pars squamosa ossis temporis*,’ I have felt compelled to express the conclusion by a definite term, and in the present instance, have selected that which recalls the best accepted anthropomorphical designation of the part; although ‘squamosal’ must be understood and applied in an arbitrary sense; and not as descriptive of a scale-like

¹ *Lectures on Vertebrates*. 1846, p. 158. And *On the Archetype and Homologies of the Vertebrate Skeleton*. 1848, p. 172.