

atist; as Sachs puts it, "he might almost be said to have been a classifying, co-ordinating, and subordinating machine". His physiology was not even up-to-date; of pedigrees he had at most a fleeting idea. His main desire was to name and to arrange, and in this he did service by emphasizing the importance of the stamens, which served him better than he had—from our point of view—any right to expect.

He classified flowering plants with especial reference to the number of the stamens, as Monandria, Diandria, Triandria, &c.; and this narrow basis often led him to right results in the detection of affinities. It is a remarkable fact in the history of classification that characters which at first sight do not seem to be of great importance, may nevertheless serve as good indices to affinities.

Though it was, in a sense, only a scientific trick, the establishment of the binomial nomenclature, by which each kind of organism received two names, a generic and a specific, *e.g.* *Bellis perennis* (the daisy) or *Viola canina* (the dog violet), has proved of great service in classification, and although it cannot be called the invention of Linnæus, it was certainly established by him.

In the eyes of his contemporaries the great service of Linnæus was that he established greater order than heretofore in the maze of living forms. In the eyes of his modern successors "the greatest and most lasting service which Linnæus rendered both to botany and zoology lies in the certainty and precision which he introduced into the art of describing".

For the order which he established was, on the whole, an artificial order, corresponding to nothing real in the genetic relationships of plants. At the same time, it must be remembered that Linnæus had an esoteric classification, as it were, a sketch of a *natural system* (a true *systema naturæ*), the merits of which were duly recognized by the Jussieus (uncle and nephew), who laid the foundations of our modern arrangement of flowering plants.

While many of Linné's successors seem simply to