Fritz Müller's father, grandfather, and great-grandfather had been pastors, but there was a strongly-marked scientific bent in the family, which cropped out also in Fritz's younger brother Hermann, famous for his work on the fertilization of flowers. It is also interesting to notice that Fritz Müller was one of the many students who sat at the feet of Johannes Müller and were inspired by his genius.

His conscientious scruples against taking the Protestant oath, necessary in order to become an "Oberlehrer", led him to emigrate to Brazil in 1852, and he never returned. He settled for four years on the outskirts of the primitive forest in the valley of Garcia, observing and collecting indefatigably. Then followed twelve years at the Lyceum of Desterro [literally "banishment"] in the island of Santa Catharina, off the coast of Brazil, where he investigated the marine fauna and wrote his famous *Facts for Darwin*. Ousted from this post by Jesuit influence (1867) he retired to Blumenau, and spent twenty years in what might be called scientific Walden-life. The Emperor of Brazil, Don Pedro II., appointed him (1876) naturalist to the national museum at Rio Janeiro, where many of his collections had been sent, but even this modest post was soon lost (1884) by the short-sighted tyranny of a political reaction. Offers of pecuniary aid from his admirers in Germany were gratefully but firmly declined, and the "prince of observers", as Darwin called him, resolutely adhered to his plain living and high thinking. From his hermitage he continued to send home the records of his observations, which remain a lasting monument to his enlightened patience and critical insight.

Fritz Müller's work was chiefly concerned with what are now called the problems of bionomics. In other words, he was pre-eminently an observer of the web of life, of the inter-relations of living creatures. His papers deal with the struggle for existence in the tropical forest, with the mutual adaptations of plants and animals, with leaf-cutting ants and myrmecophilous trees, with mimicry and protective resemblance, with