

horse and camel,—and was finally able to restore the skeletons of these extinct genera. Then it became evident that both genera had comprised several species, and gradually the fossil remains of other genera intimately allied to these were discovered in the Middle and Upper Eocene strata at Issel (Aude), Buchweiler (Alsace), and in the Upper Eocene marls in various localities. In the same way as he had investigated the *Ungulata*, Cuvier also investigated fossil remains belonging to Carnivora, and determined their relationship with living representatives.

Cuvier was wholly convinced of the unerring accuracy of his comparative methods. It is told of him that on one occasion when a fossil skeleton came into sight in the Paris gypsum layers, he at once declared it to belong to the genus *Didelphys*, an American opossum. A number of his colleagues were sceptical of this, and in order to prove it, Cuvier indicated the exact place where the characteristic marsupial bone on the pubis ought to be found in the rock, and in presence of his colleagues worked out the part from the surrounding rock, and displayed it to their astonished eyes.

The third volume concludes with the description of a number of bird, reptile, and fish remains. The fourth volume contains treatises on the remains of horses, pigs, and rodents in the Pleistocene deposits and bone breccias of Gibraltar; on Carnivora in the bone caves of Germany and Hungary; on some genera of the Edentate Order, *Bradypus*, *Megalonyx*, *Megatherium*; on Sirenia or “sea-cows”; on “sea-dogs” or the Phocidæ family of the Carnivora; and finally, a survey of all known fossil reptiles. In this as in the other volumes, every chapter on fossil types is preceded by an exhaustive exposition of the structures of allied living forms.

In the whole literature of comparative anatomy and palæontology there is scarcely any work that can rank with this great masterpiece of Cuvier. It passed through four editions, each edition containing additional chapters. The last (1834-36), edited by his brother Friedrich Cuvier, consists of ten volumes of text and two volumes of illustrated plates.

The “Preliminary Discourse” of the first volume later bore the title of “Discourse on the Revolutions of the Surface of the Globe,” and was translated into several European languages. In it Cuvier gives expression to his views on the origin and