this work, which forms an epoch in science. Goethe, also, who took such a lively interest in the French nature-philosophy and in "the thoughts of kindred minds beyond the Rhine," nowhere mentions Lamarck, and does not seem to have known the "Philosophie Zoologique" at all. The great reputation which Lamarck gained as a naturalist he does not owe to his highly important general work, but to numerous special treatises on the lower animals, particularly on Molluscs, as well as to an excellent "Natural History of Invertebrate Animals," which appeared, in seven volumes, between the years 1815–1822. The first volume of this celebrated work contains in the general introduction a detailed exposition of his theory of filiation. I can, perhaps, give no better idea of the extraordinary importance of the "Philosophie Zoologique" than by quoting *verbatim* some of the most important passages therefrom :—

"The systematic divisions of classes, orders, families, genera, and species, as well as their designations, are the arbitrary and artificial productions of man. The kinds or species of organisms are of unequal age, developed one after the other, and show only a relative and temporary persistence; species arise out of varieties. The differences in the conditions of life have a modifying influence on the organization, the general form, and the parts of animals, and so has the use or disuse of organs. In the first beginning only the very simplest and lowest animals and plants came into existence; those of a more complex organization only at a later period. The course of the earth's development, and that of its organic inhabitants, was continuous, not interrupted by violent revolutions. Life is purely a physical phenomenon. All the phenomena of life depend on