

this exclusion in favour of Pallas and Hutton. Though he undertook to present merely an impartial summary of the opinions of other writers, it is instructive to have these summaries from the hand of a man like Desmarest, who was contemporary with many of those of whom he discourses. The interspersed comment and criticism in his notices are specially valuable.

The other three volumes were devoted to descriptions of places, districts, and countries, and to articles or subjects in Physical Geography—a branch of knowledge which Desmarest regarded as embracing two equally important and closely related subjects—the interior structure of the globe and its external form. Geology was not yet admitted to a formal place among the sciences, but geological questions occupy a prominent place in the massive quartos of the *Encyclopédie Méthodique*.¹

The delays that attended the publication of Desmarest's important and original observations and deductions respecting the volcanic geology of Auvergne reached their climax in the case of his detailed map of that region. We have seen that at his instigation a topographical survey of Auvergne on a large scale was begun as far back as 1764, and that reductions of this map accompanied his Memoirs presented to the

¹ Vol. i. of the *Géographie Physique* appeared in An III (1794); vol. ii. in 1803; vol. iii. in 1809, and vol. iv. in 1811. Among the geological articles of interest in these volumes reference may be made to those on Antrim, Auvergne, Basalte, Chaussée des Géans, and Courans. Vol. v., left unfinished by Desmarest, was continued by Bory de St. Vincent, Doin, Ferry, and Huot, and was not published until 1828.