

of the invertebrate half of the science. His researches among the shells of the Paris basin furnished, as we shall see, an accurately determined basis on which Cuvier and Brongniart could work out the stratigraphy of that region.

But Lamarck's original and philosophical genius could not be confined within the limits of the mere determination of new genera and species. From the contemplation of these details, he advanced into broad generalisations among the higher problems of biology. He propounded views in organic evolution which, though received at the time with ridicule and subsequently with neglect, have in later years been revived, and meet now with a constantly increasing degree of acceptance. His *Philosophie Zoologique* has become a classic in biological literature, while his great work the *Animaux Sans Vertèbres*, which appeared in seven volumes between 1815 and 1822, marks a memorable epoch in the march of natural history, and will ever remain one of the glories of French science.

Though Lamarck wrote little on geology, the extent to which he had pondered over the problems of the science, which in his time had hardly taken definite shape, is well illustrated by the little volume which he published in 1802 under the title of *Hydrogéologie*.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The full title of this little known but extremely interesting treatise is as follows: "Hydrogéologie, ou Recherches sur l'influence qu'ont les eaux sur la surface du globe terrestre; sur les causes de l'existence du bassin des mers, de son déplacement et de son transport successif sur les différentes points de la surface de ce globe; enfin sur les changemens que les corps vivans exercent sur la nature et l'état de cette surface. Par J. B. Lamarck, Membre de l'Institut National de France, Professeur-Administrateur au Muséum d'Histoire