

'The Wealth of Nations.' During the last quarter of the eighteenth century A. G. Werner raised the Mining Academy at Freiberg, which had been founded in 1766, from a mere provincial institution to be one of the great centres of scientific light in Europe, to which students from all parts of the world flocked to listen to his eloquent teaching. Towards the end of the century Wordsworth and Coleridge went on a trip to Germany, whence the latter brought to England the new philosophy of Kant and Schelling. Madame de Staël, in an age when tidings of a new literary life in Germany had reached French Society through some of the emigrants of the Revolution, set herself reluctantly to learn German,<sup>1</sup> convinced that a new phase of thought had appeared there; and then with Benjamin Constant visited the country itself at the end of 1803, and again in 1807. The result of these journeys of exploration was her work 'De L'Allemagne.' Whilst Coleridge and Madame de Staël drew inspiration from the new life which centred in the Weimar of Goethe and Schiller, the scientific students of the whole Continent directed their gaze to Paris, where alone for many decades the modern methods could be learnt, where the new scientific ideas were, so to speak, collected in a focus. For more than half a century Paris remained the centre of scientific thought,<sup>2</sup> and even English philosophers, who

29.  
German  
thought  
brought  
to  
England  
by  
Coleridge  
and Words-  
worth.

30.  
German  
thought  
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into France  
by Madame  
de Staël.

31  
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<sup>1</sup> See Lady Blennerhasset's interesting work on Madame de Staël, German ed., vol. ii. p. 461 *sqq.*; especially the remarkable passage quoted there, p. 465, in her letter to the Baron de Gérando, October 1802: "Ich glaube wie Sie, dass der menschliche Geist, der zu wan-

dern scheint, jetzt bei Deutschland angelangt ist."

<sup>2</sup> See Bruhns, 'Life of A. v. Humboldt,' translated by Lassell, vol. i. p. 232: "Notwithstanding the sardonic expression of the frantic judge, 'Nous n'avons pas besoin de savans,' Paris was yet at the close