

Schools and colleges of science, triposes, examinations, and degrees in science, have established a popular meaning which did not exist a hundred years ago, but which is now well understood. For my purpose it is of some interest to note that the meaning of the word in French is somewhat different, and that the word *Wissenschaft*,¹

ciety, and sometimes the Royal Institution, use the word "philosophy" in formal and official statements of their object. This is in accordance with older English usage. What we now universally call science was not infrequently termed in the seventeenth century natural knowledge, and Bacon himself translates *scientiæ* by "knowledge," by "learning," and sometimes by "sciences." In France, on the other hand, the word "science" seems to have acquired its present meaning as far back as the middle of the seventeenth century. At the time of the foundation of the "Académie des Sciences," in 1666, the word was used almost in the same sense—embracing the same separate departments of knowledge—as the word "science" is now used in this country when we speak of a college of science. In France, so far as I am aware, a cultivator of science has never been called a philosopher. Science and philosophy have there never been synonymous. But science in France has been made to cover a larger field of knowledge by such adjectives as "moral," "social," "political," and has been narrowed by such other adjectives as "exact" and "natural," in the same way as the word philosophy has been more strictly defined in the English language by the adjectives "natural," "experimental," "moral," "mental," &c. At the head of the sciences in France stood "mathematics," at the base of the

new philosophy in England stood "experiment" and "observation."

¹ The word *Wissenschaft* has a much wider meaning than science in the modern sense, and is the literal translation of the Latin *scientia*. It means knowledge in a systematic form and connected by some method. What the French call *science*, the Germans call *exacte Wissenschaft*. This includes mathematics and *Naturwissenschaft*, which covers the ground covered by the word "sciences" in English. The word *Wissenschaft* plays an important part in German culture, as we shall see later on. The modern term "scientist" is about synonymous with the word *Naturforscher* in German. The word *savant* in French has no synonym in English, but is about equivalent to the term *Gelchrter* in German; and this, again, is partially translated by "scholar" in English. I suppose "man of science" and "scholar" together would be about covered by either *savant* or *Gelchrter*. Those who desire to study the older and modern, the English and foreign, uses of the word science and other kindred terms, should read Bacon's English writings; Weld's 'History of the Royal Society' (1848, vol. i.); Bence Jones's 'The Royal Institution' (1871); Léon Aucoc's 'L'Institut de France' (Paris, 1889); Alfred Maury, 'Les Académies d'autrefois' (vol. i., Paris, 1864); and the correspondence in connection with the foundation of the British Associa-