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operation of many minds in rearing the great edifice of science, and found a place for the minutest research, as well as a field for the development and sway of great and governing ideas. Of the best form of this spirit and system—the Académie—Cuvier was the greatest representative. Through several dozen Éloges which he pronounced on the decease of a number of the most illustrious scientific men of Europe, as well as through several Reports, in which he summed up the labours and progress of his age, and the peculiar features of his period, he affords to the student of history an insight into that distinctive phase which scientific thought had entered in France at the end of the eighteenth century. This he allows us to contrast with other phases of thought, such as the philosophical or individual, which obtained in other ages or countries, and suggests as well as gives the means of answering the question, to what extent the scientific ideal

étudier que subsister," he said of one of the Academicians (Bouillier, pp. ix, xii). Cuvier was very watchful over the Academy in keeping out the speculative spirit. See what he says in the joint Report on geology with Haüy and Lelièvre ('Mém. de l'Institut,' vol. viii. 1607, p. 136). "Que doivent donc faire les corps savans pour procurer à une science aussi intéressante et aussi utile, les accroissemens dont elle est susceptible? . . . Ils doivent tenir la conduite, qu'ils ont tenue depuis leur établissement, à l'égard de toutes les autres sciences: encourager de leurs éloges ceux qui constatent des faits positifs et garder un silence absolu sur les systèmes qui se succèdent." Compare with this what he says about the use of the principle of "vital force," always referring to Newton's method

('Mém. de l'Inst.,' vol. vii. p. 77, &c.), further in his analysis of Gall and Spurzheim's Mémoire ('Mém. de l'Inst.,' vol. ix. p. 65): "Les commissaires de la classe . . . ont donné leur assentiment à presque toutes les propositions de MM. G. & S., qui ne dépendent que de l'inspection anatomique, &c. . . . les commissaires ont cru également de leur devoir de prévenir le public, qu'il n'y a aucun rapport direct, aucune liaison nécessaire entre ces découvertes et le doctrine enseignée par MM. G. & S., &c. . . . Toutes ces matières sont encore trop étrangères aux attributions de la classe, elles tiennent aux faits sensibles d'une manière trop lâche, elles prêtent à trop de discussions vagues, pour qu'un corps tel que le nôtre doive s'en occuper" (p. 159).