

38.  
He discountenanced the contemporary representation of philosophy.

campaigns in Italy and Germany, and on his expeditions to Egypt and the East, he surrounded himself with some of the greatest scientific authorities, such as Berthollet and Monge. From political as well as personal motives, he discountenanced the once fashionable sensualistic philosophy. This philosophy has now fallen to the second rank, though still represented by eminent thinkers, such as Cabanis, Destutt de Tracy, Daunou and Garat. It was these thinkers of whom Napoleon sneeringly spoke under the designation of "Idéologues."<sup>1</sup>

After all that has been said by admirers to magnify, and by opponents to minimise, Napoleon's merits in promoting the cause of science, and in spreading the modern scientific spirit, I cannot but recognise that he was, amongst the great heroes and statesmen of his age, the first and foremost, if not the only one, who seemed thoroughly to realise the part which science was destined to play in

guerrrière et de la conquête affermie, puis y développer, y exciter tous les travaux de la pensée sur une échelle qu'on n'a pas vue depuis Louis XIV. C'était le but de mes Prix Décennaux qu'on m'a gâtés par de petites intrigues d'idéologues, et de couronnements ridicules, comme celui du catéchisme de Saint-Lambert."

<sup>1</sup> A full account of these authors, their influence and their aims, will be found in F. Picavet, 'Les Idéologues, Essai sur l'histoire des idées et des théories scientifiques, philosophiques, religieuses, &c., en France depuis 1789,' Paris, 1891.

Thibaudeau, 'Le Consulat et l'Empire,' gives many details regarding Napoleon's connection with science, with literature, and with the growing industries of France. Among the latter see especially

the great efforts made to supersede colonial and foreign goods by home productions. Prizes and encouragements of all sorts were given; technical schools and colleges were established; exhibitions were promoted. Sheep were imported from Spain, sugar was made from raisins and beetroot, saltpetre and soda by chemical processes, the *garance* or madder root and the *kermès* were to take the place of *cochenille*; the *pastel* the place of the imported indigo. That an enormous impetus was thus given to chemistry cannot be denied. (See Thibaudeau, *passim*, and especially vol. v. p. 248, &c.) See also Cuvier's 'Rapport,' &c., for an account of applications of science, especially chemistry, pp. 376-386, and Delambre, 'Rapport,' &c., pp. 326-362.