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mainly deri-  
vative.

—who have succeeded in permanently inscribing their names in the annals of science beside those of its true and great representatives. Some of the glory of Laplace and Cuvier falls upon him. Except for this Napoleon has scarcely a place in the history of thought. In it those who were Napoleon's servants are rulers and lawgivers; it is they who enlighten our century. They were the first great exponents of the scientific spirit, nursed under the influence of the academic system. This was peculiarly a product of the French mind and culture. It is well to recall in the words of Cuvier what the scientific spirit is. At the end of the report which he presented in the year 1808 he says:<sup>1</sup> "These are the principal physical discoveries which have lighted up our period, and which open the century of Napoleon. What hopes do they not raise! how much does not the general spirit signify, which has brought them about, and which promises so much more for the future! All those hypotheses, all those suppositions, more or less ingenious, which had still so much sway in the first half of the last century, are now discarded by true men of science: they do not even procure for their authors a passing renown. Experiments alone, experiments that are precise, made with weights, measures, and calculation, by comparison of all substances employed and all substances obtained: this to-day is the only legitimate way of reasoning and demonstration. Thus, though the natural sciences escape the application of the calculus, they glory in being subject to the mathematical spirit, and by the wise course which they have invariably adopted, they do not expose them-

<sup>1</sup> 'Rapport,' &c., p. 389.