

On the other side, we find in the wide domain of general literature valuable beginnings and foreshadowings of later scientific thought, as in Georg Forster¹ and in

came temporarily under its influence. As regards its harmful effect on the natural and medical sciences, the popular addresses of Helmholtz and Du Bois-Reymond may be consulted. Its philosophical value will frequently occupy us in later chapters of this work. Its period can be approximately fixed by the publication in 1797 of Schelling's 'Ideen zu einer Philosophie der Natur.' The death of Hegel in 1831, and Humboldt's Berlin lectures during the years 1827 and 1828, may be considered as marking approximately the end of the generation which came under the one-sided influence of the *Naturphilosophie*. We shall have ample occasion later on to notice how many valuable leading ideas connected with this phase of thought were temporarily abandoned and have since come prominently before the scientific world. The year 1830 marked the victory of Cuvier's ideas over those of his great contemporary Geoffroy St-Hilaire in the French Academy, and with it the temporary defeat of the valuable suggestions contained in the writings of Lamarck and Goethe.

¹ Georg Forster (1753-94) was one of those unique men in the history of literature and science who combine the artistic with the scientific spirit, promoting equally the interests of poetry and of exact knowledge by a loving study of Nature, leading to new views of art as well as to deeper conceptions in science. He may be classed with White of Selborne and other naturalists of England among the small number of those who quietly and unostentatiously prepared the healthier forms

of Naturalism which permeate the poetical and scientific thought of our century, culminating in the great names of Wordsworth and Goethe, of Humboldt and Darwin, of Wallace and Haeckel. His life presented many interesting and some unhappy episodes; it introduces us into the political aspirations of the early French Revolution, to which he sacrificed himself. It has been written by Moleschott, the naturalist, by Heinrich König, the novelist ('G. Forster in Haus und Welt,' Leipzig, 1858, 2 vols.), by Klein ('Georg Forster in Mainz'). Fr. Schlegel ('Charakteristiken und Kritiken,' vol. i.), Gervinus (Introduction to the 7th vol. of 'Georg Forster's Werke'), and Hettner ('Literatur des 18^{ten} Jahrhunderts,' vol. iii.) have written appreciative essays on him. A. von Humboldt calls him his master ('Kosmos,' vol. i. p. 345), and Herder (Preface to Georg Forster's translation of 'Sakuntala') prophesies his lasting fame against the opinion of his less appreciative contemporaries. He has a place in the classical literature both of England and Germany through his beautiful description of Captain Cook's second voyage round the world—his father, Joh. Reinhold Forster, having been selected as the naturalist on that voyage (London, 1777, 2 vols. 4to), German edition, 1779. Richard Garnett has said of him: "His account of Cook's voyage is almost the first example of the glowing yet faithful description of natural phenomena which has since made a knowledge of them the common property of the educated world. . . . As an author he stands very high; he is almost the first