

illustrious name, carried on within the pale of the philosophical school of science itself a successful opposition to the philosophy of Nature.¹ But whilst much good and sound work was done by many who were content to remain outside of the favoured studies which set the tone of university culture during the classical and philosophical period of German thought, the great attack upon the mistaken canons of the philosophy of Nature came from that science which had probably suffered more than any other under the baneful influence of hollow theories and empty phraseology.

31.
Philosophy
of Nature
and medical
science.

Helmholtz describes the despair which had taken hold of thinking minds in the medical profession²: "My education fell within a period of the development of medicine when among thinking and conscientious minds there reigned perfect despair. It was not difficult to understand that the older and mostly theorising methods of treating medical subjects had become absolutely useless. But with the theories the facts which underlay them were so indissolubly entangled that these two were mostly cast overboard. How the science must be newly built up the example of the other natural sciences had made clear, but yet the new task stood of giant-height before us. A beginning was hardly made, and the first beginnings were

chologist Beneke and the theologian De Wette, these were principally members of the Jena school, Apelt, Schlömilch, and others, who edited 'Abhandlungen der Fries'schen Schule,' Jena, 1847; and foremost among them Schleiden, the reformer of botany in Germany. Schleiden's great work appeared with the title 'Botanik als inductive Wissenschaft.' It opened with a philosophical in-

roduction of 131 pages, in which inductive reasoning is recommended in opposition at once to the transcendental *Naturphilosophie*, and to dry empiricism. See Sachs, 'Geschichte der Botanik,' p. 203, &c.

¹ See Schleiden, 'Schelling's und Hegel's Verhältniss zur Naturwissenschaft,' Leipzig, 1844.

² See Helmholtz, 'Vorträge und Reden,' vol. i. p. 361.