

sical sciences have been most affected by the spirit of Kant's philosophy, which has ineradicably engrained in the German mind the necessity of a criticism of the principles of knowledge. Ever and anon some of the most brilliant intellects in mathematics and science have reverted to the same problems, and, on the whole, they have confirmed the position taken up by Kant a century ago.

It was thus under the influence of the exact methods of experiment and calculation taught by the great French school in the beginning of the century, and at the same time through the philosophical spirit peculiar to German science, that in the middle of the century the different sciences which deal with the phenomena of life and consciousness were remodelled. The great science of biology, based upon mechanical principles, was thus created, and the results gained in it brilliantly applied to the reorganisation of the medical profession. But this great reform does not belong exclusively to one great name; it is the work of a long line of thinkers: nor can I conceive that the exclusive employment of the methods of exact research would have so effectually brought it about, unaided by the philosophical, historical, and critical spirit which formed the peculiar characteristic of German thought before the exact methods had been generally introduced. And just because this reform required to be effected from so many different beginnings, and gradually elaborated and defended before it became firmly established, do the modern sciences of physiology and pathology deserve to be termed pre-eminently German sciences; for no other

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Biology  
grown out  
of science  
and philo-  
sophy com-  
bined.