

influence on E. H. Weber as the earlier philosophy of nature, to which it formed a pronounced opposition.

20.
Influence of
Herbart.

Herbart was not an experimental philosopher; nevertheless a place in a history of scientific Thought belongs to him. Indeed, his philosophy, like that of Kant, and, in quite a different way, of Schelling, has had a marked influence on many thinkers and men of science who have prepared the ground for an exact treatment of the phenomena of Life and Mind. Among exact psychologists I need only name Volkmann, Drobisch, Lotze, and in our time Professor Wundt¹ of Leipzig. It is therefore of interest to mark the precise point where Herbart's influence comes in.

Although an exact school of psychology might aim at studying psychical and psycho-physical phenomena without reference to any general theory of the soul as the supposed centre and substance of these phenomena, the existing ideas and theories as to soul and mind have nevertheless always played a great part in these researches, just as it has been found impossible to free biological research altogether from some theory of life. Older psychologists were consciously or unconsciously governed by the conception of a number of distinct mental faculties. Even Kant's philosophy is still embarrassed by this view, which reigned supreme in the teaching of his predecessor Wolf. The attempt of

¹ This is not the place to speak about the Herbartian school, which is almost entirely confined to Germany. I have referred to Prof. Wundt because, in spite of a running criticism, in the 'Physiologische Psychologie,' of Herbart's special

doctrines, the author of that important and comprehensive work himself declares (Preface to the 1st ed., 1874) that for the formation of his own views he is, next to Kant, most indebted to Herbart.