

me to see the work approved of by you; so much the more
as I really stood in need of some consolation. I have been
already violently attacked on account of that very book, and
in such terms too, with such arms, as a gentleman would
hardly think proper to employ. Now I must expect that
a great many Critics will treat my poor essay, and it's
unfortunate author in a merciless manner, and it is but
natural that I should wish to be supported by those who
are known both as competent judges and as men of honour.
It would have been quite the contrary of discretion to re-
quest you publicly to express your opinion of the work
before I knew whether that opinion was really favourable
— but now I really wish the interest you have ever been
kind enough to take in my fate, may prove sufficiently
powerful to counterbalance the claims which science has
upon your time, and to induce you to turn for one mo-
ment from your more serious occupations to the litte-
rary debates of the day — and a literary gazette. Begging
you will do me the honour of writing yourself a few lines
in behalf of my work, I cannot but add that I am fully
sensible of the many obligations I owe you already, and
thank you for what you have so kindly done to make the
esquisse known in France. — You advise me to dispatch
some copies of it to Paris, and to send them for that pur-
pose under the Duke de Broglie's direction, to the french
embassy. I would have gladly followed your advice, had