

Titre de la thèse en anglais : Géraud de Cordemoy : historian, political and pedagogical theoretician

Géraud de Cordemoy (on 1626 - 1684) was known in his time for his occasionnalist philosophy and his theory of language strictly bound to his philosophical conceptions. He is much less known as a historian, a political theoretician and a pedagogue. The opuscula where he approaches these domains are posthumous, Cordemoy makes history a major discipline for the principle of teaching of all other knowledge. He operates a kind of transition between the education of the prince and that necessary to all those who will occupy a responsibility within the utopian State which he imagines in one of his opuscula. His royal absolutism tends to become a state absolutism settled by constituent bodies of magistrates and representatives of the central power responsible respectful of a legal constitution established once for all by a dead sovereign. The Academies of the reformed State which he conceives in dream become the place of enforcement of his conception of history as a material of education and the vernacular as a tool of communication. They are also the place where are reproduced the constituent bodies of the State, holders of the sovereignty by delegation of an original king whose memory is immortalized by the education which is delivered there and by the marble statues representing him at their threshold.