Abstract

Jean Antoine Chaptal (1756-1832) was an applied chemist who did not leave us with any theoretical achievement that bears his name. He devoted himself to the application of scientific principles to industry to decrease France’s dependence on imports, first at the local level of the Estates of Languedoc and then at the national level. He became a politician and served in many high public offices that helped him achieve his industrial goals. He was Minister of Interior of Napoléon and scarcely escaped the guillotine three times. At the zenith of his career he was extremely rich, later he lost most of his fortune and lived a modest life until his death.

Keywords

Jean Antoine Chaptal, history of chemistry, biography.