

# THE BRITISH JOURNAL FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Volume vi

Part III

No. 23

JUNE 1973

Price : £2.00 or U.S. \$6.00  
inclusive of postage

(FREE TO MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY)

PUBLISHED BY  
THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Registered Office : 47 BELGRAVE SQUARE, LONDON S.W.1

**OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY  
FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE**

1972-3

**President**            **DR J. A. CHALDROOTT**

**Vice-Presidents:** **D. CHILTON, Esq.**  
**DR M. P. CROSLAND**  
**DR J. D. NORTH**  
**LT-CDR D. W. WATERS**  
**DR W. P. D. WIGHTMAN**

**Hon. Secretary:** **DR M. P. EARLES**

**Hon. Treasurer:** **G. L'E. TURNER, Esq.**

**Hon. Editor:**     **DR R. FOX**

**Hon. Programme Secretary:**  
**H. G. L. BEVAN, Esq.**

**Council:**        **DR E. J. AITON**  
**DR R. A. BUCHANAN**  
**DR J. K. CRELLIN**  
**DR M. B. HALL**  
**DR M. B. HESSE**  
**DR A. G. KELLER**  
**DR A. G. MOLLAND**  
**DR R. C. OLEY**  
**PROFESSOR P. M. RATTANI**  
**DR M. J. S. RUDWICK**  
**FR J. L. RUSSELL**  
**PROFESSOR G. J. WHITROW**

**Ex-libris**

**WILLIAM C WAKE**

# THE BRITISH JOURNAL

FOR THE

# HISTORY OF SCIENCE

---

VOL. vi, Part III

JUNE 1973

No. 23

---

## CONTENTS

Presidential Address: The Tyranny of Abstractions. WILLIAM P. D. WIGHTMAN . . . . .	233
Lavoisier's Theory of the Earth. RHODA RAPPAPORT . . . . .	247
Lyell and Evolution: An Account of Lyell's Response to the Prospect of an Evolutionary Ancestry for Man. MICHAEL BARTHOLOMEW	261
Note:	
Humphry Davy—An Alleged Case of Suppressed Publication. MAURICE CROSLAND . . . . .	304
Essay Review:	
The Kinematics of Circular Motion . . . . .	311
Book Reviews (for details see next page) . . . . .	314
Books Received . . . . .	333
Collections I: The Turner Collection . . . . .	336
Obituaries . . . . .	338
Notes on Contributors . . . . .	341

PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE  
HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Registered Office: 47 BELGRAVE SQUARE, LONDON S.W. 1

## ESSAY REVIEW

	PAGE
EDWARD GRANT (Ed.): <i>Nicole Oresme and the kinematics of circular motion. Tractatus de commensurabilitate vel incommensurabilitate motuum celi</i> , rev. by A. G. MOLLAND	311

## BOOK REVIEWS

### GENERAL

D. S. L. CARDWELL: <i>Technology, science and history</i> , rev. by R. A. BUCHANAN	314
FRANCIS GALTON: <i>English men of science: their nature and nurture</i> , rev. by R. G. A. DOLBY	315
G. GORE: <i>The scientific basis of national progress including that of morality</i> , rev. by R. G. A. DOLBY	315

### MEDICINE

Hunter's lectures of anatomy, rev. by ARNOLD LEVENE	315
EDWIN CLARKE (Ed.): <i>Modern methods in the history of medicine</i> , rev. by WILLIAM F. BYNUM	316

### CRYSTALLOGRAPHY

J. M. BIJVOET, W. G. BURGERS, and G. HÄGG (Eds.): <i>Early papers on diffraction of x-rays by crystals</i> , rev. by G. L'E. TURNER	317
---	-----

### OCEANOGRAPHY

MARGARET DEACON: <i>Scientists and the sea 1650-1900</i> , rev. by D. W. WATERS	318
---	-----

### SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES

ALEXANDRE KOYRÉ: <i>Mystiques, spirituels, alchimistes du XVIIe siècle allemand</i> , rev. by A. J. TURNER	319
GWENETH WHITTERIDGE: <i>William Harvey and the circulation of the blood</i> , rev. by C. B. SCHMITT	320
GEOFFREY KEYNES: <i>A bibliography of Sir William Petty, F.R.S., and of observations on the Bills of Mortality by John Graunt, F.R.S.</i> , rev. by LINDSAY SHARP	321
ROBERT PALTER (Ed.): <i>The Annus Mirabilis of Sir Isaac Newton, 1666-1966</i> , rev. by E. J. AITON	322
AUGUST ZIGGELAAR: <i>Le physicien Ignace Gaston Pardies S. J. (1636-1673)</i> , rev. by ALICE STROUP	324
A. RUPERT and MARIE BOAS HALL (Eds.): <i>The correspondence of Henry Oldenburg. Volume VII, 1670-1671; volume VIII, 1671-1672</i> , rev. by K. THEODORE HOPPEN	325

### EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURIES

IAN SIMPSON ROSS: <i>Lord Kames and the Scotland of his day</i> , rev. by J. B. MORRELL	326
WILLIAM C. LEHMANN: <i>Henry Home, Lord Kames, and the Scottish Enlightenment</i> , rev. by J. B. MORRELL	326
THOMAS L. HANKINS: <i>Jean d'Alembert. Science and the Enlightenment</i> , rev. by ROGER HAHN	327
TREVOR H. LEVERE: <i>Affinity and matter. Elements of chemical philosophy 1800-1865</i> , rev. by JOHN HEDLEY BROOKE	329
WILLIAM COLEMAN: <i>Biology in the nineteenth century: problems of form, function, and transformation</i> , rev. by ROGER SMITH	330

### TWENTIETH CENTURY

EMILIO SEGRÈ: <i>Enrico Fermi physicist</i> , rev. by BARBARA REEVES BUCK	331
---	-----