

1960

The Royal Society, 1660-1960

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THE
ROYAL SOCIETY
1660 - 1960



An Exhibition of Books

The Library

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

November 1960

The foundation date of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge is November 28, 1660. In honor of the Tercentenary, the present exhibition may, by a backward glance, serve to indicate the standard set by the Fellows of the Royal Society during its early years.

We have to thank Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Honeyman, Jr., for the loan of Newton's *Principia Mathematica* and Boyle's *Sceptical Chymist* shown here. Certain other items on exhibit, as indicated, are in the Honeyman Collection of the Lehigh University Library; the remainder are taken from the University's Rare Book Collection.

MANUSCRIPTS

1. Holograph letter, from SIR GODFREY COPLEY, F.R.S. (d. 1709), founder of the Royal Society's Copley Medal, to one Thomas Kirk, Esq., March 4, 1702/3. Single sheet. The letter reads:

"Your old *Philosopher* is gone att last to try experiments with his auncestors he is dead they say without a Will, had onely a poor Girle with him who seeing him ill went to call some body & he was quite gone before they came, Thus departed the Great *Dr Hook*

"We are told there is like to be a great promotion of *New Peeres*, which signify's not much to You nor me

"The Duke of *Marlborough* went this morning for Holland, & the Genl Officers are going after him."

/s/ Sir G. Copley

Honeyman Collection.

2. Holograph memorandum, by SIR ISAAC NEWTON, F.R.S. (1642-1727), apparently for his own reference. Single sheet. The memorandum reads in part as follows:

"For Miracles are so called not because they are the works of God but because they happen seldom & for that reason create wonder. If they should happen constantly according to certaine laws imprest upon the nature of things, they would be no longer wonders or miracles, but might be considered in Philosophy as a part of the Phenomena of Nature notwithstanding that the cause of their causes might be unknown to us."

This manuscript was presented to Lehigh University in memory of the late Alan C. Dodson, Lehigh, Class of 1900.

BOOKS

1. ROBERT BOYLE, F.R.S. (1627-1691.) *The Sceptical Chymist: Or Chymico—Physical Doubts & Paradoxes, Touching the Spagyrist's Principles Commonly call'd Hypostatical, As they are wont to be Propos'd and Defended by the Generality of Alchymists. Whereunto is praemis'd Part of another Discourse relating to the same Subject.* By The Honourable Robert Boyle, Esq; London, Printed by J. Cadwell for J. Crooke, and are to be Sold at the Ship in St. Paul's Church-Yard. MDCLXI.

8vo. [i-xviii], 1-442 p. 16 x 10 cm. First Edition. (pp. 437-442, comprising the Errata, are bound in between the Preface and the beginning of the text. A second title-page, different from the principal, is bound in between pp. 34 and 35.) Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Honeyman, Jr.

2. ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. *Philosophical Transactions: Giving Some Accompt of the Present Undertakings, Studies, and Labours of the Ingenious in Many Considerable Parts of the World.* Vol. I. For Anno 1665, and 1666. [London,] In the Savoy, Printed by T. N. for John Martyn at the Bell, a little without Temple-Bar, and James Allestry in Duck-Lane, Printers to the Royal Society.

Number 1, dated Munday, March 6, 1664 /5.

3. ROBERT HOOKE, F.R.S. (1635-1703.) *Micrographia: Or Some Physiological Descriptions of Minute Bodies made by Magnifying Glasses. With Observations and Inquiries thereupon.* By R. Hooke, Fellow of the Royal Society . . . London, Printed by Jo. Martyn, and Ja. Allestry, Printers to the Royal Society, and are to be sold at their Shop at the Bell in S. Paul's Church-yard. MDCLXV.

Folio. [i-xxxvi], 1-246 p.; Table and Errata, 10 p. 30 x 19½ cm. Royal Society imprimatur leaf precedes title-page. Thirty-eight engraved plates. First Edition. The Honeyman Collection.

4. THOMAS SPRAT, F.R.S. (1635-1713.) *The History of the Royal-Society of London, For the Improving of Natural Knowledge.* By Tho. Sprat. London, Printed by T. R. for J. Martyn at the Bell without Temple-bar, J. Allestry at the Rose and Crown in Duck-lane, Printers to the Royal Society. MDCLXVII.

4to. [i-xvi], 1-438 p., and Errata leaf. 20½ x 15½ cm. First Edition.

5. THOMAS SHADWELL (c. 1642-1692.) *The Virtuoso. A Comedy, Acted at the Dukes Theatre.* Written by Thomas Shadwell . . . London, Printed by T. N. for Henry Herringman, at the Anchor in the Lower Walk of the New Exchange. 1676.

4to. [i-viii], 1-100, [101-102] p. With Epilogue. 21 x 15 cm. First Edition.

(Shadwell, the Restoration dramatist, wrote *The Virtuoso* in caricature of the dilettantes of Science who in former times occasionally invaded the Fellowship of the Royal Society.)

6. SIR ISAAC NEWTON, F.R.S. (1642-1727.) *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica*. Autore Is. Newton, Trin. Coll. Cantab. Soc. Matheseos Professore *Lucasiano*, & Societatis Regalis Sodali. Imprimatur. S. Pepys, Reg. Soc. Praeses. *Julii* 5, 1686. Londini, Jussu *Societatis Regiae* ac Typis Josephi Streater. Prostat apud plures Bibliopolas. Anno MDCLXXXVII.

4to. [i-viii], 1-383, 400-510 p. Last leaf Errata. 24 x 15½ cm. First Edition, first issue. Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Honeyman, Jr.

7. ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. *Diplomata et Statuta Regalis Societatis Londini, Pro Scientia Naturali Promovenda*: Jussu Praesidis et Concilii edita. Londini: Typis Gulielmi Bulmer et Socii. MDCCCXIX.

4to. [i-ii], iii-[vi], [1] - 50 p. Bound in: "List of the Royal Society, for the year 1822." 15p. 28 x 22 cm.

8. THE ROYAL SOCIETY. *Tercentenary Celebrations Programme*. President Sir Cyril Hinshelwood, O.M. London, 18—26 July 1960.

40 p. With portraits of H. M. King Charles II, Founder, and H. M. Queen Elizabeth II, Patron; map of London. 25½ x 17 cm.

9. THE ROYAL SOCIETY. *Tercentenary Celebrations. Formal Opening by Her Majesty the Queen, Patron*. The Royal Albert Hall, Tuesday, 19 July 1960.

4 p. 25½ x 17 cm.

Nov. 1, 1960.

J.D.M.