

RANGENG INC.
NEWSLETTER

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NEW YEARS SPECIAL EDITION: THE GREATEST MINDS OF ALL TIME



Articles Throughout Time!

Dear Reader,

Happy New Year! To celebrate, our team has been working tirelessly to bring you a collection of recovered articles from different centuries. And not just any articles, articles surrounding some of the most accomplished scientists and philosophers from the past two centuries! Explore stories like a personal journal entry from Mary Wollstonecraft, and the story of a fateful shoe-throwing.

Young Scholar From The Westminster School Saves William Harvey From Flying Shoe!!

By Penne Nayme (Elise Eng) on July 17, 1650

Famous physician William Harvey was struck in the leg by a shoe during an outing in England this afternoon. He appeared to be chatting with a friend when a butterfly landed on his shin. Then suddenly, a little girl, now identified as Maria Sibylla Merian, threw her shoe at him in an attempt to catch it. Harvey let out a yelp as he clutched his leg and fell to the ground. A light panic flew over the area as the old age of the physician certainly didn't help. After all, what do you do when the doctor himself gets hurt? No one else had his medical expertise, so the situation looked quite bleak for the beloved discoverer. But then, a young man who seemed to be in quite a hurry tripped over Harvey and spilled his classic British iced tea all over his wound. He apologized and took out his handkerchief to clean up the ice and get going. However, Harvey implored him to tie the handkerchief closed with the ice and give it to him. The man obliged, and Harvey explained that thanks to this man and his ice, the wound had been relieved. The crowd was astounded! This young man had just saved William Harvey's life! I simply had to find out who he was and he introduced himself to me as John Locke, a student studying at the Westminster School as one of the King's scholars! I tried to ask him more questions, but he simply replied that his act was no big deal and sped off. Who was this remarkably smart and humble young man? Swooping in and out like some sort of angel, we can be sure that he has more remarkable accomplishments in his future.

Pictured Below: The Ashburnham House of the Westminster School



EXCLUSIVE: A Recovered Journal Entry From Mary Wollstonecraft, Famous Philosopher

The journal of accomplished thinker Mary Wollstonecraft has been found, and it details a strange experience she had with a curious man who we can only assume was John Locke?! I know it sounds crazy, but take a look! -Sue Donim (Elise Eng) on December 18th, 1841

September 3rd, 1791

Dear Diary,

Today I had the most bizarre experience! I was at my desk, working on my book when I saw a flash of light coming from outside. I opened the door to find a seemingly distressed man at my doorstep. So, I invited him into my salon. He asked me what year it was, to which I replied 1791. He seemed surprised, and explained to me that where he was from it was still the 16th century! He said that he was out walking when he came across a strange music box lodged in the ground. It looked like it was adorned with some peculiar gems so he picked it up and opened it. Suddenly, he saw a flash of colorful light and that was the last thing he remembered before appearing outside my door. How odd! He noticed my work on the desk and asked if

I was a fellow philosopher. We began to have a lovely conversation about our ideas. He told me that he believed that all human beings had three natural rights: life, liberty, and property, and that the government should protect these rights.. He also reiterated that if the government fails to do so, the people have the right to overthrow it, it's certainly an intriguing concept! Then I told him about the ideas in my upcoming book, the idea that the current educational system is designed to make women frivolous and incapable. The idea that if boys and girls had the same opportunities, women could be greater mothers and wives, but also workers just as valuable as men. He replied that he agreed that women are not simply property, and that the role of the mother is a vital one, but that this would be a very radical concept where he's from. I replied that while that may be, it is a quite good concept. Just as we were about to continue our discussion, the music box that had seemingly brought him here started to flash. We figured that this must be his way back home, so we said our goodbyes and just like that, he vanished. It was by far my most unusual experience, but overall, an enjoyable conversation. His ideas made an impression on me, and I certainly hope he brings some of my influence with him as well, wherever (or should I say whenever?) he is. P.S. Oh fiddlesticks I just realized I never even got his name!

-Mary Wollstonecraft

William Harvey and Francis Bacon have a Little Quarrel??

By Dorothy Thomas (Gabriella Range) on October, 6th, 1630

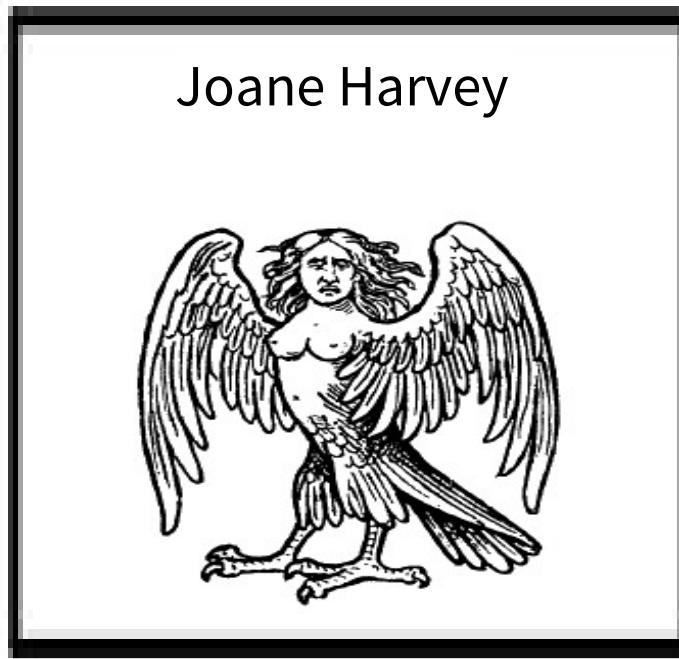
On October 1st, 1629 William Harvey, a young physician to the King, was being interviewed on his recent work *Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus*. When being asked of his work prior to this he seemed to dwell on one specific man. That man was Sir Francis Bacon, an author and philosopher whom he had worked for during his time under the king. The young man had mentioned Bacon's "Insane theory about the scientific method" going as far as to say he should not be a philosopher. Now tension has been rising between the two as a recent letter from Bacon was leaked. The letter goes as follows,

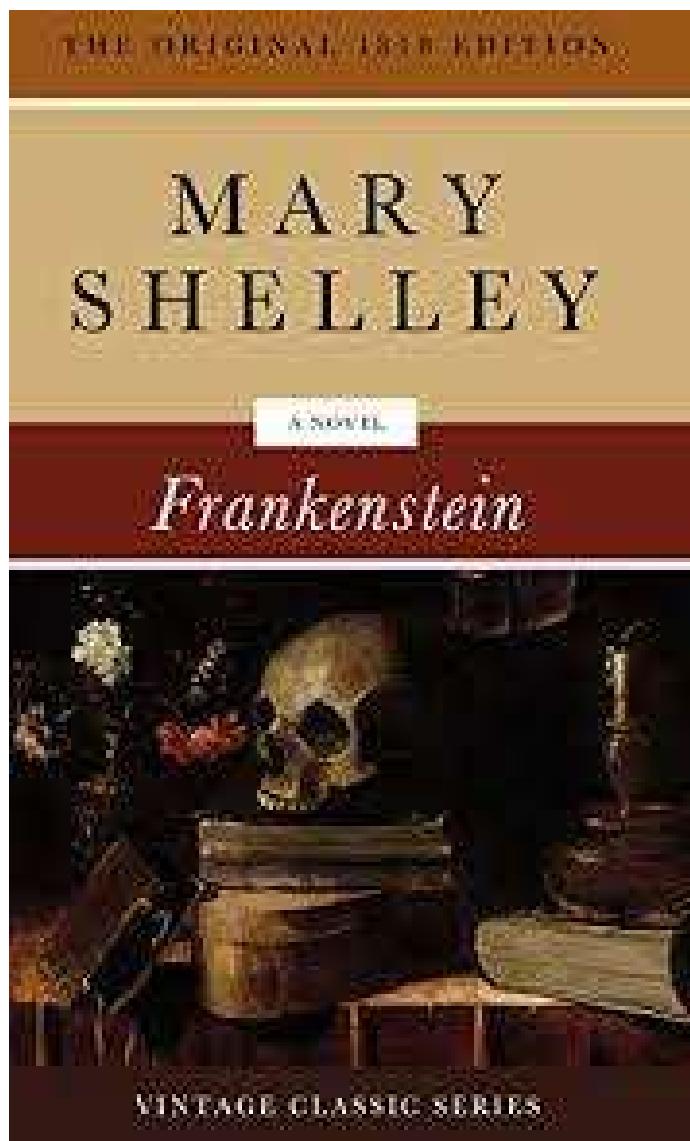
Dear William,

I understand that you have some resentment for my success and that makes you want to say hateful things. Not everyone has the strength to be a successful writer, emphasis on successful. I didn't appreciate the way you spoke about me while promoting your dirty work. You are just a mealy-mouthed, hair-brained, dolt who needs to shut one's gob. P.S. Your mother is a harpy.

Writing with intense derision Bacon has expressed his feelings about William. Harvey has yet to respond however I can't imagine what he must feel to be insulted in such a way. If he truly wanted to protect his honor, he would shut down Bacon once and for all.

The following message below was sponsored by the Francis Bacon Gang.





*Enjoy your new years with
a classic book!!*

MUST SEE: Recovered Article about Maria Sibylla Merian and her Strange Encounter with William Harvey

June, 27, 1680 by Elizabeth Colwick (Gabriella Range)

Maria had told me an interesting story during one of our interviews about her recent work. It's a strange instance and, considering what she does, it doesn't seem like a coincidence. *It was July, 17, 1556 and Maria Sibylla Merian was following her normal routine in her house when she was randomly approached by her mother who handed her an old newspaper. In this newspaper there was a headline that said "Young Scholar From The Westminster School Saves William Harvey From Flying Shoe!!". At first Maria was confused but after reading the article she realized that she was the young child in the article who had almost killed William Harvey. This day being the anniversary of this incident William had invited Maria and her mother over to chat. Maria, being nine, had no real choice in the matter but went because her mother wanted to. William was a famous man who had many great works on his discovery of blood circulation. So obviously it was exciting to receive this invitation. When meeting up with Harvey in his home Maria started to get a strange feeling that what he was about to say would be important. William Harvey had told Maria about Francis Bacon, the man who he had a public controversy with, the man who called his mother a harpy, and also the man who inspired his work. He explained how wrong he was about Bacon's scientific method. Before Maria left with this knowledge she spotted a small pouch shaped thing hanging from the windowsill. From it a butterfly emerged, strange.*

A Base to Build On

December 3, 1841 by Agnes Fairfield (Gabriella Range)

From the beginning of time people have been trying to explain things in any way possible. Pre-1500s most scholars formed their ideas about the world around them from ancient Greek or Roman texts. The bible was also often used to explain things. However during the 1500's people started to doubt religion and use their own mind to figure things out. These new ideas created a secular look on life and has drastically changed the world. Although new ideas may be short term, they allow others to build on them creating new systems and radical thoughts. Mary Wollstonecraft's works, for example, are still used today in the feminist movement. The people of the enlightenment and scientific revolution are truly just the base of improving ideas.

Mary Wollstonecraft was a passionate advocate for social and educational equality for women in the 1700's. Her most famous work was *A Vindication of the rights of women*. Even though it didn't gain much traction when it first came out it has been an important part of the current feminist movement. Mary believed that women deserved the same right to education as men did and she fought to change the national education system. Mary stood out due to the boldness of her claims that changing the education system would benefit the entire world greatly. With the rise in interest in the feminist movement Mary's work is finally being recognized and used to build up the ideas of equality. However, her ideas are not the only ones being built upon.

Francis Bacon, an important figure in scientific methodology during the 15-1600's, is commonly referred to as "The father of the scientific method." Bacon's scientific method involved gathering data, prudently analyzing it and performing experiments to observe nature's truths in an organized way. Bacon believed that it takes experiments and proof to truly believe something. In the years after Bacon's death his theories began to have a major influence on the evolving field of 17th century European science. His idea is also being built upon, not only by other scientists, but by schools too. Our children learn this scientific method and learn how to use it long into the future. Scientists use this idea to create new inventions and better our society.

Similarly, the discovery of circulation has helped better our society. The man who discovered this was William Harvey, an English physician during the 15-1600's. William had worked for the royal family, and, during his time, he did experiments on animals and discovered the circulatory system. He showed that arteries and veins form a complete circuit, and the circuit starts at the heart and leads back to the heart. William's main work was *Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus* that was published in 1628. William's discovery of blood circulation, no matter how inaccurate, allowed other scientists to have something to go off of and now we know how the circulation of blood works. Imagine how surgery would go without the knowledge of blood. William's work and mistakes has allowed current scientists to expand on what we know.

John Locke was considered a key member of the board of trade along with making many political changes during the 16-1700's. John Locke is mainly known for his belief that people have natural rights to life, liberty, and property. John had mentioned how a government's job is to protect these rights and, if they can not, the civilians have the right to overthrow it. One of John's most popular works was "An Essay Concerning Human Understanding", it spanned four books and examined the nature of human knowledge. John's work hasn't impacted just one thing however it impacted an entire system. Locke's ideas about the separation of the Church and the State, religious freedom, and liberty influenced the likes of French Enlightenment writer Voltaire, and the thoughts of founders of America like Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson.

Maria Sybilla Merian was among the first naturalists during the 16-1700's to have studied insects and her discoveries on insect's life cycles are very impressive. The work that got Maria noticed was *Der Raupen wunderbare Verwandlung und sonderbare Blumennahrung* or *The Caterpillar, Marvelous Transformation and Strange Floral Food*, this collection centered around the life cycle of the butterfly/metamorphosis. We all know the story of a caterpillar blooming into a butterfly, right? Well, it's Maria's work that allows us to have that information. Merian illustrated and recorded the life cycles of 186 different insects and these works contradicted what people thought at the time. Today we all know the life cycle of butterflies along with other insects due to the extensive research done by Maria.

All of these examples of important people from the enlightenment and scientific revolution have created a base for an idea, whether that be discovering an important function or just writing about something they were passionate about. These simple base ideas have grown continually and have encouraged newer and greater ideas. The simple act of saying what you think can be enough to show others how to go about this topic. Even when the initial idea is wrong it helps us because it shows us how to not go about. New ideas are a base for other people to build and in the end, we will have a movement that improves society.

The Building Blocks of Intelligence: Reflecting on Society's Greatest Minds

By Anne Onamus (Elise Eng) on December 5th, 1841

In the past couple of centuries, the world has experienced a drastic molding from new ideas and discoveries from great thinkers such as: Francis Bacon, William Harvey, Maria Sibylla Merian, John Locke, and Mary Wollstonecraft. Their crucial work has brought forth the foundation upon which we have started to better ourselves.

Francis Bacon, former Lord Chancellor of England, was a great philosopher of science. He wanted to make a new outline for science that focused on empirical scientific methods. This meant methods that depended on tangible proof. Bacon's new scientific method involved gathering data, analyzing it and performing experiments to observe nature's truths in an organized way. In 1620, Bacon had released Book One of *Novum Organum Scientiarum* (latin for new Method) This is the same scientific method we still use today! Bacon believed that observations and analysis were vital factors in producing a greater comprehension used to achieve a further understanding of the world. And I agree with him! In science you need to have a standard, something that can make different experiments comparable, and Bacon did just

that! Without him, science would be as reliable as it is today. In fact, I predict that in the distant future, the year 2021 perhaps, this will still be the scientific method they teach in schools.

William Harvey also made similar progressions in the medical field as a physician; he was the first man to reveal a comprehensive understanding of the vascular system. He discovered that blood flows rapidly around the human body as it is pumped through a single system of arteries and veins. This was a very influential discovery as people used to think that there were two separate blood systems in the body. Harvey's most renowned work *Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus* was published in 1628. It detailed how arteries and veins formed a complete circuit. This circuit starts at the heart and leads back to the heart, and the contractions of the heart propel blood flow around the whole body. This understanding is what allows us to research what to do if these organs are damaged, how to operate on them. And researching how to heal these organs can allow us to potentially save many lives going forward.

Maria Sibylla Merian is responsible for creating engravings and illustrations capturing the life cycle of a butterfly and the process of metamorphosis. In 1677, she published her second collection of engravings, titled *Der Raupen wunderbare Verwandlung und sonderbare Blumennahrung* or The Caterpillar, Marvelous Transformation and Strange Floral Food. This collection centered around the life cycle of the butterfly/metamorphosis. Her work on metamorphosis contradicted how people originally thought insects developed and opened up new, more accurate ideas. So in 1679, after the work was published, the scientific community began to take notice of Merian and she was considered an accomplished artist. Later between the years of 1701 and 1705, Merian made 60 copperplate engravings showing the different stages of insect development, these engravings also included wildflowers from Surinam; in 1705, the illustrated book was published, titled *Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinamensium*. This book was the first ever work on the natural history of Surinam! Merian was among the first naturalists to have studied insects, and she illustrated and recorded the life cycles of 186 different insects! It was also very progressive for her to be a woman in science at the time.

John Locke's ideas helped lead to a more secular outlook in the UK. Working for Lord Ashley caused Locke to be influenced by the ideas of the Whig party. He is most well-known for believing in the three natural rights of man: Life, Liberty, and Property. He believed that the government should protect these rights, and if they didn't the people had the right to overthrow them. Two treatises of government conveyed Locke's ideas concerning the rights of man and the social contract. These ideas caused stirs in England, and also influenced the foundation of the American and French revolutions. Because of these stirs, however, Locke was exiled in Holland, and in his time there he wrote "An Essay Concerning Human Understanding". The essay was published when Locke returned to England in 1688 along with "A Letter Concerning Toleration", "The Reasonableness of Christianity", and "Some Thoughts Concerning Education".

Because of the Glorious Revolution in the same year, Locke was a hero to the Whig party. Locke's ideas about the separation of the Church and the State, religious freedom, and liberty influenced the likes of the great French writer Voltaire, and the American founders such as Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson.

Mary Wollstonecraft was an English Writer who very passionately advocated for social and educational equality for women. She published her most famous work, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* in 1792. She also wrote *Maria, or the Wrongs of Woman*. It stated that women had strong sexual desires, and that pretending otherwise was immoral and degrading. Her books are now considered classic acts of feminism; they argue that the educational system was purposefully training women to be frivolous and incapable. She believed that providing the opportunities that men have to women would not only make them superior mothers and wives, but also skillful workers. While it's true that other feminists tried to make the same argument, Wollstonecraft's work stood out because her ideas concerned changing something at as large of a scale as the national educational system to better all of society. In fact, today members of the incipient American and European women's movements are said to be rekindling some of Wollstonecraft's principles.

The ideas of these thinkers changed society positively as they are sustainable on their own but also allow others to build on them. Locke's ideas influenced Voltaire, Hamilton, and Jefferson. And Wollstonecraft's work is influencing women right now! These five thinkers are still contributing to the advancement of society by spurring the minds of those who read their work. Bacon, Harvey, Merian, Locke, and Wollstonecraft are truly the building blocks of all scientific and philosophical achievements today.

BREAKING NEWS: It's a Bibliography!!

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