Further Reading: Michael Faraday

General reading


Alan E. Jeffreys, Michael Faraday: A List of His Lectures and Published Writings, (London, 1960).

Published books by Faraday, mainly collections of papers and lecture notes, some published after his death:

Chemical Manipulation, Being Instructions to Students in Chemistry. (1827).

Experimental Researches in Electricity, Vol I, II & III (1837, 1844, 1855)

Experimental Researches in Chemistry and Physics (1859).

W. Crookes. ed. A Course of six lectures on the Various Forces of Matter (1860)

W. Crookes. ed. A Course of six lectures on the Chemical History of a Candle, (1861)


The liquefaction of gases (1896.)

Published texts by Faraday


The complete correspondence of Michael Faraday is currently being compiled. Five volumes have been published with the sixth in progress. Frank A.J.L. James, The Correspondence of Michael Faraday, (London, 1991-2008).

In-depth reading:


Henry Bence Jones, Life and Letters of Faraday, 1st and 2nd editions, 2 volumes, London, 1870


David Gooding, ‘Experiment and concept formation in electromagnetic science and technology in England in the 1820s’, *History and Technology*, 1985, 2: 151-176,


Frank A.J.L. James, “the civil-engineer’s talent”: Michael Faraday, science, engineering and the English lighthouse service, 1836-1865’, *Transactions of the Newcomen Society*, 1999: 70: 153-60


José Romo and Manuel G. Doncel, ‘Faraday’s initial mistake concerning the direction of induced currents, and the manuscript of Series I of his Researches’, Archive for the History of the Exact Sciences, 1994, 47: 291-385.


Ryan Tweney, ‘Toward a Cognitive-Historical Understanding of Michael Faraday’s Research: Editor’s Introduction’, Perspectives on Science 2006, 14: 1-6,

Ryan Tweney, ‘Stopping Time: Faraday and the scientific creation of perceptual order’, Physis, 1992, 29: 149-164,


Michael Faraday FRS (/ˈfærədeɪ, -di/; 22 September 1791 – 25 August 1867) was an English scientist who contributed to the study of electromagnetism and electrochemistry. His main discoveries include the principles underlying electromagnetic induction, diamagnetism and electrolysis. Although Faraday received little formal education, he was one of the most influential scientists in history. It was by his research on the magnetic field around a conductor carrying a direct current that Faraday established Michael Faraday was one of the most important scientific minds of human history, discovering various electromagnetic and chemical principles. Without the work of Michael Faraday, we wouldn't have Teslas or nearly any modern mechanical thing for that matter. Faraday's work and invention in the realm of electricity changed the world forever. Faraday is the inventor of electrolysis, balloons, electric motors, generators, dynamos, and more. Further Reading: Michael Faraday General reading Geoffrey Cantor, Michael Faraday: Sandemanian and Scientist. A Study of Science and Religion in the Nineteenth Century, (London, 1991). David Gooding, Experiment and the Making of Meaning: Human Agency in Scientific Observation and Experiment, (Dordrecht, 1991). David Gooding and Frank A.J.L. James (eds.), Faraday Rediscovered: Essays on the Life and Work of Michael Faraday, 1791–1867, (London, 1985). Frank A.J.L. James (ed.), The Common Purposes of Life: Science and society at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, (Aldershot, 2002). Frank A