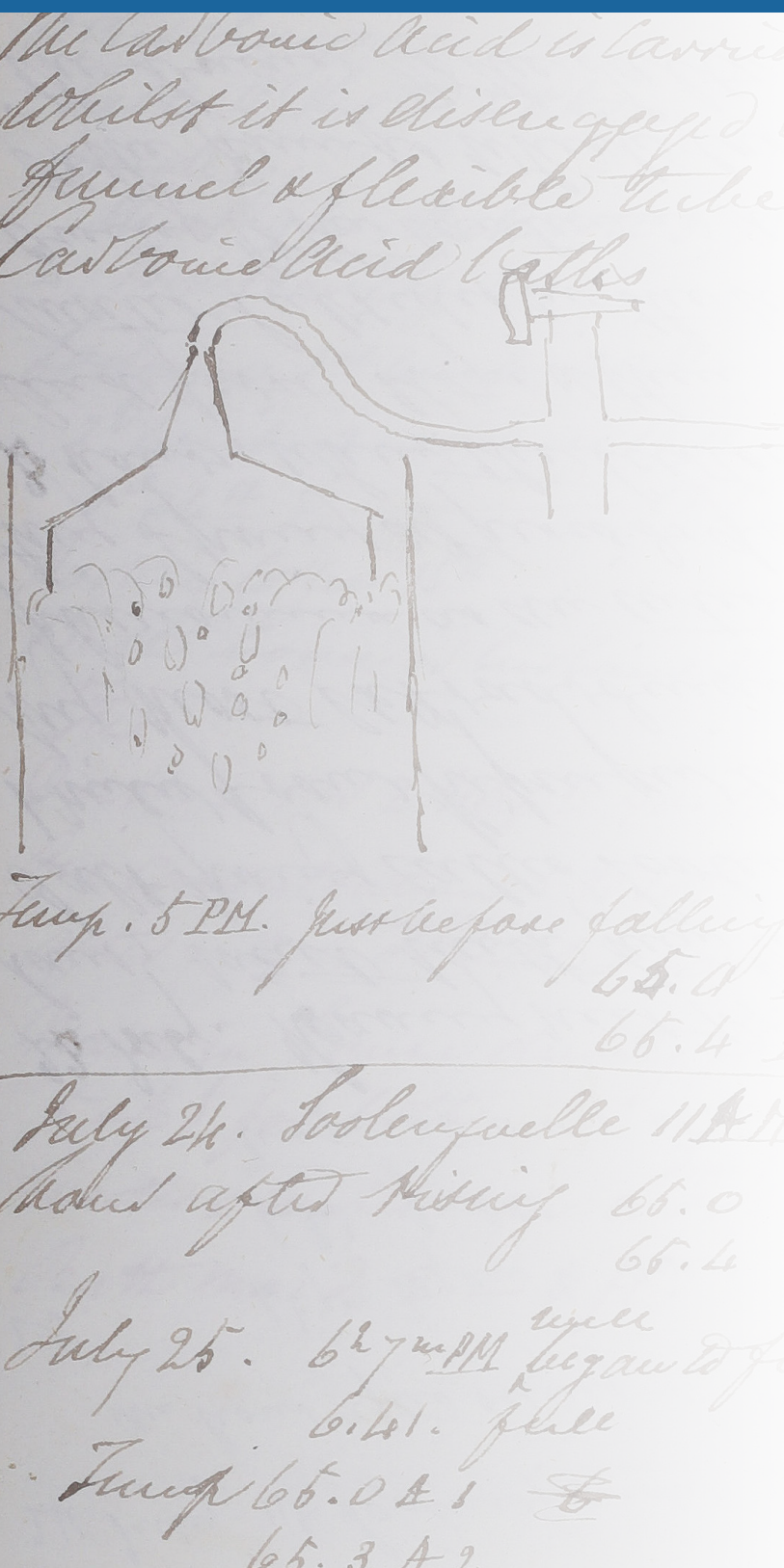


Collections within the British Association for the Advancement of Science archive

The British Association for the Advancement of Science (BAAS) was founded in 1831 with the aim to transform science into a government-funded profession. This archive connects the works, thoughts and interactions of the most influential scientists of the time and documents the history of British science from the 1830s through the 1970s across disciplines and universities.

The digitized collections within this archive contain materials and data sets which are especially valuable to researchers studying the history of science, environmental studies, world history, politics, and the history of empire and colonialism.



Learn more about the collections:

LOCKYER PAPERS

This collection includes the personal correspondence and research papers of Sir Norman Lockyer (1836-1920), leading astronomer and scientist of the time who was credited with discovering the gas helium. Lockyer was President of the BAAS, and member of committees including Science Education and Lunar Cartography. The 1903 'Marconi telegram' is included, which notified Lockyer of the first Atlantic transmission using ether waves.

ARCHIVE OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

The collection of the BAAS covers all aspects of its work over 150 years of its existence, with the records of the annual meetings predominating. Researchers can examine the administrative history and inner workings of a major multi-institution and multi-disciplinary organization and its relationship to the advancement of science during the height of the British Empire.

PAPERS OF WILLIAM THOMSON, LORD KELVIN

This collection, provided by the University of Glasgow, contains the papers of William Thomson, Lord Kelvin (1824-1907), who is widely viewed as a father of modern physics. The collection contains Kelvin's work on mathematical analysis of electricity and formulation of the first and second laws of thermodynamics. Also included are five letter books of correspondence with leading physicists of the time, along with photographs and press cuttings.

MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

Provided by the University of Leicester, the Mathematical Association Library and Archives collection contains 200 years of maths exercise books, the largest collection of its kind. This collection provides a valuable perspective on the history of mathematics and education. The materials show how math was taught over the years, and how the subject changed and developed over time.

SIR OLIVER LODGE PAPERS

This collection, provided by the University of Liverpool, contains 30 of Sir Oliver Lodge's research notebooks, loose notes, lectures, printed material, and letters from notable correspondents. Lodge (1851-1940) was the first professor of physics at the University of Liverpool and a key public figure in the popularization of science. He is known for his research on electrical waves and the foundation of wireless technology, and early development of radio technology.

THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH HISTORICAL COLLECTION

Provided by Kings College London, this collection features key materials relating to Science and the British Empire. This collection contains rich content relating to colonial territories all over the world, including reports on the agriculture, botany, resources, animals, environment, geography and geology of territories. Researchers who use this collection gain a rare insight into the administrative workings of an empire and its lasting impact on those countries.

RAMSAY PAPERS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Provided by University College London, this collection contains notebooks and correspondence from the Nobel prize winning William Ramsay (1852-1916). Ramsay was a notable chemist who is most known for discovering the elements argon, helium, krypton, neon, and xenon. This collection also features Ramsay's research on atmospheric gases and radioactivity.

NATURAL RESOURCES INSTITUTE ARCHIVE

The collection from the Natural Resources Institute archive contains a wealth of materials relating to natural resources exploitation and conservation from around the world. This includes reports on resource management, agricultural practices, pest management strategies, forestry management, pollution control, and conservation efforts from around the world.

PAPERS OF JAMES DAVID FORBES

James David Forbes (1809-1868) was a renowned physicist and glaciologist who researched the conduction of heat and seismology. This large collection contains Forbes' professional and personal papers along with correspondence with well-known scientists of the 19th century.

BAAS ANNUAL REPORTS AND MONOGRAPHS

This collection contains over 100 years of annual reports giving concise summaries of scientific achievements over the previous year across all sciences and multiple subdisciplines. This collection gives a unique insight into the history of scientific achievements across disciplines and the how these achievements were perceived as they were happening.

RELATED SUBJECTS

- Agriculture
- Astronomy
- Biology
- Botany
- British History
- Chemistry
- Climate Studies
- Colonial Studies
- Economics
- Engineering
- Environmental Studies
- Government
- Gentrification
- History of Science
- Industrial Design
- International relations
- Mathematics
- Meteorology
- Medicine
- Philosophy of Science
- Physics
- Public Health
- Politics
- Professionalizing Science
- Science and Policy
- Social studies
- Technology
- Theology

TYPES OF MATERIALS

- Administrative records
- Correspondence
- Diagrams
- Data sets
- Exercise books
- Fieldwork
- Gray Literature
- Illustrations
- Lab notebooks
- Manuscripts
- Maps
- Pamphlets
- Personal Papers
- Photographs
- Press clippings
- Prototypes
- Sketches

