

New books on physics and related sciences

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M V Lomonosov and His Time Electronic collection [Portal of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), <http://www.ras.ru/lomonosov/about.aspx>]

The collection is devoted to the 300th anniversary of the birth of M V Lomonosov. It was compiled within the dedicated program Information Support of the Activities of the RAS and Interaction with the Media (coordinated by RAS Corresponding Member A G Tolstikov) in the framework of the project Preparation of Informational Materials on Science Heritage and the History of the Russian Academy of Sciences for Posting on the RAS Portal. Correspondingly, the web portal received a series of publications on several topics that reflect the history of science and of the Academy of Sciences; the portal has also offered to the general public, in electronic format, open access to the documentary treasures from various academic archives. It was the collective work of a number of academic institutions, headed and coordinated by the RAS Archive [head of the project of preparing the electronic collection — RAS Archive Director V Yu Afiani, PhD (history); coordinator — RAS Archive Deputy Director I N Il'ina, PhD (history)].

Shubinsky V Lomonosov: An All-Russian Personality (Biographical Series 'Lives of Illustrious People', Issue 1263) (Moscow: Molodaya Gvardiya Publ., 2010) 471 pp. ISBN 978-5-235-03323-8.

The first in the post-Soviet era biography of the polymath scientist and poet, one of the founders of the Russian culture of modern times. The author aimed to reconstruct, without idealization or omissions and using the materials from historical research, the memoirs of contemporaries, and archive documents, the brilliant, powerful personality of M V Lomonosov in its contradictory, often paradoxical context of 18th-century Russia. Despite the enormously rich variability of Lomonosov's occupations — he created the new Russian literary language and the classical system of poetic versification, worked in chemistry, optics, and oceanography, studied atmospheric electricity, was a historian, astronomer, and administrator, and even took part in political intrigue — all his activities focused on modernization of the country; this passion was the heritage of the epoch of Peter the Great. Passionate, hot-tempered, hasty in all his undertakings, incredibly full of energy, a workaholic, at times an intolerant and morbid hypochondriac, Lomonosov was full of charm, both in his greatness and in his weaknesses. (Izdatel'stvo Molodaya Gvardiya: 127994 Moscow, Sushchevskaya ul. 21; tel. +7 (495) 787-95-59; e-mail: info@gvardiya.ru; URL: <http://gvardiya.ru/>)

Mikhail Vasil'evich Lomonosov: Correspondence 1737–1765 (Lomonosov 300 Series, compiled by G G Martynov) (Moscow: Lomonosov Publ., 2011) 512 pp. ISBN 978-5-91678-030-7.

This publication offers to the public the complete code of correspondence conducted by the outstanding Russian natural scientist M V Lomonosov — 161 documents from the years 1737–1765 in Russian, Latin, German, and French. Some of these letters are published for the first time; the publisher had the translations from foreign languages checked and made more precise. The comments give details of the events that triggered the flow of letters between Lomonosov and his correspondents, among whom we find the greatest mathematician of the 18th century, Leonhard Euler; State Chancellor Mikhail Vorontsov; the all-powerful minion of Empress Elizaveta Petrovna (Elizabeth I, the daughter of Peter the Great) Court Ivan Shuvalov — a sponsor who patronized Lomonosov for many years; historian Vasily Tatishchev, and many others. The correspondence of the first Russian scientist of world renown is of great scientific, historic and cultural importance. It is indispensable for studying the history of science and life of Russian and European societies in the 18th century. (Izdatel'stvo Lomonosov, LLC: 119034 Moscow, Malyi Levshinskii per. 3; tel. +7 (495) 637-43-19; e-mail: info@lomonosov-books.ru; URL: <http://www.lomonosov-books.ru/>)

Mikhail Lomonosov Through the Eyes of His Contemporaries (Lomonosov 300 Series, compiled by G G Martynov) (Moscow: Lomonosov Publ., 2011) 540 pp. ISBN 978-5-91678-090-1.

This publication includes 109 of the most impressive uncensored testimonials, without omissions, of the contemporaries of the first world-class Russian scientist, Mikhail Vasil'evich Lomonosov, which speak about his life and creative activities. Chronologically, the documents are limited to the 18th century — the earliest memoirs and reminiscences about the personality and scientific studies of M V Lomonosov; they bring to us, two and a half centuries later, the unbiased opinion of those who worked and lived alongside him for many years. The translations of the documents written in foreign languages are given in re-edited form. Also published for the first time in complete form are descriptions of the area where Lomonosov was born (compiled in the 18th century). The publication of these documents is accompanied by detailed comment of scientific, historical, and literary relevance and a rich bibliography and reference material. The book is intended for science historians, teachers and university lecturers, and students, as well as all those who are interested in learning about the life, ideas, and way of life in the 18th century — so very remote from us now. (Izdatel'stvo Lomonosov, LLC: 119034 Moscow, Malyi Levshinskii per. 3; tel. +7 (495)

637-43-19; e-mail: info@lomonosov-books.ru; URL: <http://www.lomonosov-books.ru/>)

Lomonosov. A Brief Encyclopedic Dictionary (Compiled by E Karpeev) (Moscow: OGI Publ., 2009) 480 pp. ISBN 978-5-94282-575-1.

The new revised and expanded edition of the dictionary is a kind of unconventional ‘guidebook’ around M V Lomonosov’s worlds of science and art. Dictionary entries provide the bulk of essential information about the creative heritage of the outstanding scientist, various spheres of his practical activities, and people surrounding him. (Joint Humanitarian Publishing: 101000 Moscow, Krivokolennyi per. 10, str. 5; tel. +7 (495) 621-98-52; e-mail: info@ogi.ru; URL: <http://www.ogi.ru/>)

Lebedev E Lomonosov (Moscow: OGI Publ., 2008) 752 pp. ISBN 978-5-94282-623-9.

This uniquely detailed, engaging biography of Mikhail Vasil’evich Lomonosov (1711–1765), displaying profound knowledge of historical material, was written by a well-known literary critic and philologist, Evgenii Nikolaevich Lebedev (1941–1997), who was engaged for many years on studying the creative life of the great Russian poet and scientist. The first edition was published in 1990 in the Biographical Series ‘Lives of Illustrious People’ (Moscow: Molodaya Gvardiya). (Joint Humanitarian Publishing: 101000 Moscow, Krivokolennyi per. 10, str. 5; tel. +7 (495) 621-98-52; e-mail: info@ogi.ru; URL: <http://www.ogi.ru/>)

Minaeva O D “To Multiply the Glory of the Fatherland...” Biography of M V Lomonosov (Moscow: Izdatel’svo Moskovskogo universiteta, 2011) 96 pp. ISBN 978-5-211-05935-1.

The book, prepared on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the birth of M V Lomonosov, is laid out as the story of his life. The reconstruction of the main biographical events is accompanied by an analysis of publications about him in the Russian media in the 18th, 19th, and beginning of the 20th centuries. The following aspects are presented in detail: Lomonosov and the creation of Moscow University, Lomonosov and Russian journalism, and Lomonosov and Russian science. The book is intended for a broad range of readers interested in the Russian history. (Published by Moscow State University: 125009 Moscow, ul. Bol’shaya Nikitskaya 5/7; tel. +7 (495) 629-50-91; fax (495) 697-66-71; e-mail: secretary-msu-press@yandex.ru; URL: <http://msu-publishing.ru/>)

Boltacheva S I, Kalinovskaya N E, Karkhanova I A, Lipai E V, Raksha E I, Khrapko-Magala M V Mikhail Vasil’evich Lomonosov: Index of Books and Articles About M V Lomonosov Published in 1991–2011 (Moscow: M V Lomonosov MGU Science Library, Department of Information and Bibliography, 2011). Electronic resource: http://nbmgu.ru/lomonosov/lomonosov_-3_veka.htm

This bibliographic index *Mikhail Vasil’evich Lomonosov*, devoted to the 300th anniversary of the birth of the great Russian scientist, was prepared by the Department of Information and Bibliography of the Science Library at M V Lomonosov Moscow State University. The personnel

of the department collected into a single bibliographic index in electronic form a mass of information about books and articles written in Russian and published primarily in Russia in the period 1991–2011. The index includes monographs, collections of articles, entries from encyclopedias, media publications, and parts of monographs and collections, including forewords and introductions. The section ‘M V Lomonosov and Moscow University’ emphasizes Lomonosov’s exceptional role in the creation of Moscow University.

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