

# Virtual Museum of the History of Mineralogy

Newsletter 2021/2 (December 2021) <http://www.mineralogy.eu>

We hope you are healthy and enjoying the season.

In this newsletter we report on the latest developments of our Virtual Museum in the two sections of books and goniometers.

## Books

In our previous newsletter, we presented the beginning of our ambitious project to provide on the web the first opportunity to access the whole of the extremely rare and beautiful book "Histoire Naturelle", published in 1781 by Jean Fabien Gautier d'Agoty .

In June 2021, we had already published an introduction and background information on this book and announced our intention to represent and compare the plates from several copies. We also decided to add an English translation of the explanations, notes on minerals, their location and the collections from which they came. At this stage the first "decade" was completed and was published on the Virtual Museum site; this initiative aroused the interest and encouragement from several collectors and bibliophiles.

We are pleased and proud to announce through this newsletter that our project is fully completed and that Jean Fabien Gautier d'Agoty's exceptional "Histoire Naturelle" is now available in its entirety and with the supplements we have added. It can be found on our Gautier d'Agoty page <https://mineralogy.eu/archive/GautierDagoty.html>

As indicated earlier, comments, adjustments and additional information are welcome.

## Goniometers

- We recently added a nice contact goniometer in its leather-covered case from the first half of the 19th century. <https://mineralogy.eu/gonio/contact/Pixii-2.html>

This instrument is signed by the famous Parisian scientific instrument maker Nicolas Constant Pixii (1778-1861) successor to the Dumotiez brothers who have been active since about 1780. Another Pixii made contact goniometer (probably from a mineralogical kit including a blowpipe and a Nicholson hydrometer) is also in our museum. <https://mineralogy.eu/gonio/contact/Pixii.html>

- An unsigned simple Wollaston type goniometer from the first half of the 20th century was also recently added to the collection of vertical circle crystallographic goniometers. <https://mineralogy.eu/gonio/vertical/unsigned07.html>

We wish you all happy holidays

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