

Virtual Museum of the History of Mineralogy (VMHM)

Newsletter 2013/2 (December 2013)

<http://www.mineralogy.eu>

Earlier this year, we included pdf versions of Krantz- and other crystallography catalogs in the VMHM and made them available through the "archive" menu entry on top of every page. About forty scans of old catalogs offering a considerable amount of information on crystal models and related educational crystallographic items are now available for browsing or downloading.

As 2014 will be the [International Year of Crystallography](#) (IYCr2014) this documentation appears at the right moment and may be of interest to curators, science historians and advanced collectors. We are proud that the VMHM is referenced in the section "[learn about crystallography on the web](#)" of the IYCr2014 official site.

catalog archive

Recently we had the opportunity to add another two 19th century catalogs to the archive: the [H. Dauber](#) and the [Droop](#) wooden crystal model catalogs, through the courtesy of respectively Johan Kjellman (Uppsala University, Sweden) and Klaus Thalheim (Senckenberg Naturhistorische Sammlungen, Dresden).

crystal models

A crystallographic set and a very interesting glass model, both from the [Tricottet collection](#), were recently added to our crystal models section:

- a [set of 14 unsigned black bakelite models](#) with white edges dated from the first half of the 20th century
- a complex [19th century glass and wire model](#) (in its original red plush lined mahogany case) from an unknown maker. Inside a glass cube, 9 cubic crystal forms delineated by colored wires are present.

goniometers

In the field of crystallographic instruments, we added three contact goniometers, all of them in their original cases:

- a rare superb [early 19th century contact goniometer](#) hinged at the 90° graduation from R.B. Bate (London). We are not aware of other such instruments produced by this maker.
- an interesting early 20th century [full-circle contact goniometer](#) with detachable limbs ; this instrument is comparable - but not identical in its dimensions - with the previously added Nachet full-circle instrument
- a simple [19th century contact goniometer](#)

books

Among the additions to the book section we wish to mention four interesting works from the 18th and early 19th century, from the collection of [Simone & Peter Huber](#), Austria:

- the von Born's [catalogue méthodique et raisonné de la collection des fossiles de Melle Eléonore de Raab](#) in two volumes (1790)
- the Ferber's [Beschreibung des Quecksilber-Bergwerks zu Idria in Mittel-Cräyn](#) (1774)
- the rare systematic [catalogue prepared by Mohs](#) of the important mineral collection formed by Jakob Friedrich von der Null (1804)
- the rare [Scopoli's descriptive mineralogy](#) (1772)

We are grateful to all our contributors for their kind cooperation and suggestions during this year. All of you are always welcome to contribute to the development of this site by sharing your treasures with others interested in the history of mineralogy and crystallography.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a stimulating "Year of Crystallography" and we hope that you will continue enjoying the Virtual Museum of the History of Mineralogy.

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