

HSTEU 302

# Enlightenment

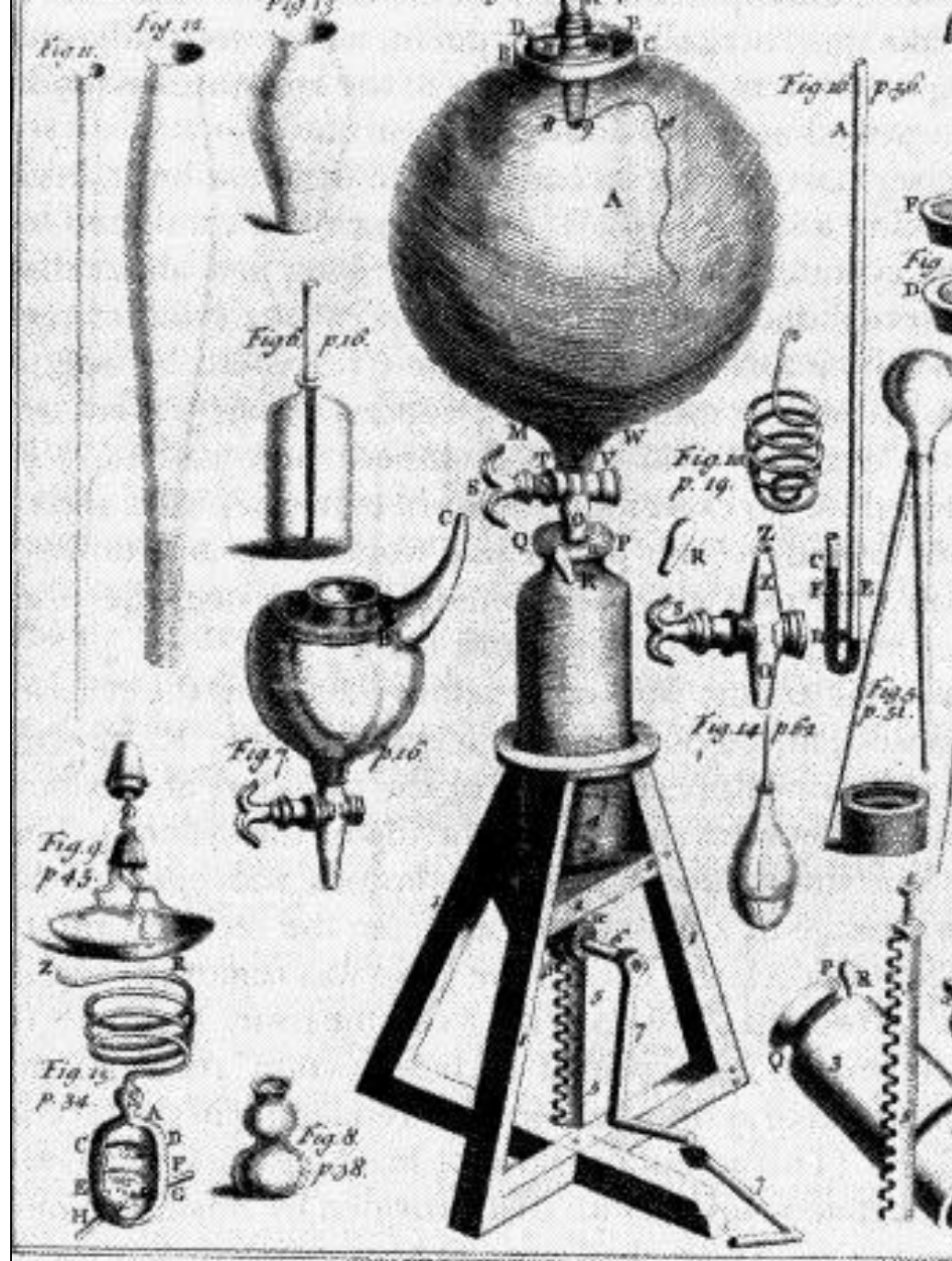


An Experiment on a *Bird in the Air Pump* 1768, England Joseph Wright

Robert Boyle

Air Pump 1658

Ability to create a vacuum



## **18th CENTURY ENLIGHTENMENT –** progressive intellectual & cultural movement

Themes: natural law, reason, optimism,  
progress through applied knowledge  
rejection of tradition, custom, religion, authority

Early Enlightenment:  
extension of search for immutable "natural laws"  
to society and morality;  
rational, universal standards opposed to  
customs and traditions, especially religion

Voltaire

Francois  
Marie  
Arouet

1694-1778



**VOLTAIRE:**

central figure of French Enlightenment;  
anti-clerical and Deist

**DEISM:** philosophical, religious position based on  
Creator or "clockmaker" God

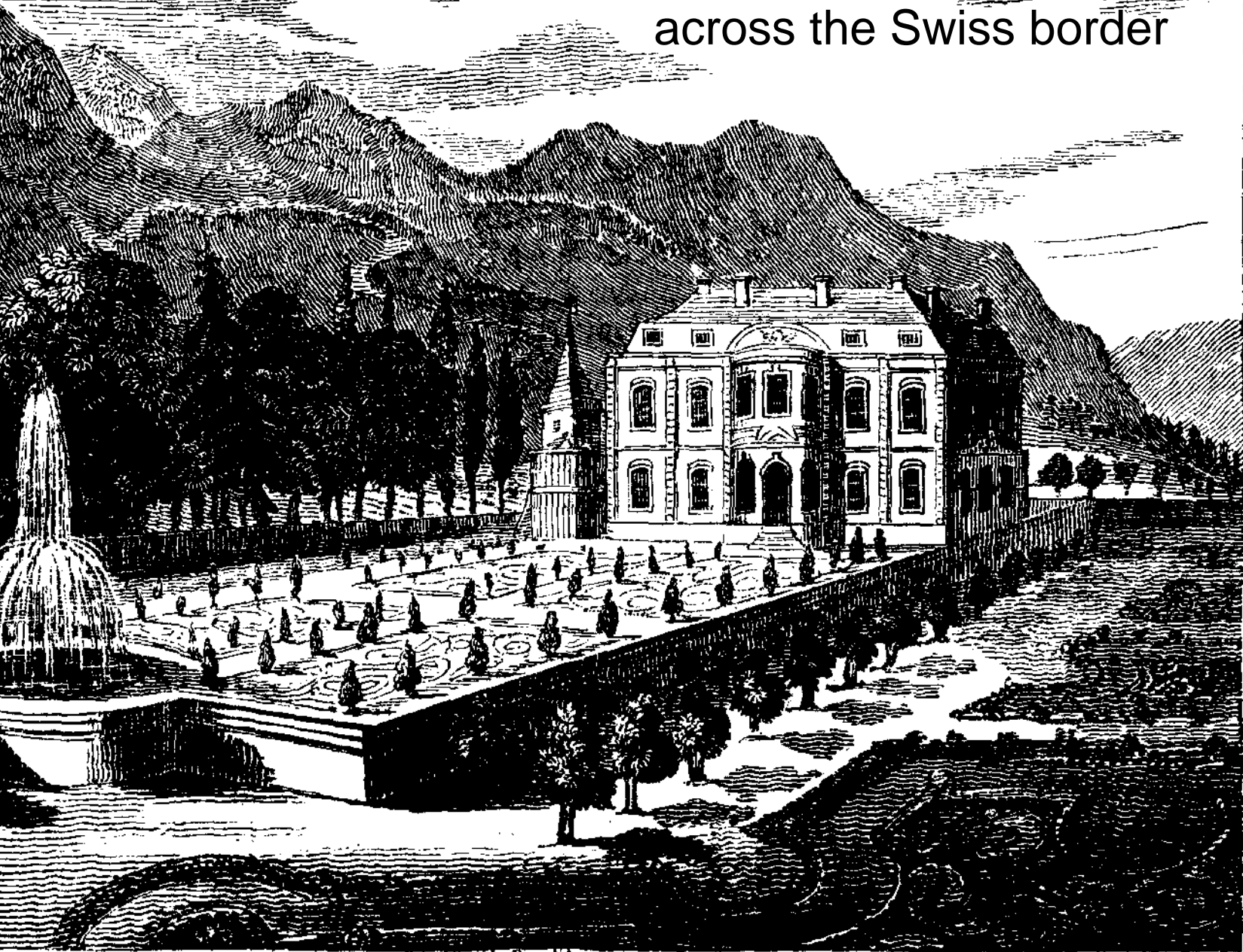
who creates universe, gives it natural laws, but  
does not interfere in his Creation

no miracles, no prayer, no personal devotion;  
abstract concept of God

Voltaire  
At 41



Voltaire's Villa at Ferney  
across the Swiss border







Denis  
Diderot

Editor of

L'Encyclopédie.



## **ENCYCLOPÉDIE:**

intellectual project of French *philosophes*  
to compile all rational useful knowledge  
in one massive, multi-volume compendium;

Diderot, editor: imprisoned by royal censors  
publication in Netherlands

*ENCYCLOPÉDIE,*  
O U  
DICTIONNAIRE RAISONNÉ  
DES SCIENCES,  
DES ARTS ET DES MÉTIERS,  
PAR UNE SOCIÉTÉ DE GENS DE LETTRES.

Mis en ordre & publié par M. *DIDEROT*, de l'Académie Royale des Sciences & des Belles-Lettres de Prusse; & quant à la PARTIE MATHÉMATIQUE, par M. *D'ALEMBERT*, de l'Académie Royale des Sciences de Paris, de celle de Prusse, & de la Société Royale de Londres.

*Tantum series juncturaque pollet,  
Tantum de medio fumptis accedit honoris! HORAT.*

TOME PREMIER.



A PARIS,

Chez { *BRIASSON*, rue Saint Jacques, à la Science.  
*DAVID l'aîné*, rue Saint Jacques, à la Plume d'Or.  
*LE BRETON*, Imprimeur ordinaire du Roy, rue de la Harpe.  
*DURAND*, rue Saint Jacques, à Saint Landry, & au Griffon.

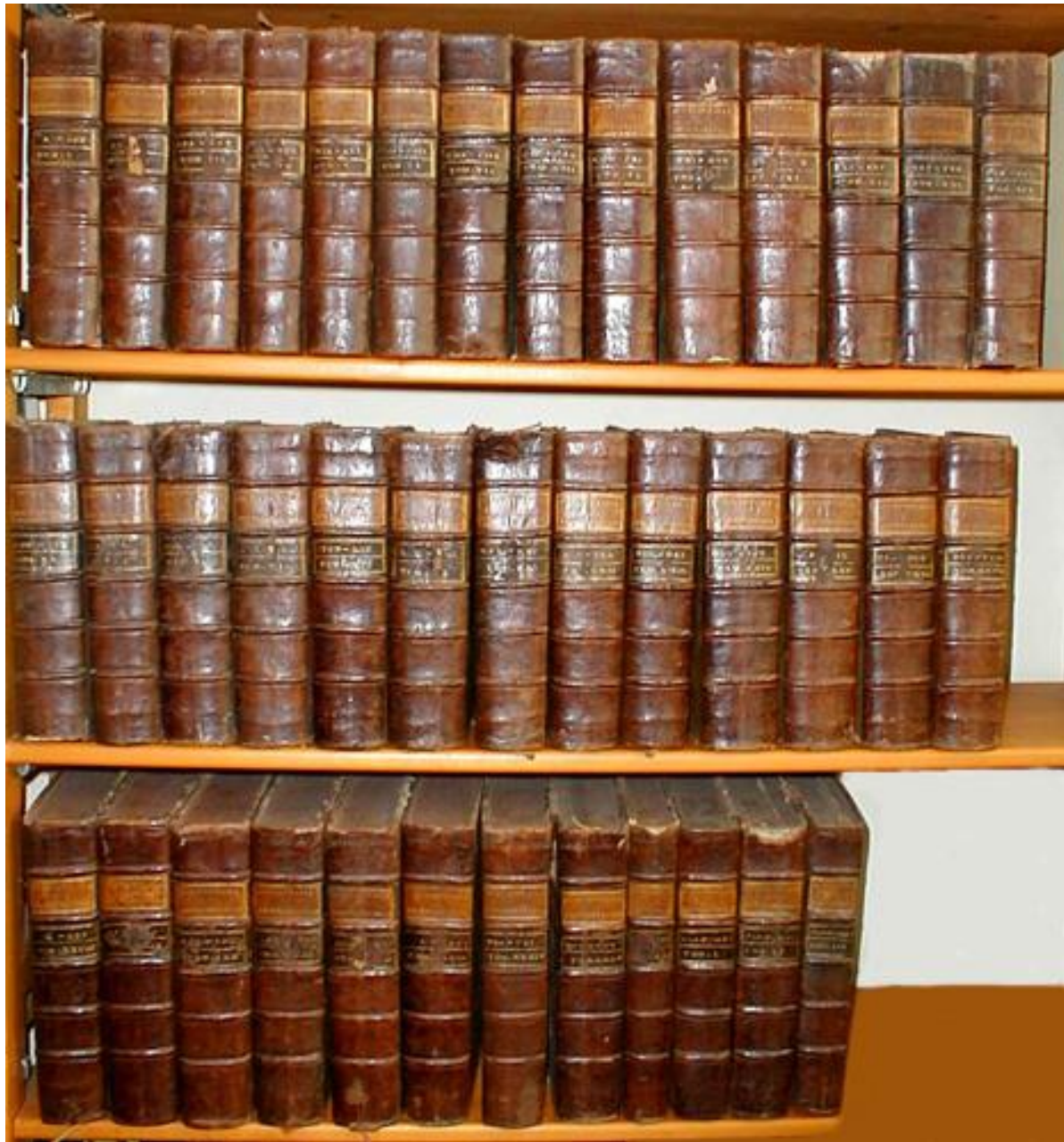
M. DCC. LI.

AVEC APPROBATION ET PRIVILEGE DU ROY.

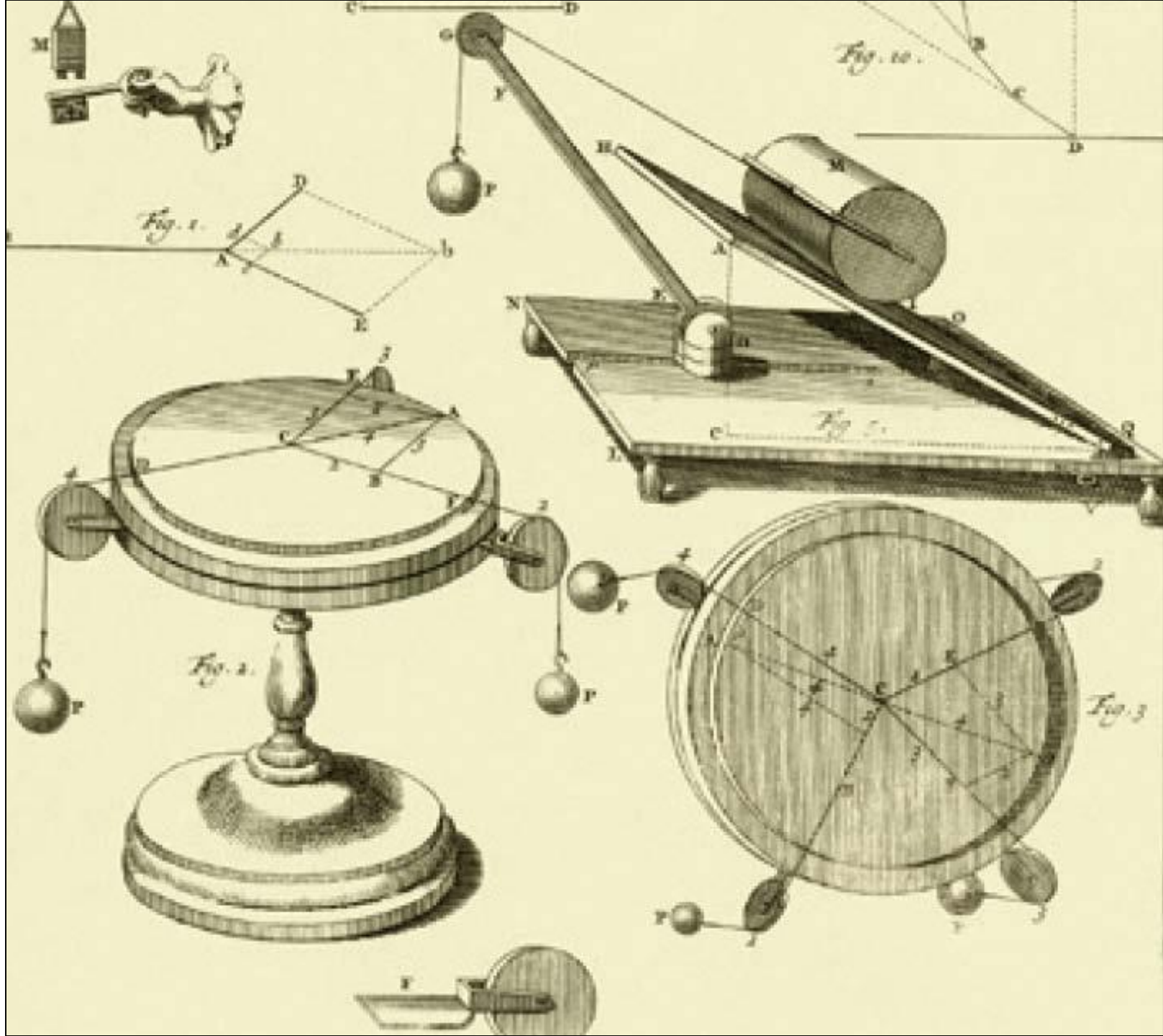
The  
ENCYCLOPEDIA  
or  
A Systematic  
Dictionary of the  
SCIENCES, Arts  
and Professions

By a Society of  
Men of Letters

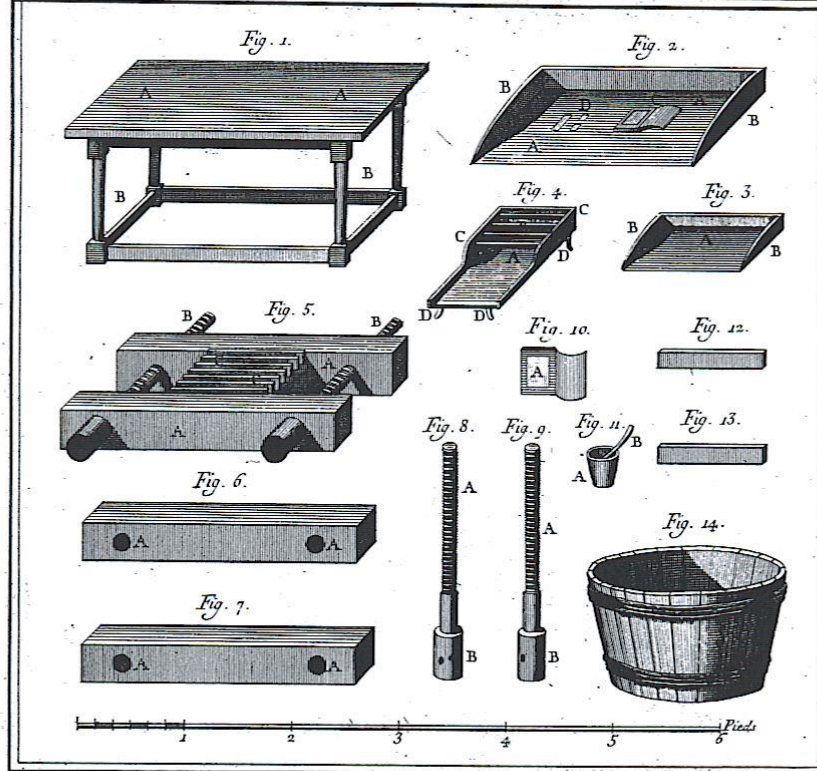
Paris 1751



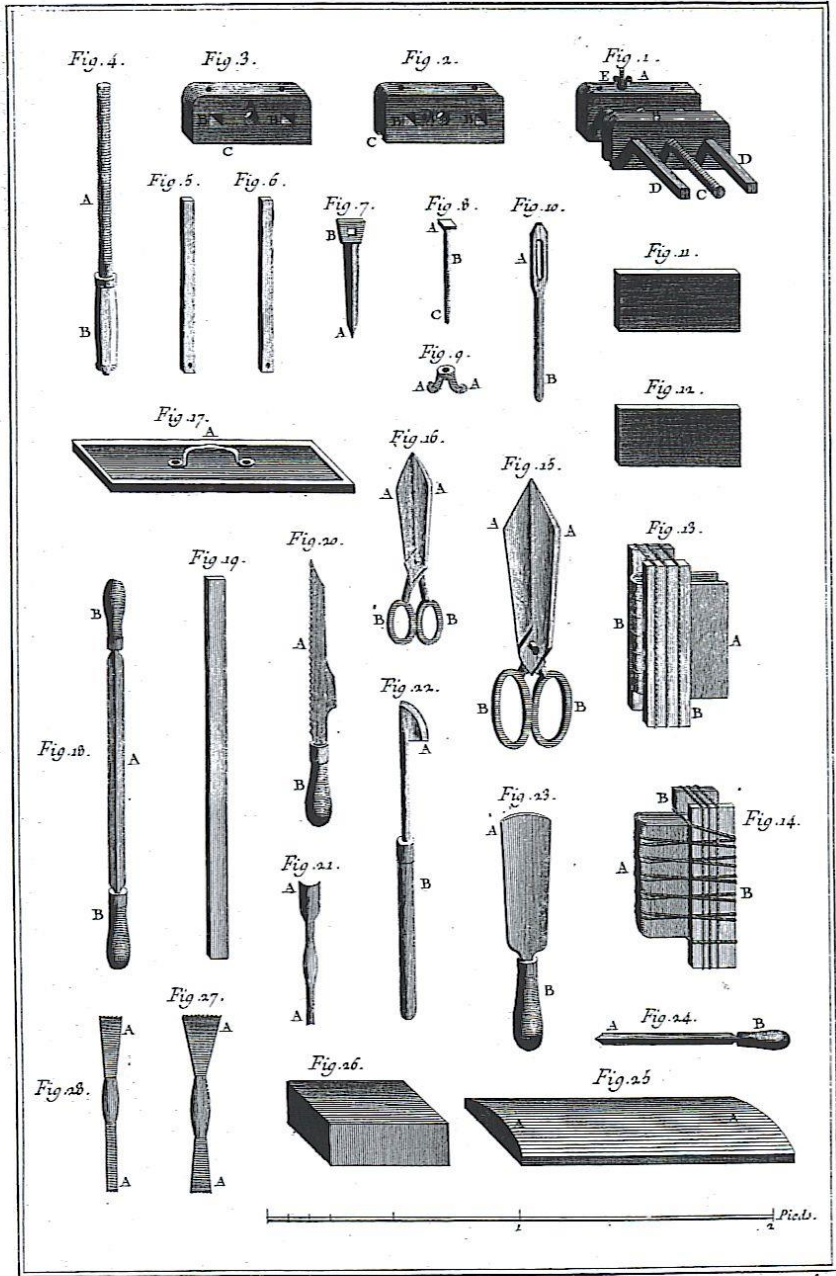
Weights



# Bookbinding



# Bookbinding Tools



Relieur.



1740 Invasion of Silesia

by

Frederick II of Prussia

province taken from  
Hapsburgs Austria-Hungary

beginning of  
War of the Austrian  
Succession 1740-1748

triggered by the accession  
of Maria Theresa, first female  
ruler of Hapsburg dynasty



Voltaire  
in old age



Voltaire at 41





Jean Jacques Rousseau

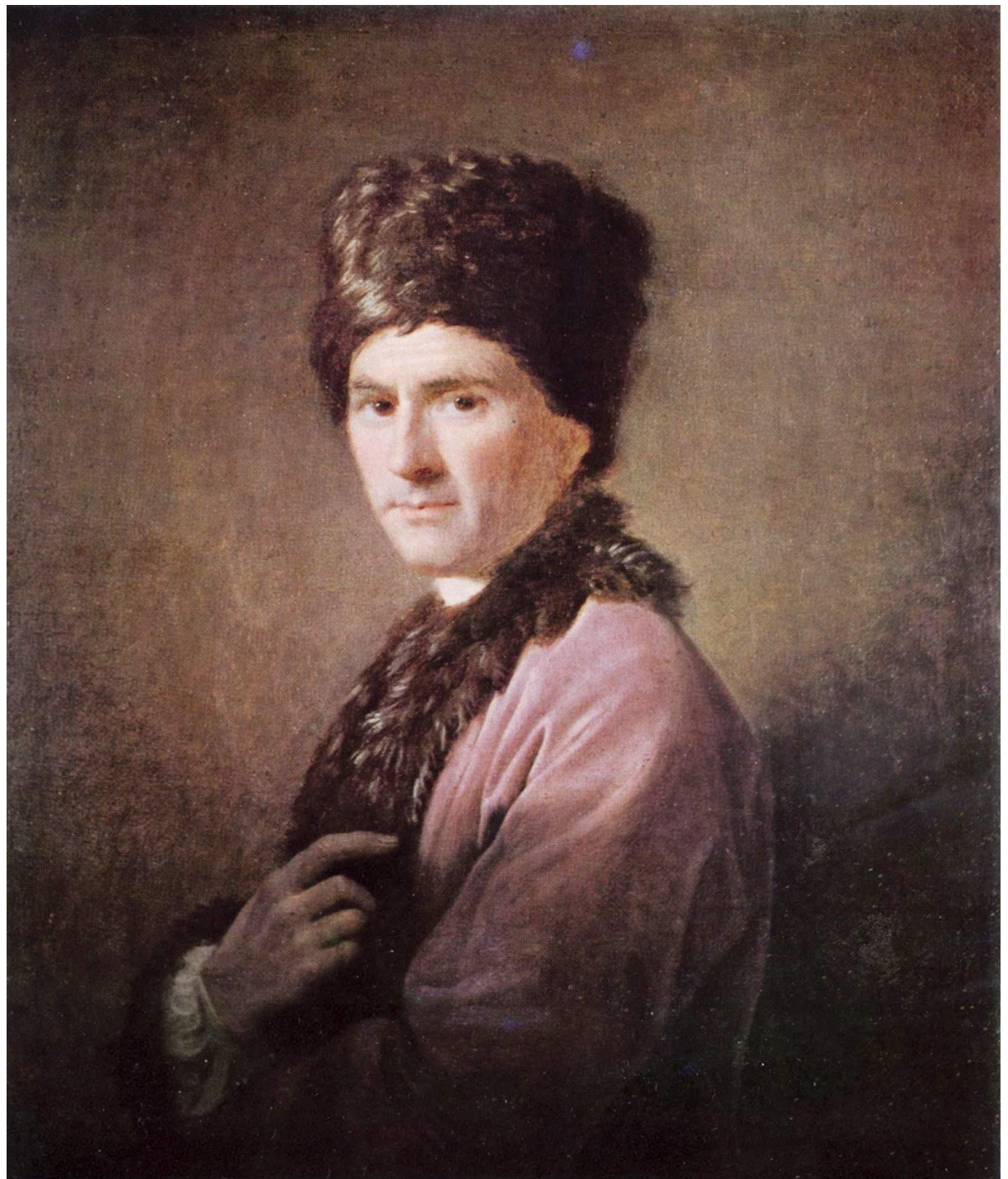
Rousseau in  
Armenian dress

by Scottish painter

Allan Ramsay

while in exile in  
Scotland with  
David Hume

1766



# French salons and women as *salonnières*



Salon des  
Dames 17th C

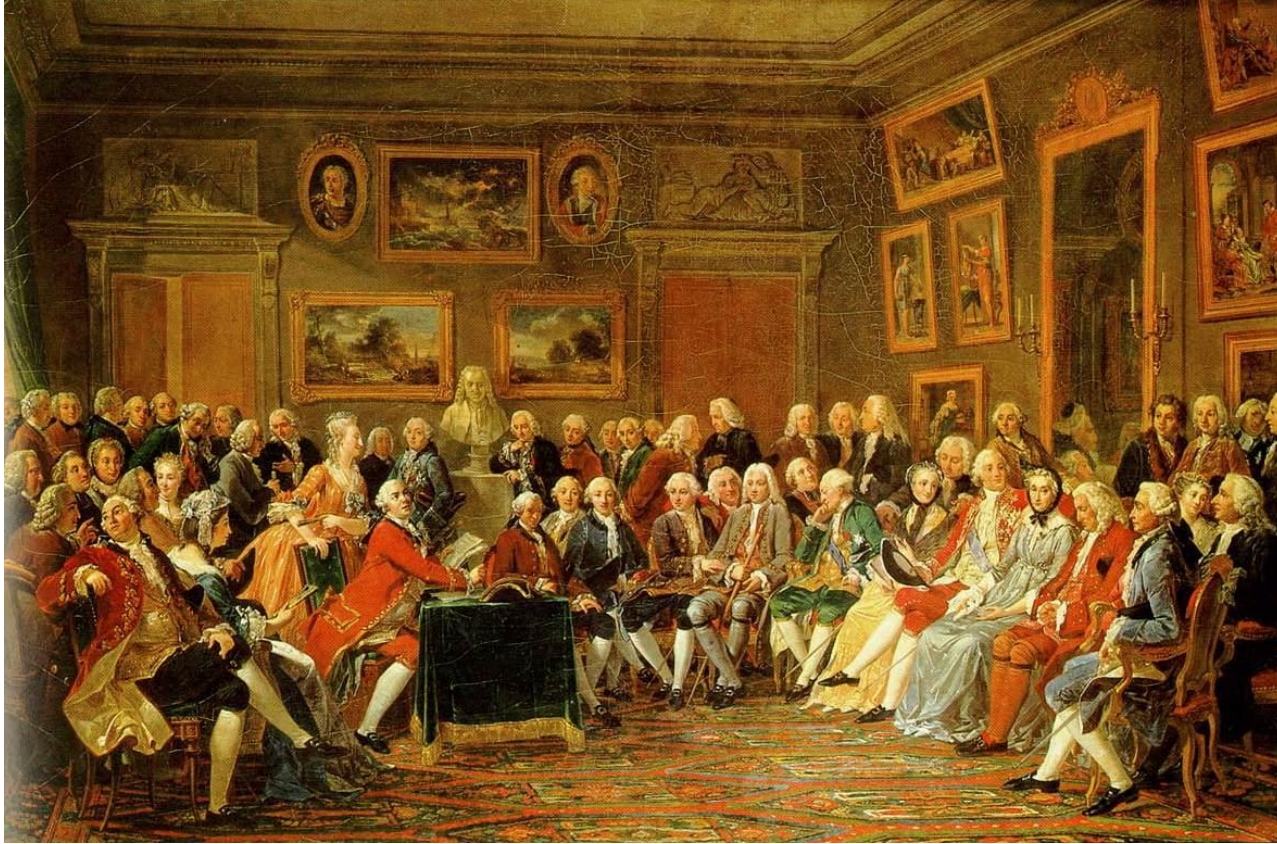
Aristocratic,  
courtly setting

Bosse



A reading of Molière, Jean François de Troy, about 1728.





A reading in the Salon of Madame Geoffrin 1755



Portrait of Mme Geoffrin, salonnière, by [Marianne Loir](#)  
wife of a major French financier.

Madame Necker,

Wife of Jacques  
Necker, the  
Controller –  
General of  
Finance 1777-81

and Parisian  
*salonnière*

Mother of  
Madame de Stael --  
writer during French  
Revolution



Marquise Emilie  
du Châtelet  
1706-1749

Mathematician and  
physicist

Translator of Newton's  
Principia Mathematica  
from Latin to French

Voltaire's mistress  
and collaborator  
1733- 1748



Frontispiece  
to Voltaire's  
<Elements of  
Newton's Philosophy>  
1738

du Châtelet appears  
as Voltaire's muse,  
reflecting Newton's  
heavenly knowledge  
to Voltaire.

