



# Publications on the History of Glass Technology

*from the catalogue of the Society of Glass Technology*



David Moore



*ePoster presented at the GLASS REFLECTIONS CONFERENCE*



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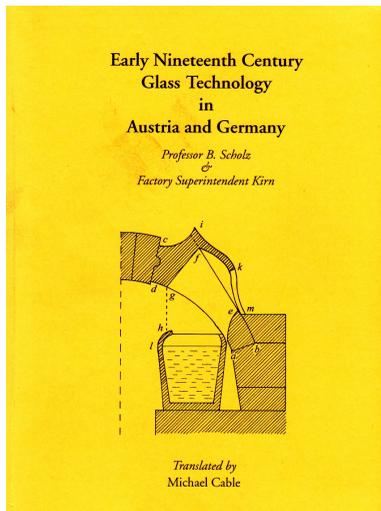
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## Early Nineteenth Century Glass Technology in Austria

*translated by Michael Cable*



This volume contains significant papers that appear, unaccountably, to have been ignored ever since their first publication.

In 1820, when Professor Scholz wrote the long paper that opens this volume, chemical techniques were improving rapidly and the role of heat in high temperature processes was properly understood. His introduction, which summarizes a remarkably modern view of “what everyone ought to know about glasses,” is followed by his detailed account of early attempts to use Glauber’s salt as the source of alkali in glass making; attempts that were only partially successful because the sulphate does not readily react with silica unless a reducing agent is also used to decompose it.

The other seven papers written in the next decade discuss the whole process of glass melting in considerable detail.

These papers provide a better guide to the glass technology of that era than any of the better known books of the time.



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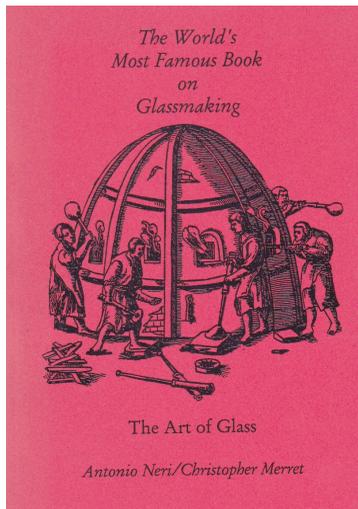
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## The Art of Glass by Antonio Neri & Christopher Merret

*Edited by Michael Cable*



Professor Michael Cable has edited a new collected volume including the renowned translation by Christopher Merrett of L'Arte Vetraria by Antonio Neri. Merrett translated the Italian's book in 1662, adding his own observations which were almost as long as the original text. "The World's Most Famous Book on Glassmaking" was then quickly translated into Latin, German, French and Spanish and was used as a reference source for glass makers for the next 100 years.

To mark the book's 300th year, Professor W E S Turner read a paper to the Society of Glass Technology's 1962 Annual General Meeting "A notable British seventeenth-century contribution to the literature of glassmaking," later published in Glass Technology. This has been included in the volume as well as a preface by Professor Cable.

The volume reproduces the original layout of The Art of Glass on an A5 format.

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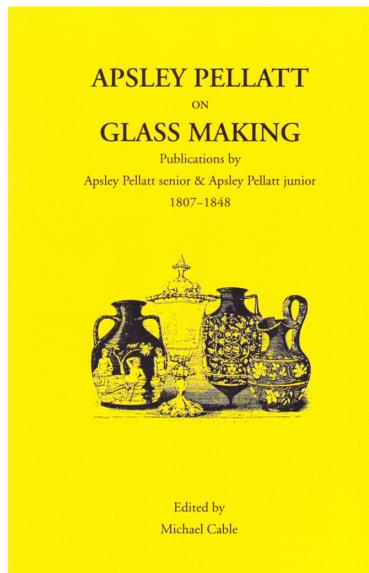
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## Apsley Pellatt on Glass Making

*Edited by Michael Cable*



APSLEY PELLATT (1791-1863) was a well-known London glass-maker who took over the family firm in 1826 on the death of his father. Early in his career he developed a technique for encapsulating ceramic medallions in glass which led to his first publication in 1821. He was keenly interested in all aspects of glass making and became an acknowledged authority on its history but he was as interested in the latest developments and that led him to offer Michael Faraday the facilities of his works for the latter's early experiments on making optical glass. He is today chiefly remembered for his copiously illustrated *Curiosities of Glass Making* published in 1849 which he addressed to the interested public. In it he explained the methods used to make many different types of glass ware. Six colour plates showed many notable pieces of ancient glass including the Naples vase, as impressive a demonstration of Roman skills as the Portland vase. Pellatt was a public-spirited man who for some years served on the Common Council of the City of London and, towards the end of his life, was a Member of Parliament. This volume, the fourth in this chronological series, includes all known publications by Apsley Pellatt and his father, Apsley senior, who has until now been ignored in the literature.

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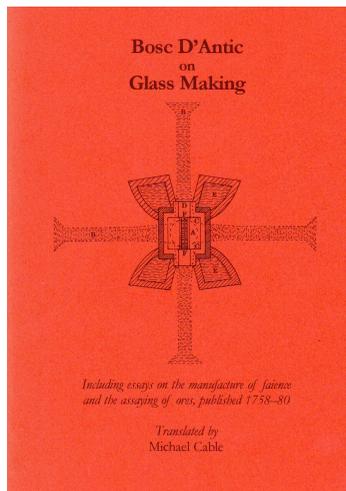
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## Bosc D'Antic on Glass-Making

*Translated and Edited by Michael Cable*



PAUL BOSCO D'ANTIC was a Protestant physician who became fascinated by glass making and gained influential friends who gave him the task of improving the manufacture of plate glass at Saint Gobain in 1755. He spent two years there before being dismissed but continued to make his career in glass making. At one stage he came to England hoping for a post at Ravenhead but was disappointed. After returning to France he eventually became physician to the King. He wrote extensively and very readably on glass making and several other subjects, in papers published between 1758 and the appearance of his Collected Works in 1780. His most important essay is a long one on Means of improving glass making in France which in 1760 won him a prize offered by the Royal Academy of Sciences but also offended his erstwhile employers at Saint-Gobain. It was supplemented by extensive notes written for the 1780 publication.

This volume contains translations of the Preliminary Discourse that he wrote for the Collected Works, the prize essay with the notes inserted where appropriate, nine others concerned with various aspects of glass making, and two more on the assaying of ores and on the manufacture of faience. The subjects of the nine papers include: Bubbles in glass; Smears in glass; Crucibles from the Auvergne; Manufacture of potash; Use of unusual minerals as raw materials; and Manufacture of sheet glass.

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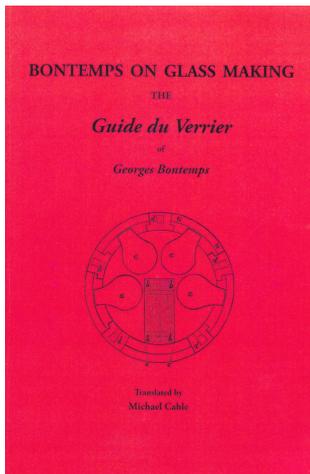
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## Bontemps on Glass Making

*Translated by Michael Cable*



Georges Bontemps (1799–1884) was probably the most skilful and adventurous European glass works manager of his age. His life began inauspiciously because he was illegitimate and ignored by his father, a graduate of the École polytechnique and army officer. In 1817 Georges was refused entry to the École polytechnique, despite having done well in the entry examination. Bontemps then became assistant to Dartigues, owner of three separate works making lead crystal, and was soon managing the glass making at Baccarat. By 1822 he was directing the glass works at Choisy-le-Roi which was unusual in making several kinds of glass including window glass, lead crystal, domestic wares such as drinking glasses, stained glass windows, and optical glass.

At Choisy-le-Roi he was responsible for several major advances. He remained there until 1848 when he moved to England to work for Chance Brothers in Smethwick for six years before returning to France. His *Guide du Verrier*, published in 1868, is the most detailed known authoritative description of the glass making practices of his time. Its seven sections describe the techniques of glass melting and making window glass, plate glass, bottles, lead crystal, optical glass, and stained glass windows. Bontemps had firsthand experience of all of these except making cast plate. Dozens of batch recipes are given, especially of coloured glasses. The book is copiously illustrated. One of its unique features is an analysis of the economics of the process at the end of each section.

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