

Reverend Francis Wollaston (b. 23 November 1731, London d. 31 October 1815)

FRS from 1769. Educated privately and at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he graduated LL.B. 1754. Admitted to Lincoln's Inn in 1750, but never entered the bar, apparently on the grounds of not liking the use of selective evidence to prove his case. Instead he entered the clergy, but again fell foul of certain strong characters and sought a quiet life in Chislehurst, Kent. Ordained deacon in 1754 and priest in 1755. Rector of Dengie, Essex, 1758. Rector and Vicar of East Dereham, Norfolk, 1761 to 1769. Rector of Chislehurst, Kent 1769 to 1815.

Bibliography

Observations of the transit of Venus over the Sun, on June 3, 1769; and the eclipse of the Sun the next morning; made at East Dereham, in Norfolk (Phil. Trans. of the RS, (1769) 59: 407-413)

An account of the going of an astronomical clock (Phil. Trans. of the RS, (1771) 61: 559-566)

Astronomical observations made at Chislehurst, in Kent, (Phil. Trans. of the RS, (1773) 63: 67-78)

Astronomical observations made at Chislehurst, in Kent, in the course of the Year 1773. (Phil. Trans. of the RS, (1774) 64: 329-339)

Astronomical observations made at Chislehurst, in Kent, in the course of the Year 1774. (Phil. Trans. of the RS, (1775) 65: 290-295)

On a method of describing the relative positions and magnitude of the fixed stars; together with some astronomical observations (Phil. Trans. of the RS, (1784) 74: 181-200)

A description of a new system of wires in the focus of a telescope, for observing the comparative right ascensions and declinations of celestial objects; together with a method of investigating the same when observed by the rhombus, though it happen not to be truly in an equatorial position (Phil. Trans. of the RS, (1785) 75: 346-352)

Observations of Miss Herschel's comet in August and September, 1786 (Phil.

Trans. of the RS, (1787) 77: 55-60)

A description of a transit circle, for determining the place of celestial objects as they pass the meridian (Phil. Trans. of the RS, (1793) 83: 133-153)

A specimen of a general astronomical catalogue: arranged in zones of North Polar distance, and adapted to Jan. 1, 1790 (London: Printed for G. and T. Wilkie, 1789)

Directions for making an universal meridian dial capable of being set to any latitude; which shall give the mean solar time of noon, by inspection (London: Printed for G. and T. Wilkie, 1793)

Fasciculus Astronomicus, containing observations of the northern circumpolar region; together with some account of the instrument with which they were made: and a new set of tables, ... To which are added, a few other papers (London: Printed by Luke Hansard, Great Turnstile, Lincoln's-Inn Fields, and sold by G. Wilkie, No 57, Paternoster-Row ; And D. Bremner, in the Strand, 1800) [astronomical bundle?]

A Portraiture of the Heavens as they appear to the naked eye constructed for the use of Students in Astronomy (London: J. Cary, 1811)