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978-0-521-08718-6 - The Ferment of Knowledge: Studies in the Historiography of
Eighteenth-Century Science

Edited by G. S. Rousseau and Roy Porter

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Studies in the Historiography of Eighteenth-Century Science

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for our fathers

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sition to the positivism of the recent past. His studies in this area have included (with P. F. Secord) *The Explanation of Social Behavior* and, most recently, *Social Being*. In 1960 he succeeded the late F. Waismann as University Lecturer in the Philosophy of Science at Oxford, and he has been a Fellow of Linacre College since 1965. He is also Adjunct Professor of the Social and Behavioral Sciences at the State University of New York at Binghamton.

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ROY PORTER read history as an undergraduate at Christ's College, Cambridge. He completed his Ph.D. in 1975, which was published in revised form in 1977 as *The Making of Geology: Earth Science in Britain 1660-1815*. Since then he has written articles on the history of geology, and on eighteenth-century science in its social locations. He has edited (with L. J. Jordanova) *Images of the Earth* and (with M. Teich) *The Enlightenment in National Context*. He has completed a social history of eighteenth-century England and is presently editing, with Dr W. F. Bynum, *A Historical Dictionary of Science*. He is currently researching into the history of medicine from the point of view of the patient. From 1972 he was Director of Studies in History at Churchill College, Cambridge, and from 1974 University Lecturer in European History. In 1979 he became Lecturer in the Social History of Medicine at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine in London. Since 1972 he has been editor of *History of Science*.

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G. S. ROUSSEAU is Professor of English and Comparative Literature in the University of California at Los Angeles, and is interested in the reciprocal relations of literature and medicine. Recently he has been especially concerned with exploring the medical world's legacy from the humanities. Trained by Marjorie Hope Nicolson, Rousseau holds advanced degrees from

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Amherst College and Princeton University, and has taught at the universities of Cambridge, Harvard and UCLA. Among books he has written or edited are *This Long Disease, My Life: Alexander Pope and the Sciences* (1968, in collaboration with Marjorie Nicolson); *English Poetic Satire: Wyatt to Byron* (1969); *The Augustan Milieu* (1970); *Tobias Smollett* (1971); *Organic Form: The Life of an Idea* (1972); and *Goldsmith: The Critical Heritage* (1974). Within his effort to explore the life of science and medicine in the eighteenth century, Rousseau has retrieved the life and works of John Hill, the often-dismissed English naturalist. One volume, *The Renaissance Man in the Eighteenth Century*, has appeared (1977); another, *The Letters and Private Papers of Sir John Hill*, is about to; and a third, a critical study and biography of Hill, is in preparation. Rousseau's new book on medicine and culture between the Renaissance and modern period, *Fire in the Soul: An Anatomy of Four Ideas set in their Social Context*, will be published in 1981.

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STEVEN SHAPIN is Lecturer in the Social History of Science at the Science Studies Unit, Edinburgh University. He co-edited *Natural Order: Historical Studies of Scientific Culture* (1979) and has written numerous papers on the social organization and social uses of science in Britain during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. His particular interest is the exploration of sociological approaches to scientific knowledge. Many of the themes in the chapter in this volume are developed in his book on *The Social Use of Nature*, which will be published soon.

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October, 1979

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ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---------------|---|
| <i>AS:</i> | Annals of Science |
| <i>BHM:</i> | Bulletin of the History of Medicine |
| <i>BJHS:</i> | British Journal for the History of Science |
| <i>BMJ:</i> | British Medical Journal |
| <i>ECS:</i> | Eighteenth-Century Studies |
| <i>HS:</i> | History of Science |
| <i>JHBS:</i> | Journal for the History of the Behavioural Sciences |
| <i>JHI:</i> | Journal of the History of Ideas |
| <i>JHM:</i> | Journal of the History of Medicine |
| <i>JSBNH:</i> | Journal of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History |
| <i>MH:</i> | Medical History |
| <i>NR:</i> | Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London |
| <i>PT:</i> | Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London |
| <i>RHS:</i> | Revue d'histoires des sciences |
| <i>SSS:</i> | Social Studies in Science |

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