

VÍSINDAMENN & SILFURBERG

VÍSINDAMENN SEM BREYTTU HEIMINUM - 17. OG 18. ÖLD

SCIENTISTS & ICELAND SPAR

PEOPLE WHO CHANGED THE WORLD IN 17TH AND 18TH CENTURY



ERASMUS BARTHOLINUS (RÁMUS BARTHOLIN)
1625-1698, DANMÖRKU / DENMARK

Bartholin uppgötvatdi tvöfalt ljósbrot í silfurbergskristóllum frá Reyðarfirði. Hann birti ritgerð um það fyrirbrigði 1669 og sendi öðrum vísindamönnum sýni af silfurbergi til rannsóknna.

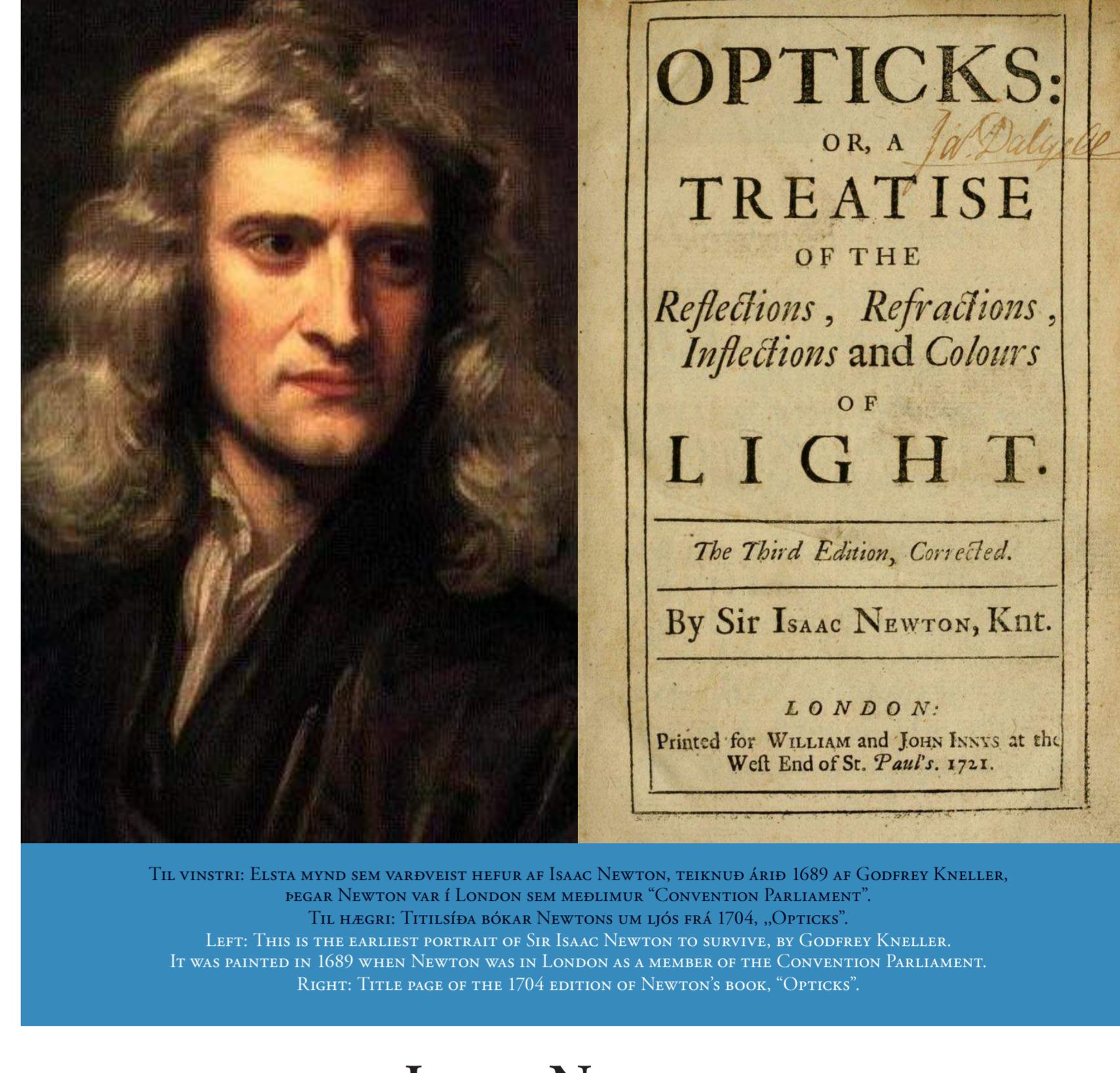
Bartholin discovered double refraction in Iceland spar crystals from Reyðarfjörður. He published an essay on this phenomenon in 1669 and sent crystal samples to some colleagues.



CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS
1629-1695, HOLLANDI / NETHERLANDS

Huygens var mjög afkastamikill vísindamaður sem m.a. rökstuddi það að ljós væri blygjuhreyfing. Kafli í bók hans um ljós frá árinu 1690, lýsir ýmsum eiginleikum silfurbergs og gefur réttu mynd af hinu tvöfalta ljósbroti þess.

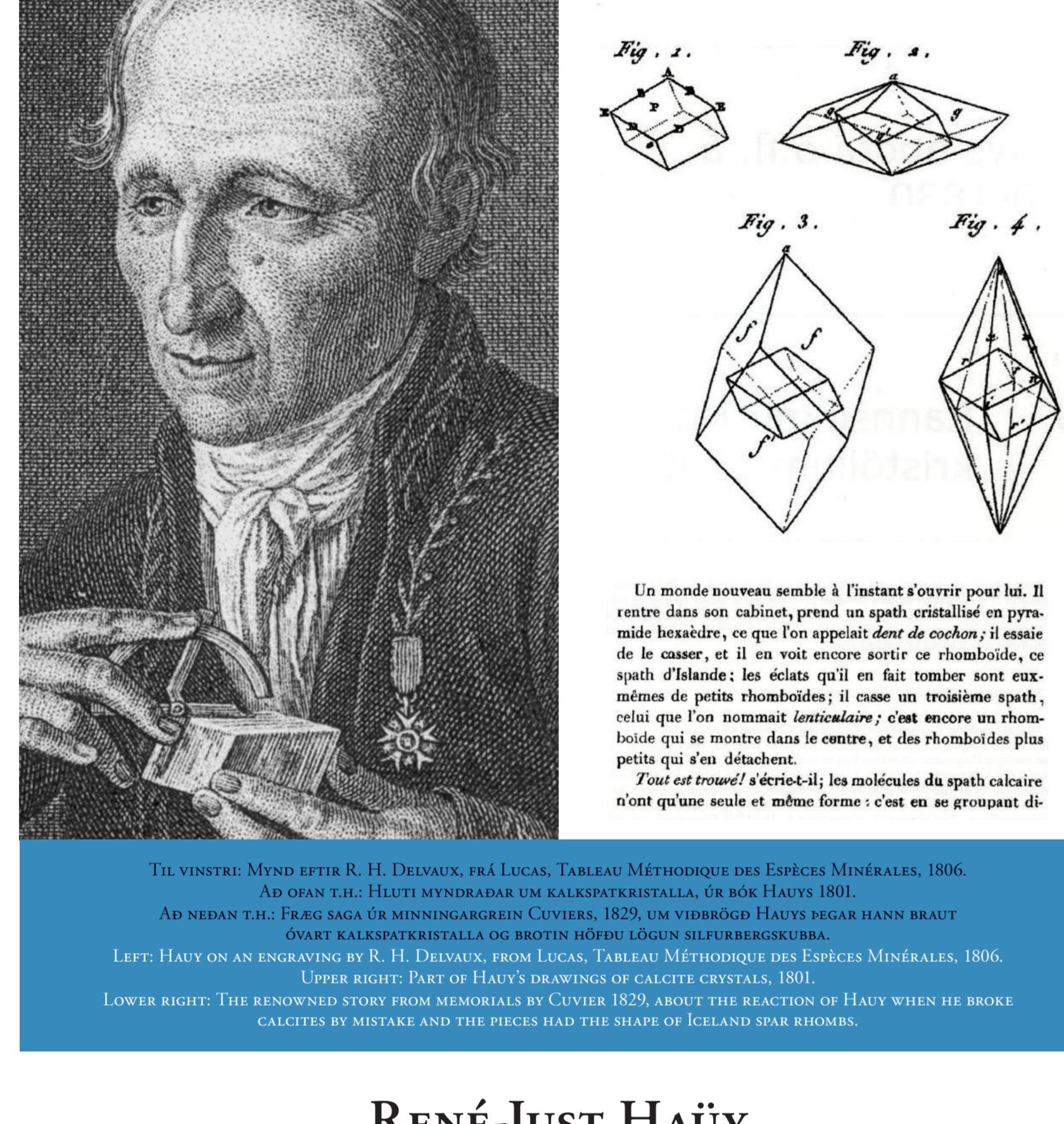
Huygens was a very productive scientist who among other things argued that light was a wave. A chapter in his book from 1690 on light, describes various properties of Iceland spar and presents a valid model of its double refraction.



ISAAC NEWTON
1642-1726, ENGLAND / ENGLAND

Newton gerði afar mikilvægar uppgötvunarí að mórgum svíðum vísinda. Sú kenningu í bók hans um ljósfræði 1704 að ljós væri agnastrauður, strandaði þó meðal annars a því a fyrirlitla 19. aldar, að hún gat ekki með góðu móti útskyrt tvöfalt ljósbroti.

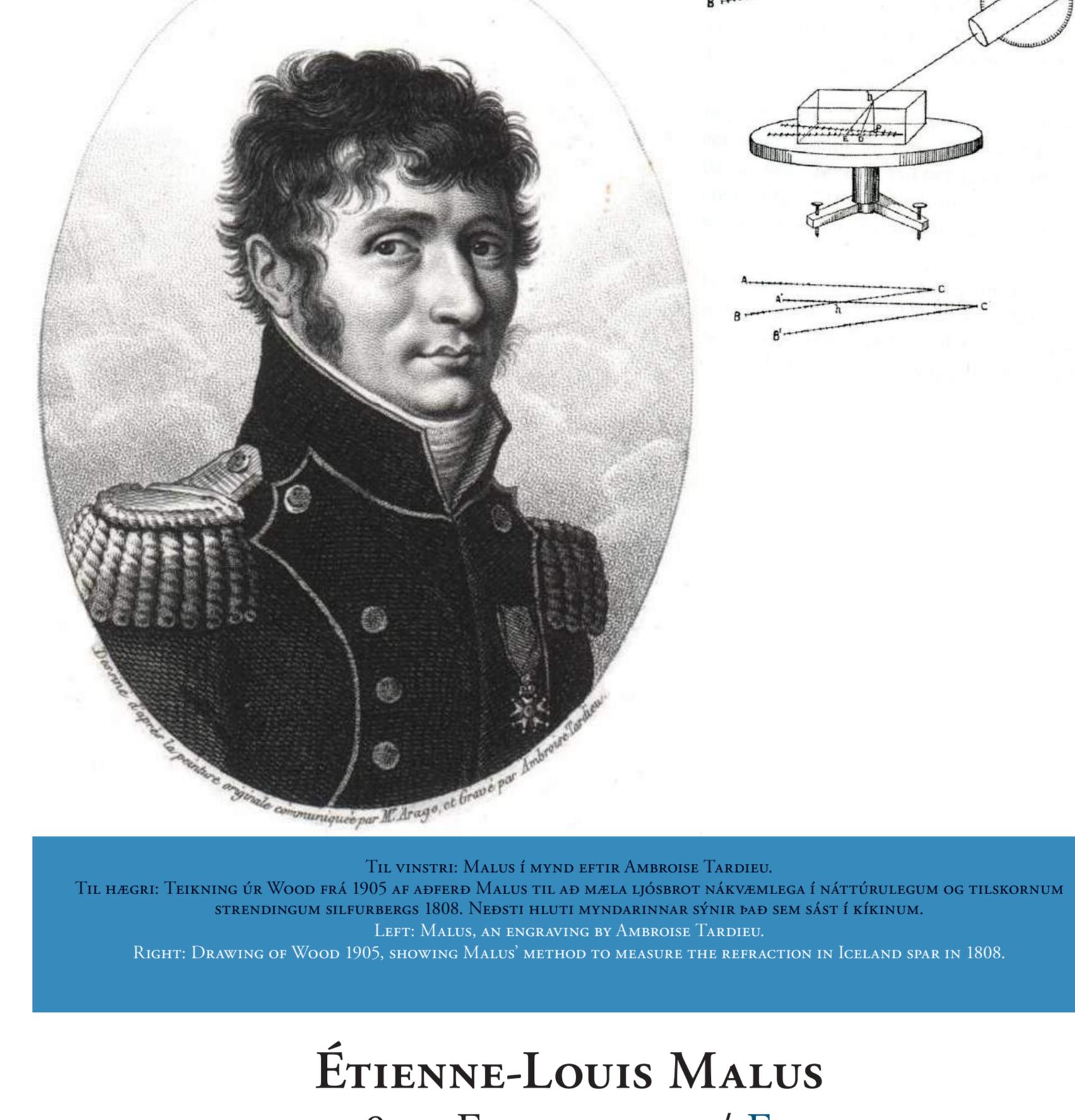
Newton made major contributions to several fields of science. The view that light was a stream of particles was presented in his book on optics in 1704. It was believed in by most scientists until the early 19th century, and then abandoned because it offered no credible explanation of various phenomena such as double refraction.



RENÉ-JUST HAÜY
1743-1822, FRAKKLANDI / FRANCE

Haüy er oft kallaður „faðir kristallafræðinnar“. Athuganir hans á byggjung kristalla af silfurbergi og öðrum tegundum kalsíts höfðu mikla þýðingur fyrir þróun þess vísindasviðs.

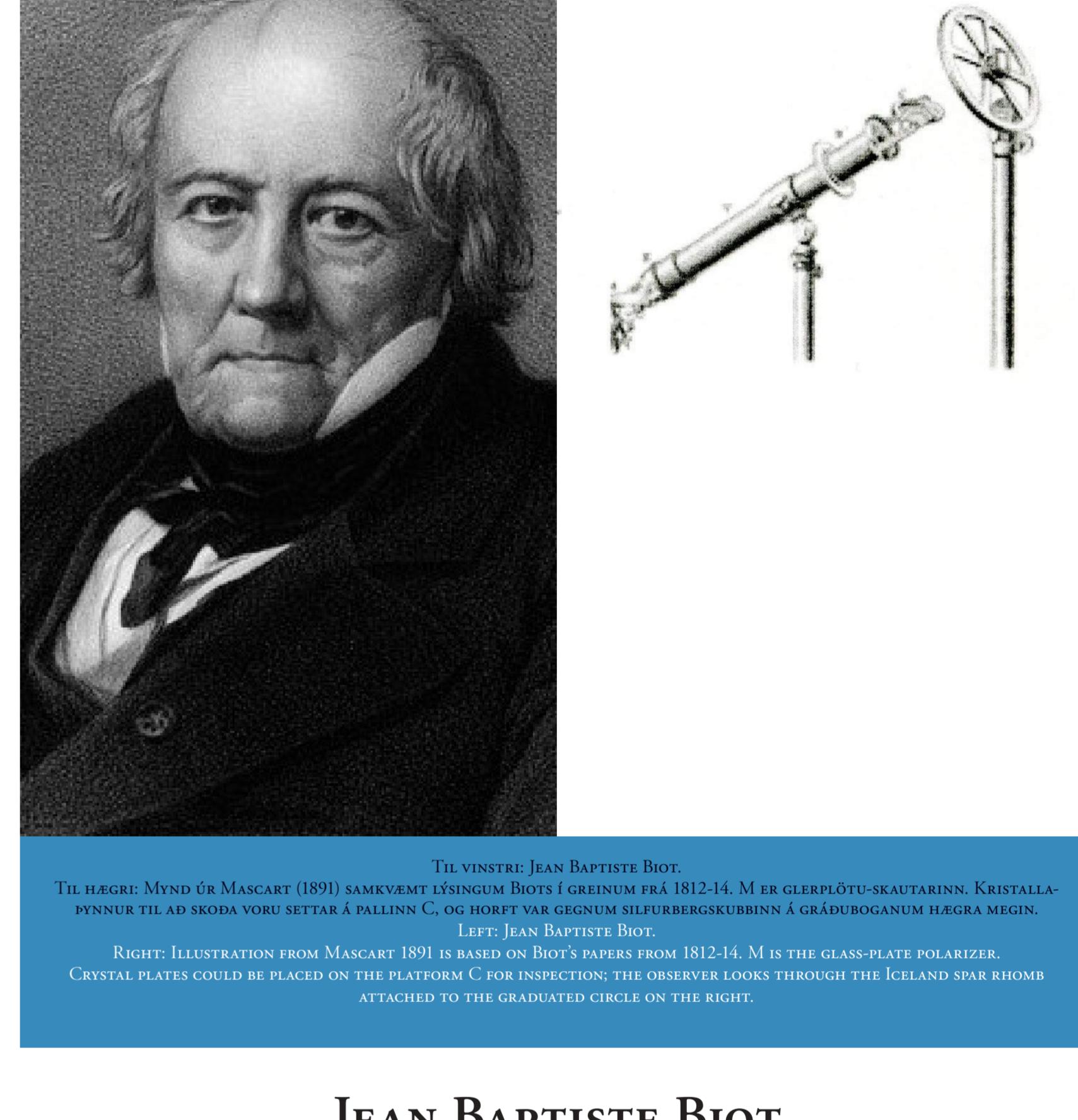
Haüy has often been called "the father of crystallography". His investigations into the structural forms of Iceland spar and other varieties of calcite were of considerable value for the development of this branch of science.



ÉTIENNE-LOUIS MALUS
1775-1812, FRAKKLANDI / FRANCE

Malus áttadi sig fyrstur árið 1808 að því að eiginleikar ljósgeisla breyttust á tiltekinna hátt í silfurbergi og við endurkast frá sléttum flötum. Þá breyttingu kallaði hann skautun. Þetta var grundvallar uppgötvun sem vakti mjög mikla athygli og áhuga á ljósfræðirannsóknunum.

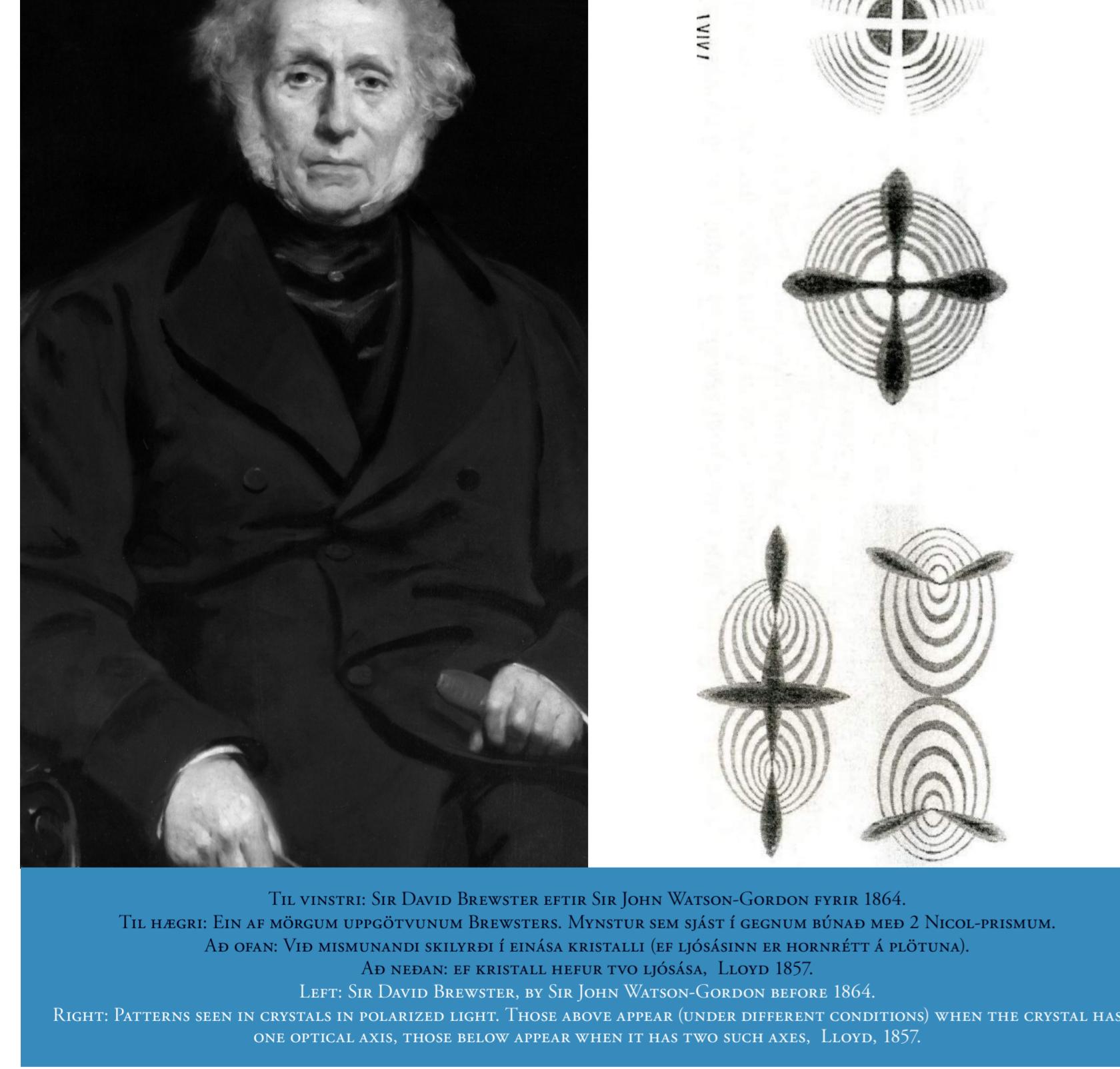
Malus realized in 1808 that a change in the character of a light ray occurred during its passage through Iceland spar as well as on its reflection from smooth surfaces. He called this change polarization. His fundamental discovery created much interest and research activity in optics.



JEAN BAPTISTE BIOT
1774-1862, FRAKKLANDI / FRANCE

Biot var fjölfærur eðlisfræðingur sem meðal annars uppgötvatdi snúning skautaðs ljós í sumum vökvum árið 1815 og gerði umfangsmiklar mælingar a því fyrirbrigði. Það varð mikilvægt við rannsóknir í lífrænni efnaræði og lífesfræði, í sykuriðnadi og viðar eftir 1840.

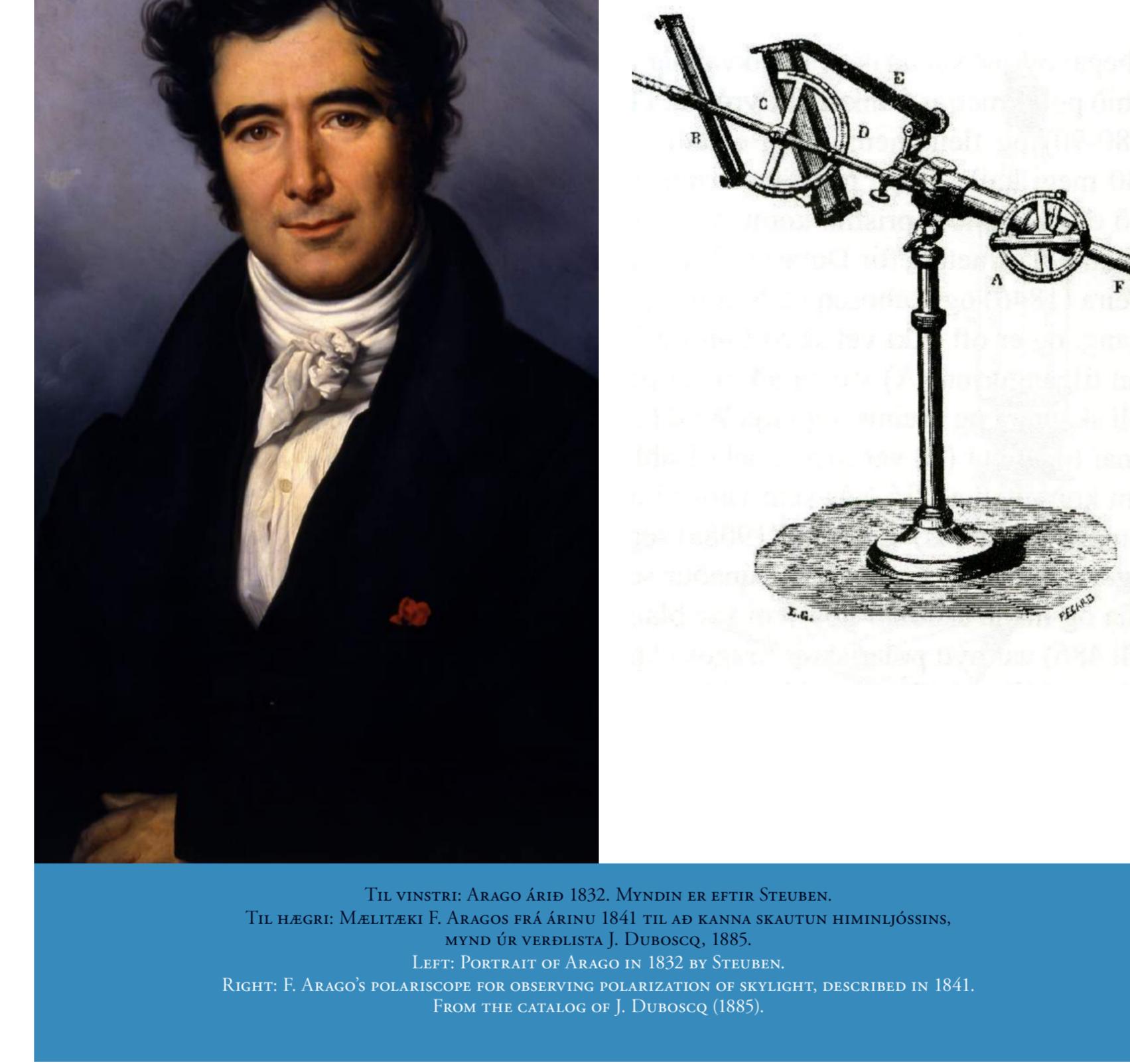
A very versatile physicist who among other things discovered in 1815 the rotation of polarized light when passing through various organic liquids. He made comprehensive measurements on this property, which after 1840 became important for research in organic chemistry and biochemistry as well as in the sugar industry.



DAVID BREWSTER
1781-1868, SKOTLANDI / SCOTLAND

Brewster gerði mjög margháttarðar tilraunir í ljósfræði á yfir 50 ára bili frá um 1813, oft með hjálpi silfurbergskristalla. Niðurstöður hans lögðu meðal annars grunn að notkun skautaðs ljós frá rannsóknna á bergsteindum, sem og í bùðarþolfsfræði og á fleiri svíðum.

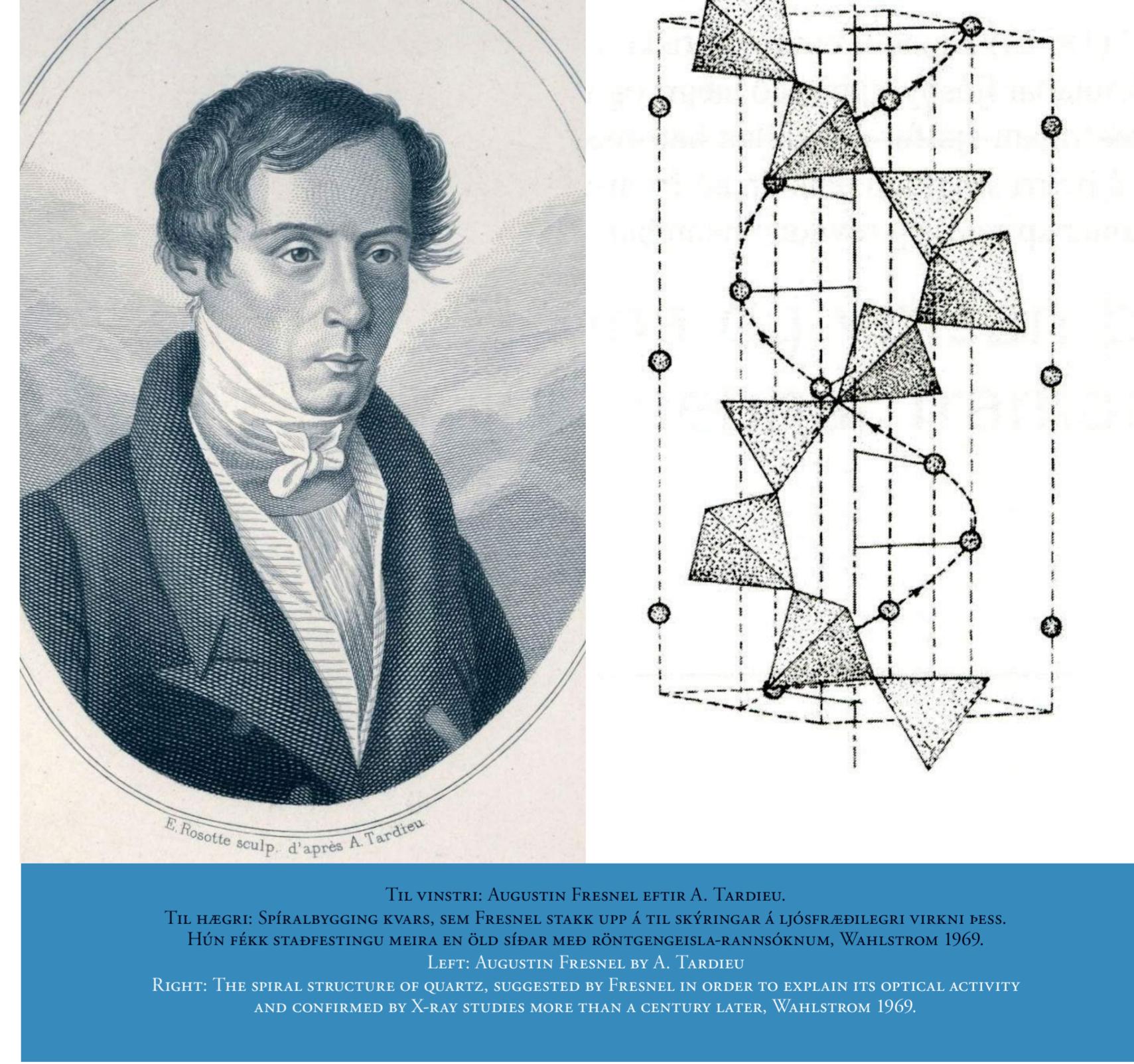
Brewster often used Iceland spar crystals in his series of experimental research in optics which spanned more than 50 years from ~1813. Among other things, his observations paved the way for the use of polarized light in mineralogy, petrography, and materials science.



FRANCOIS ARAGO
1786-1853, FRAKKLANDI / FRANCE

Arago uppgötvatdi skautun ljóss frá heiðum himni, og rannsakaði áhrif krystallapynna á geisla skautaðs ljóss. Hann fann einnig upp ýmis taiki til ljósfræðirannsóknna.

Arago found that the light from the sky was polarized, and discovered color phenomena exhibited by thin crystalline plates in polarized light. Designed several instruments for optical research.



AUGUSTIN FRESEL
1788-1827, FRAKKLANDI / FRANCE

Fresnel jók miklu við kenningu Huygens um að ljós sé blygjuhreyfing, ekki síst því að hreyfingin eigi sér stað þvert a stefnu ljósgeisla. Um 1820 setti hann fram fræðilegar jöfnar varðandi beygju ljóss kringum hindranir, ubréðslu ljósbylgna í kristólludum efnum, endurkast þeirra frá skilfötum og fleira. Jöfnurarnar voru stáðfestar með tilraunum hans og annarra og höfðu mikil áhrif til að vinna blygjukennungunni fylgi.

Fresnel expanded Huygens' wave theory of light, especially by proving that the wave motion in a light ray is transverse to its direction of propagation. Around 1820 he derived theoretical equations governing the diffraction of light, propagation of light in crystals, reflection of light at interfaces, and other optical processes. His derivations were confirmed experimentally by himself and others, leading to the general acceptance of the wave theory by scientists.

LEÓ KRISTJÁNSSON

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