

Ignacy Z. Siemion
Alicja Szastyńska-Siemion

***Praelectiones physicae experimentalis* Ignacego Józefa Martinovicsa (1755-1795)**

***Praelectiones physicae experimentalis* by Ignatius Josephus Martinovics (1755-1795)**

SUMMARY

In the paper the life and scientific activities of Ignatius Josephus Martinovics (1755-1795), professor of physics and mechanics at the University in Lwów, are discussed. Martinovics was in, the chemistry the adherent of phlogistic theory. He was also very active in the political moving of the time, and for that reason was executed in Buda (1795) upon the sentence of Austrian court. From the scientific achievements of Martinovics his studies on “aurum fulminans” and the first chemical examination of the crude oil appearing in Galizia, are worth to note. He was also the author of the extensive textbook entitled: “*Praelectiones Physicae Experimentalis*”. The first part of this book is in the reality the text box on chemistry, written according to the phlogistic ideas. The characteristic pattern of the book is the eclectic fusion of philosophical atomism (in the style of Newton and Boscovics) with the elements of chemical knowledge of that time. The book is therefore the interesting evidence of a definite scientific crisis, characterizing the end of 18th century, and consisting in the lack of the coherence between the commonly accepted atomic ideas, and the possibility to interpret the real chemical phenomena on the base of the atomic theory.

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