

**SKETCHES OF THE
ROYAL SOCIETY, AND
ROYAL SOCIETY CLUB**

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Sketches of the Royal Society, and Royal Society Club by Sir John Barrow

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SIR JOHN BARROW

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BY
SIR JOHN BARROW, BART., F.R.S.

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P R E F A C E.

It is stated, in a note prefixed to the manuscript of the following pages, that they were intended, by Sir John Barrow, as a Supplementary Chapter to his Autobiography; and were occasioned by a good-natured reproach from a friend, an old member of the Royal Society Club, for his having omitted in his Memoirs all mention of that Club, with which he had been intimately associated full forty years, and of the many learned and agreeable members with whom he had enjoyed so long, and so friendly, an intercourse.

In order to repair what he admitted to be an omission, he threw together, from his own observations and recollections, as well as from several biographies* already published, the following sketches of the six Presidents of the Royal Society, who filled the chair in his time, and of some other distinguished members of the Society and the Club.

In a large portion of such a work there can be, of course, little novelty; but Sir John Barrow thought

* Particularly those by Lord Brougham, Dr. Paris, &c.

that, besides being an appropriate Supplement to his own life (with which object it is printed uniformly with the former volume), it might also perhaps be acceptable in a separate shape, as a slight and compendious account of the Royal Society and of some of its most distinguished members, for the last forty years—not now to be found in any *single* publication.

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