

Maria Sticco, Publicist
e-mail: mes5@pitt.edu
tel: (412) 383-2493 fax: (412) 383-2466

7500 Thomas Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15260
www.upress.pitt.edu
twitter: @UPittPress • poetry: @PittPoetry

For immediate release August 19, 2016

Influential scientists' correspondence now being published by University of Pittsburgh Press

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—The University of Pittsburgh Press announces its new role as publisher of *The Correspondence of John Tyndall*, an 18-volume series that will make available for the first time in print some 7,700 letters to and from Tyndall, one of the Victorian era's most influential scientists and premier physicists.

Tyndall (c. 1822–1893) was professor of natural philosophy at the Royal Institution of Great Britain from 1853 to 1887. He published about 85 scientific papers in his lifetime, making significant contributions to many areas of physics—including magnetism and the radiation of heat—and to glaciology, meteorology, and bacteriology. Tyndall is best known for discovering the physical basis of the greenhouse effect and why the sky is blue. He was also an expert mountaineer, a superb communicator of science, and a visible cultural figure at the intersections of science, religion, and politics.

Tyndall's correspondents read like a who's who of international science, including Michael Faraday, Charles Darwin, Thomas Huxley, Joseph Henry, Rudolf Clausius, and Louis Pasteur. An intense study of his letters illuminates themes that individually and collectively played fundamental roles in the development of modern science.

Originally published by Pickering & Chatto—which became an imprint of Routledge in 2015—volumes 1 (2014) and 2 (2015) will be re-released by UPP and available for sale by fall 2016.

The John Tyndall Correspondence Project was initiated in 2006 by Bernard Lightman, professor of Humanities at York University in Toronto, Canada, with the goal of providing an important resource for scholars that until now has been difficult to access. The project has enlisted participants from 15 academic institutions around the world who are working to obtain, digitize, and transcribe letters housed at the Royal Institution and 41 other locations across the globe.

Lightman is one of four general editors overseeing production of the print volumes, alongside James Elwick (York University), Roland Jackson (The Royal Institution), and Michael Reidy (Montana State University). The volumes will also draw on the expertise of a team of editors from five countries who specialize in the history and philosophy of Victorian science and technology.

“We are fortunate to have the opportunity of working with Abby Collier and the University of Pittsburgh Press,” said Lightman. “With its strong list of titles in the history of science, UPP will provide an excellent home for the Tyndall correspondence.”

Jackson added, "This is a rich and diverse resource. With correspondents across Europe and America, including men and women of science, literary lions, aristocrats, and political figures, there is material here of wide historical interest."

For more information, please visit: <http://www.yorku.ca/tyndall/>. Inquiries should be directed to Abby Collier, acquiring editor (acollier@upress.pitt.edu).

###

The Correspondence of John Tyndall, Volume 1: The Correspondence, May 1840-August 1843, edited by Geoffrey Cantor and Gowan Dawson, is published by the University of Pittsburgh Press. 544 pp. · 6 x 9 · ISBN 9780822944706 · Cloth \$125.

The Correspondence of John Tyndall, Volume 2I: The Correspondence, September 1843-December 1849, edited by Melinda Baldwin and Janet Browne, is published by the University of Pittsburgh Press. 444 pp. · 6 x 9 · ISBN 9780822944713 · Cloth \$125.