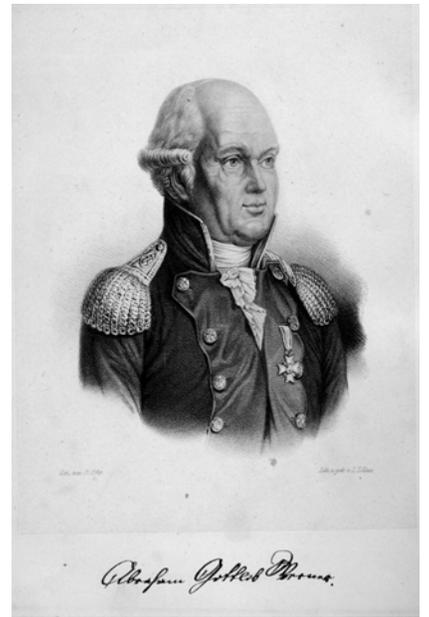
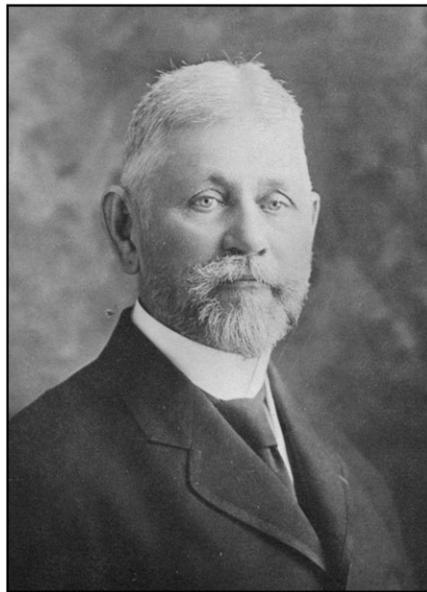
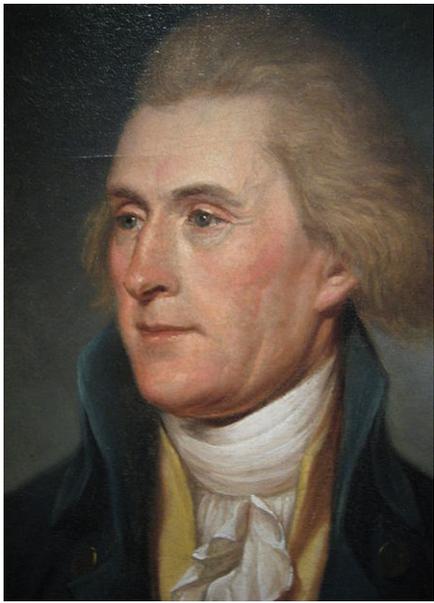
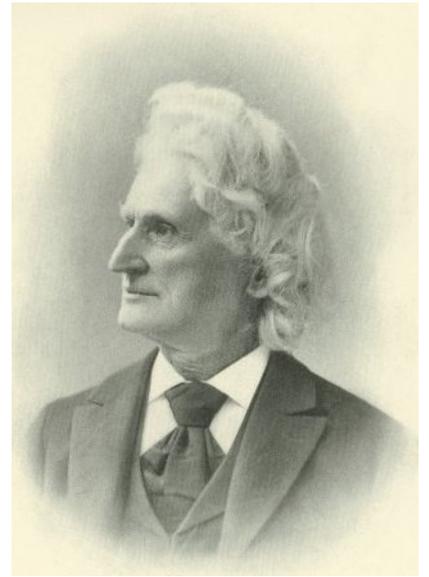


Pliny



## James D. Dana

1813 ~ 1895

James Dwight Dana was born in Utica, New York. He was a mineralogist, geologist, volcanologist and zoologist. He studied volcanoes, mountains and natural history for the United States Exploring Expedition. He is best known for his books *System of Mineralogy* and *Manual of Mineralogy*. His *Manual of Mineralogy* was so influential that revised editions are still used in colleges and universities to this very day.

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## Abraham G. Werner

1749 ~ 1817

Abraham Gottlob Werner was a geologist from Germany. He is sometimes called "the Father of German geology." Collecting minerals was his passion when he was young. He wrote what is considered the first modern mineral book. It was a description of the mineral species known at the time. Among the many minerals studied and named by Werner are apatite, graphite, olivine, prehnite, and rutile, *to name only a few*.

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## Peter Zodac

1894 ~ 1967

Peter Zodac was born in Peekskill, New York. He was the founder of the magazine *Rocks & Minerals*. He started this important magazine because he felt there was a need for a regular magazine for mineral collectors that was written for the average collector rather than for professors and scientists. He was a mineral collector. He also ran a successful mineral specimen business.

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## James Smithson

1764 ~ 1829

James Smithson was born in Paris, France and was named Jacques Louis Macie. He changed his name to James Smithson in 1800. He was a mineralogist and chemist. The mineral *Smithsonite* is named in his honor. Smithson is most famous for his gift to the United States of America which was a large amount of money to start what we know as The Smithsonian Institution. The Smithsonian is the National Museum in Washington, D.C. ©2012 Darryl Powell

## George F. Kunz

1856 ~ 1932

George Frederick Kunz was one of the most important gemologists in the world. He was also a serious mineral collector from a young age. By the time he was 20 years old, he had built a collection of over 4,000 specimens. He wrote many books about gems. He was one of the founders of the New York Mineralogical Club. The mineral *kunzite*, a pink gem variety of spodumene, is named in his honor.

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## Friedrich Mohs

1773 ~ 1839

Friedrich Mohs was a German mineralogist and geologist. In 1802 he was hired to identify minerals in a collection. He did so by studying their physical properties. This led him to develop the mineral hardness scale, which is also known as Mohs' Hardness Scale. This scale of 10 minerals from softest (1 - Talc) to hardest (10 - Diamond) is still taught in schools today.

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## Pliny the Elder

23 CE ~ 79 CE

Gaius Plinius Secundus is best known by the name "Pliny the Elder." He lived in ancient Rome. He was a naturalist and an author. He spent a lot of time observing and studying the natural world and writing about it. He wrote *Naturalis Historia* one of the only ancient writings about nature that still exists today. He died from the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79. The mineral name *asbestos* was first used by Pliny the Elder. ©2012 Darryl Powell

## Thomas Jefferson

1743 ~ 1846

Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence and the third President of the United States. He was one of America's very first naturalists. He collected mineral specimens from the United States, not really to enjoy them as specimens, but to show the world the rich mineral resources of this new nation. He displayed American mineral specimens in his home, Monticello. Monticello still exists; his mineral collection is gone.

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## Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

1749 ~ 1832

Johann von Goethe was a German writer, poet, philosopher and amateur mineralogist. He is considered the most important modern German author. For a time he was in charge of mining affairs for the Grand Duchy of Weimar. The mineral *Goethite* was named in his honor.

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