

them new science, while Rumford wanted it to serve the needs of artisans. The subscribers won out.

Late in life, Rumford married Lavoisier's widow. The couple was totally incompatible, and when the marriage went bad Rumford taunted her with the deficiencies in his predecessor's theory.

Why is someone who did so much for science and society so little known? In spite of many virtues, he suffered from some character defects. He was an unprincipled opportunist, a ruthless self-promoter and over-bearing arrogant. He had hardly any friends, and upon his death he was promptly forgotten. He died in 1814 neither in rags nor in riches but in comfortable seclusion.