

“The gifts of microscopes to our understanding of cells and organisms is so profound that one has to ask: What are the gifts of the microscopist? Here is my opinion. The gift of the great microscopist is the ability to

***THINK WITH THE EYES AND
SEE WITH THE BRAIN.***

Deep revelations into the nature of living things continue to travel on beams of light.”

Daniel Mazia
U. C. Berkeley cell biologist, 1996

*“... by the help of Microscopes,
there is nothing so small, as to
escape our inquiry; hence there is
a new visible World discovered to
the understanding.”*

Robert Hooke
Micrographia, 1665

*“You can observe a lot
by watching.”*

Lawrence (Yogi) Berra

“Beware of determining and declaring your opinion suddenly on any object; for imagination often gets the start of judgment, and makes people believe they see things, which better observations will convince them could not possibly be seen; therefore assert nothing till after repeated experiments and examinations in all lights and in all positions.

When you employ the microscope, shake off all prejudice, nor harbor any favorite opinions, for, if you do, ‘tis not unlikely fancy will betray you into error, and make you see what you wish to see.

Remember that truth alone is the matter that you are in search after; and if you have been mistaken, let not vanity seduce you to persist in your mistake.”

Henry Baker
The Microscope Made Easy, 1742

“...The texture of Cells of Cork and of some other frothy Bodies could not be so curious, but that possible, if I could use some further diligence, I might find it to be discernable with a Microscope...me thinks, it seems very probably that Nature has in these passages, as well as in those of Animal bodies, very many appropriated Instruments and contrivances, whereby to bring her designs and end to pass, which not improbably but that some diligent Observer, if helped by Microscope, may in time detect.”

Robert Hooke
Micrographia, 1665

In commendations of ye microscope

*Of all the Inventions none there is Surpasses
Ye noble Florentine's Dioptrick Glasses
For what a better, fitter guift Could bee
In this World's Aged Luciosity.
To help our Blindnesse so as to devize
A paire of new & Artifical eyes
By whose augmenting power wee now see
more
Than all the world Has ever Dounn before*

Henry Powers, 1664
(in the original old English)

“In the age of One World, the power of the microscope will be one doesn’t know how many times greater than that of [the instrument of] today. [Viewed through the instrument of today] an ant looks like an elephant. [Viewed through the instrument of] the future, the size of a microbe will be like that of the great, skyborne p’eng bird.”

K’ang Yu-wei (1858-1927)

Ta T’ung Shu:

The One-world Philosophy of K’any Yu-wei

Translated by L. T. Thompson, 1958

“...It is because simplicity and vastness are both beautiful that we seek by preference simple facts and vast facts; that we take delight, now in scrutinizing with a microscope that prodigious smallness which is also a vastness...”

Henri Poincare
French mathematician, late 1800s

*“To see a world in a grain of sand
and a heaven in a world flower,
hold infinity in the palm of your hand
and eternity in an hour.”*

William Blake

“One can be fooled by appearances, which happens only too frequently, whether one uses a microscope or not.”

Voltaire
Micromegas