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|  *Source: Samuel Pepys, English diarist, 1667* |
| After dinner, I walked to a meeting of the Royal Society of Scientists in expectation of the duchess of Newcastle (author of "A World Made by Atomes," 1653), who had desired to be invited to the Society. She ws invited after much debate, pro and con; it seems many being against it. The duchess hath been a good, comely woman; but her dress so antique and her deportment so ordinary, that I do not like her at all, nor did I hear her say anything that was worth hearing. |

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|  *Source: Marie Meurdrac, French scientist, foreward to her "Chemistry Simplified for Women" 16666* |
| When I began this little treatise, it was solely for my own satisfaction. I objected to myself that it was not the profession of a lady to teach; that she should remain silent, listen and learn, without displaying her own knowledge. On the other hand, I flattered myself that I am not the first lady to have had something published; that minds have no sex and that if the minds of women were cultivated like those of men, they would be equal to the minds of the latter. |