a. Life’s & Works

Francis Bacon was an English Philosopher, statesman, scientist, jurist, orator, and author. He was born on January 22, 1561 in London, England and died in April 9, 1626. His father was Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal under Queen Elizabeth I and his mother was Ann Cooke. He was the youngest of his father’s five sons and daughters. He graduated in Trinity College, Cambridge University of Poitiers. In February 1579, he returned to England to sudden death of his father. His ambition was to discover truth, to serve his country and to serve the church but it led him to politics. He became a member of parliament. At the year of 1606, he married Alice Barnham the 14 year old daughter of a well-connected London MP.

Francis Bacon is the “Father of Empiricism”. His works argued for the possibility of scientific knowledge based only upon inductive and careful observation of events in nature. Most importantly, he argued this could be achieved by use of a skeptical and methodical approach whereby scientists aim to avoid misleading themselves. While his own practical ideas about such a method, the Baconian method, did not have a long lasting influence, the general idea of the importance and possibility of a skeptical methodology makes Bacon the father of scientific method. This marked a new turn in the rhetorical and theoretical framework for science, the practical details of which are still central in debates about science and methodology today. Bacon died in 1626 at the age of 65 at the home of Lord Arundel in Highgate because of Pneumonia. Because he has no heirs, both titles became extinct upon his death. He leave a lot of debts.