



## Edward Bancroft: Scientist, Author, Spy

By Schaeper, Thomas J.

Yale. 1 Cloth(s), 2011. hard. Book Condition: New. (A Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2011) Born in Massachusetts in 1745, Edward Bancroft moved to England in the 1760s and became a scientist and man of letters, elected to the Royal Society. While working to secure French aid for the American Revolution, he befriended such luminaries as Benjamin Franklin, Silas Deane, and John Adams, and was lauded in his lifetime as an American patriot. But British diplomatic archives later revealed that Bancroft had been a British agent acting against French and American interests. In this full biography, Thomas Schaeper analyzes Bancroft's correspondence and diplomatic records to determine whether he should be viewed as a traitor to America or a patriot to Britain."Schaeper in the first scholar to explore Bancroft's life in detail and to treat his activities as a spy in a sober, intelligent fashion. He explodes the myths and conspiracy theories of many modern authors who have traduced Bancroft's reputation and with it the reputations of all those associated with him."Harry Dickinson 329.

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