

house in London. He also dispensed a considerable sum of money to various relatives in need. "Newton's charity works to soften the image left by the quarrels with Flamsteed and Leibniz. The quarrels were real. So was the charity to unfortunates, as though he hoped to compensate for his own shortcomings." In Cambridge, many years before he came to take up the important position at the Royal Mint, he was an isolated man who shunned company of his colleagues and who befriended none – an assistant in Cambridge told later that he had seen Newton laugh only once in five years (when a student had asked him of what use was a book of Euclid that he had prescribed him). In his final years, he relished the important image he carried with him, as the Master of Mint, as the President of the Royal Society and the most famous man alive in England at that time.

He was interred in a prominent place in the Westminster Abbey, where an inscription read "Let Mortals rejoice That there has existed such and so great an Ornament to the Human Race." Westfall ends with these remarks: "In this case, baroque extravagance struck the proper note. Faults Newton had in abundance. Nevertheless, only hyperbole can hope to express the reality of the man who returned to dust in the early spring of 1727."

It is a remarkable biography of a remarkable man, one can say in summary. The reader will be certainly left curious and restless to pick up the larger version of the book *Never at Rest* for more details of this extraordinary life.

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Errata

Resonance, Vol.11, No.9, September 2006: Pages 83–84:– The author has made the comment that one may define a third order semi-magic square as one that has $\mathbf{x} = (1, 1, 1)^T$ as an eigenvector. But this condition only takes care of the row sums, and therefore falls short. To take care of the column sums too, one must say instead:

A 3×3 matrix M is a semi-magic square if and only if \mathbf{x} is an eigenvector of M as well as its transpose, M^T .

This extra condition then has to be checked in the proofs given on pages 83–85, equations (11) and (13). But, fortunately, this is routine.

Resonance, Vol.11, No.11, November 2006: Page 55:– Address for Correspondence is N S Vasanthi, Professor and Head, Department of Biotechnology, Bannari Amman Institute of Technology, Sathyamangalam 638401, India.

