

jealously of his contemporaries, by taking for his map only names of philosophers who were dead." His successors have marked his selections with approval, as more than two hundred of the names he chose are retained on lunar maps. For the great plains called by Hovel seas, Riccioli retained Hovel's names, but added others to them, intending thereby to indicate their supposed influence over the earth. This faint vestige of astrological conceits, if such it be, has not been obliterated from our maps. We still speak of the lake of death, sea of serenity, and the rest of Riccioli's fanciful names. But they have become meaningless. The belief which called them into being, namely: that the heavenly bodies influence human destiny, and that such influence in individual cases might be ascertained by protracted study, was once dominant in the world, but has faded away never to return.

Thirty years later Cassini published a lunar chart. He was a learned astronomer and a most indefatigable worker, and made important contributions to lunar knowledge. Lalande re-published Cassini's map in 1787.

About the middle of the eighteenth century, Mayer, whose lunar tables have been mentioned, proposed the publication of a more complete lunar map than had then been issued. He, unfortunately, died before his plans were carried out, though a map eight inches in diameter was published with his posthumous works in 1775. Although small, it was the most accurate map of the moon printed till 1824.

During the last quarter of the eighteenth century the elder Herschel, in England, and Schroeter, in Hanover, directed their attention to lunar investigations. They worked with better instruments than had been used by their predecessors, using magnifying powers from 150 to 300 diameters. Herschel, whose mechanical genius improved every astronomical instrument he touched, used micrometer measurements for his lunar drawings, instead of trusting entirely to skill of eye and hand. Schroeter's *Selenotopographische Fragmente* gave views of parts of the lunar surface with more details than any earlier map had given. He named many formations in the south-west part of the moon's disk, and sixty of his names are still retained. He first adopted the practice, still in vogue, of designating small spots near craters already named, by letters of the Greek and Roman alphabets.