

**100 Years Ago This Month in *The American Mathematical Monthly*  
Edited by Vadim Ponomarenko**

*The Geometrical Lectures of Isaac Barrow*. Translated by J. M. CHILD, Chicago and London, The Open Court Publishing Co., 1916. xiv+218 pages.

An English translation of so important a work as Isaac barrow's *Lectiones geometricæ* will be greatly welcomed. Few American mathematicians have had access to a translation into English by E. Stone, published in 1735; according to a statement made by W. Whewell in the preface to his Latin edition of *The Mathematical Works of Isaac Barrow*, Cambridge, 1860, Stone's translation "was so badly executed that it cannot be of use to any one." [...] Child has aimed to do much more than simply to supply a translation. He has made a searching study of Barrow and has arrived at startling conclusions on the historical question relating to the first invention of the calculus. He places his conclusions in italics in the first sentence of his preface, as follows:

"ISAAC BARROW *was the first inventor of the Infinitesimal Calculus; Newton got the main idea of it from Barrow by personal communication; and Leibniz was also in some measure indebted to Barrow's work, obtaining confirmation of his own original ideas, and suggestions for their further development, from the copy of Barrow's book that he purchased in 1673.*"

—Excerpted from "Recent Publications" Cajori, F. (1919). 26(1): 15–20.