

White's Directory of 1859:

**Ryde Literary and Scientific Institution**.....Among its members are several gentlemen of considerable literary attainments. **Geo. F Harrington**, Esq., of Ryde, has recently startled the philosophical world by the publication of his new theories, which deny that the Sun is the source of light and heat, and maintain that these effects are produced by the combustion of the various gases generated in the atmosphere by the chemical formation and decomposition continually in action on the earth's surface, in chemical combination with positive and negative electricity. As these gases inflame, their latent heat is set free, and produces sensible heat; and the electricity combined with them disperses in the form of light. Many gentlemen of distinguished abilities have become converts to his views. He has also made some discoveries relative to the new metal aluminium.

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