

15. Whether the Nature of Saps ascending, or the Cause of it, be after this manner; *viz.* That in the moist night, the Roots being spongy and soft in the extreme parts, draw in moisture and ferment it; to which the Sun by his warmth gives farther fermentation in the Roots, and a pulsion upwards into the firmer parts of the Roots, and thence into the Body and Branches, and there digesteth it? And whether by the same manner, the Body and Branches warmed, and exhausted in the day by the Sun's heat, digesting and expending into leaves, &c. according to the season, draw Sap out of the lower part to the extremities, so that when Digestion, or *suction* (if there be any such) exceeds *Pulsion*, Sap runs not, & *vice versa*?

16. If Spongy and soft wood imitates Roots in their manner of shooting fresh Roots, and in the growth, after the way above mentioned?

17. Whether more solid wood, as Bays, &c. in moist and seasonable weather laid, and fitted, or, as it were grafted in Willow roots or sticks, will shoot Roots in Layers, and grow as Mulberries do? [I have heard that a chip of soft wood, laid to the end of a *Bay* slip, promotes its rooting: And that *Mulberry* slips are easily propagated, set in the latter end of *January*, or beginning of *February*, in a moist season, not in dry *March*. Such slips root best, if they be Suckers, and taken off with part of the old bark; or if they be last years shoots, cut off from Arms, taken with some older bark from the place where they shot out. I have set many formerly, which all thrive. I affect to propagate them for Pear, and other stocks, namely Quinces, Medlars, Plums, to turn their pulp and juyce red, by taking grafts from such Trees, as have been grafted on Mulberries. *Quære*, if bloud-red Pears and red Redstrakes were thus raised at first, or may be propagated, and to what advantage?]

18. *Quære*, if Quince-stocks conduce to make firm the pulp of Apples, and alter the form of them from what the Graft naturally had before?

An Account of two Books.

I. MISCELLANEA Curiosa MEDICO-PHYSICA. Academia Naturæ Curiosorum. Lipsiæ 1670. in 4o.

THIS is a work very lately begun in *Germany* by a Company of ingenious Philosphers, call'd *Academia Naturæ*

Naturæ Curiosorum (an Academy of Curious Inquirers into Nature,) which some years ago have establish'd themselves in that Country, with a designe chiefly to improve *Physick* and *Natural Philosophy*. For which purpose, they have, (as I find in their *Salve Academicum*, printed at *Leipfick*, An. 1662.) undertaken each of them, to consider and write upon determinate subjects, thereby to penetrate into the nature and qualities of *Particular Bodies* (*Generals* having too long already busied Mens Brains and Hands;) as of the *Vine, Tobacco, Aloe, Scurvy-grass, Wormwood, Scorzonera, St. Johns Worth; Iron, Brass;* the *Unicorn*, the *Stagg, Crabbs;* the *Bloud-stone, Eagle-stone; Musc, Civet, Amber, &c.* Besides which, they have attempted, (after the way, taken up in *France, Italy, and England*,) to write and publish *Ephemerides*, or a *Diurnal*, or *Transactions* of a Philosophical Nature, intending therein to present the Curious yearly with such *Medical, Anatomical, Botanical, Pathological, Chirurgical, Therapeutical, and Chymical* Observations, as they shall by their correspondence either with the Physicians and Philosophers of their own Body and Nation, or with those of other Societies and Countries, procure and digest. And of this they give a *Specimen* in the Book, of which an Accompt is now to be given, out of that *Exemplar*, which was sent from that Generous Body by the hands of the Learn'd Dr. *Sacks*, (a Member of the same) to the Publisher. In it are contained 160 Observations, and 19 Tables of *Figures*; being the Sum of what they have collected for the first Year, which is 1670.

Of them we shall English, for a tast of the Curious here, what followeth; observing the promiscuous way of recital, which is in the Book it self. Among others then (till more Copies of the Book come over,) we take notice of:

1. A Relation of *Snakes* kept tame in an House, going into their boxes every night, and seen to cast their skin, and (one of them) to lay 13. Eggs in the space of an hour and a half, facilitated by him that kept them; who also dissected one of them, and communicated the remarkable things in that Operation.

2. An History to evince, that part of the *Chyle* is by the *Ductus thoracicus* conveyed into the *Subclavials*, and so into the *Cistern* of the *Breasts*, whence by certain Pipes it is carried into *Glanduls* or *Kernels*, there to be elaborated, either for the aliment

aliment of the breasts themselves, or the food of *Fætus's*.

3. An Observation of a *Polygonum Cocciferum*, or a *Grain-bearing Knot-grass* in *Poland*, whose Grains being exposed to the Sun, are turn'd into live Worms, which when dried and so moistned, and pulverized, tinge with a *Crimson* colour.

4 A Description of an Anti-pleuritic Medicine, (much used and commended by *Petrus a Castro*, formerly chief Physician to the Duke of *Mantua*) made of the Rindes of the longer form of *Italian Pumpions*, boyled in very old Oyl of Olives, and strained through a sieve.

5. A Description of a Remedy for an Atrophy of the Eye, lighted upon by chance, when the Eye of an *Uro-saurus* (or *Cock of the Wood*) being dissected, the Aqueous humour, by a deep incision thereof, did spint into the Eye of the Operator, who thereupon found the pains of his Eye, which was much dried, and did smart by over-much lucubrations, allwaged, and his sight improved; and afterwards upon occasion did advise to infil the like juyce of such and other Cocks into the Eyes of a young man, who by his debauches had purchased a kind of Consumption in his Eyes.

6. A Narration of a Serpent petrified in the Stomack of a Stag; kept in the Repository of the Count of *Hanow*, approaching to the colour of a Bezoar-stone, and weighing about 23 ounces. As also of the Brains of divers Oxen turn'd into stones.

7. An Accompt of an Horny substance grown out, near the two last short Ribbs, to a considerable length, resembling the Horn of a young Deer. Whence occasion is taken to relate many odd Observations of Horns grown in all sorts of Animals, Birds, Fishes, Four-footed Beasts, and even in some Men.

8. A way of making a Person born Deaf to hear, by speaking to him over the *Coronalsuture*, well shaved and washed, after certain Purgations made of the Brain, specified in the Book.

9. Of an Egg naturally bred in an Egg; of Stones naturally found included in Stones; and Animals in Animals, and Fruit in Fruit.

10. Of a Child born Hydropical; and of a *Fetus* febricitant whilst in the womb, as was judged by certain red and livid marks appearing on it when it came forth.

11. Of a Child, one year old, so diseas'd with the *Hydrocephalus*, that when open'd, there were taken out of his Head 36 ounces of clear, but saltish, water; whereupon the Brain was by the attentive beholders seen so flattened and extended, as to stick close to the convex sides of the whole skull, like some thick membrane: There being also found a considerable quantity of the like liquor within the Chest of this Infant.

12. Of Worms let out by Venæ-section, and Urine.

13. Of the *Periodical* Head-ach, recurring daily at a certain hour in the morning, and lasting until noon; and seizing only the external part of the face over the right Eye; remedied by letting of blood, and compressing the part.

14. An Observation of the plenteous growth of *Vincetoxicum* or Swallow-wort in the Counties of *Stiria* and *Carinthia*, most inhabitants of which are troubled with the *Scrofula* or Kings Evil, curable with the root of that Plant, having in it very Volatil, piercing, and discussing Spirits; upon which account, the Author esteems it also very powerful against Dropsies.

15. Of a *Fœtus* tinged yellow by Saffron in the *Uterus*, related by *Amatus Lusitanus*, and verified here by an Experiment made upon a Bitch big with Puppy's; though the Chyle in the Lacteous Vessels was whitish.

16. Of several Stones come away together with the Blood of a man of 72 years of Age, being blouded in the Arm.

17. Of a sort of *Craffshes*, which taste bitter when boyled; taken in a small River called *Obra*, in the Confines of *Silesia* and *Polonia*, there growing on the Bank of that River great store of wild *Calamus Aromaticus*, on the Roots of which these *Craffshes* have been observed to feed greedily.

18. Of a Flame broken out of several stomachs, and burning like Spirit of Wine, both in dead Animals, and living Men.

19. A way of Dwarfing men, by anointing their Back-bones, in their very infancy, with the grease of Moles, Batts, and Dormice; together with an Intimation of the Art, used at *Bononia* to dwarf their Dogs, by often washing (from the first day they are pupp'd) their feet and back-bone; thereby drying and hardning those parts, and so hindring their extension.

20. An Abscessie in the *Abdomen* well cured at *Vienna* by an incision made about 4 inches under the ribs, upon which followed

low'd a plentiful eruption of purulent matter, which continued to run for many weeks.

21. Of many odd Examples, not of women only, but men also, greedy to eat very strange things; especially of a Boy, that, without any visible prejudice to his health, did eat Sand, Chalk, Brick, Snuffs of Candles, Dirt, &c. though his Mother had not been observed to eat any such thing, when she bred him. To whom may be joyned the several devourers of Glass, Stones, and Nails, innoxiously voided again by siege.

22. Of making *Chylous Wine*, without any disease in the Kidneys or Bladder, in an Atrophy of the whole Body, there wanting no passages, by which the Chyle may come into the Emulgent and Urinary Vessels.

23. Of an *American Aloe*, planted in *Silesia*, and remaining sterile for 31 years, but after that time shooting out very many branches, and flowers: its chief stem 18 foot high, bearing 21 branches, whereof some had above 200 flowers, which together with the main stem withered away. And of such an other, in *Misnia*, which in a few days grew up to the height of 12 inches, growing every natural day a whole palm, and shooting out 32 branches, in an admirably regular order distant from one another, and in their extremities each producing store of flowers variously coloured.

24. Of two rare Symptoms 'about the Sight. *One* of a person, that tuning the strings of a Musical instrument, one of them snapping asunder, hit his right eye with a smart stroke; after which, some proper cooling Ophthalmicks having been applied, the Patient after Midnight awaking, saw all things, in the dark, as clear as if it had been full day, being able to discern the smallest lines of pictures, and to read printed papers: Whereas when a Candle was brought to him, or in the Sunshine, he could see nothing at all. The other is, of a man infected with the *Lues Venerea*, who, after that the other symptoms were abated, found his sight so distemper'd, that all Objects appear'd to him *double*; which yet at length ceased.

25. An Observation of a *Muscus Terrestris* (Ground-Moss) which being gather'd in *August* and *September*, and reduced to powder, fulminateth, when held or blown into a flame; the same is said by *Olearius*, in his *Moscovy and Persian Voyage*, to be used by those people in their Artificial Fires; who adds,

that Powder of *Rosin* doth the like.

26. Of a Noble-man in *Silesia*, who was so strong, that with his hands alone he could break a Horse shoe, and a Ryxdollar; and hold, at one and the same time, three Men, two under his Arms, and one by his Teeth fastned in his cloaths: who once also, when he hunted the Wild Boar one of those Beasts of a good bigness rushing upon him, took him with one hand by the hair under the Snout, and with the other hand ran him through with his Sword. This same person could at one dinner drink off a whole *German Obm* full of Wine.

27. Of a *Bezoar stone* encompassing a Dart, found in the *Emperours* Repository, and esteem'd to have been taken out of a Bezoar breeding Goat, which being shot in some fleshy part with an arrow, the Salin-Tartareous particles, swimming in the Blood of that Animal, and wont to breed Bezoardick stones in it, were by the continual motion of the Blood carried to that part, where they gathered and stuck about the Arrow.

28. Of Eeles being Viviparous, one of these *Academicians* affirming, that himself had in *Holland* taken several of them out of an Eels womb, wrapt up in several membrans.

29. Of an Hermaphrodite-Stockfish, having both Melt and Rowe; as also of two Crocodils, of both Sexes.

30. Of a strange Antipathy to Musick in a man, that as soon as he heard an Harp touch'd, could not hold his water, &c.

31. Of Light inbred in the Insect, call'd *scolopender*, shining in the dark, and sparkling when compressed.

32. Several Observations concerning the *Milk diet* against the Gout, together with a debate upon that subject; and the manner of using the said Diet.

33. Of *Mercury* crowded into the Crural Vein of a Dog, to the quantity of half an Ounce, without any hurt appearing in the Animal.

34. Of a *Jaspar-stone*, worm eaten.

We leave here unmention'd many other curious Observations, related in this Work, partly for want of room, partly because of the unfitnes of many of them to be expos'd to the view of all sorts of Readers.

II. *PHYSICA*, in *Decem TRACTATUS DISTRIBUTA*,
Auth. *Honorato Fabri*, S. J. *Lugduni Galliarum*, 1669, in 4^o.
Of

Of this vast work, the Author publish'd *An. 1666. at Paris*: two Treatises; the first, *De Plantis & Generatione Animalium*; the latter, *De Homine*; by a kind of Retrograde method, opposing the Order of *Publishing* to that of *Composing*: For, whereas in the *Composition*, he proceeded from the simpler things to the Complexed; in the *Publication* and Communication, he thought fit to produce the *Whole* of all Nature, that elaborate piece, *Man*; in whom, besides the Sensitive and Vegetable Faculties, and the powers of Mixts, and the Elements, common to all Bodies, there shineth out a supereminent Principle, the Rational Soul.

In the Book, which beareth the above-mentioned Title, the Author giveth in the *Preface* an Account of the Method, used by him in this whole Work, and of his Performance in this very Volume.

Concerning his Method, he saith, That he hath comprehended the whole Physicks, or all Natural Philosophy in *Ten* Treatises, in a *Geometrical* method, (which how he performeth, we leave to strict Mathematicians to judge;) beginning from those things that first incur into our senses, *viz.* In the *Four* first Treatises, he handles of The sensible *States* of Bodies, as the Corporeal *Quantum*; Of Bodies Tense and Compress'd, *Rare & Dense*, Heavy and Light, where of the *Motion* of Bodies, Natural, Violent, and Mixt; Opaque & Diaphanous, Wet and Dry, Hard and Soft; Tough and Dry; Flexible and Stiff; Fissile and Brittle; Friable and Ductil; Liquid and Liqueable; Inflammable; Exhalable; Spirable; Of Heat, and Cold; of Light, Colours, Sounds, Odors and Tasts; and of the Resistance of Bodies.

In the *Fifth*, he treateth of the Principles of Bodies Natural, of their Generation and Corruption, and the Four Elements.

In the *Sixth* and *Seventh*, of Mixtion and mixt Bodies, Imperfect and Perfect.

In the *Eighth* of Celestial Bodies.

In the *Ninth*, and *Tenth*, of Plants, Animals, and *Man*.

As to his Performance in this Volume, he therein dispatcheth the *Four* first Treatises. In the whole, he professeth to have followed the Principles of *Aristotle*, except where clear Experiment and Demonstration necessitate, to recede from him; observing withal, how much that Philosopher hath been perverted by *Averroës*, and the rest of that *Arabian* Crew.