

so make up the triangular body FDE, as in the Fig. annext. And thus I think I see the grosser parts of Fat, not perfectly round. And if any of the Curious desire to see the Globuls, of which the greatest parts of Fat are made up, they may be pleas'd to take care, that there be taken a piece of the coursest Fat, and that with the hand it be broken afunder; which way being observ'd, there will then (yet not always) some small particles of fat, in the midst of the fat, be sever'd, which being dextrously applied to the pin of the Microscope, you will be able to see its form: For if you break off a piece of fat with a pin, you will tear the Globuls.

10. I have lately observ'd, that each bubble or globul of Fat consists of more than a thousand small Globuls. Yet I am apt to believe, that those that have not seen the Globuls in Blood, Hair, Bone, &c. will not satisfie themselves about seeing the Globuls in the Globuls of Fat, because of their extraordinary minuteness.

11. The Fat of some *Water-fowl* and *Fish*, though it have been view'd by me, yet shall I endeavor to observe it again before communication.

12. Having view'd the *Tears* of two infants, I found therein very few round Globuls, but much more other odd and mishappen particles, of divers forms; some of which seem'd to consist of united Globuls. I was thinking, because those Tears had run down the Cheeks, whether all these particles might not be scallings off of the Cuticle. For I presume, if the Tears of a grown person, and such as are caused from much grief, and are shed copiously, were well viewed, there would in all appearance be much more seen in them.

An Account of a notable Case of a Dropsy mistaken for Gravitation in a young Woman; communicated by a Learned and Inquisitive Physitian in Holland, considerably enlarging the Observation made of the same Case by the famous Dr. Tulpius, lib.

4. *Obj. c. 48.*

Some years since, there came to Dr. D. a young Woman of about 17 years of age, unmarried and reputed a Maid, of a florid countenance, and strong body, having a good stomach, *periodicè menstruata*, and wanting none of other due evacuati-

ons ; not troubled with head-ach nor sleepinefs, nor difficulty of breathing, nor drought, nor any of the fymptoms incident to Hydropical perfons. This young woman having her belly fwollen to excefs in three months time, was much fufpected by the Phyfitian whom fhe addreffed herfelf to, as if fhe had been deflowered ; which yet with many imprecations fhe denied, though in vain : the Phyfitian difbelieving her affeverations, and particularly that fhe had her periodical *lochia*, becaufe fhe looked fo well, nor had any figns of an hydropical Diftemper upon her, except the tumor of her belly, which being felt, afforded fome confiderable figns to difpoffefs the Phyfitian of the opinion he had of this perfon ; fceing it was not a prominent nor roundifh tumor, nor any fuch as is ufual in women with child ; befides that, fhe made not fuch a coloured and craffe Urine as Childbearing women are wont to do : Yet there appearing no fymptoms of a Dropfy, no complaints of the ftomack, liver, fpleen, kidneys, no fwelling of the loins or inferior limbs, no leannefs in the body or fuperior parts, no flaccid nor difcolour'd breafte, but all being thus far in a good conftitution ; the Phyfitian fent her away without giving or prefcribing her any Phyfick, putting her in mind of that faying, *That the whole need no Phyfitian, but the fick*. Yet fhe return'd foon after, importuning him to give her his advice againft the Dropfy. He confulting with other Phyfitians about it, found them as well diftracted between both as he was himfelf. Yet fome of them, inclining rather to the opinion of a Dropfy, with appropriate Medicines made her void abundance of water, yet without unfwelling her belly. Whereupon fhe addreffed herfelf to Mountebanks, who voided her purfe without voiding her belly of the water. This made her give over for a while the ufe of all Remedies, committing the whole bufinefs to Nature, and fo continuing for fix months. But then hearing of another Hydropical woman that had been cured by her firft Phyfitian, fhe return'd to him, with tears in her eyes, befceching his affiftance. He now finding her body dryed and bloodlefs, her breath fhort, her temples fallen in, her nofe fsharp, her eyes hollow, her skin wan and ill-favour'd, her pulse creeping, her appetite prostrate, her tongue dry, her voice weak, her evacuations fparing, and all
her

her strength dejected, in a word, liker a *Skeleton* than a living Body; he calls together divers of his Colleagues, to view this miserable Creature, who being now sufficiently convinced of the nature of this Distemper; did, though the case was now desperate, resolve upon the use of a *paracentesis* or incision; which the Patient abhorring, she was left to herself, and dyed three months after. Her body being open'd, there soon appear'd a great lake of water; whence at first it seem'd to be a common *Apcites*, a tumour of waters stagnating in the *abdomen*. Then the Liver being look'd after, it was no where seen. Next the other *viscera* being sought for, *viz.* the Mesentery, *Pancreas*, Spleen, and Kidneys, none of them all appear'd neither, to the astonishment of all that were present, who searching further, and meeting with the *Peritonæum*, found it to be turned into a bagg, by a separation made of its interior membrane from its exterior, and so enclosing within it the whole bulk of that stagnant water, that not a drop of it had been able to get out into the *abdomen*. This costed no small trouble to render it conspicuous, by emptying this sack of all the *Serum*, and so discovering both sides of the bagg, made up of the double *peritonæum*, whose inner skin had been sever'd from the outer, sticking to the transverse Muscles of the *Epigastium*, the hydropical waters having forced the inner membrane inwards into the hollow of the *abdomen*, and so forming it into the shape of a bagg, whose compass reached from the *pubes* unto the diaphragme, and from the left region of the loyns to the right; so that the nervous body of the *peritonæum*, being here very thick and close withal, was by little and little expanded, as the capacity of the womb in gravitation is still more and more enlarged. Where it seems worth inquiring; Whence this *peritonæum* had acquired this extraordinary thickness, being thicker and closer than any Oxe-hide, where as naturally 'tis as thin as any silken webb? But to proceed: This bagg of the *peritonæum* being remov'd, the *viscera* came to view, which were not gravelly, nor tartareous, nor chalky, (as they often are in Hydropical bodies,) but only decayed and colourless: Which decay by the timely use of an Incision might have been prevented.