

4. *An account of the Dissection of a Bitch, whose Cornua Uteri being fill'd with the bones and flesh of a former conception, had after a second conception the Ova affix't to several parts of the Abdomen: By an ingenious Physitian, a Fellow of the Royal Society.*

IT would seem a needless thing, to publish an *Observation*, to confirm the *opinion* of the production of Animals from *Eggs*, which is almost Universally *receiv'd*: but that some time since the Learned *Deimerbroeck*, and very lately *Monsieur Verney* have endeavor'd to confute and expose it. The most considerable argument they use is taken from the *narrowness* of the *Fallopian Tubes*, where they open into the *Womb*, and at their extremities. But, tho' these Authors lay a great deal of stress on the structure of that *passage*, it cannot be accounted of any force, when *Ocular demonstration* is brought against it; and the *Eggs* discover'd in the *Entrance*, and afterward to have made their way through them into the *Womb*.

The sagacious *Dr. Harvey* was very near the discovery of the *Egg*, and its use: He came within sight of it, but unhappily over look't it. After many repeated dissections of impregnated *Deer*, he asserts, that Nothing for about 6 or 7 *Weeks* can be seen in the *Horns* of their *Wombs*: That there then appeared somewhat like an *Egg*, a transparent liquor included in a very thin *Membrane*, in which after a *Week* he could plainly see the rudiments of a *Fætus*. He gives

gives his Opinion very expressly in his Treatise *de Partu. Vipera ovum Unicolor & molli cortice (qualis Muliebris conceptus est) intra se continet, &c.* The Viper has Eggs, whose parts are of one colour, inclosed in a soft Shell; and the very same is a *Womans conception*. But he could not inform himself, how that *Egg* in *Women* or in *Does* comes into the *Womb*. He declares himself fully satisfied after several *Tryals*, that no *liquor* can be so forcibly injected into the *Womb*, as to make its passage into the *place of Conception*. Nor would he suspect, that the *Seed* of the *Female* lay till the *Egg* appear'd, in any crannies or *recesses* of the *Horns*; which he asserts are then as smooth and soft, as the *Corpus Callosum* of the *Brain*. *Dr. Harvey* having thus sufficiently confuted the opinion, which till his time prevail'd, of the production of *Animals* from the *mixture* of the *Seminal matter* of *both Sexes*: 'twas not so difficult to discover, whence the *Egg* came, which he saw *about 7 Weeks* after *impregnation*. The *Fallopian Tubes*, which joyn to the *Horns* and terminate very near the *Ovaria* (as the *testes Muliebres* are generally now call'd) directed the *Ingenious* and *Industrious de Graff*. to make more accurate dissections of them. He presently saw, that the *limpid liquor*, which *Dr. Harvey* thought was designed to humect the parts adjacent, was contain'd in an *entire Membrane*, and exactly answered the description he gives of the *Eggs* he saw in the *Womb*.

As he first discover'd the use of those *Globules* in the *Ovaria*, so he has been so happy in that excellent piece *de Mulieris Organis*, to give so demonstrative an account of the alteration of those w^{ch} are *impregnated*; the way of *excluding* them by the glandulous substance swelling behind them, and the *Apertures* through which they pass, remaining *open* all the time of the *gestation*, and exactly in each *Ovarium* answering the number of *Embryos* in each *Horn*: But more particularly he has so very nicely observed the *Progress* of the *Eggs* in *Conies*; the very time of their *passing* into the *Tubes*, and appearing in the *Horns* of the *Womb*,
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(which comes very near that proportion of time Dr. *Harvey* observed the *Egs* in his *Deer*), that nothing can be objected of force enough to shake an Opinion confirmed by so many and so exact observations. He has prevented the Objection which *Deimerbroech* and Mr. *Verney* use against him, That the *Tube* is too narrow at each end to transmit *Globules* of that bigness: Alleging that the *Hole* by which it has its exit out of the *Ovarium* is as narrow; that no *Force* is used to open it, but it *expands* it self, as the *Os Uteri* before the *Birth*: As *Nuts* and *Peach-Stones* &c. give way to the *germinating Plant*, which is less able to make its way then the *Eg*. But besides, (which these *Authors* urge,) tho' the extremity of the *Tube* be *membranous* in most *Quadrupeds*, in which its possible a *seminal Liquor*: might be *transmitted* to the *Womb*; in *Women* its divided, like a *Knot of Ribbon*, and is no more adapted to receive any thing but an *Eg*, then the *Fingers* expanded to receive and contain a *Fluid*. The *Eg* has not been able sometimes to get into the *Womb*; *Riolanus* speaks of a *human Fœtus* seen in one of the *Tubes*: and Dr. *Harvey* assures you he has seen it himself. In the dissection of a *Bitch* at *Oxford*, the *Embryos* either could not get into it, the *Membranous Expansion* being hindred from ascending to and clipping the *Ovaria*, by the fulness of the *Womb*; or from the same cause were forc'd back again. She had been with *Whelp*: By a blow she received the *Fœtus* died within her. She discharged by the *Pudendum* a great quantity of putrid *Flesh* and *Matter*. She was afterward able to run in the *Pack*. After the second *Impregnation* she was observed to have a very *ill shap't belly*. When dead the owner a *Person of Quality* sent her to *Oxford*. The *Horns* of the *Womb* were so *stuf't* up with the *Bones* and *firmer Muscles* and *thicker Skin* of the *Fœtus's*, (some of them lay in the usual posture, the *Skeletons* of which were entire, the interstices of the bones only filled up with *Skin* and *Flesh*); that no *seminal matter*, or *Aura seminalis* could possibly find a

passage to the *Ovarium*. The *Egs* affected in the second impregnation, finding no room in the *Horns*, were forc't back into the *Abdomen*: where they were found affixed to the *Mesentary, Kidney &c.* Only *Two* of the *Bags* had a Communication with the *Womb* by a slender *Duct*. These I suppose fell into the *Horns* first, and began to fasten to them, but growing larger were forc't to retire. The other *Three* had had no reception there at all. The *Membranes* which contained the *Embrios* were all of them very *Thin*, and the *Animalcles* in them had wanted a due supply of nutritious matter. This seems to give as clear a proof of the truth of the modern opinion, as can be expected or desired. But if *Anatomy* had not discovered these *Egs* and demonstrated their use and progress to the *Womb*, and the advances they there make; it would appear now a very difficult task from the other opinion to persuade an inquisitive Person, how an *Animal* can be produc'd from the mixture of the *Seminal Liquors* of both *Sexes*. Every *Animal*, tho' upon other accounts esteemed the *most despicable*, is made up of so many *Different parts*, and those of so excellent a *Contrivance*, and so wonderful a *Respect* to one another, that tis not to be imagined, that the *Seminal fluids* lying loose and at large in the *Capacity* of the *Womb*, and expos'd to so many accidents, could give a production so admirable.

Every *Jogg* of it from the frequent *Motions* of the *Female*, would disturb and distract the present designs of the *Plastic* power they speak of. The *Humors* and *Vapors* which have a passage to, and *humect* all the parts of the *Body*, would in the *Womb* break in on the soft *Seminal Mass*, and break off the tender filaments when first a forming. In *Quadrupeds* the *Peristaltic motion* of the *Horns* would perpetually separate the parts of the *Seminal Collection*, and scatter those pieces, which Nature is putting carefully together into the *Fabric* of an *Animal*. From this way of *Conception* Monsters would be very frequently brought forth, and would be much less wondred at than a perfect produ-
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duction is now. We see how very industrious Nature is in preserving the *Species* of *Vegetables*. When the *tender Seed* is first formed, it's secured from external Injuries by various sorts of *Cases*. The *Embryo* of the *Plant* contained in the *Seed* hath 3 or 4 *Coats* to inclose it: the outermost is designed of sufficient strength to preserve it. None of the Juices of the Earth are permitted to enter in, but such as are fit to put into motion or supply the liquor contained in the inner Membrane, from whence it has its first increase. And as the *Egs* of *Animals* are designed for the same purpose the *Seeds* of *Vegetables* are; so there is very great agreeableness between them. The *Shell* and *Membranes* of *Egs* (except those which are brought to perfection in the *Female*) are very like those of *Seeds*. Both have a *Colliquamentum*, or more fine and Spirituous Liquor which is first to be spent, before those which are grosser can be received in the extremely fine and *Small-pores* of the *Fetus* when only just begun to be formed. And in Both, the *Parts* of the *Embryo* are designed and drawn out, before the *Eg* has been at all affected by the *Masculine-Seed*, or the *Vegetable Seed* put into the *Womb* of the *Earth*. The *Figure* of the *Plant* may be seen in the *larger Seeds*, and the *Miniature* of a *Chick* in the *Spot* of the *Yolk*. But if so great and so various an Artifice is necessary to raise a *Plant*, shall *Nature* be thought less carefull and industrious in the propagation of *Animals*, whose parts are more numerous and of a much finer texture. And since those *Animals* and *Vegetables* are by some allowed to take their original from *Egs* and *Seeds*, whose largeness will permit them to observe them; it seems an opinion with too much precipitancy taken up, that supposes some of the greater *Animals*, and the least of these and *Plants*, are supply'd from *Equivocal generation*; That corrupted matter from the *Warmth* of the *Earth*, or the *motions* of its own *Principles*, can form the parts of the *One* or the *Other*. For the *Heat* of the *Air* endeavours to *dissipate* and *remove* the thinner parts from the more gross, since no

membrane is supposed to confine them: and the more active principles are from their own nature always struggling to be quit of them. And this way, the parts of an Animal would be sooner broken into pieces, than a new one generated. But they believe it may be allowed, that the *least* and most *inconsiderable Animals and Plants* are this way Formed. But their *Minuteness* make the *Difficulty Greater*. A *Membrane* to include the *Conception* with its first nourishment seems more necessary here, where the parts are more delicately put together, and from their exceeding fineness it might more easily miscarry. If after this method some *Animals and Plants* can be produc't, why is the same *species* and these very *Individuals* they suppose so made, furnish't with *Organs* for *Univocal Generation*? If *slime* and *Mud* can afford *Frogs* and *Fels*, why does the First *Spawn* so many *Egs*, and are the other *Viviparous*? Why does not so great a diversity of putrid parts in the Earth, differently affected by unaccountable accidents, often present us with new living Creatures, and Vegetables of *peculiar specie's*? But no such new Plants are taken notice of, and the *Mites* are of the same sort from *Cheese* and from *Meal*. The objection which is offer'd against *Epicurus*, will be made with the same force against this Opinion. If the Earth at first equivocally produc't Men, Quadrupeds, Birds, and Fish, why has it not done it very frequently or at least sometimes since? We begin to suspect the Cheat, when the Artift is not able to perform the same again.

The Anatomy of a Monstrous PIG Communicated to the R. S. By an Ingenious Student in Physick.

ABOUT the beginning of Decem. 1682. among many Pigs of a Sow, there was one w^{ch} had no passage for the *Fæces* either Solid or Liquid, altho the *Anus* was not outwardly clos'd up; which whether natural, or caused by the Neighbours who had attempted a Cure before I saw it, I cannot