

ufurpatis, levamen percepit. Laborat autem ifta obftructione menfium, quæ mali hufus fons atque origo effe videtur.

Wittenbergæ D. 1 Auguft.

A. D. MDCCXXXV.

X. Experiments concerning the Vibrations of Pendulums. By the late W. Derham, D. D. F. R. S. and Canon of Windfor.

THE Account which Mr. *Bradley* hath given in *Philofoph. Tranfact.* N^o 432, of Observations made at *Jamaica* by Mr. *Campbel*, with a nice *Pendulum-Clock* of Mr. *Graham's* making, brought to my Mind fome Experiments I made fome Years ago, that may be of Ufe in Observations of this nature.

The first that I fhall take notice of, fhall be fome Experiments I made in the Year 1704, with excellent Instruments, concerning the *Vibrations of Pendulums in Vacuo*; which were published in the *Philofoph. Tranfact.* N^o 294. The Sum of which is, That the Vibrations in *Vacuo* were larger than in the *open Air*, or Receiver unexhausted: Alfo that the Enlargement or Diminution of the Vibrations, was constantly in Proportion to the Quantity of Air, or Rarity, or Density thereof, which was left in the Receiver of the Air-Pump. And as the Vibrations were larger or fhorter, fo the Times were augmented, or diminished accordingly; *viz.*

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two Seconds in an Hour slower, when the Vibrations were largest, and less and less, as the Air was re-admitted, and the Vibrations shortened.

But notwithstanding the Times were slower, as the Vibrations were larger, yet I had Reason to conclude, that the Pendulum really moved quicker in *Vacuo*, than in the *Air*, because the same Difference, or Enlargement of the Vibrations (as two Tenths of an Inch on a Side) would cause the Movement, instead of two Seconds in an Hour, to go 6 or 7 Seconds slower in the same time; as I found by nice Experiments.

The next Experiments I shall mention, I made at several Times, in 1705, 1706, and 1712, by the Help of a good Month-Piece that swings Seconds. The Weight that then drove it, was about 12 or 13 Pounds, and it kept Time exactly by the Sun's mean Motion: But by hanging on 6 Pounds more, the Vibrations were enlarged; but yet the Clock gained 13 or 14 Seconds in a Day.

And as the Increase or Diminution of the Power that drives the Clock, doth accelerate or retard its Motion, so, no doubt, doth *Cleanness* or *Foulness* affect it, and so doth *Heat* and *Cold*; for all have the same Effect upon the Pallets and Pendulum.

The last Experiments I shall mention, I made in 1716 and 1718, to try what Effects *Heat* and *Cold* had upon *Iron Rods* of the same Length, or as near as I could to those that swing Seconds. I made my Experiments with round Rods of about a Quarter of an Inch Diameter, and with square Rods, of about three Quarters of an Inch Square. The Effects on both which were the same.

At first I took the exact Length of the Rods, in their natural Temper. Then I heated them as well as I could in a Smith's Fire, from End to End, nearly to a *Flaming Heat*; by which means, they were lengthened two Tenths of an Inch. Then I *quenched* them in cold Water; which made them $\frac{7}{100}$ of an Inch shorter than in their natural State.

Then I warmed them to (as near as I could guess) the *Temper* of my Body; by which means they were about $\frac{1}{100}$ of an Inch longer than in their natural Temper.

Afterwards I cooled them in a *strong frigorifick Mixture* of common Salt and Snow, which shortened them $\frac{2}{100}$ Parts of an Inch.

Afterwards I measured these Rods, when heated in an *hot Sun*, which lengthened them $\frac{2}{100}$ Parts of an Inch more than their natural Temper.

All these Experiments seem to concur in resolving the Phænomenon of *Pendulum Clocks going slower under the Æquator* than in the Latitudes from it: But yet I confess, that I have too good an Opinion of Sir *Isaac Newton's* Notion of the Sphæroidal *Figure* of the *Earth*, to part easily with it; and therefore I leave it to the Consideration of others, how far the *Figure* of the *Earth*, and how far *Heat* and *Cold*, and the *Rarity* and *Density* of the *Air*, are concerned in that Phænomenon.