

XII. *A Copy of a Letter from the Reverend Mr. Richmond, to ——— Leigh, Esq; of Adlington in the County of Chester, concerning a moving Moss in the Neighbourhood of Church-Town in Lancashire: Communicated by Edward Milward, M. D. F. R. S.*

Dear Sir,

Read Feb. 28.
1744-5.

AS you will probably hear, that this Neighbourhood is greatly alarmed with what they call a Miracle, it may not be unacceptable if I give you the History of it.

On *Saturday* the 26th of *Jan.* 1744-5, a Part of *Pilling Moss*, lying between *Hescomb Houses* and an Estate of *Mr. Buttler's*, called *Wild Bear*, was observed to rise to a surprising Height: After a short Time it sunk as much below the Level, and moved slowly towards the South Side: In half an Hour's time it cover'd 20 Acres of Land. The improved Land adjoining that Part of the *Moss* which moves is a concave Circle containing near 100 Acres, which is well nigh fill'd up with Moss and Water. In some Parts it is thought to be five Yards deep. A Family is driven out of their dwelling House, which is quite surrounded, and the Fabric tumbling down. *Mr. Buttler, Whitehead, and Stephen White*, are the first Sufferers by this uncommon Accident. An intense Frost retards the Regress of the *Moss* To day; but I fear it will yet spoil a great deal of Land. The Part of the *Moss* which is sunk like the Bed of a River, runs

runs North and South; is above a Mile in Length, and near half a Mile in Breadth; so that I apprehend there will be a continual Current to the South. A Man was going over the *Moss* when it began to move: As he was going Eastward, he perceiv'd, to his great Astonishment, that the Ground under his Feet moved Southward. He turn'd back speedily, and had the good Fortune to escape being swallowed up. I have been at the *Moss* to make Observations every Day this Week: If any thing happens worth your Knowledge, you may depend upon hearing further from,

S I R,

Your very affectionate

Humble Servant,

L. Richmond.

XIII. *A brief Inquiry, by John Ward, F.R.S. & Rhet. Prof. Gresh. into the Reading of two Dates in Arabian Figures, cut upon Stones which were found in Ireland; communicated to the Royal Society, on November 10. 1743. and December 6. 1744.*

Read Feb. 28. 1744-5. **T**WO Dates in *Arabian Figures*, transmitted from *Ireland*, were some time since laid before this Learned Society. But as
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