

- I. *A Letter from Mr. Wm. Fidge, Surgeon, at Portsmouth, to Cromwell Mortimer, M. D. Secret. R. S. concerning a Stone taken out of the Bladder of a Dog; which being cut asunder had a Piece of Dog-Grafs in its Center.*

S I R,

*Read at a Meeting of the Royal Society, Jan. 8. 1746-7.*

According to your Directions I have sent an Account of the Stone I lent with you; It is now fourteen Years since I took it out of the Bladder of a very large Mastiff, about five Years old, belonging to the Porter of his Majesty's Dock-Yard at *Portsmouth*. The Dog died in about three Days after receiving a Kick from some one endeavouring to part him from another Mastiff he was fighting with.

Being then an Apprentice to the Surgeon of the Yard, and hearing the Dog was dead, I sent the Labourer, who attended the Surgery, to get him for me, in order to dissect.

When I had open'd the *Abdomen*, I found it fill'd with bloody Urine; and having before heard that his Death was suppos'd to be occasion'd by the Kick, I immediately thought the Bladder must be the Part hurt; which, when I had cleans'd the *Abdomen*, I examined, and found this large Stone, with the Bladder contracted close to it on every Side, and rent at the Bottom about three Quarters of an Inch; so that what Urine came to the Bladder was discharg'd

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into the *Abdomen*; which was plainly the Cause of his Death.

When I first took it out it weigh'd 10 Ounces 2 Drachms and an half. It is not more than two Months since I cut it afunder; when, finding it form'd upon (as I imagine it it is) a Piece of Dog-Grass, I thought it would not be an unacceptable Present to the Curious; therefore, having some Affairs which call'd me to Town, I brought it with me for that Purpose.

What is to be farther remarked is, that I did not find any the least Particle of Gravel or Sand either in the Kidneys or Ureters; and that all the Bones (except the Ribs and *Cranium*) are more or less carious, as the Bones you have with the Stone.

If, when you shew it to the *Royal Society*, it should be thought deserving a Place among their Curiosities, it will give me the greatest Pleasure, in having this Opportunity of presenting something worth the Notice of so Learned and Ingenious a Body of Gentlemen. I am,

S I R,

*With all due Respect,*

*Your most obedient,*

*humble Servant,*

London, Dec. 29.

1746.

William Fidge.