

Sir, if any further Account of the above will be acceptable to you, or the *Royal Society*, if you please to command I will wait on you. There are Alterations in my Machine I think for the better; and some new Experiments too long to write, fearing it would be too troublesome; from

Your humble and obedient Servant,

R. Roche.

X. *A Letter from John Huxham M. D. F. R. S. to C. Mortimer Secr. R. S. concerning a Child born with an extraordinary Tumour near the Anus, containing some Rudiments of an Embryo in it.*

Dear Sir,

Read May 19. 1748. **T**HE following Case was lately communicated to me by Mr. *Alexander Wills*, an experienced and ingenious Surgeon and Man-Midwife, of *Kingsbridge*. It seems to have something particular and remarkable. If you think so (on Perusal) you may be so good as to lay it before the *Royal Society*. I am,

S I R,

Plymouth, Dec. 12.
1746.

*Your much obliged, and
most obedient humble Servant,*

J. Huxham.

U u

“ John

“ *John Perrine’s Wife*, of *Charleton* Parish, in
 “ this County, a brisk active young Woman (he
 “ very infirm and consumptive) was deliver’d of a
 “ Daughter at full Time, *July 11, 1746*. The
 “ Child was perfect, as to all its Limbs, Head,
 “ Body, &c. but from the Region over the *Oſ*
 “ *sacrum, Glutæi* Muscles, and between the Thighs,
 “ quite home to the *Pudendum*, was growing a
 “ very large Substance, which the Midwife and
 “ others call’d a Wen, in Shape very like the Ven-
 “ tricle of a Sheep, and seem’d, as to its Colour
 “ and outward Appearance, a Continuation of the
 “ same Skin with the rest of the Body, but very
 “ full of Blood-vessels. It hung down behind be-
 “ low the Heels, and was bigger than the whole
 “ Body of the Child itself. It felt very soft, and
 “ seem’d to have Matter fluctuate in it; but in the
 “ middle of the Whole was evidently felt a hard
 “ Substance.

“ The *Pudendum* as well as *Anus* were in all re-
 “ spects natural, and both Urine and Stool were re-
 “ gularly discharg’d; but the *Anus* was placed much
 “ more forward, and immediately under the *Pu-*
 “ *dendum*; so that the *Fæces* were discharged in
 “ the same Direction with that of the Urine.

“ I made a Puncture in the depending Part of
 “ the Tumour, and drew off near two Quarts of a
 “ palish red Water, without any Smell. The Ori-
 “ fice being left open, there was a continual Issue
 “ of the same kind of Water for several Days; but
 “ by degrees it became more and more glutinous,
 “ and at length whitish like *Pus*, and very fetid. As
 “ the

“ the Discharge was great, the Child grew weaker
 “ and weaker, and at the End of 15 Days died.

“ The next Day I open'd the Tumour, and found,
 “ near the *Os Coccygis*, an Abscess within a Cystis,
 “ in which were four Ounces at least of white
 “ Pus prodigiously stinking; and, on further Exa-
 “ mination, found several cartilaginous Joints, as it
 “ were, somewhat resembling the Tail of a Sheep,
 “ continued from the Point of the *Os Coccygis*.
 “ These were about two Inches long, and envelop'd
 “ with a kind of fleshy Substance cover'd with a
 “ sort of Fat: These, when cut thro', appear'd ex-
 “ actly like the inner Part of Lamb-Stones. From
 “ those depended a Substance like the Head and Neck
 “ of an Embryo, as big as a large Egg, which, on
 “ opening, contained somewhat resembling Brain,
 “ and a kind of a *Cerebellum* in the back Part:
 “ It had a Mouth and Tongue on one Side of the
 “ Face (if it might be so call'd) but no Appear-
 “ ance of Eyes or Nose; however there was an
 “ Ear pretty evident.

“ In the large Tumour there hung a kind of
 “ loose Membrane, which perhaps might be Part
 “ of a Secundine.