

pense too easily with the Severity of a necessary Examination, it may be imagined, that they have considered as real Success, what was in Truth only a Phantom.

It remains to say, that in these Researches I have coveted Truth, only for her own sake; and have no Interest in convincing those who may think proper still obstinately to believe, what has been published concerning lined Tubes, electrical Purgations, instantaneous Cures, &c. I do not pretend to make any of my Opinion, but those, who, having read without Prejudice what I have here related, may find themselves touched by my Reasons: But if after this there can be any one, upon whom the Love of the Marvellous can make a victorious Impression, I shall not think ill of them, if they embrace Opinions opposite to mine; *Qui vult decipi, decipiatur.*

XXI. *An extraordinary Case of a Fracture of the Arm; communicated by Mr. John Freke, F. R. S. Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.*

Read April 5. 1750. THE following Extract of a Letter from Mr. *John Barde*, Surgeon, in *New York*, having been communicated to me, I thought the Case so curious, and to have been treated in so skilful and regular a manner, as to be worthy of being laid before this learned Society.

J. FREKE.

E e c

“ IN

“ I N *May* 1746. as Colonel *Morris's* Lady was  
 “ going from this City to *Morrisena*, the Co-  
 “ lonel's Country Seat, she had the Misfortune of  
 “ being thrown out of her Chaise by the Horses  
 “ suddenly falling down; by which means she had  
 “ both the Bones of her left Arm broke. She was  
 “ immediatly conveyed to the *Hermitage*, a Coun-  
 “ try Seat belonging to the Honourable *Joseph Mur-*  
 “ *ray*, Esq; which is about a Mile and a Half from  
 “ the Place where she met with this unlucky Acci-  
 “ dent. Being sent for by the Colonel, I examined  
 “ the Case, and found the Bones broke in an ob-  
 “ lique Direction, a very great Contusion of the  
 “ Muscles, and the Arm already tumified; which,  
 “ together with the being three Months gone with  
 “ Child, obliged me, previous to the Reduction,  
 “ to bleed her in the Right Arm. I then care-  
 “ fully reduced the broken Arm, and applied the  
 “ proper Bandages.

“ The Case succeeded, with less Inflammation than  
 “ usually attends more simple Accidents of this Kind;  
 “ and, in about twelve Days, she ventured to go  
 “ from the *Hermitage* to *Morrisena*, being about  
 “ six Miles. But what I think remarkable in this  
 “ Case is, that tho' the Ends of the fractured Bones  
 “ had been exactly applied to each other, and tho'  
 “ the Bandages had been continued forty Days, yet,  
 “ upon their being removed, the Callus remained  
 “ so soft and flexible, that her Arm could be bent  
 “ with the greatest Ease into any Position, and appear-  
 “ ed perfectly strait, to the Satisfaction of the Patient  
 “ and Family. But, as I observed the Callus to be  
 “ uncon-

“ unconfirmed, I re-applied the Bandage, which remained on five Weeks longer.

“ Upon a second Examination, I found, to my Surprise, and the great Uneasiness of the Patient and Family, the Callus as soft and yielding as before. I therefore could not help thinking this Case to be similar to two Cases which *Hildanus* gives the History of from his own Practice: For, as the Patient at this time was about five Months gone with Child, Nature determined those nutritious and agglutinating Juices, which were necessary to form and consolidate the Callus, into a different Chanel; *viz.* to the Support and Increase of the *Fœtus*. As a Consequence of this Opinion, I contrived a Bandage made of Velvet, with four thin Blades of Steel, a Quarter of an Inch broad, and seven Inches long, which were covered with Velvet, and fixed to the Inside of the Velvet Bandage; and to the Bandage itself I fixed four small Buckles, with their corresponding Straps. The Bandage thus contrived, and buckled on the Arm, resembled a Muffitie, and was wore with the greatest Conveniency, keeping the Arm in a strait Direction, for four Months longer. In the meantime, the Patient was made easy by the encouraging Hopes I gave her, that, after her Labour, the Oeconomy of Nature would be more immediately directed to the Recovery of the Use of her Arm. And, indeed, so it turned out: For the Callus remained unconfirmed, her Arm useless, and at particular times painful, till within nine Days of her Delivery; when, all on a sudden, she acquainted the Colonel, that her Arm was quite

“ free from Pain, and had a very different Feeling  
 “ from what it had before. From that time, in less  
 “ than a Month, the Callus was intirely confirmed,  
 “ and the Patient recovered the Use of her Arm;  
 “ which, considering the oblique Direction of the  
 “ Fracture, and the long-continued Softness of the  
 “ Callus, has its natural Beauty and Straitness  
 “ wonderfully preserved.

“ I know that a Woman’s Pregnancy is mentioned  
 “ in general, by several Authors, as an Hindrance of  
 “ the Callus being so soon confirmed as in other  
 “ Circumstances. But, except the two Cases men-  
 “ tioned by *Turner*, and taken from *Hildanus*, I  
 “ do not remember to have read any History, where  
 “ the usual Oeconomy of Nature, in restoring a  
 “ fractured Bone, was so intirely, and for so long a  
 “ Time, interrupted; and where the Cause of such  
 “ an Interruption appears so plain, as in the Case I  
 “ have been here relating,” &c.

XXII. *A further Account of the Libellæ or  
 May-flies, from Mr. John Bartram of  
 Pennsylvania, communicated by Mr. Peter  
 Collinson, F. R. S.*

Read April 5. 1750. **S**OME time ago I laid \* before the  
 Royal Society my Observations on  
 the wonderful Appearance of the *Libelle* or May  
 flies of *England*. This Account being perused by my  
 ingenious

\* See this Trans. p 325.