

We see and admire the Effects of Electricity, and its stupendous Properties, every Day; which seems as it were an animating Soul to Matter. The Antients had a Notion that the Earth was a great Animal; probably from some Observations of Electricity; but certainly, when in our Days we feel these unusual and extraordinary Convulsions of Nature, it is a Lesson to us, to do our Duty toward that Great Being, who, by a Drop of Water can produce Effects so prodigious.

March 13.
1749-50.

William Stukely.

XXV.

*Extract of a Letter to Mr. J. Ellicott F.R.S.
concerning an Earthquake at Portsmouth,
March 18. 1749-50.*

Read March 22.
1749.

BY a Letter I had from Mr. Oakes at *Portsmouth*, dated the 19th instant, he gives me an Account of the Inhabitants being alarm'd with a severe Shock of an Earthquake on *Sunday* the 18th at Six o' Clock in the Evening; and that it was felt stronger at the *Common*, which is about three Quarters of a Mile distant.

XXVI.