## [ 57 ]

XVI. An Account of a remarkable Marine Insect: In a Letter of Mr. Andrew Peter Du Pont, to Mr. Emanuel Mendez da Costa, Librarian to the R. S.

Dear Sir,

Read March 10, I am, with great efteem,

Y friend Robert Long, Esq; of Jamaica, favoured me with the drawing and description of a marine insect he took up at sea. I believe it is a non-descript, and as you have often desired me to communicate to you any observations worthy attention to present to the Royal Society, I send you this to communicate to that learned body, if you deem it worthy their notice. I shall always think it a pleasure to tender my respects in whatever I can to the Society, which pray assure them of. I am, with great esteem,

Dear Sir,

Your very obliged friend,

and humble fervant,

Chiswel-Street, Jan. 17, 1763.

Andrew Peter Dupont.

Vol. LIII.

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In

August 13, 1762.

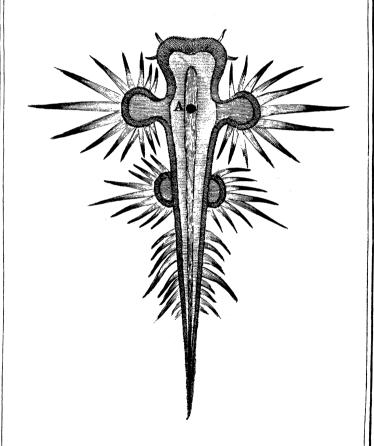
IN a calm on my voyage to England, on board the Friendship, captain Thompson, two perfons fwimming took up this most fingular creature floating on the furface. Its motions muscular. length a little more than one inch. Four small and fhort horns, probably its eyes. It protruded them in the water only; an orifice in the front part feeming Two round spots opaque, marked A, its mouth. possibly respiracula. The mid-line of the back part apppeared through a common magnifier like a filver leaf, and was in continual undulating motion, either from the muscles or circulation of juices. lines extending the whole creature's length, and ending in one in the tail of a deep blue. The fingers, or tentacles, end in a deep blue; a filvery cast intermixed with the blue over the whole back, or upper parts, where the blue is lighter. Vide TAB. III.

This figure is a magnified drawing by the common hand-microscope. It can turn itself on the back by a muscular contraction of the head part, the tail and ramified arms inwards. The inferior

parts are white.

It died the third day, though the water was shifted once every day.

Philos. Trans. Vol. L.III. TAB. III. p. 58.



Dupont deli.

J. Mynde Sc.