

**Wonderful museum : an extraordinary child born in France in 1683.**

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WONDERFUL MUSEUM.



*An extraordinary Child born in France in 1683.*

*Pub. by Hogg & C<sup>o</sup> March 1785.*

than long, and is lined with teeth to the root; it has a bill like a parrot, with this difference; that the upper part is crooked, and boxed in by the lower; the neck is long and flabby; its back resembles a boat with its keel upward, and so hard, that a hatchet cannot penetrate it; the skin is black, and appears as though besmeared with tar; its belly is spotted and scaly, and its fins are like wings, which are four feet long, eighteen inches broad, and six thick: the tail, which is short and broad, terminates like that of a may-bug. Opening this strange animal, there were found in his belly, eggs as black as his skin, and as large as those of an ostrich, and a number of fish, whole and undigested; and what is more surprising, thirty nuts of an extraordinary size, and some pieces of coral. He was seen eight days before he was taken; he was wounded in several parts before he was killed; the blood he shed obliged him to yield to the efforts of the sailors, greedy of so extraordinary a prey.

J. R. B.

*An Account of an Extraordinary CHILD born in FRANCE.*

To WM. GRANGER, ESQ.

Sir,

*If the following curious Account of a Wonderful Birth, extracted from the Journal des Sçavans, with the enclosed Print of the Representation of the Child, which you are at Liberty to engrave from, should meet your Approbation, I should be happy to have them inserted, among the many curious and entertaining Articles in your Wonderful Museum.*

*Yours, &c.*

W. C.

A WOMAN of the parish of Bourg in Bresse, on the 9th of August, 1683, was delivered of twins at her full time. The one born first was well formed, but lived only a few moments. The second came into the world by the aid of

a surgeon, and shewed no signs of life. He was but half the size of his brother, and only as large as a foetus of six months; which made a physician suppose that he was born before his time, and that he had been conceived after the former. But in this point we differ from the physician, because he was born with hair upon his head, and with four teeth. His small size is easily accounted for. By the aliment which should have brought him to the usual growth, an extraordinary skin was formed that entirely covered him to the extremities of his hands and feet, his face excepted, the features of which were tolerably formed. This membrane was loose, and had folds like a shirt or a gown. The flesh beneath it was smooth and firm, as in other bodies. This child had a sort of cape, or cowl, of the same substance with the membrane. This cape hung down upon its back; though it was easily brought over its head, in the manner in which it appears in the print. Its physiognomy was that of an infirm old man; and the skin all over its body was more wrinkled than it is here represented. The painter drew this child as it came into the world; and the annexed print exhibits its just dimensions.

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*The Curious Case of a CATALEPTIC, sent by the Royal Academy of MONTPELLIER, to that of PARIS, as the most Remarkable that had ever been known.*

A MAID about 20 years of age, her complexion pale, her extremities always cold, her temper remarkably timorous, and so tender, as to be extremely sensible of the slightest injury, being in January 1737, brought by some trouble into a catalepsy, was received into the Hospital. Her fits, which were more regular and frequent at the beginning than end of the month, lasted, some a quarter of an hour, some one, two, three hours or more.

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