

**Two discourses, I. Concerning the different wits of men: II. Of the mysterie of vintners ... / [Walter Charleton].**

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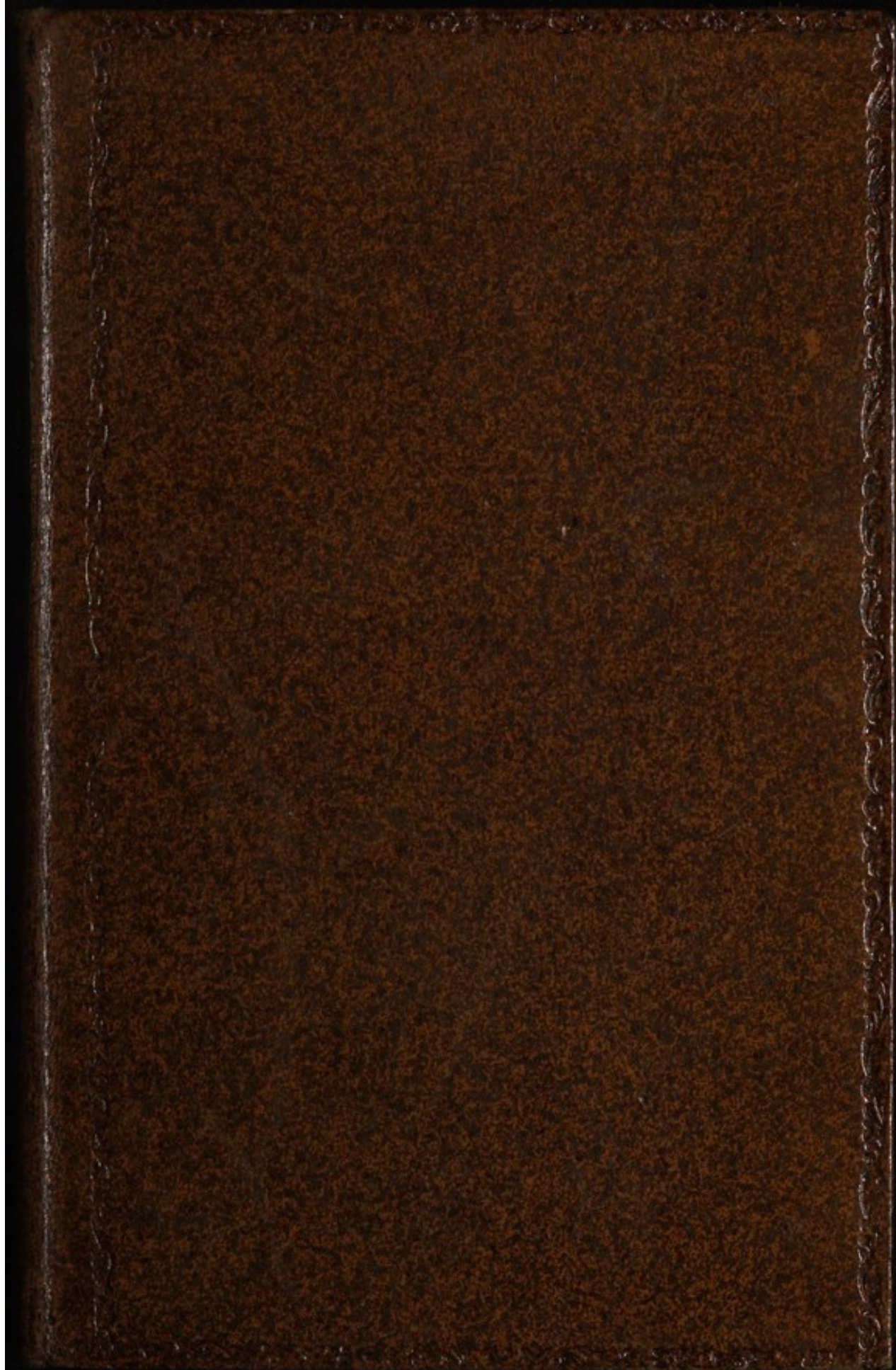
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WITS OF  
MEN.  
—  
MYSTERIE  
OF  
VINTNERS.  
—  
W CHARLETON



1675











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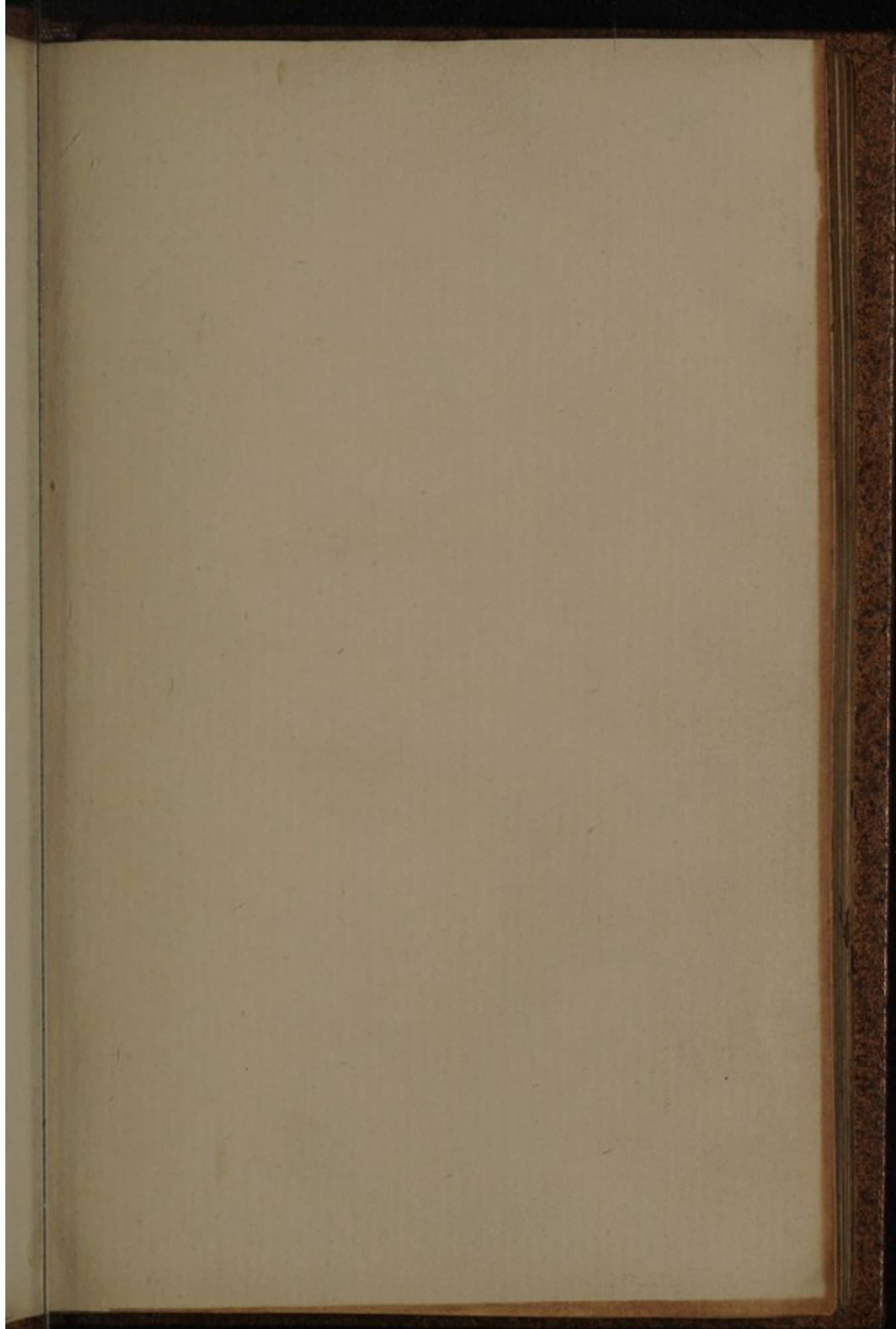
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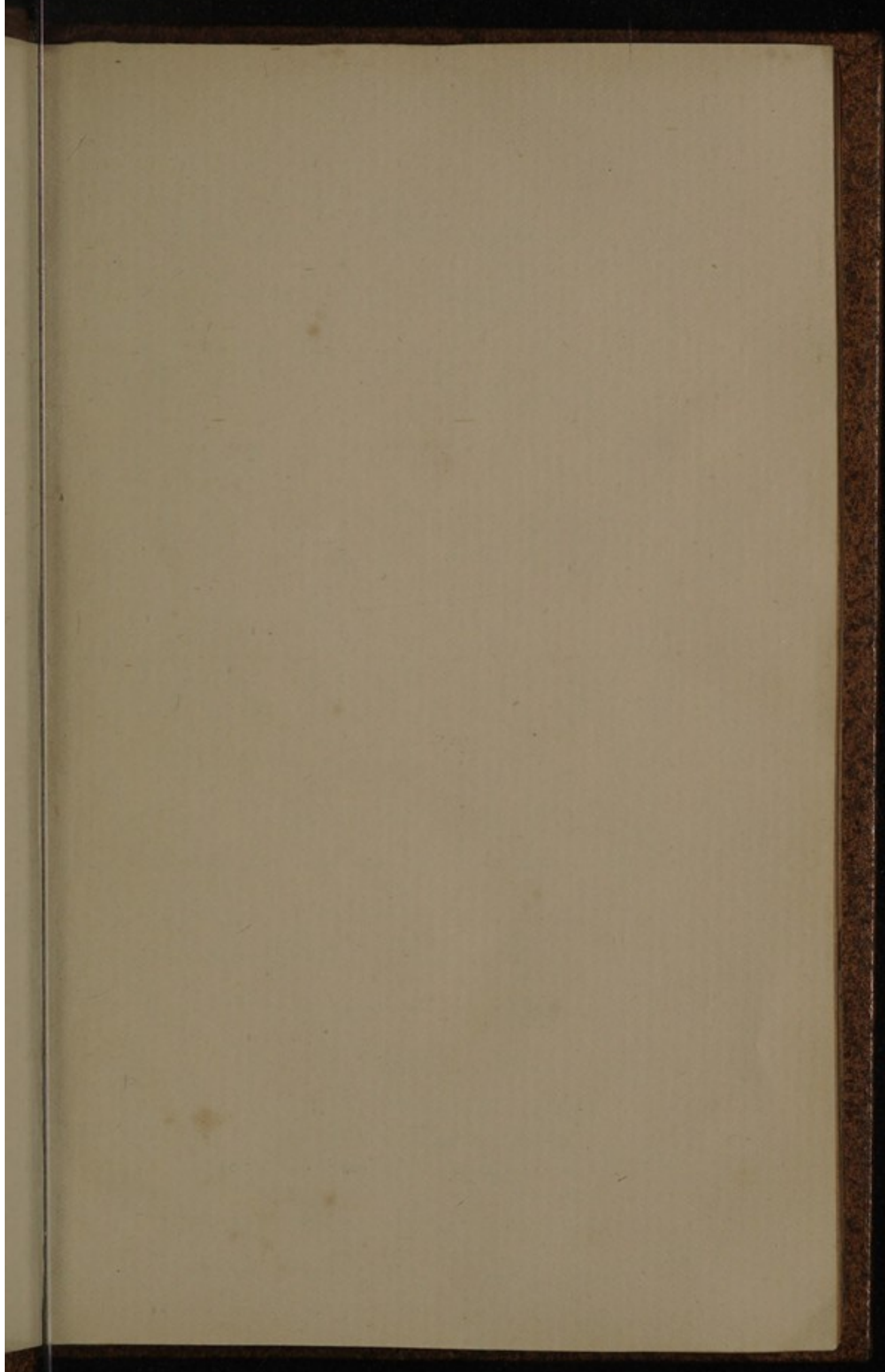
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TWO  
DISCOURSES,  
I. Concerning the Different  
WITS OF MEN:  
II. OF THE  
MYSTERIE  
OF  
VINTNERS.

By *walter Charleton* D. M. and Phy-  
sitian in ordinary to his Majesty.

*The second Edition enlarged.*

LONDON,  
Printed by *F. L.* for *william whitwood*  
at the Sign of the *Golden-Bell* in *Duck-*  
*lane* near *Smithfield*, 1675.



A Brief  
DISCOURSE  
Concerning the Difference

WITS, MEN:

WIT  
At the Request of a Gentleman  
Eminent in Virtue Learn-

MYSERIE  
In the Year 1644  
OF

And now Published with Con-  
sent of the Author.

Printed by R. D. for N. S. at  
the Sign of the Dove in Doves  
Lane, near St. Dunstons Church  
in Fleet Street.

LONDON,  
Printed by R. D. for N. S. at  
the Sign of the Dove in Doves  
Lane, near St. Dunstons Church  
in Fleet Street, 1644.



A Brief  
**DISCOURSE**  
Concerning the Different  
**WITS of MEN:**

Written  
At the Request of a Gentleman,  
Eminent in Virtue, Learning,  
Fortune.

In the Year 1664.

And now Published with Consent  
of the Author.



LONDON,  
Printed by *F. L.* for *Willian Whitwood* at  
the Sign of the *Golden-Bell* in *Duck-*  
*Lane*, near *Smithfield*, 1675-



A brief

DISCOURSE  
OF THE  
VIRTUES

THE  
At the Request of a Gentleman,  
Rais'd in Virtue, Learning,  
and Fortune.

In the Year 1644.

And now published with Con-  
sent of the Author.

A RICHES, THE OCCASION  
OF THE  
DIFFICULTY  
OF THE

Printed by R. J. for William Baskin at  
the Sign of the Green Dragon  
Lane, near Whitechapel, 1677.





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O F





OF THE  
DIFFERENT WITS  
OF  
M E N.

SECT. I.

ARTICLE I.

*Noble Sir,*



F I have taken a whole Month to answer your last Letter, it hath been only because I could not so much as shew my willingness to do it in less  
B time;



time : The Command You were pleased therein to send me, being of so abstruse<sup>ruse</sup> and difficult a nature, that to perform it with accurateness in any proportion correspondent to either its own dignity, or Your Curiosity, would require not one, but many Months, yea Years, though my Abilities were much greater than even the Ignorant and Envious believe them to be. You have therefore, more of reason to blame me for Haste, than for Delay; in that I now render You so negligent an account of my diligence in managing the Province You assigned me: And in this Paper bring rather an excuse to your Expectation, than satisfaction to Your Judgment; You are obliged in Equity to look upon

or



on it as a *Specimen* rather of my  
*Obedience*, than of my *Learning*.  
For, had I not preferred the sug-  
gestions of my duty, as a Friend,  
to the counsel of my Reason, as an  
Inquirer into Nature; You may  
assure your self, it would have  
been very long, before I should  
have been brought thus freely to  
expose my weakness to you, who  
are so well able to discern it.  
But my comfort is, though you  
are sharp-sighted, you are also  
Good-natured: not more apt to  
discover than to conceal mens in-  
firmities and failings. Having  
then the same excuse both for  
my Tardity and for my Haste;  
and confiding intirely in Your  
Candor: behold, I put into your  
hands the following Discourse,  
to which Your Command gave



the first and sole *occasion*, and in which I have plainly and briefly delivered both my thin collections, and present thoughts, concerning the *Different Wits* of Men.

## ART. 2.

For, though *Wit*, or *Natural Capacity of Understanding*, seems to be the only thing wherein Nature hath been equally bountiful to all Mankind; every one thinking he hath enough, and even those who in their Appetites and Desires of other things are insatiable, seldeme wishing for more of that excellent Endowment: Yet nothing is more evident than this, that some have more Wit than others, and that

Men

Men are  
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Men are thereby no less distinguishable each from other, than by their several Faces and Tempers.

## ART. 3.

To ennumerate, then, all these *Differences*, would be a work almost infinite; to define wherein they generally consist, extremely hard; to select and describe the most remarkable of them, highly useful. For, when Men should by the help of such Descriptions be brought to see the Principal and Ruling Inclinations (for the most part the inseparable Concomitants of their Wits, *Non potest esse in ingenio alius, alius in animo color.* Senec. Ep. 114.) That advance or de-



6 *Of the Different Wits*

press their Estimation and Fortunes in the World, reduced to a few Heads or Kinds: it would be no hard matter for them to find out the several Advantages deducible from thence. First, every one might contemplate, as in a Mirrour, some part at least of his own Image, and know in what *Classis* to rank himself. Then, by observing what is *beautiful* or *deform* in the picture of another, he might the better judge of what himself either *desires* or *fears* to be. Again, since *Virtues* and *Vices* mutually incroach upon each others confines, and that no *Ingeny* is so propense to Vices, but that it retains a capacity of being kept from Exorbitancy, and by the strict rains of Prudence inflected to



to their Neighbouring Virtues;

*Invidus, Iracundus, Iners, Vi-  
nosus amator,*

*Nemo adeo ferus est, Qui non mi-  
tescere possit,*

*Si modo cultura patientem com-  
modet aurem.*

Hor. Lib. i. Epist. i.

and on the other side, none is so  
neerly allied to this or that Vir-  
tue, but may by imprudence be  
corrupted, so as to swerve toward  
some bordering Vice: it could  
not be unprofitable to view the  
*Copies of such Inclinations*, attend-  
ed by their good or evil *Conse-  
quents*; and from thence to collect  
how far they might *benefit or hurt*,  
if followed. In fine, by such gene-  
ral Characters, we might learn

A 4

how



how to moderate our *Praises* of some persons, and our causeless *Aversion* from others; than which nothing is more necessary in *Conversation*, especially in election of a *Friend*.

But, alas! Sir, such a Work as this doth yet remain among the *Desiderata* in Philosophy, and so is likely ever to do for me, who am so conscious of the many Herculean Difficulties therein to be encountred and overcome; that I find my self more inclined to wish, than capable to perform it. You ought not, therefore, to wonder, if instead thereof I adventure to present You this rude *Essay*.

SECT.

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## SECT. II.

## ART. I.

That faculty of the Mind, which is commonly understood by the word WIT, being a thing whereof Men have formed to themselves various *Conceptions*, and for which they have accordingly invented various *Names*; it must needs be difficult to determine what is thereby meant, and what denomination is most agreeable and proper thereunto. Nor is it less difficult to investigate the *Nature* thereof, and wherein it doth chiefly consist: the *Oeconomy* of the *Brain* of Man being one of those  
*Arcana*



*Arcana* of Nature, whose knowledge the wise Creator seems to have reserved to Himself.

As for the several *Names* or Words by which it is most usually expressed; I am obliged to recount and explain them to you briefly, that so being delivered from *Ambiguity* (one of the greatest impediments to Science) You may soon be able to judge which of them is *Equivocal*, which *Adequate* and proper.

The *Latin* word, *Ingenium*, though sometimes used even by the best and most accurate Writers, and who lived in the Golden Age of that Language, to signify the power of *Understanding* proper to Mankind; as may be instanced



stanced in that memorable sen-  
 tance of Sallust (in initio Belli  
*Catilinarij*) *Mibi rectius esse vide-*  
*tur, ingenij, quam virium opibus*  
*gloriam quærere*: Yet we find it  
 most frequently used to denote a  
 mans natural *Inclination* or *Pro-*  
*ension* to some things or actions  
 more than to others, whether vir-  
 tuous or vicious; as may appear,  
 among a thousand other instances,  
 from that saying of the same judi-  
 cious *Historian*, in his Character  
 of *Catiline*; *Fuit magna vi & a-*  
*nimi & corporis, sed ingenio malo,*  
*& parvo*; and from that of *Sue-* *pravo*  
*tonius*, relating that *Tiberius* con-  
 nived at some youthful debauche-  
 rirs of *Caligula*, *Si per has mansu-*  
*esieri posset ferum ejus ingenium.*



## ART. 2.

Sometimes by *Wit* is understood *Aptness to Discipline*, Promptitude to learn: which the ancient *Græcians*, both *Phylosophers* and *Orators*, called *Ἐμμαδία*; the *Latines*, *Decilitas*, & *bona indoles*, to which our Language hath no word answerable, but *Towardliness*, now almost obsolete. If you enquire wherein this happy Faculty doth consist, they tell you that it is not simple, but composed of three others.

The *First* of which is named *ᾠξύτης*, *Acumen*, & (*μεταφορικῶς*) *celeritas discendi*, or, as *Xenophon*, *ταχύτης τῆς διανοίας*, a quick or nimble apprehension of what is taught:



taught : though I remember the word ὀξύτης to be not seldom applyed to *Acerbity* and *Cruelty* of disposition; as by *Arrianus* in that phrase, καὶ τὴν βασιλέως ὀξύτητα

The *Second* ἄγχνόια (*ab* ἄγχν, *prope*, ἔννοιμ, *animadverto*, *cogito*, *inspicio*) which is defined to be δύναμις τῆς ἐξ ὧν ἐμάθε διηρθεῖν καὶ εἰ μὴ ἐμάθεν, a Faculty where by a man, from what he hath learned, hunts after what he hath not learned: the same with that the *Romans* termed *Sagacitas*, and our incomparable *Mr Hobbs* renders *Ranging*.

The *Third*, μνήμη, *Memoria*; τήσασιν ὧν ἐμάθε τις, *Retention* of what is learned.



## ART. 3.

Here, *Sir*, You have both the true *Notion* and *Parts* of Docility conveniently expressed; but yet you are to seek, whether Wit and Docility be always one and the same thing. For, Docility, if restrained only to Arts and Sciences, though it necessarily implies a good capacity of understanding in the person, by the bounty of Nature, therewith enriched: yet can it not be thence inferred, that all men who want this Docility, want also Wit; because then none could have Wit, but *Scholars* alone, and because Experience sufficiently demonstrates that many laudable Wits are naturally averse from the  
study



study of Letters, and in that respect perhaps also incapable of proficiency in them So that what *Anatomists* generally say of the signs of Virginitie, namely that the appearance of them is a certain evidence of the Brides Chastity; but the non-appearance, no proof of her deflowerment before Marriage; may with equal truth be said of this Docility; it cannot be without a good Wit, but a good Wit may sometimes be without that. Learning, You know, is but Wit cultivated; the seeds thereof are Natural, and grow up of themselves, and many times bring forth fruits both pleasant and useful, without the help of Art, especially where their Luxuriancy is prevented by virtuous education,  
and



and their maturity promoted by ingenious conversation. If wit, then, may subsist without *Learning*, certainly it may subsist without *Docility*, i. e. a facility of learning Arts and Sciences.

Besides, if we divide *Docility* into its three parts newly described, and distribute them among three Men allowing to one quickness of *Apprehension*, to the second *Sagacity* in hunting after consequences, and strength of *Memory* to the third: this will not be sufficient to direct us to make a judgment, which of the three ought to have the praise of the best *Wit*: because therein they may all be Equal. For, we want not the testimony of daily *Observation*, that many excellent



lent Wits have but weak Memories ; and as many of admirable Memories are yet dull of Apprehension ; and again many, who are good at Ranging after Consequences, though it be necessary that they remember well ( because it is from the reminiscence of what they have known, that they infer what they seek ) are yet but slow of Conception. Hereupon I am of opinion, that Wit and Docility, though frequently Concomitant, are yet distinct Faculties, and therefore require both names and Notions distinct.

Many other words there are used also by the Romans to signifie Wit ; as *perspicacia, solertia, subtilitas, dexteritas, felicitas ingenij,*

C

Etc.



Ec. But these being all *Metaphorical*, are therefore *Ambiguous*, nor worthy a particular examination.

## ART. 4.

Nor is our English word, *Wit*, (which some of our *Glossaries* derive from the Teutonic *Witz*, to understand; and others from the Latine *Videlicet* contracted into *viz.* Because instead thereof we say to *witt*) altogether exempt from *Ambiguity*: as being indifferently used to signify either the *Faculty* of understanding it self, or the *Act* or Effect of that Faculty; in the former sense, when we say, *such a man hath a great Wit*: in the latter, when we give the name of *Wit* to a *jest*, pleasant *conceit*, or *facete* expression, such



such as the *Latins* call *sales*, *lepos*, *facetia*; the *Italians*, *Scherzo*, *giuoco*, *burla*; and the *French*, *gaillieire* and *gaudisserie*.

## SECT. III.

## ART. I.

From the recital of the Names, we pass to the consideration of the *Nature* of Wit,

The Understanding of a Man. You know, Sir, is commonly measured either by the rectitude of his *Judgement*, or the celerity of his *Imagination*.

By *Judgment* we distinguish ability in objects nearly resembling



bling each other, and discerning the real dissimilitude betwixt them, prevent delusion by their apparent similitude. This *Æstima* of the Mind the Grecians term *Διαιωντις*, the Latins, *Judicium* and *Dignotio*; and we, *Discretion*. The Faculty it self, *Aristotle Ethic. 6 c. 7.* names *Ευουνοια*, the Latins, *subtilitas ingenij*; from thence the Itallians, *sottigliezza*, and *sottilita*; the French' *subtilite*; and we, *subtilty*, which is no other but a certain perspicacity of the Mind whereby it is able to compare things one with another, and discern the difference betwixt them, notwithstanding they appear very much alike. Herein *Old men (cæteris paribus)* usually excel *Young*; because by long Experience (which is nothing else but

Re-



Remembrance of what antecedents  
 have been followed by what  
 Consequents ) they have learned  
 the Marks or signs, by which  
 things are to be compared and  
 distinguished: and Men of *nim-*  
*ble Apprehension* (*cæteris paribus*)  
 have the advantage of those who  
 are of *slow*; because they observe  
 more signs of difference in less  
 time.

## ART. 2.

By *Imagination*, on the contra-  
 ry, we conceive some certain si-  
 militude in objects really unlike,  
 and pleasantly confound them in  
 discourse: which by its unex-  
 pected *Fineness* and allusion, sur-  
 prising the Hearer, renders him  
 less curious of the truth of what



is said. This is very evident in use of *Simile's*, *Metaphors*, *Allegories* and other *Tropes* and *Figures* of *Rhetorick*; which are therefore called the *Ornaments* of speech, serving rather for plausibility, than for demonstration. And, indeed, their power over the Affections of the greatest part of mankind, whether by the word Affection we understand what the Grecians call  $\Pi\acute{\alpha}\theta\omicron\varsigma$  *Passion*, or what they term  $\text{Ἡ}\acute{\theta}\omicron\varsigma$  *Mores*, *Manners*; is so great, that the whole Art of *Oratory* is grounded thereupon, and he is the most Excellent in that Art, who by the help of those  $\Phi\alpha\upsilon\tau\omicron\iota\alpha$  or *Images*, of things absent formed in his Imagination, doth represent them in so lively colours, that they appear present. Hereupon doubt-

less



less it was, that *Quintilian* (*institut. Orator. lib. 6. cap. 11.*) saith, a good Orator must be *Ἐυφρασίωνος* *qui sibi res, voces, actus, secundum verum optime fingat.*

*though*

Now, the Imagination be in common to all Men (yea and to Brute Animals also) yet is it not equal in all Men. Some are naturally endowed *Celeritate imaginandi*, with a quickness of imagination, that is, an easie succession of one thought upon another: others are but slow of imagination, which defect of the Mind is called *Tarditas ingenij*, dulness; and if great, *stupor*, stupidity or sottishness.

From *Celerity* of Imagination there ariseth a twofold difference

C 4

of



of Wit. *Some* are naturally inclined to indulge their thoughts the liberty of *Ranging*, and love not to confine them: *Others* delight in *fixing* their mind upon one object, and narrowly examining it. The *former* sort are allowed to have *Laudabilem Phantasiam*; and have a Genius disposed to Poesy and Invention: unless their Phansie be immoderately quick and ranging; for then it passes into *Folly*, such as theirs, who are not able to finish the discourse they have begun, being suddenly taken off and carryed away by new thoughts altogether impertinent. Which undecent shifting of thoughts is properly named *Extravagancy*. The *Latter* are said to have *Judicium probabile*; and therefore are fit to study Philosophy,



sophy, Civil Law, and Controversies.

## ART. 3.

For the most part both these Virtues of the Mind are indeed conjoyned in the same persons; but seldom equally eminent: and the several degrees of pre-dominion of the one over the other, constitute the chief differences of Men, as to Wit or Understanding. Phansie without moderation of Judgment, seldom attains to commendation: but judgment or Discretion, though unassisted by Phansie, alwayes deserves praise.

In *Poets*, both Phansie and Judgment are required; but  
Phansie



Phanſie ought to have the upper hand, becauſe all Poems, of what ſort ſoever, pleaſe chiefly by *Novelty*.

In *Historians*, Judgment ought to have the chair; becauſe the Virtue of *History* conſiſteth in Method, Truth, and Election of things worthy narration: nor is there need of more Phanſie, than what may ſerve to adorn the ſtile with elegant language.

In *Panegyries*, and *Invectives*, Phanſie ought to take place; becauſe they have for their end not truth, but praife or diſpraife; which are effected by comparisons illuſtrious, or vile, or ridiculous: and Judgment doth only ſuggeſt Circumſtances, by which  
the



the action is rendred laudable or blameable.

In *Hortatives* and *Pleadings* of Causes, according as verity or simulation doth principally conduce to the advantage of the Argument: so Judgment, or Phansie is to have preheminence.

In *Demonstration*, in *Counsel*, and in all severe investigation of *Truth*, only Judgment is required; unless perhaps sometimes there be occasion for some convenient similitude, to illustrate what is alledged. But as for *Metaphors*, they are wholly to be excluded, as equivocal and introductory to fallacy: and therefore to admit them in grave  
Counsel,



Counsel, or strict Ratiocination, is no less than manifest folly and impertinency. In all serious discourse, if there appear want of Discretion, as however pleasant Phansie shall shew it self, yet Wit will be defective: but if Judgment be manifest, though the Phansie be but vulgar, the Wit shall be commended.

ART. 4.

But in all, besides that discretion of times, places and persons, which renders Phansie commendable, and wherein Civil prudence and the good Menage of affairs doth principally consist; there is required also *Constant Prosecution* of the Scope or *End* proposed, that is frequent application



cation of our thoughts to the subject about which we are conversant. For, so there will occur to us apt similitudes, such as will not only illustrate, but also adorn our discourse, and excite pleasure in the hearers by the rarity of their invention. Whereas if there be not a constant regulation of thoughts to some certain End; the more we are conducted by heat of Phanſie, the nearer we come to *Extravagancy*, which is a degree of *Madness*; such as is observed in those *Rambling Wits*, who (as we said even now) having entred into discourse of one thing, are by every new hint, however remote and impertinent, transported from their subject into so many digressions and Parentheses, that not recovering  
what



what at first they intended to speak, they lose themselves, as in a Labyrinth. The Reason of which Errour seems to be grounded upon defect of Experience, which makes them imagine that to be new and remarkable, which to more knowing heads is really stale and trivial; and that to be great and considerable, which to others of more observation is not so. For, whatever is new, great and memorable, if it occur to the Mind of one speaking of another subject, is wont to seduce him from his purpose.

## ART. 5.

When a man, therefore, having proposed to himself some  
certain



certain End, and in his thoughts running over a multitude of things, as means conducible thereunto, doth quickly perceive which of them is most probable, and how it may be brought to effect his design: this man is said to have a *good Wit*, and the *Habit* hereof is called *Φρόνησις*, and *Ἐυελελία*, *Prudence*. Which depends upon Experience and Remembrance of many the like Antecedents, with the like Consequents. But herein men differ not one from another so much as in Judgment and Phantisie; because men of equal age, may not be very unequal in Experience, as to the quantity, though one hath more of experience in some things, and another in others; since every one hath



hath his particular affairs, concerns and ways of managing them: and a Husband-man, though rude and illeterate, is yet wiser in his own business, than a Phylosopher in another mans. Whence that rule, *Cuiq; in sua arte credendum.*

————— *Quod Medicorum est Promittant Medici, tractant fabrilia fabri.*

Hor. Lib. 2. Epist. 1.

ART. 6.

To this Prudence if there be conjoyned the use of Means unjust or dishonest, such as fear, or Poverty doth too often suggest: than it degenerates into that sinister Prudence, which is called  
*Astutia,*



*Astutia, Craft or Cunning*; which is for the most part a sign of Pusillanimity or poorness of Spirit. For, a great Mind scorns unjust and dishonest helps to bring him to his aimes. There is also another sort of Cunning, called *Versutia, Evasion*; which is deferring or putting off for a little time some danger or incommodity impendent, by running into worse: and the world seems a derivative from *Versura*, which signifies borrowing of one, to pay another. So *Festus*; *versuram faciunt, qui mutato creditore, satisfaciunt ea pecunia antiquiori creditori, quam à novo mutuati sunt.*

Having given You, *Noble Sir,*  
this short and imperfect account

D

Of



of what I have collected concerning the *Nature* and divers *Notions* of those Intellectual Faculties, which are vulgarly comprehended under the name of *Wit*: and deduced according to probability, the principal *Differences* thereof from the various degrees of Eminency of *Judgment* and *Phansie*: the remaining part of the Task You have been pleased to assign me, is to enquire briefly into the *Causes* of those Differences, as well *Final* as *Efficient*; and then *described* each of them singly with as much truth and evidence, as my small observation, and less Learning shall enable me to do.

ART.



## ART. 7.

But, to prevent mistake, I am obliged first to advertise You (what I had almost forgotten) that by the Wit I have hitherto spoken of, I mean that which is *Natural*, or which grows up together with us, accrewing only from use and Experience, without the help of Method, culture or Doctrine. For, as to that which they call *Ingenium Acquisitum*, acquired by study of Learning and polite Education; I conceive it to be no other but *Reason*, which arising from the right use of speech, produces Arts and Sciences; and seems to be only an Effect or Product of the former, cultivated by *industry*.



## SECT. IV.

**T**Hus freed from all Ambiguity of Words and Notions commonly applyed to Wit, which otherwise might perhaps have lead us out of our right way, or at least darkned the prospect of our Reason ; let us proceed in our Disquisition softly and fairly to prevent stumbling : following the conduct of the Method newly proposed. Which brings us in the next place to consider the *Final Cause* of the great Diversity of wits observed in Men.

## ART. I.

What was the *End*, which the Omniscient Creator designed to Himself,

Omniscient



Himself, when He was pleased to constitute this so great and admirable variety; You, Sir, (I know) are too wise, too conscious of the immense disparity betwixt a Finite Nature and an Infinite, to expect I should be able to determine: all His Counsels being to us, poor ignorant things, impervestigable, as His Perfections are incomprehensible. However, since we are not forbidden with due reverence to conjecture; You (I hope) will not refuse to hear my foolish sentiments concerning this problem; especially while I offer them rather to your examination, than to your belief.

When, therefore, I observe, that Men are no less discrimi-



nable each from other by the various Inclinations, Affections and Capacities of their Minds, than by the dissenting features, lines and aires of their Faces; I am apt to perswade my self, that *God Almighty*, in making so vast dissimilitude, and in that distribution of His several Donatives among Inviduals of the same *Species*, intended thereby to accommodate Mankind to a *Civil life*: it being no more possible for a Society of Men, or Commonwealth, to be composed of Members all of the like endowments of Mind; than it is for an Animal to exercise various Functions with many Organs all of the same parts, shape and fabrick; or for Musical Harmony to result from a multitude of Unisons.

I am



I am not ignorant, that even the best Philosophers, when they contemplate the diversity of Natures Endowments, and the most probable Reason thereof, modestly bound their Curiosity with this clause, that *Nature delights her self in variety*, as well in this as in all other kinds. Nor do I deny what they here say to be thus far true, that Nature, as being the Art of God, can have no other perfection, but what is derived from her Author and Governour, whose Goodness cannot be terminated but in it self; and consequently, all Emanations and Effects of that Goodness must redound to the delight of their first Fountain. Yet this (methinks) doth not oblige us to acquiesce in that consideration



alone, without all reflection upon our selves, there being perhaps some other Reason or End of such Variety, wherein Mankind may be highly concerned. I conceive, then, that the *Creator* having one Eye directed to the pleasure redounding to Him from the manifestation of His Power and Goodness; aimed with the other at some general benefit and favour to Man, to whom He purposed to be singularly indulgent and gracious in all things: and that fore-seeing how much more securely, commodiously and happily Men might live in *Societies*, than single and dispersed, as wild Beasts; He ordained this great diversity of *Ingenies* among them, as a means to accommodate them to mutual



tual assistance and association, But this *I* deliver as only probable, not definitive: and leaving it to Your better judgement to be approved or rejected, *I* pass on to the *Natural* Causes of the diversity under enquiry.

## ART. 2.

Wherein *I* meet with no less obscurity, than in the former. For, though it be sufficiently evident, especially to *Physitians* conversant about diseases of the Head, that the Seat and principal Organ of the *Intellectual Faculties* is the *Brain*; and that they are more or less perfect in their Operations, according to the divers temperament, magnitude, figure and schematism of that noblest Organ;



Organ; and to the greater or less Mobility of the *Animal spirits* (if any such there be) contained and exercised therein: though thus much (*I say*) be sufficiently manifest, yet what temperament, what magnitude, figure and Schematisme of the Brain produceth *Acuteness* of Wit, and what causeth *Dulness*, is hitherto unknown. Nor have *Anatomists*, even in this dissecting and most curious age, been yet able certainly to inform themselves, in what part of the Brain that *Cælestial Guest*, the reasonable *Soul*, keeps her Court of Judicature; what part she makes use of in Sensation, what in *Imagination*, what for *Memory*, or what for *Ratiocination*. *Vesalius* (*I remember*) the Prince of *Anatomists*



mists in the last Age, expressly, nor, without derision of those who believed and taught the contrary, affirms, that the Fabrick of Mans Brain is not in the least different from that of the Brains of Brutes. The Text is remarkable, the great Authority of the Man considered; and therefore I will here transcribe it. (*de Corpor. Human. fabric. lib. 7. cap. 1.*)

*Qui in Imaginatione, Ratiocinatione, Cogitatione, Memoria, Cerebrum suo fungatur munere; haudquaquam ex sententia apprehendo: neque quicquam insuper ab Anatomico, vel Theologorum omnem rationis vim, ac totam fere Principis nobis vocatæ Animæ facultatem, Brutis Animalibus adiumentum*



mentium occasione, indagandum  
puto. Quum Cerebri nimirum con-  
structione Simia, Canis, Equus, Fe-  
lis & Quadrupeda quæ hætenus  
vidi omnia, & Aves etiam univer-  
sæ, plurimaq; Piscium genera, omni  
propemodum ex parte Homini cor-  
respondeant; neq; ullum secanti  
occurrat discrimen, quod secus de  
Hominis quam de illorum Anima-  
lium functionibus statuendum esse  
prescribat.

To this You'll answer perhaps,  
that such indeed was the judg-  
ment of *Vesalius*; but You are not  
obliged to acquiesce therein, be-  
cause You have lately not only  
read a certain Book, *de Proprieta-  
tibus Cerebri Humani*, wherein the  
Author observes many confide-  
rable Differences betwixt the Hu-  
mane



mane Brain, and those of all other Animals; but also with Your own eyes beheld those Differences demonstrated by the same Author, in some dissections for that end made by him at the command of the *Royal Society*: and that therefore You hope, if *Anatomists* proceed in their discoveries, with the same accurate scrutiny, and the like happy success, as of late Years they have done; some one of them may at length be so fortunate, as to find out the true uses of all the several parts of the Brain of Man, and so solve all the difficulties that now amuse those, who profoundly consider the wonderful *Oeconomy* thereof.



I reply, thererefore; that granting *Vesalius* to have been much mistaken in that his Opinion concerning the Brain; and that there really are those Differences betwixt Man and all other Animals, which the Book you mention declares: Yet (Sir) what I have here said concerning the abstrusity of the Nature, immediate Instruments, and ways of operation of the Intellectual Faculties, is nevertheless too true. For, you cannot but remember, that even the Author of that Treatise himself doth in the end of it ingenuously confess, that notwithstanding his frequent observation of those Differences, he was still as ignorant of the principal seat of the Soul, and what parts she made use of in  
her



her several Functions, as before  
he first entred into the Anatomick  
Theatre. *Idem fatetur etiam a-*  
*cutissimus Malpighius, de structura*  
*vicerum. page 66. His verbis.*

*Ut verum fatear, quo magis ma-*  
*nifesta mihi elucescit Cerebri stru-*  
*ctura, eo magis tot mirabilium o-*  
*perationum explicandi methodum*  
*spes excidit, &c. Et paulo post;*

*simplicem tandem dum agnosco Ce-*  
*rebri Structuram, ineptam om-*  
*nino ad exponenda sensuum. & tam*  
*nobilium operationum phenomena*  
*reor. Ita ut hoc tantem conijcere*  
*passim a Cerebri, & Cerebelli glan-*  
*dulis incontinuos nervos separari*  
*succum quendam, sicut in caeteris*  
*glandulis, proprio vase Excretori-*  
*q. d. d. atis, &c. And were it not a*

*Parergon, I could collect, and here*  
*recount many observations, re-*  
*corded*

*mirabilium.*

*caeteris*

*donatis.*



corded by Eminent Physicians, of such, who retained the use of their Senses, Imagination, Memory and Reason, without any the least defect, even to the last minute of life; and yet in their Heads opened after death, there was found (as in most Fishes) but very little of Brain, and that little altogether confounded and dissolved in Water. For a memorable Example of this astonishing *Phænomenon*, I take liberty to refer You to *lib. 1. cap. 24.* of the Medical observations of *Nich. Tulpius*, a late learned and judicious Physician, and Senator of *Amsterdam*: who relating the various Conjectures of some of his Colleagues thereupon, gravely concludes with this free confession of his ignorance; *Quantum*



*tum est, quod nescimus! Velut namq;*  
*in aliis, sic certe credibile est, potis-*  
*simum nos cæcutire in genuino Ce-*  
*rebri regimine: cujus opera multo*  
*fortassis sunt divinora, quam quis-*  
*piam hætenus suo comprehendit*  
*captu.* Whereunto you may add  
 two other Examples no less won-  
 derful; one recorded by *Gregor.*  
*Horstius* ( *lib. de morbis contagioses*  
*part. 2.* ) of a man who after a  
 great abscess or apostem, and ta-  
 king away of his Brain, yet re-  
 tained all his Senses and Under-  
 standing: the other observed by  
*Kerckringius* ( *observat. anatomic.*  
 46. ) of an infant, whose Skull  
 was found full of a mucous water,  
 instead of Brain. As for Your  
 expectation of farther discove-  
 ries from Anatomy, that may  
 afford more light to direct the

E

Virtuosi



*Virtuosi* in their researches into this dark argument; I cannot indeed divine what time may bring forth: but am of Opinion, that there is less reason for Your *Hope*, than for Your *Wish* for any such discovery; the nature of Mans *Mind* being such, that it cannot understand it self.

*Adeo Animo non potest liquere de cæteris rebus, ut adhuc ipse se quaerant: Senec. Natur. Quest. lib. 7.*

*cap. 24. & Cicero ille Christianus, Lactantius (lib. de Opificio Dei.)*

*Mentis quoque rationem, inquit, incomprehensibilem esse, quis nesciat; nisi qui omnino illam non habet? cum ipsa mens quo loco sit, aut cuiusmodi nesciatur.*

nesciat.

ART.



## ART. 3.

You are not then to wonder, if I acknowledge my self unable to define from what various Constitutions of the Brain the Differences of Wit arise, as from their proxime Causes. All I dare observe to You, concerning that *Ænigma*, is only this; that for the most part Men of hot and sanguine Constitutions, *cæteris paribus*, are more ingenious and acute; and those of cold, gross and Phlegmatick, are more dull and slow of Imagination. If for this You require *Authority*, I can alledge that of *Hippocrates* himself, who hath two Texts expressly favourable and pertinent to the same: one concerning the

E 2 *Sanguine* 3



Sanguine; the other, the Pblegmatick Temperament. The first is

this ; Πνεὺς τὸ ὑγρότατον, καὶ ὑδαίῳ τὸ ξηρότατον, ἀρῆσιν λαβόντι ἐν τῷ σώματι φρονιμώτατα : quod humidissimum est in igne, & siccissimum in aqua, si in corpore temperamentum acceperint, sapientissima sunt, Περὶ Διαίτης lib. 1. sect. 29. The other,

this ; Ἐὶ δὲ πνὶ ἐν δεισέρῳ ἢ δυνάμιν τὸ πῦρ λάβοι τὸ ὑδαίῳ, βραδύτησιν ἀνάγκη τούτων εἶναι καλεόνται ἰστίσται ἡλίθιοι : porro si in aliqua Anima defectuosiorum vim ignis accipiat quam aqua, eam tardiozem esse necesse est ; & appellantur tales Stolidi. Ibidem Sect. 32. If Reason ; it is obvious, that the Blood being the fountain of Natural heat ; and in truth the only Calidum innatum, by which all parts of the body are perpetually warmed,

enlivned



enlivned and invigorated; and out of whose purest and agilest parts, the Animal Spirits are supposed to be extracted; by how much more copious and pure the Blood is, by so much more of heat is thence communicated to the Brain and its Appendix of Nerves (thereby made more firm and apt both to receive and retain the Images or Impressions of external Objects; and more pervious to the Animal spirits) and a greater supply of Spirits generated out of it, for the uses of the Animal Faculties therein residing, and thereon depending, and *e contra*. Hence doubtless it was, that *Empedocles* held the Blood to be both the seat and cause of *Sapience*: *Namq; sanguinis tenuitate & munditie,*



*animalia sapientiora sunt, sensumq; mobiliorem obtinent: similiter vel timidiora, vel animosa, iracunda, & furiosa evadunt, prout sanguis eorum vel dilutus, vel fibris multis crassisq; refertus fuerit. de part. animal. l. 2. c. 4. And that Dr. Harvey, somewhere in his Book of the Generation of Animals, affirms it to be of no small advantage to the Brain, that Students and comtemplative Men preserve their mass of Blood pure and uncorrupt. Quantopere mortalium felicitatis interfit, animaq; pariter ac corpori conducat, ut proba victus ratione sanguinem purum ac nitidum conservent. Lib. de generanim. exercit. 51.*

But I remember that my present task belongs rather to *Morals* than



than to *Physick*, and therefore super-  
perfecting all farther enquiry  
concerning the diversity of con-  
stitutions, from whence the di-  
versity of Wits may arise; and  
remitting You to the serious con-  
sideration of what that excellent  
Man, Mr. *Hobbs* hath delivered  
( *lib. de Homine, cap. 13.* ) con-  
cerning the *Mutation* of Mens In-  
genies by Passions, Custome, Ex-  
perience, the goods of Fortune,  
Opinion of ones self, &c. I pass  
to the principal *Differences* them-  
selves, and their Descriptions;  
which animated by Your Com-  
mand, I proposed to my self chief-  
ly to handle in this hasty exercise  
of my blunt and unequal Pen.



## SECT. V.

## ART. I.

**T**O go about to describe the great variety of *Ingenies* among Men, though of but one and the same Nation, were an attempt equally vain with his, who should endeavour to number the the Sands; nor less impossible than for a Painter to pourtrei all the several faces in an Army upon onetable. As it is sufficient, therefore, to a well-drawn Landskip, to contain the most eminent hills, buildings, trees and other objects situate in the prospect of the Eye within that Horizen: so may it be some

latis-



satisfaction to You, if among a vast number of different Wits I select the most *Eminent*, such as appear to be the Springs or Sources of many Virtues, and not fewer Vices; and then represent them in Colours so suitable to their several Natures, that You may be able to discern and distinguish each from the rest, notwithstanding the near affinity and resemblance, which some of them have with others. I call them the Sources of many *Virtues* and *Vices*; because this may pass for a *Maxime, Ingenia quando assuescendo ita confirmata sunt, ut facile, nec reluctante ratione, suas edant actiones, dicuntur Mores: qui si boni sunt, Virtutes; sin mali, Vitia appellantur.* And because *Vices* generally are the spurious



rious issue of *Passions*: as *Passions* are of the collateral line to *Wit*. For, the temperament of the *Brain* must be proportionate to that of the *Heart*: both Organs deriving all their heat from the Lamp of life burning in the Blood. Where the Blood therefore is more copious in quantity, more brisk & free in motion, and more pregnant of Spirits: there commonly (*ceteris paribus*) both the Brain is more fit to produce acute conceptions and subtile thoughts; and the Heart more disposed to be commoved and agitated by violent affections. And it is observed even by the vulgar, that *Passions* are generally stronger in those men, who excell others in fineness of Wit and quickness of Imagination: *& e contra.*

Hence



Hence it is, that we meet with in some persons, yea and in some Nations (as the *Hollanders* and *Turks*) though little shew of fine parts and of sharp Wit; yet undeniable testimonies of good Understanding and useful prudence. No wonder then, if as on the one side, men of airy fancies and ranging Wits, are prone to commit errors in judgment and action; as apt to be seduced by the specious suggestions of their exorbitant passions: So on the other, those of slower capacities, and blunter Wits, oftentimes proceed in the regulation of their Life, and conduct of their private affairs, with solid prudence, and successful industry; as by temperament less obnoxious to corruption from powerful passions of the mind.



mind. So that here it may be lawfully affirmed, by way of Corollary, that the coldness of Passions is the natural ground of Prudence and Honesty, and consequently of temporal Felicity also among Men: as the heat and violence of them, is too frequently the cause of Imprudence, Dishonesty, and by consequence of Infelicity.

## ART. 2.

To address then to their Descriptions. That which occurs in the first place is the READY or nimble Wit. Wherewith such as are endowed have a certain Extemporary acuteness of concept, accompanied with a quick delivery of their thoughts, so as they can at pleasure entertain  
their



their Auditors with facetious passages, and fluent discourses even upon very light occasions. They have indeed much of that *Ἀγχινοια* *sive* *habilitas in promptu excogitandi quid dicto sit opus*, formerly described; and are therefore excellent at suddain *Repartes*: but being generally impatient of second thoughts and Deliberation, they seem fitter for pleasant *Colloquies* and *Drollery*, than for *Counsel* and *Design*. Like Fly-boats, good only in fair weather and shallow watars: and then too, more for Pleasure than Traffick. If they be, as for the most part they are, narrow in the Hold, and destitute of Ballast sufficient to counterpoize their large Sails; they reel with every blast of Argument, and are often driven upon  
the



where

the sands of a *Nonplus*: but were favoured with the breath of common Applause, they sail smoothly and proudly, and, like the City Pageants, discharge whole Volleys of Squibbs and Crackers, and skirmish most furiously.

## ART. 3.

Of these You meet with *two* sorts. *Some* carry away the bell in Table-talk and familiar conversation, with short, but piquant touches of Phanſie, such as plays chiefly upon the defects or misfortunes of others in the company, yet without gall: their teeth are sharp, but not venomous: and they rather nibble, than bite. *Others*, approach-  
ing



ing nearer to the dignity of Eloquence, are provided, whenever they please to imploy their talent, either in publick or private, to speak volubly, and to the purpose; yet not so much from solidity of Judgment, as strength of *Memory*; which instantly supplies them with whatever they have heard or read agreeable to their Theme. The fine descants and poinant remarks of both sorts are commonly admired not only by ignorant Ears, but also by some of Scholastick Erudition; who observing the facility of their vein in breaking sharp jests, and pouring forth a torrent of not un-decent expressions, are apt to grow out of love with themselves, and to be offended with their  
their



their own slowness of Conception, which permits them not to do the like without premeditation and pumping. And they have reason. For, what can You imagine more speciously resembling true industry, and graceful Elocution, than the opportune and pertinent *Hitts* of these facetious Spirits? what more Elegant, than to make acute reflections upon every occurrent; and to give home-touches with gentleness; which are the less resented, because they appear suddain and jocular. If to this *Promptness and Fecundity* of Wit, either Nature hath been so liberal as to add comeliness of *Person*, or Fortune so propitious as to conjoyn dignity of *Condition*; especially if it be animated by  
great



great and secure *Confidence*: then is their liberty of jesting as it were authorized in all places, nor ungrateful to those whom it provokes: yea oftentimes, by its very *Galliardise*, it wins the Palm from solid and exact *Prudence*, if lodged in Men of excellent abilities, but slow *Expression*. Of the advantages redounding to a ready Wit from that *Gracfulness* of Person, which the Grecians termed τὸ σμυνοπρεπὲς ἢ προσωπί, and the Latins, *dignitas oris*; You have an eminent Example in *Dion* the *Syracusan*, who thereby much ingratiating himself to the People, was so prosperous in his ambition, that he ruined *Dionysius*, and succeeded him in the *Soveraignty* of *Sicily*: and *Corn. Nepos* puts

F

the



the same in his Character ;  
 where among his natural En-  
 dowments he reckons as chief ,  
*ingenium docile & come; magnam-  
 q; corporis dignitatem, quæ non  
 minimum commendatur.*

## ART. 4.

But this so charming swiftneſs  
 of both Phanſie and Tongue is  
 not exempt from its *Failings*, and  
 thoſe ſhameful ones too ſome-  
 times. For, take them from  
 their familliar and private con-  
 verſation, into grave and ſevere  
 Aſſemblies, whence all extem-  
 porary ſaſhes of wit, all Phan-  
 taſtick alluſions, all Perſonal re-  
 flections are excluded; and there  
 engage them in an Encountre  
 with ſolid *Wiſdom*, not in light  
 ſkir-



er ; skirmishes, but a pitch field of  
En- long and serious debate concern-  
sief, ing any important question, and  
tam- men You shall soon discover their  
non weakness, and condemn that bar-  
enness of understanding which is  
incapable of struggling with the  
difficulties of Apodictical know-  
ledge, and the deduction of truth  
from a long *series* of Reasons. A-  
gain if those very concise sayings,  
and lucky *Repartes* (for the Court  
 hath now naturaliz'd that Word)  
from herein they are so happy, and  
con- which at first hearing were en-  
vere rtained with so much of plea-  
stem- ure and admiration; be written  
Phan- own and brought to a strict ex-  
al re- mination of their *Pertinency*, *Co-*  
there- *herence* and *Verity*: how shallow,  
untre- ow frothy, how forced will  
light- ey be found! how much will  
skir- F 2 they



they lose of that Applause, which their tickling of the ear, and present flight through the Imagination had gain'd! In the greater part therefore of such Men You ought to expect no deep and continued River of Wit; but only few *Plashes*, and those too not all together free from mudd and putrefaction.

## S E C T. VI.

## A R T. 1.

**I**N the second place comes the **STRANGING** Wit, whose Pregnancy is so diffused, that it flits at all things; and commonly assisted with prolix Eloquence, discourseth copiously rather than closely



lofely ; without premeditation  
applying it felf with words and  
entences, as out of a treasury in-  
exhaustible. Men of this Ta-  
ent are ufually in high esteem  
with the People, if of fuch Pro-  
ffions as give them opportuni-  
ties to fhew their Copiousnefs in  
ublick Affemblies or Councils :  
or ungrateful in private Con-  
erfation, at leaft when once they  
ave learned as well to be filent  
t fome times, as to fpeak pro-  
ufely at others. Which they  
cannot eafily do. For, as all  
Brute Animals know, by natural  
nftinct, in what part their chief  
power lies, and delight in the  
requent ufe of that part above  
all the reft of their mem-  
bers : fo thefe Men, highly de-  
ighted with their faculty of  
F 3 Eloquence,



Eloquence, wherein alone the excell, are hardly brought to observe *Decorum*, and opportunities when to contract or expatiate, when to speak or hold their peace; but carryed violently on by an itch of declaiming on every subject, how trivial or impertinent soever, often entangle themselves in Arguments above their understanding, and so satiate, but not satisfie their Hearers. So that even a Wise Man may justly wonder, their imprudence considered, how they are able to speak so much, and so little at once, so well and to so little purpose. Having at length ended (not finished) their fine *Harangues*, they scarcely refrain from openly applauding themselves: and if their Auditors

shew



shew any signs of Complacency and good Humour, they are apt to refer it only to a satisfaction of judgment resulting from the Elegancy of their discourses, though the same ariseth rather from Joy that they are at length delivered from the importunity of them: Notwithstanding this Vanity it must be confessed, these Wits have long Wings, and incited by a secret *impetus* of Nature, delight to fly abroad, and range over the whole field of *Sciences*: but then again such is their speed and præcipitancy, they stay no where long enough to *examine, select and gather*; like Bees in a windy day, they take only a superficial taste of various flowers, and return to their hives unloaded. Whence it



comes, that while they are discouraging of one part of Learning, if a new hint chance to arise and intrude it self into their Imagination, instantly quitting their former Theme, they as ardently pursue the new one; and so often divert to fresh Arguments, till they have wholly forgotten the question first started; as un- stanch hounds, meeting with a new scent, follow it with full cry, and lose the Beast first chased. And this is that *Defect* of *Mind*, which is commonly called *Levity*: arising perhaps chiefly from an excessive *Mobility* of the Animal spirits in the seat of *Imagination*.

No wonder, then, if these *Rambling* Heads be so far from attaining



attaining to sublime and extraordinary Wisdom, that for the most part they come short of even vulgar ones in ordering their affairs according to the rules of *Domestick prudence*. Some of them becloud themselves with the Vapours of *Philauty*, self-love, and over-valuation of their own opinions, and hunting after Praise: Others lose their credit by too-visible *Affectation*, others attempt things above their reach, and sink themselves by aspiring: and Most prove wanting to themselves and Friends in such offices, where constant *sedulity*, and steady adherence to one purpose is required. For, they are naturally light, unconstant even to their own Hopes, variable in their  
Designs,



Designs, fixt to nothing but their own Opinions, in which they so absolutely confide, that they look not into the advantages of others proposals and counsels. And yet for all this, some of them so dazel weaker Eyes with the polish and lustre of their superficial parts, that they pass for Accomplished persons, and are at length admitted to reap that harvest of Fame and Wealth, which ought to be the reward of solid and profound Abillities: especially when they have acquired the Art of understanding as well how to *conceal* their *Defects*, as how to set forth their good *Qualities*.

ART.



## ART. 2.

This Art consisteth principally in moderating their fervency of speaking; in frequent change of Arguments; and always choosing such, in which they may most easily impose upon their Hearers. For instance; among *Military* men, let them discourse of matters of *Religion*, of the rites and customs of the *Ancients*, of the *Origines* and *Migrations* of Nations, and such like Themes, wherein *Souldiers* generally have but little knowledge; among men bred up in the shades of the *Schools*, and un-conversant in *Politics*; let them discourse of the foundations and periods of *Empires*, of the Fates  
of



of Kingdoms, of the revolutions in Commonwealths, of the Virtues and great actions of particular Princes, of State Maxims, &c. In a word, *Let them provoke none in his own Way or Art.* For, in familiar conferences, and sociable Colloquies, it is not ungrateful, so it be dextrously done, to divert to things of which the Company is ignorant: both because Errours then escape discovery, and because Novelty begets pleasure, and by how much more we esteem things of which we never heard before, by so much more do we admire him who delivered them. But above all *let them take heed of Writing;* which to Roving and Superficial Wits is as difficult, as their Gift of speaking fluently is easie, and



and for the most part proves no less destructive to their Fame, than their *ex tempore* Oratory hath been favourable. For, that which gives due sharpness and grace to the *Stile* of a *Writer*, and recommends it to the present and succeeding Ages, is exquisite and elaborate *Judgment*; which is very rarely conjoyn'd with natural fluency of speech. The *Reason* may be this: that a prompt, but turbulent Mind, when in retirement (which all know to be necessary to a *Writer*) it comes once to reflect upon it self, and examine its own strength; burdened with multiplicity of things together offering themselves, and confounded with variety of thoughts, soon faints under the weight:



weight: and having neither judgment to *select*, nor patience to *digest*, falls at length into *Distraction*, or *Despondency*. In fine, the Faculty of writing well is so different from that of talking volubly, and requires so much more of both Attention and Deliberation; that most of your *Fine speakers*, when once they find the wings of their *Phan- sie* clipt, and their understanding intangled in strong and knotty Reasonings, are miserably at a loss how to extricate themselves, and despairing of success, return to their former liberty. Yet some of this *Classis*, either blinded with self-conceit, or deluded by adulation of their Admirers, have adventured to publish Books; and out of vain ambition



tion to enlarge and eternize their Reputation by their Pen, have utterly ruined what they had acquired by the nimbleness of their Tongue. My advice, therefore, to such shall be this; that they raise in the World an expectation of some considerable Volume from them, and keep that expectation alive as long as they can: but be so wise as never to satisfy it with so much as a single Sheet. But Wits of this temper are commonly too Hot to moderate their Efforts; too opinionated to take caution from the Counsel of even their truest Friends: and therefore I leave them to please themselves

SECT.



## SECT. VII.

## ART. I.

**Y**OU have beheld the Ready, and the Roving Wits, together with their Advantages and Defects; be pleased now to remove Your eye to the Image of a *Third* sort, which seeming contrary to both, and yet more useful than either, may therefore not unfitly be called the SLOW, but SURE Wit. Some Heads there are of a certain close and reserved Constitution, which makes them at first sight to promise as little of the Virtues wherewith they are endowed, as the former appear to be above the Imperfections to which they  
are



are subject. Somewhat *Slow* they are indeed of both *conception* and *expression*; yet no whit the less comparated to *solid Prudence*. When they are engaged to speak, their *Tongue* doth not readily interpret the dictates of their *Mind*; so that their *Language* comes as it were dropping from their *lipps*, even where they are encouraged by familiar *entreaties*, or provoked by the *smartness* of *jest*s; which *sudden* and *nimble Wits* have newly *darted* at them. Costive they are also in their *Invention*; so that when they would deliver somewhat *solid* and *remarkable*, they are long in seeking what is *fit*, and as long in determining in what *manner* and *words* to utter it. But, after a

G

lit



little consideration, they penetrate deeply into the substance of things and marrow of business, and conceive proper and Emphatick words, by which to express their Sentiments. *Barren* they are not, but a little *Heavy* and *Retentive*. Their Gifts lye deep and concealed; being furnished with Notions, not aëry and umbratil ones, borrowed from the Pedantism of the *Schools*, but true and useful: and if they have been manured with good Learning, and the habit of exercising their Pen; oftentimes they produce many excellent Conceptions worthy to be transmitted to Posterity.

ART.



## ART. 2.

Though they have no reason to accuse Nature of any unkindness to them; yet they have just cause to complain of the iniquity of *Fortune*, in this respect; that having an Aspect very like to narrow and dull Capacities, at first sight most Men take them to be really such, and strangers look upon them with the eyes of neglect and contempt. Hence it comes, that Excellent Parts remaining unknown, often want the favour and patronage of Great Persons, whereby otherwise they might be redeemed from obscurity, and raised to employments answerable to their faculties,



culties, and crowned with honours proportionate to their Merits: as the most precious wares seldom invite buyers, if kept in darksome corners, nor decently exposed, and adorned with splendid titles.

## A R T. 3.

The best course, therefore, for these to overcome that Eclipse, which prejudice usually brings upon them, is to *contend against their own Modesty*, and either by frequent converse with noble and discerning spirits, to enlarge the Windows of their Minds, and dispel those clouds of Reservedness, that darken the lustre of their Faculties: or by *Writing* on some new and useful subject,



subject, to lay open their Talent, that so the World may be convinced of their intrinsic value.

## SECT. VIII.

## ART. I.

IN the middle betwixt the two Opposites, too much Heaviness, and too much Lightness, Nature seems to have placed the most happy *Indoles* or AMPLE Wit: which is seldom out of love with it self, yet never too indulgent to it self, and often advanceth its possessors to the highest honours and dignities, of which Subjects are capable. This usually is attended with



no more of *Eloquence* than decency allows, or occasion requires; and that, if cultivated by Erudition, or matured by Time, is always neat and graceful even in familiar Conversation; neither precipitate nor slow in delivery: as guided by a Judgment, though not sharp on the suddain, yet strong and solid after a little recollection. In fine, this is the Man most fit to harbour all Virtues; as by Nature's benignity comparated to great *Prudence*, as well *Publick* as *Private*: and if toucht with a *Temperamental Propensity* to some certain Vice, yet seldom tainted with any evil *Habit*.

ART.



## ART. 2.

Betwixt these *Ample Wits* and  
 the *Narrow* ones, Nature her self  
 hath <sup>put</sup> a certain *Criterion* or Cha-  
 racter of *Distinction*, easily dis-  
 cernable; and it is this. The  
*Former*, being duly conscious of  
 their own dignity, do all things  
 with a *Bon Mine*, or good Grace,  
 and becoming *Freedom*, far from  
 the vices of *Affectation* and *Con-*  
*strained Formality*, as being  
 actuated by *Spirits* not bold, but  
*Generous* and *Erect*, always ad-  
 dressed to noble Ends, and con-  
 templating somewhat diffusive  
 and above vulgar aims. And  
 this is that *Semi-divine Temper*  
 of the Mind, which *Aristotle* calls  
*Eupia*, the *Latins*, *Felicitas inge-*  
 G 4 *nii*;



nij ; and we, an *Universal capacity*. On the contrary, *Narrow* and *Groveling* Wits condemn themselves to abject Cogitations and low Counsels, never daring to aspire above the common suggestions of their pusillanimous Humility : yet in little matters, and such as transcend not the Sphere of their Capacity, they often proceed with exact diligence, and sometimes also with good success; there being annexed to them a certain *Austutia*, sinistre or spurious Wisdome called *Cunning and Wisdom for ones self*, such as is common also to weak and timorous Animals, which keeps them intent wholly upon their own safety, and (as we have before deduced it) ariseth only from  
dif-



*diffidency of sufficiency in themselves*; than which there can be no greater Enemy to noble and generous undertakings. Besides, if they at any time (as sometimes, puffed up with prosperity of their Crafty and undermining designs, they will) offer at ingenuity; it is with so much constraint, formality and starch'dness, that they expose themselves to the smiles and contempt of Judicious Men.

## ART. 3.

This *Tbau* or Mark of difference is well worthy Your observation, because these *Half-witted* or *Cunning* Men for the most part make advantage of even their Inability, building rather  
upon



upon deceiving others, who confide in them, than upon any soundness of their own proceedings: and because (as the Lord Chancellor Bacon most judiciously observes) nothing doth more harm in a State, than that *Cunning men pass for Wise men*; like *Empiricks* in *Physick*, they may indeed have a great Collection of Experiments, but not knowing the right and seasonable use of them, pervert them to base and sinister Ends.

ART. 3.  
 Leaving them therefore as unworthy further consideration, let us return to our *Bon Esprit*, and for a few minutes entertain our selves with contemplating the excellency thereof.

ART.



## ART. 4.

There are among the *Literati*, who mislead either by too much favour of their own *Disciplines*, or by an immoderate esteem of the advantages of *Scolastick Sciences* (which were never denied to be very great by any but the Barbarous) allow no Wit to be *Happy* and of *Publick use*, but that which is not only capable of, but also naturally addicted to *Letters*; none to have attained to the just height of *Prudence*, that was not advanced thereto by the Scale of various *Learning*. Thus Men eminently fruitful in *Publick Virtues*, and as it were constellated for *Politie* or the great Art of *Governing the Multitude*, they  
exclude



exclude from the Senate, and from true Greatness, by a Prejudice more allyed to Envy than to Discretion. For,

## ART. 5.

On the contrary, it is much more reasonable to hold, that none are so fit for affairs of *State*, as those blest Favourites of Nature, upon whom she hath accumulated her noblest and richest Donatives: Since that *Sagacity* of *Spirit* which enableth a Man not only to know the Resorts and Opportunities of Business; but also to sink into the Main of it; and then to form Counsels both for *Conduct* and *Dispatch* (the two Principal Virtues in a *States-man*) is rather the free  
Gift



Gift of Heaven, than the purchase of Labour and Study. Which seems to be no more than what the great *Roman Orator* avers, upon his own observation. *Ego multos homines* (saith he) *in Orat. pro Archia Poeta*) *excellenti animo ac virtute fuisse, & sine doctrina, naturæ ipsius habitu prope divino, per se ipsos & moderatos & graves extitisse fateor: & illud adjungam, sæpius ad laudem, atq; Virtutem naturam sine doctrina, quàm sine natura valuisse doctrinam.* Nor more than what is Elegantly couch'd in that saying of *Democrates* the Philosopher; πολλοὶ λόγον μὴ μαθόντες ζῶσι καὶ λόγον *multi, qui rationem non ex coluere, ex ratione vivunt.* Again, time hath furnished us with examples of some, who had acquired high estimation  
in



in the Schools by extraordinary acuteness in fundry kinds of Learning, and yet proved very weak, when they were transplanted into the more subtile and fine region of Princes Courts and Councils: their Reason then confessing it self too dull-sighted to discern the Finesses of Civil Prudence, to which all other Learning must give place.

You will not, Sir, I presume, be long in determining which is the truer *Wisdom*, his, who can foresee discontents and Motions of a Nation, and provide seasonable and safe Remedies for them; or his, who, after long contemplation, is able to predict Eclipses of the Sun and Moon, and to calculate



culate the journeys and returns  
of all the Planets; but cannot  
presage what dangers threaten  
the Commonwealth, what Changes  
and Revolutions are impendent  
over the State.

Besides, those very Men, who  
thus cry up the usefulness of  
*Languages* and *Sciences*, restrain  
not the title of *Learned* and *Politi-*  
*tie* to him alone, who hath with  
equal felicity run through the  
whole *Encyclopedie* or Round of  
Arts and Sciences: but think it  
sufficient, if a man acquire excel-  
lency in any *one* of them: for in-  
stance, if an *Orator* singularly  
dextrous in managing Argu-  
ments, and happy in all the Exor-  
nations of speech, be yet dull and  
heavy in comprehending the se-  
crets



crets of *Natural Philosophy*; or if a profound *Philosopher* be yet destitute of Eloquence, or unconvertant in *History*, and *Politicks* and other parts of Learning; they nevertheless deny him not the Honor of an Eminent Wit. That Preheminence therefore, which is due from any one part of Learning, why are they so partial, so unjust, as to detract from that Science, which is convertant in the regulation of whole Societies of Men, and which in that very respect ought to be preferred to all other Human Knowledge? Think they, that Wisdom speaks to her Disciples only in *Greek* or *Latin*, or *Hebrew*; and not rather in a secret *Vivacity* of Spirit, and a piercing Judgment or Reason that understands all Languages?

To



To be born with a pregnant Wit,  
 is no such high indulgence of  
 Nature, if no more be requi-  
 red therein, than a propension to,  
 and Capacity of Erudition Scho-  
 lastick. Those of the *Ancients*,  
 whom we acknowledge to have  
 been the *Patriarchs* of Sciences,  
 and great Examples of Wisdom,  
 never consumed much of Oyl  
 and sweat in the shades of the  
*Schools*; and yet certainly they  
 were born under Stars highly  
 propitious. To found Repub-  
 licks, to make wholesome Laws  
 for conversation of publick conservation  
 Peace, to support their Countrey  
 by wise Counsels, to observe the  
 Constitutions, Rites and Customs  
 of other Nations, and transfer  
 into their own whatever they  
 found worthy imitation; so far

H

to



to note and register the motions of Coelestial Bodies, as to keep a true account of Time, and accommodate their negotiations both at home and abroad to the most convenient seasons of the year, and benefit of the People: *This*, this was chiefly called *Science* in those elder and purer Times.

To be a little more particular; while those Primitive Sages laboured to reclaim savage and rude Multitudes, and mollifie their Iron Minds by mansuetude and other Virtues necessary to common safety and the maintenance of Right in Civil Societies; by little and little there grew up that Knowledge, which is called *Moral Philosophy*. And while, being disjoyned by mutual emulation and contention, they



they endeavoured to perswade the People to favour and adhere to one or the other side, they made speeches to them to move their Affections accordingly; that gave the first beginning and credit to *Eloquence* or *Oratory*. In a word, the Monuments of History have conveyed down to us the Prudence and Artifices of those Ancients, so as to be *Precedents* to our Modern *Literati*; at least if they be able to bear the like weight of cares: if not, the best use their weaker Heads can make of such Monuments, will be only to boast of their Reading, by shewing them to others; as Priests shew Reliquies of Saints, but want the power of working Miracles; or as keepers of antick and magnificent Structures can



perhaps name the Founders and Architects, but imitate neither. For, to read History only for Contemplation, is a vain and idle pleasure, that leaves no fruit behind: but to imitate the glorious actions and achievements of such worthy Patriots, that's true and noble *Erudition*. This was the use *Cicero* made of his vast readings, as appears by that profession of his ( *in Orat. pro Archia Poeta.* ) *Quam multas nobis imagines, non solum ad intuendum, verum etiam ad imitandum, fortissimorum hominum expressas Scriptores & Græci, & Latini reliquerunt? quas Ego mihi semper in administranda Rep. proponens, Animum & mentem meam ipsa cogitatione Virorum excellentium conformabam, &c.*

ART.



## ART. 6.

Nevertheless it is not to be doubted, but the most *Absolute* Wit is that, which (like the *First Matter* of the *Aristoteleans*) is capable of any *Form*, and can with equal facility employ it self in all kinds of Studies; having an *Universal Acuteness*, and strength as well to grasp the difficult and slippery *Mysteries* of State, as to unravel the knotty *Methods* of Arts and Sciences professed in Universities. For, Studies perfect Nature; and both are perfected by Experience: natural Abilities being like *Fruit-trees*, that need *praying* and culture by learning; and Studies themselves giving forth directions too



much at large, except they be bounded by Experience. All together make the happiest conjunction, and by mutual assistance advance their Owner to the pinnacle of Humane Wisdom and Honour: that sublime Sagacity of judgment requisite in a *States-man*, and conformed to the *Genius* of the present Age, and comporting with the constitution of Affairs, so governing Learning, as that it can neither denegerate into *Pedantism*, nor rust in vain and solitary *Speculation*: and Learning, on the other side, so supporting and enriching the Judgment, as that it need not rely only upon single Experience and Observation of its own time, but may have recourse also to the Oracles of all former



former Ages, and furnish it self with Examples out of the treasury of Antiquity.

Yet if any Man (as many such there are) Naturally addicted to Publick business, and fit to serve his Prince and Countrey in quality of a Counsellor, be not equally in favour with the *Muses*, nor prosperous in Scholastick speculations; I hope, *Sir*, You will not stieck to allow him to be a Person of a more erect Mind, and nobler Parts, than a meer Contemplative Book-Man; who though perhaps skillful in Languages, and Logician enough to unriddle and impose Sophisms, and to dispute long and formally about *Non-entities*, is yet too narrow of understanding to mea-



sure the vastness of *Civil Prudence*, which is founded upon mature observation, and built up of solid Experiences, squar'd by exact Judgment, and adjusted to present Emergencies in State. So that I am apt to believe, that *Favorinus* was in very good earnest, though he seemed to jest, when he measured the Knowledge of *Adrian* the Emperor by the greatness of his Power. The Story is in short this. *Adrian*, not a little ambitious of the fame of extraordinary Learning, accidentally meeting *Favorinus*, an eminent Philosopher, fell instantly upon him with a whole Volley of Syllogisms, and pressed him with Sophistical Arguments: to which the wary Philosopher made but sparing  
and



and modest answers, such as intimated his being overcome, and left the Emperour to please himself with his imaginary victory. Soon after, his Friends reprehending him for making so weak defence, he returned this vindication: *I were to blame* (said he) *if I should not grant him to be the most learned, who bath daily twenty Legions at his command.* Which I understand to be more than a Complement; the Regiment of so many Millions being a peice of greater skill, and snblimer Science, than to manage a disputation with Dialectical subtlety, and argue in Mode and Figure.

Having thus in a short digression, endeavoured to refute the Error of such who hold, that no  
Wit,



Wit, however Ample and Happy in its native capacity, can yet attain to solid Prudence; without the improvment of Scholastick Erudition: it follows, that we observe briefly both the *Vice*, to which even the Best tempered Wits sometimes are prone; and the principal *Remedy* thereof.

ART. 7.

As Pusillanimity or Self-diffidence makes of Narrow Wits Cunning men: so *self-confidence*, if immoderate, often checks the growth, and hinders the fertility of even the Best Wits. For, some of greatest hopes, too soon trusting to the native pregnancy of their Mind, and desisting from Lecture, Meditation and all other



other labour of the Brain, as not only unnecessary, but also burdensome, and expensive of time: thereby clip their own wings, render themselves unfit for any generous flight, and ever after flagg; so far from aspiring above others, that they come short even of themselves, and suffering those *igniculi aetherei* or Coelestial sparks of Wit, by which they were in their Youth actuated, to languish and go out for want of industry to fan them, degenerate into a barren dullness, so much the more difficult to be overcome, by how much the longer ere acknowledged. Whereas *Others*, conscious of their native imbecility, endeavour with labour and sweat to acquire what the austerity of Nature



Nature denied them; and by continual culture of Study, and seeds of good Discipline, so enrich the field of their Understanding, that at length they exceed in fertility of Science not only their former selves, but others also to whom Nature hath been much more bountiful. By which it is manifest, that,

## ART. 8.

The proper Remedy for this Obstruction, that not seldom brings an *Atrophy* or defect of nourishment upon the best tempered Wit, can be no other but constant *Study* and *Meditation*, by which the Faculties of the Mind are exercised and kept in vigour.

*Sentit quid mens rite, quid indoles*



*Nutrita faustis sub penetralibus possit.*

*Doctrina nam vim promovet insitam, Reliq; cultus pectora roborant.* Hor. lib. 4. od 4.

Not that it is requisite Men of this order should over-curiously search into each *punctilio* or nicety of the thing they contemplate: for, though that be the way to attain exactness in some *Particulars*; yet it would at the same time greatly retard their progress in the *Main*, and make it long before they advance so far, as to make a liberal and genuine inspection into the whole of that very Science, which they so ambitiously affect. Besides, the same would habituate them to confine their Cogitations within too narrow a compass; by impaling their



their Curiosity upon Notions, though perhaps of great subtlety in speculation, yet of little use in the occurrents of life: nor could they easily let loose their thoughts to other things, which though sometimes of an inferiour nature, yet may be more necessary to be lookt into. To these therefore I am bold to prescribe Study as a daily *Exercise*, not as their sole employment.

## ART. 9.

Nor do I condemn those *Fine Wits*, that spend most upon the Stock of Nature; because they have this for excuse, *That all Heads are not equally disposed to patience in Study, and diuturnity of labour.* For, the finer and acu-



ter the Wit is, by so much the more easily indeed doth it penetrate into things difficult, and divide things involved; but then again it grows the sooner blunt with length of labour and intention. The Reason perhaps is this; that Nature doth rarely commit such Fine Wits to the custody of gross and robust Bodies; but for the most part chooseth to lodge them in delicate and tender Constitutions, such as produce the purest and sublimest spirits: which as by their greater Mobility they conduce to quickness of Apprehension; so are they for the same cause more prone to Expence or Exhaustion, upon continued intention of the Mind, nor capable of reparation unless after due repose and pleasant divertisement.



tisement. Again, not only the Labour of these Ethereal Wits, but even their *Relaxation* and *Leasure* is therefore precious; because no sooner are their Brains at liberty, but they acquire new Vigour, and their Acuteness spontaneously ranging abroad, brings in fresh Hints, and replenishes them with serious reflections, and useful cogitations: as rich ground, when left a while fallow, of its own accord puts forth abundance of Excellent Plants, in nothing inferour to the best cultivated Gardens. This seems pathetically exprest in that Apothegm of *Cosmus de Medicis*, the Politick Founder of the flourishing Dukedome of *Florence*. When in a morning he had lain long in bed, as wholly resigned



resigned up to an incurious repose, one of his Favourites coming into his Bed-chamber, salutes him with this Complement; *Sir,* (said he) *where is Cosmus the Great, to whose Vigilance, as to a Pilot, we have all entrusted the conduct of our State? are not his eyes open at high noon? I have been abroad some hours since, and dispatched much business. The Duke smartly returns; boast not Your diligence thus, Sir; my very Repose is more profitable, than all your Pains and Industry.*

## ART. 10.

Nor is this Delicacy of Constitution, which hinders the Choicest Wits from undergoing the hardship of constant Study  
I and



and long watchings, so Universal, but that some are exempted from it. But these are I confess, very rare, and as the noblest Presents Nature can make to Kingdoms and States, seldom produced by her; being of that most happy temper; that they can stoop their lofty Parts to the Anxiety of tedious Meditations, and Druggery of vast Readings and Collections, To this they bring themselves chiefly by *Resolution* and *Custom*: whose Effects are no less admirable in the Faculties of the Mind, than in those of the Body.

*Nil assuetudine majus Quod male fers, assuesce feres bene, multa vetustas lenit.* Ovid. Hence our ~~invention~~ Mr. Hobbs (who was pleased not long since to tell me, that he was in the fortieth year of

lenit



of his age, when he first began to study with due intention of Mind) speaking of the power of Custome upon the various Ingenies of Men, hath this remarkable sentence: *Quæ nova offendunt, eadem sæpius iterata naturam subigunt; & primo quidem ferre se, mox autem amare cogit. Id quod in regimine corporis maxime, deinde etiam in operationibus Animi perspicuum est. de natur. Homin. cap. 13. sect. 3.* When they have thus conquered themselves, then it is they make the truly Brave Men. When Time, Perseverence in Study, and Experience have brought them to Maturity; You may worthily call them Living Libraries, walking Epitomes of all Sciences, and Magazines of Knowledge.



ledge. For, in them may be found the Piety of *Divines*, the Wisdom of *Histories*, the Wit of *Poets*, the solidity of the *Mathe-*  
*maticks*, the depth of *Natural*  
*Philosophy*, the Gravity and Up-  
 rightness of *Moral*, the wariness  
 of *Logick*, the strength and sweet-  
 ness of *Retorick*, the distinguishing  
 subtlety of *School-men*, the Exact-  
 ness of *Criticks*, and the right *Use*  
 of all. And when they are fixt  
 in Publick employments, *abeunt*  
*Studia in moris*, they become fit to  
 bear a continual load of cares ;  
 not prone to be confounded  
 with Multiplicity of affairs, nor  
 discomposed with the divers  
 aspects of Occurrents, nor  
 startled at unexpected and cross  
 Events ; but constantly calm, and  
 equally sedulous, and what more  
 can

mores



can be expected from Humane frailty?

In this rude Draught of the charming Beauties of the *Ample* and *Studious* Wit, more of Art might have been shewn, and better Colours used. But, considering that it contains, *tanquam in compendio*, all the several *Virtues* that lye dispersed and single in the precedent sorts; and that You (*Noble Sir,*) are so happy as to need no more lively Image thereof, than what You may daily comtemplate the curtain of Your great Modesty withdrawn) by reflecting upon your *Own*: I thought my self at liberty to run the same over only with light touches, and a hasty Pencil. Which I now remove to a work



much less grateful both to Your  
Genius and my own, namely the  
Character of the *Malignant Wit* :  
which I therefore reserved for  
the last place, that the Deformity  
thereof might set off the Beauties  
of those already described ; as  
*Satyrs* and *Negro's* painted by *fair*  
*Ladies* make them appear more  
amiable.

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 SECT. IX.

## ART. I.

BY the MALIGNANT Wit,  
then I understand that which  
is indeed quick of apprehension,  
but *void of Humanity* : being  
prone to exercise it self chiefly  
in re-searching into the Defects,  
Errors, and even the Infortunes  
of



of Others, such especially who by their Virtues have rendered themselves Conspicuous; and to delight in both aggravating and publishing them to their dishonour. Wits of this evil temper may not unfitly be resembled to *Chymical Spirits*, which are subtle and penetrating, but they also *corrode*: and the Spirits by which they are actuated, seem to be extracted, not out of the purest parts of their Blood (as other Mens are) but from their *Gall*; as if they desired to verifie the new opinion of *Sylvius de la Boe*, that that bitter and acrimonious Excrement is the Natural Ferment of the Blood, and necessary to not only the Vital, but also the Animal actions, in all living Creatures, in which it is found.



Out of Self-conceit, they affect to be thought highly *Ingenious*; because nothing is more nearly allied to *Reason*, the proper good of man, than *Ingenie*: whence that of the Poet, *Qui velit ingenio cedere rarus erit.* Whereupon *Claud. Donatus*, relating how one *Filistus*, a Favorite to *Augustus*, used to cast reproaches upon *Virgil*, and carp at all he said, even in the Emperours presence; adds that he did it, *non ut verum dignosceret, quod Socrates facere consuevit; sed ut eruditior videretur.* But conscious of their own Vices, and studious to conceal them; they endeavour by detraction to make it appear, that others also of greater Estimation in the World, are tainted with the same or greater: as infamous Women

ge-



generally excuse their personal debaucheries, by incriminating upon their whole Sex, calumniating the most chaste and virtuous, to palliate their own dishonour. *Cum videlicet suorum sibi vitiorum sint conscij, tam etsi ab ijs liberi esse malunt, aliquanto melius secum agi putant, si alios homines sive ijsdem, sive majoribus obnoxios esse, aut fuisse dicant.* To this base end they rejoyce to expose the secret faults of men any way renown'd: which being no otherwise so easily effected as by the *Pen*, they addict themselves mostly to *Writing*; among all *Sects* choosing that of *Criticks*, that so under the innocent liberty of *judging*, they may usurp the most pernicious licence of *Censuring*. In which inhumane practice



Etice they are sure to make use  
 of one, or more of these cunning  
 artifices. Having found an op-  
 portunity to mention some evil,  
 whether true or only suspected,  
 in the Person, whose Merits they  
 intend to disparage; either they  
 industriously pretermitt what  
 they know, and ought to con-  
 joyn towards the excuse thereof;  
 or they pretend (forsooh) not  
 to believe it, when yet they re-  
 vive the memory of it for no  
 other end, but that it may be  
 more firmly believed by others.  
 Where they meet with notorious  
 failings, there they seem to exte-  
 nuate, and as it were to compen-  
 sate them with slight Commen-  
 dations, only to disguise their de-  
 traction: *Sic laudant, quæ in odio*  
*habent, ut maligna deinde in se-*  
*rentibus*



*rentibus sit pronior fides.* As I have heard of a certain Courtier, who desirous to obstruct the preferment of a poor Countrey Vicar, and yet not daring to oppose his Master, King James his charitable inclination thereunto; said to the King, *Your Majesty may do well to give him a better Living, for though he hath not much of Learning, he is a very good Fellow, too hard for all his Parishoiners at Cudgels, and hath a singular knack in catching Dotrells.* *Afiduum & Principibus exitiabile malum, apud quos gratiosi prætexitu juvandi aut monendi, <sup>sciunt</sup> juvandi invidiam; & interdum emulos laudibus attollunt, ut maligna deinde inserentibus sit pronior fides.*

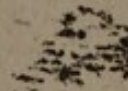
Another of their tricks is this;  
where



where they cannot blame the *Fact* itself they suggest finistre *Motives* or inducements to the doing of it, and deprave the *Counsel* and intention. To these may be added one more, no less detestable; where rumour hath dispersed various conjectures concerning one and the same action of some Eminent Man, omitting or suppressing the more benign and favourable, they select the *worse* and more derogatory, and largely comment thereupon; with design to pervert the belief of their Hearers, or Readers, *in deteriorem partem*. Thus drawing suspitions from the crooked rule of their own insincere Mind and depraved inclinations; they labour to perswade themselves and others



others, that there is among Men no such thing as true Virtue, but only a Shadow or artificial representation of it, thereby vainly promising to themselves the reputation of singular acuteness of judgment, and more than vulgar Wisdom. If they can Eclipse the glory of Worthy Men, by fomenting obscure and uncertain rumours concerning their Atchievements, or by maliciously ascribing the same, not to prudent Counsels and honourable Motives, but to Ambition, or Avarice, or Hypocrisie, or Simulation: or Captation of popular favour, or any the like finistre aims: they then imagine they have raised to themselves a Monument of Honour out of the ruines of theirs, whom they thus inhumanely calumniate. ART,





## ART. 2.

To this *Classis* may be referred all the ill-natured Disciples of *Momus*, *Derisores*, *Scoffers*, such who, like Beetles, seem hatch'd in dung, or Vermine bred out of Ulcers; perpetually feeding upon the frailties and imperfections of Human nature. Nor will it be easie for *Satyrist's* and *Comical Poets*, those especially of the more licentious and railing sort, to exempt themselves from the same Tribe. This *Sir*, perhaps You'l think to be a little severe: but it is not my judgment alone; for among the Ancient *Comical Wits* of *Greece*, You may find more than one deservedly accused, and clearly convicted of uncivil



uncivivil obtrectation. In one or two of the most famous I shall instance, for justification of what I here say.

*Cratinus*<sup>u</sup>, one of the *Triumvirate*, which first reformed *Comedy* from its primitive rudeness, and began to purge the Stage from obscenity and personal invectives; is nevertheless noted by the Great *Scaliger* (*Poeticæ lib. 1. cap. 7.*) to have been not only sharply censorious, but bitterly Malignant also, and grossly inurbane: insomuch that at last it cost him his life. For, having in one of his Comedies, intituled *Βάπτας* unduly ascribed to *Eupolis*, by *Politian*, *Miscellan. cap. 10.*) too palpably inveighed against, and personated some of eminent



minent Quality, and exposed them to the derision of their Fellow-citizens, the *Athenians* (described by *Ælian* ( 2. *variar. Historiar. cap. 12.* ) to have been *natura invidiosi, & ad detractandum optimis quibusq; proclives* ) he thereby so far provoked them, that in revenge they bound him hand and foot, and cast him into the Sea, in the manner of his Death alluding to the Title of his Play, which signifies one *drencht* or *dipp'd* in water. An Example well worthy to be remembered by his Sectators in this uncharitable Age.

## ART. 3.

To this *Cratinus* I take liberty to conjoyn another of the same Triumvirate, his Equal, the so much



them much celebrated *Aristophanes*,  
 -citi- and this I do, as well because of  
 ed by his most inhuman persecution  
 a cap. of the Divine *Socrates*, both in  
 vidi- that Fable, which he called  
 timis *Νεφελαι*, *the Clouds*, and which he  
 by lo invented only to render that best  
 rege and wisest of Mortals odious to  
 foot, the base Vulgar; as because he was  
 n the one of the Conspirators against  
 ag to his life: being thereto suborned  
 igni- partly by private Hate ( because  
 ater. *Socrates* frequented and applaud-  
 e re- ed the Tragœdies of *Euripides*, but  
 this would hardly be brought to ho-  
 honour with his presence any one  
 of *Aristophanes* his Satyrical Co-  
 medies ) partly by *Anitus* and  
*Melitus*, who not long after by  
 erty false accusations robb'd the in-  
 ame nocent Philosopher of his life,  
 e so and the world of its richest Trea-  
 uch

*Euripides.*



sure. Again, all the rest of  
*Aristophanes* Comedies are more  
 or less besprinkled with the ve-  
 nome of Detraction and Dica-  
 city. It was not then without  
 just cause, that *Plutarch* a most  
 grave and judicious Philosopher,  
 in his Comparation of *Aristo-*  
*phanes* with *Menander*, among ma-  
 ny other Criminations of the for-  
 mer, gives him this Character  
*Aristophanis Sales amari sunt &*  
*asperis, acrem & mordentem, adeoq;*  
*exulcerantem vim habent.* —  
*Nulli enim moderato videtur is-*  
*hemo suum poema scripsisse, sed tur-*  
*pia & libidinosa intemperantibus.*  
*maledica & acerba invidis atq;*  
*malignis hominibus, &c.* Nor  
 doth that most Learned Man, *Ni-*  
*codemus Frischlinus*, who wrote  
 his Life, together with a defence



of him against the faults objected  
 by *Plutarch* vindicate him from  
 dishonest Acerbity and Malignity;  
 otherwise than by transferring it  
 upon the licentiousness of the Ti-  
 mes in which he wrote, and use of  
 ancient Comedy: his words  
 are these, *Equidem non inficior,*  
*em ita esse, ut ille (Plutarchus)*  
*licit. Sed vitio temporum illorum*  
*potius quam poetæ hoc, quicquid re-*  
*prehensionis est, ascribi debet; Vita*  
*prebat Comædiæ veteris consuetu-*  
*do, ut omnia argumenta essent sal-*  
*va, festiva, mordacia, maledica;*  
*neque quicquam diceretur a quo-*  
*libet, quæ non ad perniciem, ali-*  
*quæque illius accommodaretur. Which You*  
 have the more reason to believe, be-  
 cause in Your travells You have  
 sometimes resided in a certain Ci-  
 ty, much more populous, under a



Government, and more civilized than ever *Athens* was, yea more inhabited by such as make profession of Christianity; in which notwithstanding that scandalous License of exposing well-deserving and honourable Men upon the publick Stage, and dashing even Virtue it self out of Countenance, by the scurrilous reproaches and mimical actions of Comedians, seems to be revived: so many Ages after it hath been condemned by wise Princes, polite Nations, and by the best of Modern Comical Poets themselves, as a thing not only inconsistent with Humanity and Christian Charity, but pernicious to the publick peace of Societies, by raising discontent, animosities, quarrels, and Factions. But

being



being long since returned into  
your own native Counrey, You  
are here out of danger of suffer-  
ing by any such undecent licence:  
our Theatres being regulated by  
stricter Laws, and our Poets for  
the most part Gentlemen of libe-  
ral Education.

In this short reflection upon  
the *Malevolence* of some *Modern*  
*Poets*, I have rather stood still a  
while, than gone out of my way:  
their Example serving no less to  
justify my ascribing Wits *immode-*  
*ately Satyrical* to this Order,  
whereof I am now treating, than  
those of the *Grecians* I have nam'd.  
However, that I may hasten to the  
end of our walk, especially now  
You are tired with the unevenness  
of the way, and my dull compa-  
ny; I proceed. K 3 This



This virulent Humour of *disgracing the Merits of Others*, seems to have poysoned the Pens, not only of some Poets, but many also of other sorts of *Writers*, who yet had not so specious a pretext for the liberty they therein took; and who undertook by their Works to teach Men good Manners and Civility. So that I might, without much exercise of my Memory, call to mind Examples thereof among Authors of no obscure fame in all Arts and Sciences; not excepting the graver, even *Historians, Philosophers* and *Divines*. But lest, by making a Catalogue of such, I should bring my self also under the same condemnation; I leave them to Your own Collection.



## ART. 4.

Only I think it no offence briefly to observe, that even *Tacitus* himself, esteemed the Prince of *Latine Historians*, and the Oracle of *Polititians*, hath been accused of *Malignity*, in not only censuring the Counsels and Affections of all Great Men, whose most memorable Actions, together with their several Successes and Events, he recordeth in his Histories: but also in interpreting the same according to his private Conjectures, and wresting them for the most part to finistre and ungenerous ends or intentions: thereby depriving those *Heroes* of the best part of their Glory, *Virtue*; and leaving to Posterity



both Maxims and Precedents rather of *Cunning* and *Violence*, than of true Wisdom and sound Policy. Whether this Venerable Author, to whom the World is in other things so highly obliged, hath deserved this accusation, or not; I leave to Your judgment, who are sufficiently conversant in his Writings to direct mine. In the mean time I am obliged, in my own defence, to produce one of his *Accusers* at least. Permit me, then, to refer You to that famous *Critick*, and excellent *Grammarians*, *Gaspert*, *Scioppius*, who in many parts of his Writings, but more expressly in his *Dissertation de Historici Officio*, delivers a charge against *Tacitus* of this among other faults. You'll object perhaps, that *Scioppius* himself



self is generally condemned for the same vice of Malignity : and I think not without desert ; but yet you cannot deny him to have been a man of admirable acuteness in discerning the faults, errors and lapses of other Writers ; nor have I any where observed him to want reason for his Animadversions. So that though I am always offended at his bitter *invectives*, yet I confess, I am often pleased with the Sagacity of his *Criticisms*.

ART. 5.

Now if such men who had ground enough within the compass of their own great Parts, whereon to build to themselves perpetual Monuments of Fame, were not altogether free from  
this



this malignant Humour; what may we think of those poorer Spirits, those Sons of Earth, who dream of erecting Obelisks to their own obscure Names, only out of the ruines of others? and like the Soldier Crabb; which Aldrovand calls *Πενόφυλαξ*, and *Eremita*, have no Mansion for their Credit, but that from whence they have extruded the right owner? These certainly have the Cancer of Envy rooted in their very breast: it being an Aphorism of daily Experience; that *the more imperfect men are in themselves, the more prone they are to defame and scoff at others.* The Reason of which, because I know You to be a great lover of the Philosophy of Monsieur Des Cartes, I shall give You in his Words; *quia cupiunt cæteros omnes in pari secum gradu*

*mansion*

*Lib de Pas-  
sion part. 3.  
art. 179.*



*gradu videre; since they are unable to raise themselves to the height of their Superiors in Virtue and honour, they endeavour, by calumny and derision, to bring them down to the same ignoble level with themselves. Si quando emulatur magnos viros & virtute præstantes, id agit, quia depravata ambitione ager est; non imitando aut extollendo eorum facta, sed elevando; per id sperans, illorum dignitatem suæ tenuitati æquare, aut gloriosis inimicitijs in clarescere, & per ruinam alienæ existimationis ad famam grassari.*

ART. 6.

This *desease*, therefore, of the Mind being almost *Epidemick*; and the Cause thereof consisting in a certain *Perversity* of disposition, whereby



whereby the Patient is strongly inclined to be inwardly vexed and troubled at the Virtues or Felicities of others, and to do all he can to diminish their credit and estimation: the *Cure* of it, I fear, is above the Art which I profess.

## ART. 7.

By this, *Sir*, You plainly discern the great *Difference* betwixt *Malignity*, and *Festivity* of Wit. For, as to this *latter*, which the Greeks name *Ευτεγπελία* the French, *Raillerie*, and we *Jesting*; whereby a Man modestly and gently touches upon the Errours, Indecencies, or infirmities of another, without any suspicion of hate or contempt of his person, pleasantly representing them as only ridiculous, not odious: I do not think  
it



it ought to be condemned as a vice of the Mind, but allowed as a Quality consistent both with Honesty and good Manners, as denoting the Alacrity of his Disposition, and Tranquillity of his Spirit (both signs of Virtue) and often also the Dexterity of his Wit, in that he is able to give a delightful and new colour to the absurdity at which he moves his company to smile. Nor is it disingenuous to *laugh*, when we hear the Jests of others: nay some jests are so facete and abstracted from Persons, that it would favour of too much dullness or Morosity, not to be affected with their elegancy. But when we our selves break a jest, it is more decent to abstain from Laughter, as well lest what we say seem to occur to our imagination



nation unexpectedly, and by chance rather than choice; as lest we be thought to admire the felicity of our own Wit, in finding out that allusion, which had escaped the notice of others present: both which are obnoxious to dispraise; the *former*, as a mark of *slowness* of Conception; the *latter*, as an evidence of *Self-love*. To which may be added two other Reasons. First, whoever laughs at his own jest, spoils it, by rendering it less apt to surprize the Hearers. Then again he puts all the company into jealousy and examination of themselves. Besides all this (as Mr. *Hobbs* excellently observes, in his Book of *Humane Nature*) it is Vain glory, and an argument of little worth, to think the infirmity of another sufficient matter for his Triumph. A R T.



## ART. 8.

But I have too long detained Your curious Eyes upon an object, in which You can take no other delight, but what must redound to You from Your observation of the vast disparity betwixt the Deformities of it, and the charming beauties of Your own Candid and sweet disposition. And being ashamed, that I have led you all this while in a path so much trodden by others; I wish, the Province You were pleased to assign me, had lain somewhat farther from the road, wherein most Philosophers have travelled before me, that I might have entertained You with remarks less obvious and common; whereas



whereas now I have been rather  
Your Remembrancer than Guide.  
Having at length waited on You  
to the End of it, good Manners  
obligeme, without desiring You  
to turn about and review the lit-  
tle things observed as You passed  
along ( for that were to disparage  
Your excellent Memory, as well  
to abuse your Patience ) to  
resign you up to your own more  
usefull speculations, and the pur-  
suit of that Generous Emulation,  
which incites you to Studies  
worthy your choice, native En-  
dowments, the Eminency of  
your Condition, and the Place  
to which not Fortune, nor popu-  
lar Favour, but your own great  
Merits have raised you in the  
grand Council of this Kingdom.

*THE END.*



THE  
MYSTERIE  
OF  
VINTNERS.  
OR A  
BRIEF DISCOURSE

CONCERNING

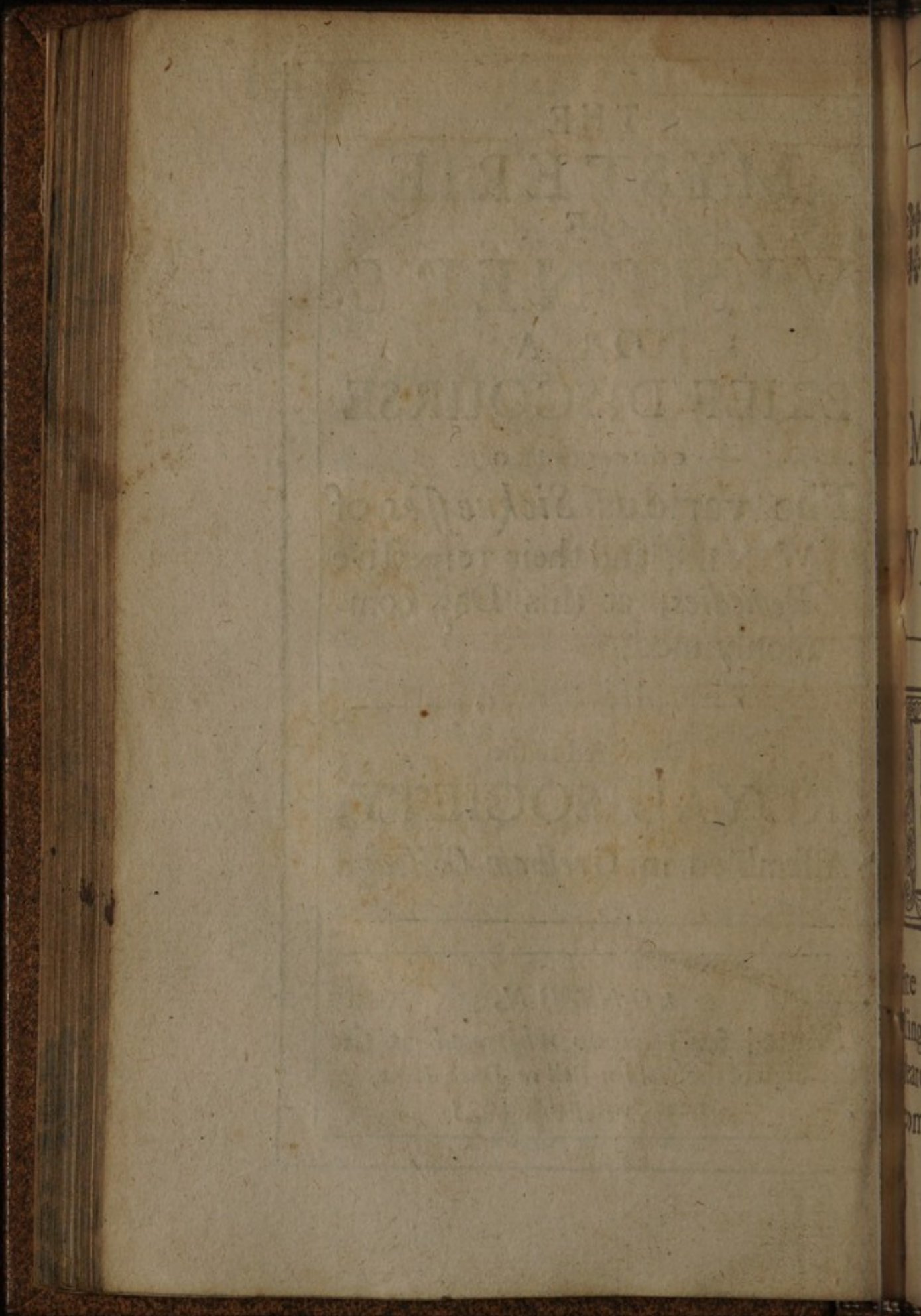
The various *Sicknesses* of  
WINES, and their respective  
*Remedies*, at this Day com-  
monly used.

Delivered to the  
ROYAL SOCIETY,  
Assembled in *Gresham-Colledge*.

LONDON,

Printed for *William Whitwood* at the  
Sign of the *Golden-Bell* in *Duck Lane*,  
near *Smithfield*, 1675.









THE  
 MYSTERIE  
 OF  
 VINTNERS:

**E**vidence ( You all know ) is the life of Truth, and Method the life of discourse: the former being requisite to convince the Understanding; the latter, to facilitate the searches of it. In this short account, therefore, of my Collections

L 2                      ions



ions and Observations concerning  
*Alterations* of WINES, both  
*Natural* and *Artificial*, which  
 according to Your command  
 now bring to You: I am oblig'd  
 to use *Plainness* and *Order*: this  
 to avoid confusion; that, lest  
 I increase the obscurity of my  
 Subject.

My Argument, then, I divide  
 into *Four* Parts, to which as the  
 Generals or Heads, all consider-  
 ables thereunto belonging seem  
 naturally to refer themselves.  
 Of these,

The *First*, is the *Natural Purifi-  
 cation* or *Clarification* of Wines  
 whereby of themselves they  
 pass from the state of Crudity and  
 turbulency, to that of Maturity  
 by



cerning degrees growing clear, fine  
and potable.

The *Second*, the unseasonable  
*Workings, Frettings* And other  
*Sicknesses*, to which, from either  
Internal or external Accidents,  
they are afterward subject.

The *Third*, their state of *De-*  
*generation* or decay, wherein they  
degenerate from their goodnels  
and pleasantness, becoming  
*ill'd*, or turning into *Vinegar*.

The *last*, the several *Artifices*  
used to them, in each of these  
states or conditions.

In the *FIRST* of these Heads,  
viz. the *Natural Clarification* of  
new Wines, two things occur,



not unworthy consideration; the *Manner* how, and the *Cause* by which the same is effected.

As for the *Manner*; give me leave to observe, that Wine while yet in the *Must*, is usuall put into open vessels; the abundance and force of the Spirit *i. e.* the more subtle and active parts therein contained, being then so great, as not to endure imprisonment in close ones, at which time it appears troubled thick and feculent: all parts of Elements of it being violently commoved and agitated, so that the whole mass of liquor seems to boyl, like water in a Cauldron over the fire. This tumult being in some degree composed, and the *Gas Sylvestre* (as *Helmont* barbarously



barbarously calls it ) or wilder  
Spir it sufficiently evaporated ;  
they then pour the Must into  
close Vessels, there to be farther  
defecated, by continuance of the  
same motion of Fermentation :  
reserving the *Froth* or *Flower* of  
it, and putting the same into small  
Casks, hooped with Iron, lest  
otherwise the force of it might  
break them. This Flower thus  
separated, is what they name  
**STUM**, either by transposition  
of the letters in the word  
*Must* ; or from the word *Stum*,  
which in *High-Dutch* signifies  
*Mute*, because this liquor ( for-  
sooth ) is hindred from that Ma-  
turity, by which it should speak  
its goodness and wholesomeness.  
*Quasi dicas, Vinum mutum, quia  
nunquam efferbuit : vel potius a*  
L 4 *Belg.*



Belg. *Stomp. Tentomice Stompf. hebes, obtusum; quia scilicet, ob defectum fermentationis, Spiritus, non ut vina etate de facata, puros, vividos & expeditos, sed hebetes & languidos habet.* This done, they leave the rest of the Wine to finish its Fermentation; during which it is probable, that the spiritual parts impell and diffuse the grosser and feculent up and down, in a confused and tumultuous manner, untill all being disposed into their proper regions, the liquor becomes more pure in substance, more transparent to the eye, more piquant and gustful to the Palate, more agreeable to the Stomach, more nutritive to the Body.

The impurities thus separated  
from



from the Liquor, are, upon Chymical examinations, found to consist of *Salt*, *Sulphur* (each of which is impregnate with some *Spirits*) and much *Earth*. Which being now dissociated from the purer *Spirits*, either mutually cohere, coagulate and affix themselves to the sides of the Vessel, in form of a stony Crust, which is called *Tartar* and *Argol*; or sink to the bottom in a muddy substance, like the Grounds of Ale or Beer, which is called the *Lees* of Wine. And this in short I conceive to be the process of Nature in the *Clarification* of all Wines, by an orderly Fermentation.

As for the Principal *Agent*, or *Efficient Cause* of this operation;



I perswade my self, You will easily admit it to be no other but the *Spirit* of the Wine it self. Which, according to the Mobility of its nature, seeking after librecty, restlessly moving every way in the mass of liquor, thereby dissolves that common tye of mixture, whereby all the Heterogeneous parts thereof were combined and blended together; and having gotten it self free, at length abandons them to the tendency of their gravity and other proprieties. Which they soon obeying, each kind con- sorts with their like, and be- taking themselves to their sever- al places or regions, leave the liquor to the possession and go- vernment of its noblest princi- ple, the spirit. For, this spirit,



as it is the life of the Wine, so doubtless it is also the cause of its Purity and Vigour, in which the perfection of that life seems to consist. ¶

From the natural Fermentation of Wines we pass to the *Accidental*; from their state of *Soundness*, to that of their *Sickness*: which is our SECOND General Head. We have the testimony of daily Experience, that many times even good and generous Wines are invaded by unnatural and sickly commotions, or (to speak in the dialect of *Wine-coopers*) *Workings*; during which they are turbulent in motion, thick of consistence, unsavory in taste, unwholsome in use; and after which they undergoe fundry *Alterations* to the worse. The



The *Causes* hereof may be either *Internal*, or *External*.

Among the *Internal*, I should assign the chief place to the excessive quantity of *Tartar*, or of *Lees*; which containeth much of *Salt* and *Sulphur* ( as hath already been hinted ) continually send forth into the liquor abundance of quick and active particles that, like *Stum* or other adventitious Ferment, put it into a fresh tumult or confusion. Which if not in time allayed, the Wine either grows *Rank* or *Pricking*, or else turns *Sour*: by reason that the *Sulphur*, being overmuch exalted over the rest of the Elements or ingredients, predominates over the pure *Spirits*



rits, and infects the whole mass of liquor with Sharpness or *Acidity*: or else it comes to pass, that the Spirits being spent and flown away, in the commotion; and the *Salt* dissolv'd and set afloat, obtains the mastery over the other familiar parts, and introduceth *Rankness* or *Ropiness*. Yea, though these Commotions chance to be suppressed before the Wine is thereby much depraved: yet do they always leave such evil impressions, as more or less alienate the Wine from the goodness of its former state, in colour, consistence and taste. For hereby all Wines acquire a deeper tincture, *e. i.* a thicker body or consistence; *Sacks and White-Wines* changing from a clear White to a cloudy Yellow;



Yellow; and *Claret* looſing its bright red for a duſkiſh Orange-colour, and ſometimes for a Tawny. In like manner they degenerate alſo in *Taſte*, and affect the palate with foulneſs, roughneſs, and rancidity very unpleaſant.

Among the *External*; are commonly reckoned the too frequer, or violent *motion* of Wines, after their ſettlement in their veſſels; immoderate *Heat*, *Thunder* or the report of *Canons*, and the *admixture* of any *exotick* body, which will not ſymbolize or agree, and incorporate with them, eſpecially the *fleſh* of *Vipers*, Which I have frequently obſerved to induce a very great *Acidity* upon, even the ſweeteſt  
and



and fullest-bodied *Malago* and *Canary Wines*. Yet, under favour, I should think all these forein Accidents to be rather *Occasions* than *Causes* of the evil Events that follow upon them; because these Events seem to arise immediately and principally from the commotion and diffusion of the *Sulphureous*, or *Saline* impurities formerly separated from the liquor, and kept in due subjection by the genuine and benign Spirits. But this is no place, nor is it my inclination, to insist upon nicety of Terms, which might indeed start matter of subtle speculations, but can afford little or nothing of profit to our present Enquiry. Which brings us in the next place to our,

THIRD



THIRD prævious Considerable, viz. the *Palling* or *Flatting* of Wines, and their declination toward *Vinegar*, before they have attained to the State of Maturity and perfection. Of this the grand and proxime *Cause* seems to be their *jejuness* and *poverty* of spirits, either native, or adventitious.

*Native*, when the *Grapes* themselves are of a poor and hungry kind or gathered unripe, or nipt by early Frosts, or half-starved in their growth, by a dry and unkindly season, &c.

*Adventitious*, when the liquor, rich perhaps and generous enough at first, comes after ward  
to



to be impoverished by loss of spirits, either by *oppression*, or by *exhaustion*.

The Spirits of Wine may be *oppressed*, when the quantity of impurities, or dreggs, with which they are combined, is so great, and their crudity, viscosity and tenacity so contumacious, that they can neither overcome them, nor deliver themselves from their adhesion; but are forced to yield to the obstinacy of the matter on which they should operate, and so to remain unactive and clogg'd. As may be exemplified in the course Wines of *Moravia*; which by reason of their great austerity and roughness, seldom attain to a due exaltation of their Spirits, but still

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remain



remain turbulent, thick, and in the state of Crudity, and therefore easily pall, in which respect they are condemned by some *German Physicians*, and more expressly by *Sennertus* (*lib. de Scorbute. cap. 2.*) as intamous for generating the *Scorbute*, and administering matter for the *Stone* and *Gout*: they yielding more of *Tartar* than any other *Wines*.

Crato (consil. 10.) tot in Moravia Colicos & Paralyticos fieri non aliam ob rationem existimat, quam quod vina Moravica noxia sunt: & Cardanus (consilio pro dolore vago) cujusdam Colici doloris quadriennis meminit, non ventrem solum & pectinem, sed etiam pectus, dorsum & cervicem cum palpitatione ingenti, torquentis, cujus originem



nd in *inem petit a vini acerbi & auste-*  
 there *i potu Vide etiam Levin. Lemn.*  
 esped *le oculi. natur. miraculis Lib. 1.*  
 some *ap. 15. & Citesium de Colico do-*  
 re ex *ore Pictonico. cap. 4.*

The Spirits of Wine may be  
 Exhausted or consumed either sud-  
 dainly, or by degrees. Suddainly,  
 by Lightning; which doth spoil  
 Wine (as I concieve, at least)  
 not by Congelation or Fixation of  
 its Spirits; for, then such Wines  
 might be capable of restoration,  
 by such means as are apt to re-  
 enforce and volatilize the Spirits  
 again, contrary to what hath  
 been found by Experience: but  
 perhaps by Disgregation and  
 putting them to flight, so as to  
 leave the liquor dead, pall'd, and  
 never to be revived by any new  
 supply.



supply. By *Degrees*, two ways; viz. by *unnatural Fermentation*, of whose evil effects something hath already been said: or by *Heat* from without: of which we have an instance in the making of *Vinegre*. Which commonly is done by setting the Vessels of Wine against the hot Sun; which beating upon the mass of liquor, and rarefying the finer parts thereof, gives wings to the fugitive Spirits to flye away, together with the purer and more volatill *Sulphur*; leaving the remainder to the dominion of the *Salt*, which soon debaseth and infecteth it with *Sourness*. This being the common manner of turning Wine into Vinegre, and practised (for ought I could ever learn to the



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the contrary ) in all Ages, and  
all Countries; I make a doubt,  
whether Spirit of Wine may be  
drawn out of Vinegre, notwith-  
standing it hath been delivered  
as practicable, even by the grave  
and learned *Sennertus* himself,  
*in. lib. de consens. Chymicor. cum.*  
*Galen.* and heartily wish You  
would be pleased to resolve that  
my doubt, by some Experiment  
of Your own.

The *times of the Year* when  
Wines are observed to be most  
prone to ferment and fret, and  
then to grow *Qually* as they call  
it ) that is turbulent and foul, are  
*Midsummer* and *Alballontide* :  
when our *Vintners* use to rack them  
from their gross Lees, especially  
*Renish*, which commonly grows



sick in *June*, if not rack'd; and they choose to do it in the wane of the *Moon*, and fair weather, the *Wind* being *Northerly*. ¶

Having thus succinctly recounted the most remarkable *Distempers* of *Wines*, guessed at their respective *Causes*, and touched upon the times: it is seasonable for me to proceed to their usual *Remedies*, such at least as I have been able to collect from *Wine-coopers* and *Vintners*; which is the *Fourth* and last part of my *Argument*.

To begin therefore with some of the *Artifices* used to *Wines* when yet in *Must*; it is observable, that although to the raising a *Fermentation* in them,  
at



and at that time, there be not so  
wane much need of any additional  
ather, Ferment, as there is in the woor  
of *Ale, Beer, Hydromel, Metbeglin,*  
and other sorts of drinks fami-  
re- liar to us in *England*; because the  
kable juice of the Grape is replenished  
ted at with generous Spirits sufficient  
and of themselves to begin that  
it is work; yet it is usual in some  
ed to Countries to put quick *Lime* ei-  
least ther upon the Grapes when  
ollect they are pressing, or into the  
ers; Must, to the end that by the  
part force and quickness of its Saline  
and fiery particles, the liquor  
ome may be both accelerated and  
ines assisted in working. For the  
fer- same reason perhaps it is, that  
the the *Spaniards* mix with their  
em, Wines, while they are yet flow-  
at ing from the Press, a certain



thing they call *Giesso*, which I  
guels to be a kind of *Gypsum* or  
plaiſtre; whereby the Wines are  
made more durable, of a paler  
colour and more pleasant taſte,  
Others put into the Cask ſhavings  
of *Firr, Oak* or *Beech*, for the ſame  
purpose; and others Vinegre.

Again, though the firſt Fer-  
mentation ſucceeds generally  
well, ſo that the whole maſs of  
liquor is thereby delivered from  
the groſs Lee; yet ſometimes it  
happens, either through ſcarcity  
of Spirits at firſt, or through im-  
moderate cold, that ſome part of  
thoſe impurities remain confuſed  
and floating therein. Now in  
this caſe, *Wine-coopers* put into the  
Wine certain things to haſten and  
help its *Clarification*; ſuch as be-  
ing



ing of gross and viscous parts, may adhere to the floating *Lee*, and sinking carry it with them to the bottom; of which sort are *Isinglass* and the *Whites of Eggs*: or such as meeting with the grosser and earthly particles of the *Lee*, both dissociate, and sink them by their gravity; of which kind are the powders of *Alabastre*, *calcin'd Flints*, *white Marble*, *Roch Alum*, &c.

The Clarification of *Ippocras* is usually expedited by putting into it new *Milk*, which after a short space of time separates and sinks of it self, carrying with it the powders of the spices and grosser parts of the Wine; after the manner of things that clarify liquors by way of *Adhesion*.

The



The *Græcians* at this day have a peculiar way of ſpurring Nature, and cauſing her to mend her pace, in fining and ripening their ſtrongeſt and moſt generous Wines: and it is by adding to them, when they begin to work, a proportionate quantity of *Sulphur* and *Alum*; not (as I think) to prevent their fuming up to the head and inebriating, according to the conjecture of that great Man, the Lord St. *Albans*, in his *Nat. Hiſt.* For, notwithstanding this mixture, they cauſe drunkenneſs as ſoon, if not ſooner than other Wines, nor are men intoxicated by the vapours of Wine flying up immediately from the ſtomach into the Brain: but only to excite and promote their

*Fer-*



*Fermentation* and hasten their *Clarification* ensuing thereupon; the *Sulphur* perhaps helping to attenuate and divide those gross and viscid parts, wherewith *Greek Wines* abound; and the *Alum* conducting to the speedier præcipation of them afterward. And it is reported by a learned Traveller (*Zimar. in Antr. Magic. Medic. T. 1. lib. 7. pag. 510.*) that some Merchants put into every Pipe of their *Greek Wine*, a Gill or thereabouts of the Chymical Oyl of *Sulphur*, in order to the longer preservation of it clear and sound. Which though I easily believe, because the Acid spirit of *Sulphur* is known to resist putrefaction in liquors: yet I should decline the use of *Wines* so preserved, unless in time of *Pestilential* infection; remembering that old distich; *Qui*



Qui bibit ingrato <sup>u</sup> fœdatum Sul-  
phure Bacchum,  
Præparet ad diri se Phlegi-  
tontis aquam.

all wayes.

But of always of hastening  
the Clarification and Ripening  
of new Wine, none seems to me  
to be either more easie, or more  
innocuous, than that borrowed  
from one of the Ancients by the  
*Lord Chancellor Bacon*: and men-  
tioned in his *Sylva Sylvarum. cen-  
tur. 7. Experim. 679.* Which is by  
putting the Wine into vessels well  
stopped, and letting it down into  
the Sea. Hence I am apt to de-  
rive the use of that antique Epi-  
thet given to Wine thus ripened,  
*Vinum Thalassites.*

But



But; how shall we reconcile this Experiment to that common practice of both the Ancients and Moderns of keeping Wine in the Must a whole Year about, onely by sinking the Cask, for 30. or 40. days, in a Well or deep River? That the use hereof is very *Ancient*, is manifest from that discourse of *Plutarch question. natur. 27.*) about the efficacy of Cold upon Must, whereof he gives this reason; that Cold not suffering the Must to ferment, by suppressing the activity of the Spirits therein contain'd, conserveth the sweetness thereof a long time. Which is not improbable, because Experience teacheth, that such who make their vintage in a rainy season, cannot get their  
Must



Must to ferment well in a Vault, unless they cause great fires to be made neer the Casks; the rain mixed with the Must, together with the ambient cold, impeding the motion of Fermentation, which ariseth chiefly from Heat.

That the same is frequent at *this day* also, may be collected from what Noble Mr. *Boyl* hath been pleased to observe in his incomparable *History of Cold*, on the relation of a *French-man: viz.* that the way to keep Wine long in the Must (in which state the sweetness makes many to desire it) is to tunn it up immediately from the Press, and before it begins to work, to let down the Vessels, closely and firmly stopped, into a Well or deep River, there



there to remain for 6. or 8. weeks. During which time, the liquor will be so confirmed in its state of Crudity, as to retain the same, together with its sweetness, for many months after, without any sensible Fermentation.

But (as I said) how can these two so different Effects, the *Clarification of new Wine*, and the *conservation of Wine in the Must*, be derived from one and the same Cause, the *Cold* of the Water? without much difficulty, as I conjecture. For, it seems not unreasonable, that the same Cold, which hinders Must from fermenting, should yet accelerate and promote the Clarification of Wine after fermentation: in the *first*, by giving checque to the  
there spirit



spirit before it begins to move and act upon the crude mass of liquor, so that it cannot in a long time after recover strength enough to work; in the *Latter*, by keeping in the pure and genuine spirit, otherwise apt to exhale, and rendering the flying lee more prone to subside, and so making the Wine much sooner clear, fine and potable. And thus much concerning the *Helps of New Wine*. ¶

For the *Præternatural*, or sickly commotions incident to Wines after their first Clarification, and tending to their impoverishment or decay; the *general* and principal *Remedy* is *Racking*, i. e. drawing them from their Lees into fresh vessels. Which yet being some-  
times



times insufficient to preserve them, *Vintners* find it necessary to pour into them a large quantity of new *Milk*, as well to blunt the sharpness of the Sulphureous parts now set afloat and exalted, as to precipitate them and other impurities to the bottom, by addition. But taught by experience, that by this means, the Genuine Spirits of the Wine also are much flatted and impaired for, the *Lee*, though it makes the liquor turbid, doth yet keep the Wine in heart, and conduce to its duration) therefore, lest such *Vines* should pall and dye upon their hands, as of necessity they must, they draw them forth for sale as fast as they can vent them.

N

For



For the same disease they have divers other *Remedies*, particularly accomodated to the nature of the Wine that needs them; to instance in a few,

For *Spanish Wines* disturbed by a *Flying-Lee*; they have this receipt. Make a *Parell* ( give me leave to use their Phrase of the *Whites of Eggs*, *bay Salt*, *Milk* and *conduit Water*; beat them well together in a convenient Vessel, then pour them into the Pipe of Wine ( having first drawn out a gallon or two, to make room ) and blow off the froth very clean. Hereby the tumult will in 2. or 3. days be recomposed, the liquor refined, and the Wine drink pleasantly, but will not continue to do



do so long; and therefore they counsel to rack it from the Milky bottom, after a weeks settlement, lest otherwise it should drink foul, and change colour. And this,

If Your *Sacks* or *Canary Wines* chance to boyl over, draw off 4. or 5. Gallons; then putting into the Wine 2. Gallons of *Milk* from which the Cream hath been skimm'd, beat them till they be thoroughly commix'd, adding a penny worth of *Roch Alum*, dried in a fire-shovel, and beaten to powder, and as much of *White Starch*: after this, take the whites of 8. or 10. *Eggs*, a handfull of *bay-salt*, and having beaten them together in a Tray, put them also into the Wine, filling up the  
N 2 pipe



pipe again, and letting the Wine stand 2. or 3. days, in which time, the Wine will recover to be fine and bright to the Eye, and quick to the taste: but be sure You draw it off that bottom soon, and spend it as fast as you can.

For *Claret* in like manner dis-tempered with a *Flying-Lee*, they have this artifice.

They take two pound of the powder of Pebble-stones, bak'd in an Oven, the whites of ten or twelve Eggs, a handfull of bay-Salt; and having beaten them well together in two gallons of the Wine, they mix them with that in the Cask; and after two or three days draw off the Wine from that bottom. The



The same Parell serves also for *White Wines* upon the Frett, by the turbulency and rising of their Lee.

To cure *Rhenish* of its Fretting (to which it is most prone a little after *Midsummer*, as was before observed) they seldom use any other art, but giving it vent, and covering the open Bung with a Tile or Slate; from which they are carefull to wipe off the filth purged from the Wine by exhalation: and after the Commotion is by this means compos'd, and much of the fretting matter cast forth, they observe to let it remain quiet for a fortnight or thereabout, and then rack it into a fresh Cask, newly fumed with a



Sulphurate Match, call'd in Latine *tela Sulphurata*, in High-Dutch *Ein Schlag*. ¶

As for the various *Accidents*, that frequently ensue and vitiate Wine after those forementioned Reboylings, notwithstanding their suppression before they were incurable; You may please to remember, I referr'd them all to such as alter and deprave Wines either in *Colour*, or *Consistence*, or *Taste*, or *Smell*. Now for each of these Maladies our *Vintners* are provided of a Cure. In particula,

To restore *Spanish* and *Austrian* Wines grown Yellow or Brownish, they add to them sometimes *Milk* alone, sometimes *Milk* and  
*Isinglass*



*Isinglass* well dissolved therein,  
 sometimes *Milk* and *White Starch*:  
 by which they force the exal'd  
*Sulphur* to separate from the li-  
 quor, and sink to the bottom;  
 so reducing the Wine to its for-  
 mer clearness and whiteness.  
 The same effect they produce  
 with a composition of *Flower-de-*  
*lucé* roots, and *Salt-petre*, ana,  
 4 or 5 ounces; the whites of 8 or  
 10 *Eggs*, and a competent quan-  
 tity of common *Salt*; mixt and  
 beaten in the Wine.

To amend *Claret* decayed in  
*Colour*, first they rack it upon a  
 fresh Lee either of *Alicant*, or *Red*  
*Bodeaux* Wine; then they take  
 three pound of *Turnsol*, steep it in  
 all night in two or three gallons  
 of the same wine, and having  
 N 4 strained



the strained ~~in~~ infusion through a bagg, pour the tincture into the Hoggthead (sometimes they suffer it first to fine it self in a Rundlet) and then cover the bung-hole with a tile, and so let it stand for 2 or 3. days; in which time the Wine usually becomes well-coloured and bright.

Some use only the tincture of *Turnsol.*

Others take half a bushel of full-ripe *Elder-berries*, pick them from their stalks, bruise them, and put the strain'd juice into a hoggthead of discoloured Claret; and so make it drink brisk, and appear bright.

Others, if the Claret be otherwise



wise found, and the Lee good, overdraw 3. or 4. gallons; then replenish the vessel with as much good *Red Wine*, and rowl him upon his bed, leaving him reverted all night: next morning turn him again so as the bung-hole may be uppermost, which stopt, they leave the wine to fine. But in all these cases they observe to set such newly recovered wines abroach, the very next day after they are fined, and to draw them for sale speedily.

To correct wines faulty in *Consistence*, i. e. such as are *lumpish* *foul*, or *Ropy*; they generally make use of the powders of burnt *Alum*, *Lime*, *Chalk*, *Plaistre*, *Spanish White*, *Calcined Marble*, *bay Salt*, and other the like bodies, which



cause a precipitation of the gross and viscid parts of the Wine then afloat. For Example,

For *Attenuation* of *Spanish Wines*, that are foul and lumpish; having first rack'd them into a newly scented Cask, they make a *Parrell* of burn'd *Alum*, bay *Salt*, and conduit *Water*: then they add thareto a quart of *Bean-Flower*, or powder of *Rice* ( and if the wine be also brown and dusky, *Milk*, otherwise not ) and beating all these well together with the wine, blow off the froth, and cover the bung with a clean tile-stone. Lastly, they again rack the wine after a few days, and put it into a Cask well Scented.

Here perhaps some, not well  
un-



understanding what is meant by this *Scenting* of Casks, will pardon me if I make a short stand to explain it.

They take of *Brimstone* 4 ounces, of burn'd *Alum* 1 ounce, of *Aqua vitæ*, 2 ounces; these they put together in an earthen pan, or pipkin, and hold them over a Chaufing dish of glowing coals, till the *Brimstone* is melted and runs, then they dipp therein a little piece of new *Canvas*, and instantly sprinkle thereon the powders of *Nutmeggs*, *Cloves*, *Coriandre* and *Anise* seeds. This *Canvas* they fire, and let it burn out in the bung-hole, so as the fume may be received into the vessel; And this, as I have been credibly informed, is the best  
scent



scent for all Wines. Nor is it a Modern invention ; both *Camera-rius* (*cap. 8. membr. sect. 23.*) and *Levinus Lemnius* (*Occult. lib. 2. cap. 48.*) taking notice of the like use among the *Ancients*, of fuming their Casks with *Sulphur*,  
*Ut vasa a putredine defenderentur, vinumq; ipsum majorem calorem, aut Spiritus acriores acquireret.*

To prevent the foulness and ropiness of Wines, the old Roman *Vindemaitores* used to mix *Sea-water* with the *Must*, *Ut suo calore, ne Vina lentescerent, pendulaq; fierent, conservaret, & dum pondere suo in vase subsideret, faeces secum ad fundum deferret.* *Cyato de R. R. cap. 104.* & *Langius 2. Epist. 32.* & *Plin. lib. 2. cap. 1.*

To



To cure the *Ropiness* of *Claret*, the Vintners as well *French* as *English* have many *Remedies*, among which I have selected two or three, as most memorable, because most usual.

One is this, *First*, they give the Wine a *Parell*, then draw it from the *Lee*, after the clarification by that *Parell*; this done, they infuse 2 pound of *Turnsol* in good *Sack* all night, and the next day putting the strain'd infusion into a hoggshhead of the Wine, with a spring funnel, leave it to fine, and after draw it for excellent Wine.

Another this, They make a *Lee* of the ashes of *Vine-branches*,  
or



or of *Oaken leaves*, and pour it into the wine hot, and after stirring leave it to settle. The quantity, a quart of *Lee*, to a Pipe of Wine.

A *third* is only *Spirit of Wine*, which put into muddy *Claret*, serves to the refining it effectually and speedily: the proportion being a pint of *Spirit* to a hoghead. But this is not to be used in sharp and eagre *Wines*.

When *White* wines grow foul and tawny, they only rack them on a fresh *Lee*, and give them time to fine.

For the Emendation of *Wines* offending in *Saste*, *Vintners* have few other *Correctives*, but what conduce

*Tast.*



conduce to *Clarification*. Nor do they indeed much need variety in the case; seeing all Unfavourinels of Wines whatever seems to proceed from their impurities set afloat, and the dominion of either their Sulphureous, or Saline parts over the finer and sweeter; which causes are removed chiefly by *Precipitation*. For, all *Clarification* of liquors may be referred to one of these three causes: (1.) *Separation* of the grosser parts of the liquor from the finer; (2.) The equal *distribution* of the *Spirits* of the liquor, which always rendreth bodies clear and untroubled; (3.) The refining of the *Spirit* it self. And the two latter are consequents of the first, which is effected chiefly by *Precipitation*,  
the



of

the instruments whereof are *weight* and *Viscosity* of the body admixt, the one causing it to cleave to the gross parts ~~of~~ the liquor flying up and down in it, the other sinking them to the bottom. But this being more than Vintners commonly understand, they rest not in Clarification alone; having found out certain *Specifices* as it were, to palliate the several Vices of Wines of all sorts, which make them disgustfull. Of these likewise I shall recite two or three, of greatest use and esteem among them.

To correct *Rankness*, *Eagerness* and *Pricking* of Sacks and other sweet Wines, they take 20. or 30. of the whitest *Lime-stones*, and  
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Rack them in a gallon of the Wine; then they add more wine, and stir them together in a Half-tubb, with a Parelling staff; next they pour this mixture into the Hoggshhead, and having again used the Parelling instrument, leave the Wine to settle, and then rack it. This Wine I should guess to be no ill drink for gross bodies and rheumatick Brains; but hurtfull to Good Fellows of hot and dry constitutions, and meagre habits.

Against the *Pricking* of French Wines, they prescribe this easie and cheap composition. Take of the powder of *Flanders Tile* 1 pound, of *Roch Alum* half a pound, mix them and beat them

○

well



well with a convenient quantity of the Wine, then put them into the hoggshead, as the former.

When their *Rhenish* Wines prick, they first rack them into a clean and strongly-scented Cask or Vate; then add to the Wine 8 or 10 gallons of clarified *Hony*, with a gallon or two of skim-milk, and beating all together, leave them to settle.

Sometimes it happens, that *Claret* loseth much of its briskness and Picquantness; and in such case they rack it upon a good Lee of *Red Wine*, and put into it a gallon of the juice of *Slows* or *Bullies*, which, after a little fermentation and rest, makes the wine drink brisk and rough.

How

The



The like hath been sometimes done, as I have been told by a *Drawer*, with *Virginian Pears*, call'd *Metaguesunaux*. Which seems highly probable, because that Fruit is of colour deeply sanguine, and very austere and rough of taste, as I observed in some that were given me some years since.

To meliorate the taste of *Hungry* and too *Eagre White-Wines*, they draw off 3 or 4 gallons of the wine, and infusing therein as many pounds of *Malago Raisins*, stoned and bruised in a stone Mortar, till the wine hath sufficiently imbibed their sweetness and tincture (which it will do in a days time) they run it through an *Hippocras* bagg, then



put it into a fresh Cask, well ſcented, together with the whole remainder of the wine in the hoggshead, and ſo leave it to ſine.

To help *Stinking* wines, the general Remedy is *Racking* them from their old and corrupt Lee. Befides which, ſome give them a fragrant ſmell or *Flavor*, by hanging in them little baggs of ſpices, ſuch as *Ginger*, *Zedoary*, *Cloves*, *Cinamon*, *Orras* roots, *Cubebs*, *Grains of Paradise*, *Spinknard*, &c. *Aromaticks*. Others boyl ſome of theſe Spices in a pottle of good ſound wine of the ſame ſort, and tunn up the decoction hot. Others correct the ill favour of rank-leed *French* wine with only a few *Cinamon* canes hung



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hung in them. Others again for  
the same end use *Elder Flowers*,  
and topps of *Lavender*. ¶

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Having thus run over rhree  
parts of the *Vintners Dispensatory*,  
and transcribed many of their  
principal *Secrets* for the cure of  
the *Acute* diseases of wines; we  
are arrived now at the FOURTH,  
which contains Medicaments  
proper for their *Chronic* distem-  
pers, viz. *Loss of Spirits*, and  
*decay of Strength*.

Concerning these, therefore,  
it is observable, that as when  
wines are in præternatural Com-  
motions, from an excess and  
predomination of their Sul-  
phureous parts, the grand Me-  
dicine is to *Rack* them from their



Lee: so, on the contrary, when they decline and tend toward *Palling*, by reason of the scarcity of their Spirits and Sulphur; the most effectual Preservative is to rack them upon other Lees, richer and stronger than their own; that being from thence supplied with new Spirits, they may acquire somewhat more of vigour and quickness. I say *Preservative*; because there is, in truth, no *Restoring* of wines after they are perfectly pall'd and dead; for, nothing that is past perfection, and hath run its natural race once, can receive much amendment.

But, besides reinforcing of impoverished wines by new and more generous Lees, there are sundry *Confections*, by which also  
as



as by *Cordials*, the languishing spirits of them may be sustained, and to some degree recruited. Of which I here bring two or three particular examples.

When *Sacks* begin to languish (which doth not often happen, especially in this *City*, where are so many *Sack-drinkers*) they refresh them with a *Cordial Syrup*, made of most generous *Wine*, of *Sugar* and *Spices*.

For *Rhenish* and *White* wines, a simple decoction of *Raisins* of the Sun, and a strong-scented Cask, usually serve the turn.

For *Claret* inclining to a *Consumption*; they prescribe a new and richer *Lee*, and the shavings



of *Firr* wood; that the Spirits being recruited by the additional Lee, may be kept from exhaling, by the unctuous substance of the *Turpentine*. Which artifice I have often observed, at the time of my being at *Paris*, to be used in the most delicate and thin-bodied Wines of *France*: and seems to me, no improbable cause of that exceeding dulness and pain of the head, which always attends upon Debauches made with such wines, as was noted long since by *Pliny*, who speaking of the same (*lib. 23. cap. 1.*) saith, *novitium resinatum nulli conducit; capitis dolorem & vertigines facit: ab hoc dicta Crapula est; est; viz. παρὰ τὸ καίειν πάλαιον, quasi dolor caput vibrans.*

Nor



Nor is it a Modern invention, but well known to, and frequently put in use by the old Romans, in times of their greatest wealth and luxury. For, *Pliny* (*Hist. nat. lib. 14. cap. 2.*) takes singular notice of the custome of the *Italian* Vintners, in mixing with their Wines *Turpentine* of several sorts. Some of his words are these, *Ratio autem condiendi Musta, in primo fervore, qui novem diebus cum plurimum peragiter, aspersu Picis; ut odor vino contingat, & saporis quædam acumina. Vehementius id fieri arbitrantur, crudoflore Resinæ, exitariq; leniatem, &c.* Yea, the *Græcians* long afore had their *Vina Picata & Resinata*; as is evident from the commendation of such Wines by *Plutarch* (*5. Sympos. probl. 3.*) and the prescription



scription of them to women, in some cases, by our great Master, *Hippocrates* (1. *de Morb. Mulier.*) and were so much delighted with their *Vinum Piscites*, that they consecrated the *Pich* tree to *Bacchus*.

You have heard the summe of what I have my self observed, and what I have transcribed from the *Manuscripts* of some very skilfull *Vintners*, which I had the good luck to peruse; concerning the *Remedies* of the various *sicknesses*, to which *Wines* are obnoxious.

It remains only, that I entertain Your Patience, a minute or two longer, with a taste of the more disingenuous practises of *Vintners*, in the *Transmutation*  
or



or Sophistication of Wines, which they call *Trickings* or *Compassings*.

They transform poor *Rochel* and *Cogniak* White wines into *Rhenish*; *Rhenish* into *Sack*; the Laggs of *Sacks* and *Malmfies* into *Muskadels*. They counterfeit *Raspie*-wine, with *flower de Luce* roots; *verdea*, with decoctions of *Raisins*; they sell decayed *Xeres*, vulgarly *Sherry* for *Lusenna* wine: in all these impostures deluding the palate so neatly, that few are able to discern the fraud: and keeping these *Arcana Lucrifera* so close, that fewer can come to the knowledge of them. So that we may say, as *Pliny* did, in the close of his chapter touching the Sophistication of wines, in his days;



days; tot veneficiis placere cogitur,  
& miramur noxium esse vinum?

As for their metamorphosis of *White* into *Claret*, by dashing it with *Red*; nothing is more commonly either done or known.

For their conversion of *White* into *Rhenish*, they have several artifices to effect it, among which this is most usual.

They take a hoggshead of *Rochel*, or *Cogniak*, or *Nants* white wine; rack it into a fresh Cask, strongly scented; then give the white *Parrell*: put into it 8 or 10 gallons of clarified Hony, or 40 pounds of cours Sugar, and beating it well, leave it to clarify.



fic. To give this mixture the delicate *Flavour*, they sometimes add a Decoction of *Clary* seeds, or *Galitricum*; of which Druggs there is an incredible quantity used yearly at *Dort*, where now is the *Staple* of Rhenish wines. And this is that Drink, where-with our English *Ladies* are so much delighted, under the specious name of *Rhenish in the Must*.

The manner of making adulterate *Bastard*, in this.

*Recipe*, Four gallons of *Whitewine*, three gallons of old *Canary*, five pounds of *Bastard* Syrup, beat them well together; put them into a clean Rundlet, well scented; and give them time to fine. *Sack*



*Sack* is made of *Rhenish*, either by strong Decoctions of *Malago* Raisins, or by a *Syrup* of Sack, Sugar and Spices.

*Muskadel* is sophisticated with the *Laggs* of *Sack*, or *Malmsey* thus.

They dissolve in a convenient quantity of *Rose-water*, of *Musk* 2 ounces, of *Calamus Aromaticus* powder'd 1 ounce, of *Coriander* seed beaten half an ounce; and while this infusion is yet warm, they put it into a Rundlet of old Sack, or Malmsey; and this they call, a *Flavor for Muskadel*.

Many other ways there are of *Adulderating* Wines, daily practised even in this our (otherwise well govern'd) *City*: but in respect



pect they all tend to the above-mentioned *Alterations*, and are less *General*; therefore I pass them over in silence. ¶

Nor have I at present any thing more to add to this *Essay* toward a History of Wines, but my humble request to Your *Lordship*, and the honour'd *Fellows* of this ROYAL SOCIETY, that You would be pleas'd to pardon the many defects of it; and that if the Enquiries therein made come short of Your expectation, You would suspend Your Curiosity untill my Copartner in this Province, the Learned Dr. *Merret*, shall have brought in his Observations concerning the same subject. For, I doubt not but the fulness of his Papers will supply the emptiness of mine. ¶

THE END.





SOME  
OBSERVATIONS

Concerning the

ORDERING of WINES.

By Dr. *Merret*.



THE Mysterie of Wines  
consists in the ma-  
king and meliora-  
ting of Natural  
Wines. Melioration is either of  
sound or vitious Wines. Sound  
Wines are bettered, 1. By prefer-  
ving



ving. 2. Timely fining. 3. by mending Colour, Smell or Taste.

To preserve Wines, care must be taken, that, after the Pressing, they may ferment well: for without good Fermentation, they become *qually* (i. e.) cloudy, thick and dusky, and will never fine of themselves as other Wines do: and when they are fined by Art, they must be speedily spent, or else they will become *qually* again, and then by no Art recoverable.

The Principal Impediments of the Fermentation of Wines, after pressing the Grapes, are either their Unripeness when gathered, or the mixture of Rain water with them, as in wet

P Vintages;



Vintages; or else through the addition of Water to rich Grapes. The Spaniards use *Gieffo* to help the Fermentation of their Canary Wines.

To preserve Spanish Wines, and chiefly Canary, and thereof principally that which is *Razie*, which will not keep so long; they make a Layer of Grapes and *Gieffo*, whereby it acquires a better durance and taste, and a whiter Colour, most pleasing to the English.

*Razie* wine, is so called, because it comes from Rhenish-wine slips, sometimes renewed, The Grape of this Wine is fleshy, yielding but a little juice.

French



French and Rhenish wines are chiefly and commonly preserved by the *Match*, thus, used at *Dort* in Holland : Take Brimstone 20 or 30 pounds, rack, into it melted, Spices, as Cloves, Cinnamon, Mace, Ginger and Coriander-seeds ; and some to save charges use the reliques of the Hippocras bag ; and having mixed these well with the Brimstone they draw through this mixture, long, square, narrow pieces of Canvas, which pieces thus drawn through the said mixture, they light and put into the Vessel at the Bung-hole, and presently stop it close: Great care is to be had in proportioning the Brimstone to the quantity



and quality of the wine; for too much makes it rough; this smoaking keeps the wine long, white, and good, and gives it a pleasant taste.

There's another way for French and Rhenish wines, *viz.* *Firing* it: tis done in a stove, or else a good fire made round about the Vessel, which will gape wide; yet the Wine runs not out; 'twill boyl, and afterwards may soon be rack'd.

Secondly, For timely fining of Wines. All Wines in the Must are more opacous and cloudy. Good wine soon fines, and the gross Lees settle quickly and also the flying Lee in time. When the grosser Lees are



are settled, they draw off the Wine, called *Racking*. The usual times for Racking, are Midsommer and Alhallontide.

The practice of the Dutch and English to rid the wine of the flying Lees speedily, and serves most for French and Spanish wine, is thus performed: Take of Isinglass half a pound, stop it in half a pint of the hardest French wine that can be got, so that the wine may fully cover it. Let them then stand 24 hours, then pull and beat the Isinglass to pieces, and add more wine, and 4 times a day squeez it to gelly, and as it thickens add more wine. When 'tis fully and perfectly gellyed,

P 3



gellyed, Take a Pint or Quart to a Hogshead and so proportionably: then overdraw 3 or 4 Gallons of that wine you intend to fine, which mix well with the said quantity of gelly, then put this mixture to the piece of wine and beat it with a staff, and fill it top-full. Note that French-wines must be bunged up very close, but not the Spanish; and that Isinglass raiseth the Lees to the top of strong wines, but in weaker precipitateth it to the bottom.

They mend the Colour of found Clarets by adding thereto Red-wine, Tent or Alicant, or by an infusion of Turnsole made in 2 or 3 Gallons of wine, and then putting it into the  
Vessel,



Vessel, to be then (being well stopt) rowled for a quarter of an hour. This infusion is sometimes twice or thrice repeated according as more Colour is to be added to the wine; some 3 hours infusion of the Turnsole is sufficient, but then it must be rubbed and wringed. What Turnsole is, see the Notes on the Art of Glasse.

Claret over-red, is amended with the Addition of White-wines.

White wines coming over sound but brown, thus remedied: Take of Alabaster-powder, over-draw the Hoggshhead 3 or 4 Gallons, then put this Powder into the Bung, and stir

P 4

and



and beat it with a staff, and fill it top-full. The more the wine is stirred, the finer it will come upon the Lee, that is, the finer it will be.

To colour Sack white; Take of white Starch 2 pounds, of Milk 2 Gallons, boyl them together 2 hours, when cold, beat them well with a handfull of white Salt, and then put them into a clean and sweet But, beating them with a staff, and the wine will be pure and white.

One pound of the aforementioned gelly of Isinglass takes away the brownness of French and Spanish wines, mix'd with 2 or 3 gallons of wine.



wine, according as 'tis brown and strong, more or less to be used. Then overdraw the piece of wine about 8 gallons, and use the Rod, and then fill the Vessel full, and in a day or two 'twill fine and be white, and mend if qualley.

The first Buds of *Ribes nigra* infused in wines, especially Rhenish, makes it diuretick and more fragrant in Smell and Taste, and so doth Clary. The inconvenience is, that the Wine becomes more heady; a Remedy whereof is Elder-flowers added to the Clary; which also betters the fragrancy thereof, as 'tis manifest in Elder-vinegar. But these flowers are apt to make the wine Ropy.

To



To help brown Malago's and Spanish wines; take powder of Orras-roots and Salt-peter of each 4 ounces, the whites of 8 eggs, whereto add as much Salt as will make a brine, put this mixture into the Wine, and mix them with a staff.

To meliorate Muddy and Tauny Clarets; Take of Rain-Water 2 pints, the Yelks of 8 Eggs, Salt an handfull, beat them well, let them stand 6 hours before you put them into the Cask, then use the Rod, and in 3 days it will come to it self.

To



To amend the Taste and Smell of Malago. Take of the best Almonds 4 pounds, make therewith, and with sufficient quantity of the wine to be cured, an Emulsion; then take the whites and yelks of 12 Eggs, beat them together with Salt an handfull, put them into the Pipe, using the Rod.

To amend the smell and taste of French and Rhenish which are foul. Take, to an Auln of the Wine, of honey one pound, of Elder-flowers a handfull, Orras powder an ounce, one Nutmeg, a few Cloves, boyl them in sufficient quantity of the wine to be cured, to the consumption



sumption of half, when 'tis cold, strain and use it with the Rod: some add a little Salt. If the Wine be sweet enough, add of spirits of Wine one pound to a hoggshead, and give the Cask a strong scent. Spirit of Wine makes any Wine brisk, and fines it without the former mixture.

A lee of the Ashes of Vine-branches, viz. a quart to a Pipe, being beaten into the Wine, cures the ropiness of it; and so infallibly doth a Lee of Oaken Ashes. For Spanish ropy Wine, rack it from its Lees into a new scented Cask, then take of Alum one pound, Orras roots powdered half a pound, beat them well into the Wine with a staff. Some add



add fine and well-dryed sand,  
 put warm to the Wine. If the  
 Wine besides prove brown, add  
 3 pottles of Milk to a Pipe.  
*Alius*, the *Spaen* cures ropy Wine,  
 used before it begins to fret.

Herrings Roes preserve any  
 Stum Wines.

To order Rhenish Wines when  
 fretting. Commonly in *June*  
 that Wines begin to ferment and  
 grow sick, then have a special  
 care not to disturb it, either by  
 removing, filling the Vessel, or  
 giving it Vent, only open the  
 Bung, which cover with a slate,  
 and as often as the slate is foul,  
 cleanse it and the bung from  
 their filth, and when the fer-  
 mentation is past, which you  
 shall



shall know by applying your Ear to the Vessel, then give it rest 10 or 12 days that the grosser Lees may settle, then rack it into a fresh scented Cask.

This mixture meliorates vitious Wines both in smell and taste; especially French. Take of the best Hony one part, of Rain-water two parts and one third of sound old Wine of the same kind; boyl them on a gentle fire to a third part, scumming them often with a clean Scummer (to which purpose they have a payl of fair Water standing by to rince it in) then put this mixture hot into a Vessel of fit capacity, and let it stand unbunged till cool. Some, to better this, put in a bag of Spices.

This



This mixture, called by the Dutch *Soet*, will serve also to fine any Wine new or old.

2. 'Twill mend the hard taste of wine (*i. e.*) putting a gallon thereof to a hoggshead, and using the Rod, and then let it rest 5 or 6 days at the least, but if mild enough, add white mustardseed bruised.

To mend and preserve the Colour of Clarets. Take red Beet-roots *q. s.* scrape them clean and cut them into small pieces, then boyl them in *q. s.* of the same wine, to the consumption of a third part, scum it well, and when cool, decant off what's clear, and use the Rod.

*Alias*



*Alias*, Take of the Wine and Honey of each 2 pounds, Rain-water a pottle. 12. Beet-roots, ripe Mulberries 4 or 5 handfulls, boyl them to half, and when cool decant, &c. *ut supra*.

To preserve Claret rack'd from its Lees. Take to a Tierce 10 Eggs, make a small hole in the top of the shells, then put them into the wine, and all will be consumed.

To prevent fouling of French Wines. Take Grains of Paradise *q. s.* beat them in a pan, and hang them or put them loose into a Vessel. Some use Lavender tops.

To



To help four French wine.

Take of the best wheat 4 ounces  
 boyled in fair water till it break,  
 and when cold put it into a Vat  
 in a bag, and use the Rod. *Alias,*  
 take 5 or 6 Cinnamon canes,  
 hang them up well.

To help Spanish four wines.

First rack the wine into a clean  
 cask, and fill it up with two  
 or three Gallons of water, and  
 add thereto of burnt Chalk  
 4 ounces, and after 3 or 4 days  
 it must be rackt and filled up  
 again with rain water, if the  
 first time doth not do it. Some  
 use Loam or Plaistering. If  
 these Ingredients make the  
 Wine bitter, correct the fault  
 with Nutmegs and Cloves.

Q

To



To help stinking wines.  
 Take Ginger half an ounce,  
 Zedoary 2 drachms, powder  
 and boyl them in a pottle of  
 good Wine, which put scald-  
 ing hot into the Vat: bung it  
 up and let it lye; the species  
 of *Diambra* and *Diamoscu Dulc.*  
 do the same; and so Nutmegs  
 and Cloves which also give a  
 kind of Raziness.

To help Wine that hath an  
 ill favour from the Lees.  
 First, rack it into a clean Cask,  
 and if Red or Claret, give him  
 a fresh Lee of the same kind:  
 Then take of Cloves, Ginger  
 and Cinnamon 2 ounces, Or-  
 ras root 4 ounces; powder  
 them grossly, hang them in a  
 bag,



bag, and taste the wine once  
 in 3 days, and when 'tis  
 amended take out the bagg.  
 Some do it thus, Take of  
 Cloves half a pound, Mastick,  
 Ginger, Cubebs, of each 2  
 ounces, *Spica nardi* 3 drachms,  
 Orras root half a pound, make  
 thereof a fine powder, which  
 put loose into the Vat, and use  
 the Rod, and make a good fire  
 before it.

Firing of Wines in Ger-  
 many is thus performed; they  
 have in some Vaults 3 or 4  
 Stoves, which they heat ve-  
 ry hot; others make fires al-  
 most before every Vat; by  
 this means the Must ferment-  
 eth with that Vehemency, that  
 the Wine appears between the  
 Q 2 staves.



staves; when this ebullition, fermentation and working ceaseth, let the Wine stand some days, and then rack it. This firing is only used in cold years, when the wine falls out green.

*Stum* is nothing else but pure wine kept from fretting by often racking and matching it in clean Vessels and strongly scented (*i. e.*) new matched, by means whereof it becomes as clear or clearer than any other Wine, preserving it self from both its Lees by precipitation of them: But if through neglect it once fret, it becomes good Wine. The Bung of the Vessel must be continually stopt, and the

Vessels



Vessels strong lest they break.

A little Stum put to Wine decayed, makes it ferment afresh, and gives life and sweetness thereto, but offends the head and stomach, torments the guts, and is apt to cause loosnesses, and some say Barrenness in Women.

To Fine Wine presently.

Fill a Cask with shavings or chips of Beech or Oak (which are best) this is to be done with much art, or else it seldom hits right, but lasteth long: put these chips into a Cask, which is called by the Dutch *een Spaen* (i. e.) a Chip, into which they pour in as much Wine as the Cask will hold, and in 24 hours the

Q 3

wine



Wine will be fine. Or a quart of Vinegar in three days will fine a hoggshead of Wine.

To set old Wine a fretting being deadish and dull in taste. Take of Stum 2 Gallons, to a hoggshead, put it hot upon the Wine, then set a pan of fire before the hoggshead, which will then ferment till all the sweetness of the Stum is communicated to the wine, which thereby becomes brisk and pleasant. Some use this Stumming at any time, some in *August* only, when the wine hath a Disposition to fret of it self, more or less Stum to be added, as the wine requires.

The



The best time to rack wine is the decrease of the Moon, and when the wine is free from fretting; the wind being at North-east, or North-west, and not at South, the Sky serene, free from Thunder and Lightning.

Another Match for French Clarets and Spanish wines. Take Orras-roots, Mastick and Brimstone, of each 4 ounces, Cloves 2 ounces; ordering it *ut supra* in Matching wines. This will serve for all wines, adding if you please Nutmegs, Ginger, Cinnamon and other Spices. Double the quantity of Orras root is to be used for Spanish wines.

Q 4

To



To help Malago's which will not fine. Take of crude Tartar powdered, sifted and dryed, 2 pounds, mix it with the whites of 6 Eggs: dry, powder and sift them again, then overdraw the Pipe as much as will serve to mix with this powder, and fill the Pipe therewith, beating it with a Staff as before, and this wine will be Fine in ten days.

Another speedy way to fine French wines. Hang a piece of scent in the Cask, and when 'tis burnt out, put in a pint of the best Spirit of Wine, and stir it about. Some add, a little salt well dryed. This fines the wine in 24 hours.

To



To keep Must a Year. Take Must, put it into a Cask piteht within and without, half full, stop the bung close with mortar. Others sew the Cask in Skins, and sink it for 30 days into a Well or River. Or else a Garland of *Polium Montanum* hung in the Vessel. Or rub the inside of the Vessel with Cheese: all these preserve Rhenish Must, As the Scholiast on Dodonaus in Dutch.

Alum put into a Hogs-bladder, keeps wine from turning flat, faint or brown, and beaten with the whites of Eggs removes its ropiness.

Flat



Flat wines recovered with  
 Spirit of wine, Raisins, and  
 Sugar or Molosses; and Sacks,  
 by drawing them on fresh  
 Lees.

Our Wine-coopers of lat-  
 ter times use vast quantities  
 of Sugar and Molosses to all  
 sorts of wines, to make  
 them drink brisk and spark-  
 ling, and to give them Spi-  
 rits, as also to mend their  
 bad tastes, all which Rai-  
 fins and Cute and Stum per-  
 form.

Countrey



Countrey Vintners feed  
 their fretting Wines with raw  
 Beef; and here, their Cana-  
 ries with Malago, which is  
 added more or less to all Ca-  
 naries.

The Composition of Wines  
 is manifold, the Vintners usu-  
 ally drawing out of 2 or 3  
 Casks, for one Pint, to accom-  
 modate it to the Palate of those  
 that drink it. Most of the Ca-  
 nary is made with Malago and  
 Zerez Sack.

I shall conclude with two  
 common compounded Wines,  
*Muscaden* and *Hippocras*: the  
 former usually made with 30  
 Gallons of *Cute* (which is  
 Wine



Wine boyled to the consumption of half ) to a Butt of Wine. Or the Lees and droppings boyl'd and clarified; its Flavour is made of Coriander seeds prepared, and shavings of Cyprus wood. Some instead of Cute, make it of Sugar, Molosses and Honey, or mix them with the Cute. This following is an *Hippocras* of my own making, and the best I have tasted.

Take of Cardamoms, Carpobalsamum of each half an ounce, Coriander seeds prepared, Nutmegs, Ginger, of each 2 ounces, Cloves 2 drachms; bruise and infuse them forty eight hours in Zerez and White wine,  
of



of each a Gallon, often stirring  
 them; then add thereto of Milk  
 three pints strain through an  
 Hippocras bag, and sweeten  
 it with a pound of Sugar-  
 candy.

*THE END.*



Errors of this Second Impression to be  
thus Corrected.

**P** Ag. 2. line 3. read, of so 'abstruse and difficult a nature,  
 &c. l. 6. r. correspondent. p. 11. l. 16. r. pravo. p. 12. l. 6. r. docili-  
 tas. p. 13. l. 5. r. & vana. p. 19. l. ult. r. subtilly. p. 20. l. 7. r. Discretion.  
 p. 23. l. 6. r. though the Imagination be. p. 26. l. 13. r. Panegyrics. p.  
 33. l. 12. r. and the word seems &c. p. 34. l. 15. r. describe. p. 36. l. ult.  
 r. omniscient. p. 47. l. 8. r. mirabilium. & l. 12. r. ineptam. & l. 15. r.  
 tantum. & l. 16. r. possim. & l. 17. r. continuatos. & l. 18. r. in ceteris  
 glandulis. proprio vase excretorio donatis. p. 49. l. 3. r. caecutire. p.  
 50. l. 14. r. lib. de opificio Dei. & l. 16. r. nesciat. p. 53. l. ult. r. muni-  
 ditie. p. 54. l. 16. r. animaq; pariter, &c. & l. 19. r. de Gener. Ani-  
 mal. p. 62. l. 2. r. where. p. 87. l. 3. r. hath put a certain, &c. p. 93. l.  
 6. r. multos homines. p. 97. l. 16. r. conservation of public peace. p.  
 108. l. ult. r. sensit quid mens rite, &c. p. 114. l. 19. r. multa ve-  
 rustas lenit. p. 115. l. 20. r. regimine. p. 118. l. 14. r. mores. p. 122. l.  
 21. r. laudant, quæ in odio habet. p. 123. l. 17. r. iuvaudi aut mo-  
 uendi, satiant invidiam. p. 127. l. 5. r. Cratinus. p. 129. l. 14. r.  
 Euripedes. p. 131. l. 13. r. ferebat. p. 136. l. 16. r. Gasper Scioppius.  
 p. 138. l. 9. r. mansion. p. 139. l. 8. r. maguos viros. p. 258. l. 7. r.  
 rancidity. p. 162. l. 13. r. Colicos & Paralyticos. p. 172. l. 1. r. fæda-  
 rum. & l. 5. r. of all ways. p. 184. l. 1. r. strained the Infusion. p. 188  
 l. 18. r. Cato. p. 190. l. 18. r. offending in Tast. p. 192. l. 4. r. parts of  
 the liquor. p. 201. l. 13. r. peragitur. & l. 17. r. excitariq; lenitatem.



cc

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