

**Remarks on a short narrative of an extraordinary delivery of rabbets, perform'd by Mr. John Howard, surgeon at Guilford, as publish'd by Mr. St. Andre, anatomist to His Majesty. With a proper regard to his intended recantation. / By Thomas Brathwaite.**

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REMARKS

ON

*A short* NARRATIVE of an Extraordinary Delivery of Rabbits, perform'd by Mr. JOHN HOWARD, Surgeon at Guilford,

As publish'd

By Mr. St. ANDRE, Anatomist to His Majesty.

WITH

*A proper* REGARD to his intended  
RECANTATION.

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THOMAS BRATHWAITE, Surgeon.

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*Sic populus vult decipi decipiatur.*

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L O N D O N :

Printed for N. BLANDFORD at the  
*London-Gazette* Charing-Cross. 1726.

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To the Learned and Profound

Dr. *M E A G R E.*

*S I R,*



Reflect with Pleasure on your unwearied Endeavours to detect the Imposture of the *Woman of Godliman*, and cannot enough admire the Rhetorick you wasted, and the Time and Courtship you lost upon the profligate *Mary Toft*: Neither ought your Condescension to be forgot, if it be true, that you try'd to kiss, tickle and cajole her out of the Confession

## DEDICATION.

sion ſhe afterwards made. Theſe and other weighty Conſiderations ſoon determined me to chooſe a Man of your known Penetration and Sagacity for my Patron. Neither did I regard the Perſuaſions of ſome of my Friends, who advis'd me to dedicate to the Sooterkin Doctor, or to the Sage Grefſhamite. And here I can't help congratulating with you on the Diſcovery of this wonderful Cheat, and on the Succeſs of your no leſs wonderful Pill; and though ſome People that are not thoroughly convinc'd of the Importance of your medicinal Merit, may, upon this critical Occaſion, call the Energy and Efficacy of your Pill in Queſtion; yet for my Part I rejoyce with you, to think what a fair Opportunity you now have, of convincing the World of the ſpecifick Harmleſſneſs of the *Pillule*, and of expatiating upon the ſtupendious Effects it boaſts of:

## DEDICATION.

of: Nor shall my Endeavours be wanting, if requir'd, to do any Pills or Packets of yours the Justice they deserve. And notwithstanding it may seem to some prejudiced Persons to favour of Quackery in a Licentiate of the College, to make a *Noftrum* of a common mercurial Pill; yet it may not be impossible to find out some Examples at least in our Profession, to keep your Modesty in Countenance upon that Head: I am sorry to say that I have my self met with an Elder in Surgery, every whit as eminent in the venereal Practice as your self, though less learn'd, contending for the Merit of his surprizing Knack of making Wax-Candles; and I'm sure you cannot value your self more upon being a Pedagogue and a Pill-maker, than he does upon his being a manual Operator and Candle-dipper.

Neither do I think it any more inconsistent for a Doctor to have been  
an

## DEDICATION.

an Usher of a School, than for a Dancing-Master to be an Anatomist, or a Surgeon to turn Wax-Chandler. I know you'll excuse this Digression, when you consider 'tis meant in Behalf of your Pill, and in Reverence to your singular Parts and peculiar Endowments; and therefore I shall not any longer chocque you with the Praise either of your Pill or your Person, but with suitable Humility, I beg leave to subscribe my self

*Your Constant Admirer,*

T. B.

P R E.



# P R E F A C E.



*T's well known that the Town has lately been amused with idle Relations by the Gullivers, St. Andres and Howards of the Age ; and it is as certain that these Amusements have been carried on in their respective Capacities, of Surgeons, Captains, Dancing-Masters, Anatomists, Men-midwives, Warreners, Coney-Catchers, &c. and they don't stick to tell us that there are Men of the Size of one's little Finger, and others Sixty Foot high, and that there are Flying Islands and Rational Horses ; that Human Excrements may be reduced to their primitive*



## P R E F A C E.

mitive Ingredients, or at least may be changed into **P O R R A C E O U S** Matter, and that Mary Toft of Godliman has been delivered of Seventeen Rabbits; and that notwithstanding the Fraud is detected, an Account of the Delivery of the Eighteenth will be soon publish'd. When I reflect upon this strange Gallimatias, I am chagrin'd to think that the valuable Arts of Surgery and Anatomy must necessarily be brought into Contempt by such monstrous Relations. This Consideration has induced me to lay open some of the gross Impositions, as far as they relate to the Profession; and as some of these Accounts are not only false, but even bordering on Farce, I am inclined to treat them in the Manner I think they deserve.



## REMARKS, &c.

**W**Hatever may be the Fate of the Author of the *Narrative*, I think my self oblig'd, for the Sake of the Truth, not only to detect the Facts he has so gravely asserted, but also to help him in his intended Recantation in the best Manner I am able; and that nothing may be wanting on my Side, I shall endeavour to point out to him some of the absurd Passages of the *Narrative*, in the same Order and Light as they have occur'd to me; and that his Recantation may be the more sincere and compleat, and for Fear he shou'd be too partial to himself, (as Authors generally are) I have carefully avoided Flattery; and on the other Hand, have endeavoured to give him my Remarks, in such a Manner as may be most useful to him in his Design of discrediting *Mary Toft's* Confession,

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fession, and of making his own Skill  
 and Innocence the more plainly appear.  
 And here I can't help taking Notice,  
 that our Author, seeming to foresee the  
 Occasion there might be for a Recanta-  
 tion, and being conscious to himself of  
 the manifest Absurdity of his Relation  
 at the very Time he wrote it, assures  
 us in the very first Page, " That Mr.  
 " *Howard*, his Colleague, intended  
 " shortly to publish the whole Account,  
 " and prove every Circumstance of  
 " it, by such Evidences as will put  
 " this Matter out of all Possibility of  
 " doubt." Happy had it been for St.  
*Andre* and his Coadjutor *Howard*, if  
 they had not heard of the *Depositions*  
 from *Surry*, and those of the Porter at  
 the *Bagnio* and of their Patient *Mary*  
*Toft*. " But surely it cannot be doubt-  
 " ed, but that all Persons that are not  
 " governed by Prejudice, in Favour of  
 " the Author of the *Narrative*, or some  
 " worse Motive, will suspend their Be-  
 " lief of any Thing this Author has al-  
 " ready asserted, or is like to assert on  
 " this or any other Subject, 'till Facts  
 " come to their Knowledge by a more  
 " certain Way than by such flying Re-  
 " ports and absurd Conjectures."

I chose to make use of his own Words to prevent Mistakes; and can't help taking Notice, with what Warmth he sets out with the Panegyric of his Brother *Howard*, and tells us of his known Probity, Character and Capacity; and adds farther, that he has practis'd Midwifery for above Thirty Years. Now, surely, if Brother *Howard* has any Gratitude left, he will not be behind-hand with the *Narrative* Writer in Complement, but must at least say as much of his Brother-Warrenner's known Probity, Character, and Capacity, &c. especially at this Time, when perhaps all that he can say to that Purpose, will be little enough.

But to return. The Author of the *Narrative* goes on to confirm his Accounts by two Letters from his Brother *Howard*, the first dated the 6th of *November*; the Substance of which is,  
 “ That he had *delivered* the Woman of  
 “ three more Rabbits, that the last of  
 “ them had leap'd in her Belly for the  
 “ Space of eighteen Hours before it  
 “ died, and that the Moment it was  
 “ taken away, another was perceiv'd  
 “ to struggle for Birth.” A lively Instance of the Probity of *Howard*, and  
 of

of the Readiness of his Associate to believe him! But we shall soon see how these worthy Operators, like their Rabbits, *jump'd* together both in their Opinions and Operations. But more of this after quoting the second Letter, which is as follows, *viz.*

*S I R,*

“ SINCE I wrote to you, I have  
 “ taken or deliver'd the poor Wo-  
 “ man of three more Rabbits, all three  
 “ half grown, one of them a dunn Rab-  
 “ bet; the last leap'd twenty three Hours  
 “ in the *Uterus* before it dy'd. As soon  
 “ as the eleventh Rabbet was taken a-  
 “ way, up leap'd the twelfth Rabbet,  
 “ which is now leaping. If you have  
 “ any curious Person that is pleased to  
 “ come Post, may see another leap in  
 “ her *Uterus*, and shall take it from her  
 “ if he pleases; which will be a great  
 “ Satisfaction to the Curious. If she had  
 “ been with Child, she has but ten Days  
 “ more to go, so I do not know how  
 “ many Rabbits may be behind. I have  
 “ brought the Woman to *Guilford* for  
 “ better Convenience.

*I am, S I R,*

*Your humble Servant,*

John Howard.

Upon the Credit of these two ingenious Letters, that appear to have neither Sense nor *English* in them, and that carry suspicious Marks almost in every Line, our celebrated *Anatomist* hyes down to his Brother *Howard* at *Guilford*; and to palliate the Matter, prevails on a worthy Gentleman to bear him Company; and there finds the Coney-breeder (as he says) actually in Labour of the Fifteenth Rabbet; and after due Examination and patient Waiting for Labour-pains, he tells us " he DELIVERED her of the entire Trunk, stripp'd of its Skin, of a Rabbet of about Four Months Growth, in which the Heart and Lungs were contained, with the *Diaphragm*, entire" He tells us further, of his cutting off a Piece of them, and of his his trying of them in Water. A fine Opportunity of shewing his Probity if he had been so disposed! And then he goes on to say, that the Lungs seem'd but just specifically lighter than Water, and that upon pressing them to the Bottom they rose again, but very slowly.

Now it is plain to the Experience of every Body conversant in these Enquiries,

ries, that the Lungs of all *Fœtus* Animals that have not breathed sink in Water; and that if ever an Animal has breath'd, tho' never so small an Instant, their Lungs as constantly swim, and are as light or lighter than Cork: Whereas our Anatomist is with much ado brought to own that these Lungs were lighter than Water, and that they rose from the Buttom but with Difficulty. A plain Proof that these Lungs belong'd not to a *Fœtus* that died before the Birth, but to one that had breath'd; and of our Author's Aversion to own it; and sure if he had not a Design to gloss over this Matter, he would not have insinuated that these Lungs differ'd from the Lungs of Rabbits that had liv'd and breath'd some time.

The next Thing he mentions, is the Largeness of the Heart, and that the *Foramen Ovale* was entirely open. This puts me in Mind of the Parts of the Rabbits that I took out of the Operator's Coney-Basket at the *Bagnio*, where I found a Hole forced thro' the Verge of the *Foramen Ovale* in two of the mangled Trunks that, to use his Phrase, he exhibited at the *Bagnio*, to confirm  
the

the Truth of the extraordinary Delivery, even at the very Time the Detection of the Fraud was depending: A singular Instance both of his Probity and Modesty!

He then goes on to shew his Skill in Comparative Anatomy; and asserts, that  
 “ these Lungs were remarkably smaller  
 “ and of a much darker Colour than  
 “ commonly the Lungs of such Rab-  
 “ bets which have breath’d for some  
 “ Time. In order to explain these Difficulties in his Recantation, I would advise him to own fairly that he is utterly ignorant of the Size of Rabbits Lungs, or that he knew very well that these were Parts of natural Rabbits that had lived and breath’d; but that he thought fit to colour the Cheat, and to represent them otherwise.

Next comes a material Assertion indeed, *viz.* “ No Person but my self  
 “ touch’d her from the first Time that  
 “ I had examin’d her, to the Time of  
 “ her being *delivered by me*;” and consequently, we must be apt to think that no Body could convey the Pieces of Rabbits into the *Vagina* without his Privity. This Passage I think it behoves our Author to clear up well in his  
 Re-



Recantation, otherwise the censorious World will be apt to have Recourse to the Depositions of *Mary Toft*, to set this Matter in its true Light.

But he is somewhat beholden to his Friend *Sir Richard Maningham*, who tells us in the 10th Page of his *Diary*, that *St. Andre* in Discourse with him at *Guilford*, added, " That had he not  
*It just* delivered the Woman of  
 " Part of a Rabbet from the very *Uterus*  
 " itself, the Circumstance of the Piece  
 " of Hog's-Bladder would have indu-  
 " ced him to suspect the Fraud as well  
 " as *Sir Richard* himself. And again in  
 the 17th Page of the said *Diary*, *Sir*  
*Richard* tells us, " that *St. Andre* was  
 " convinc'd that he ~~he~~ had taken a  
 " Rabbet from the *Uterus*.

He then proceeds to a second Examination of the Woman, and says, " he found that in the Course of the *Fallopian Tubes* there were some Inequalities, but more sensibly on the right Side of her Belly." If our Author had been feeling the *Cornua Uteri* of a pregnant Doe-Rabbit, or of some other parturient Animal, he might possibly have felt the Inequalities he mentions; but sure he is the first Man that ever  
 felt

felt Inequalities in the *Fallopian Tubes* of a Woman thro' the out side of her Belly. He then favours us with his Conjectures that the Rabbits were bred in these same *Fallopian Tubes*; and his Zeal for the Credibility of this Imposture, carries him so far as to account for the Woman's Agitations and for the pretended Exclusion; and to shew us his Skill in Midwifery, he tells us, there was no Blood nor Water issued from the *Vagina*; a likely Sign of a Delivery! when every old Woman knows there never was a Delivery without both. He then talks of Milk in one Breast, and yellowish *Serum* in the other; and without staying for the Remainder of the Rabbet, our Author leaves the Woman to be delivered of the lower Part of a Male-Rabbet by the Nurse; and in order to account thoroughly for this absurd Labour, he says, he found it to tally with the Trunk, which he had before extracted. He then tells us he found five or six Pellets in the *Rectum* of this Animal, much of the same Colour and Consistence as the common Dung of a Rabbet; the like he says was observed of those Rabbits which had come away before. 'Tis a little

strange that these Rabbits should have Pellets in their Dung if they had never fed: What Pity it is, our *Narrative-Writer* should have so little Skill in Anatomy, or so bad a Memory. but on he goes, and tells us *notwithstanding*, that there was a dirty-colour'd Mucus, of the Nature of that constantly found in the Bowels of all *Fætus* Animals, besides the Pellets of Dung, in which Mr. *Ablers* afterwards found small Bits of Hay, Straw, and Corn; and then he would have us believe, that he found a very slender brittle white Body, which in Shape was like very small Fish Bones: which I would earnestly advise our Author to pick very clean in his Recantation, that the Town may digest his *Narrative* the better. The next Paragraph is too remarkable not to quote entire.

“ Between six and seven the same Evening we again visited her; we had not been there long, before she fell into violent Labour-Pains, insomuch that four or five Persons cou'd hardly confine her to an Arm-Chair: As soon as the Violence of the first Pain was somewhat abated, I examined her as before, and found the *Vagina* perfectly  
“ clear;

“ clear; and the Orifice of the *Uterus*  
 “ so far closed, as not to admit of the  
 “ little Finger. I constantly stood be-  
 “ fore her, nor did any Person whatso-  
 “ ever touch her, during that Time.  
 “ After three or four very strong Pains,  
 “ that lasted several Minutes, I deli-  
 “ vered her of the Skin of the above-  
 “ said Rabbet, rolled and squeezed up  
 “ like a Ball, without the least Moif-  
 “ ture or Blood about it; upon which  
 “ she recover'd of her Pain.

“ From that Time I did not stir from  
 “ before her; nor did I withdraw my  
 “ Hand, but to deliver the Skin to a  
 “ Stander-by.

How our Author will reconcile his  
 not stirring from her, nor withdrawing  
 his Hand, but to deliver the Skin to a  
 Stander-by, with the Innocence he pro-  
 fesses in the Advertisement of his in-  
 tended Recantation, which I have sub-  
 joyn'd, is as difficult for me to imagine,  
 as not to believe what *Mary Toft* has  
 declared on that Head.

And now, to crown the Work, he a-  
 gain delivers her of the Head of a Rab-  
 bet with the Furr on; *also without*  
*Blood or Moisture*; nay, we don't so  
 much as hear of Butter or Pomatum to

facilitate the Labour, and make the Trick more glib.

Now to recapitulate. We find *St. Andre* delivers her first of the Trunk, then the Nurse delivers her of the lower Part of a Male Rabbet; he in his Turn takes out the Skin, rolled and squeezed up like a Ball, (a pretty Conveyance) and last of all comes the Head with the Furr on; wherein I afterwards observ'd at the Bagnio, that the Cartilages that cover the Processes of the *Occiput*, were notch'd with some sharp Instrument; and indeed to do the Operator Justice, (whoever he was) the Head seemed to be dexterously separated; and I very much question, whether *Mary Toft*, even with *Howard's* Assistance, could have done it so well.

And here I can't help declaring my Astonishment, to think that our Anatomist could possibly overlook the many Incisions and Lacerations, both of the Abdominal and other Muscles of the mangled Fragments that were pretended to be deliver'd from the *Uterus* of *Mary Toft*, which I observ'd at the *Bagnio*; and besides took Notice, that the Feet of almost all the Rabbets were cut off to prevent scratching: So careful were some of the Coney-catchers

ers of hurting the poor innocent Rabbet-breeder.

Then to shew us that he was aware of more Rabbets, he tells us, “ That at  
 “ Parting he found those Lumps, which  
 “ still were in the same Place as before  
 “ mentioned ; ” Another Difficulty to  
 reconcile with his Innocence ! And now  
 he comes to his sham Monster, which  
 he says, did not appear to be a perfect  
 Rabbet in all its Parts, three of the Feet  
 being like the Paws of a Cat, the Sto-  
 mach and Intestines like those Parts  
 in the same Animal, as also the Shape  
 “ and Figure of the Thorax, the Lungs  
 “ and Heart of which, he says, were  
 “ entirely out of their natural Situa-  
 “ tion, and *squeezed* out between the  
 “ upper Ribs and *Vertebrae* of the  
 “ Neck, to which Part our Anatomist  
 “ says they strongly grew and adhe-  
 “ red. ” I luckily had an Opportu-  
 nity of detecting this particular Fraud  
 my self ; for whilst our Operator was  
 shewing his Monster last *Thursday*  
 Sen’night in the Dining-room of the  
 Bagnio, in the Presence of Dr. *Stewart*  
 and Mr. *Geekie*, jun. the Surgeon, and  
 Mr. *Barnivelt* the Apothecary, and  
 several other Gentlemen, I convinc’d  
 those

those Gentlemen, and I believe the Monster-monger himself, that there was no Adhesion of the Heart and Lungs to the *Vertebræ* of the Neck and upper Ribs, as he asserted; but rather, that some ingenious Person, a Well-wisher to the Cheat, had reversed the Heart and Lungs, and *Squeez'd* them out of their natural Cavity, in order to make a pretended Monster; and in the Presence of these Gentlemen I return'd the Parts to their natural Situation before our Author's Face, tho' he was pleased to say I could not. But Mr. *St. Andre*, more loth to own the Truth than seem to agree with his boasted Innocence, would still cavil, and pretended that the Blood-Vessels were not rightly disposed, 'till I shewed the contrary both to himself and to the other Gentlemen, just after he had opened the *Thorax*, by cutting thro' the *Sternum*: And upon asking for the Head of this Monster, he shewed me the Skull of a Rabbet; which, he said, his Brother *Howard* assured him belonged to the Trunk of the Cat I had before examined. A proper Evidence for that Purpose! In order to make this Imposture appear the more plausible, I suppose some of the ingeni-

ous Persons that were at the Bottom of the Cheat, had cut a Cat to Pieces in like Manner with the Rabbits, and withal to make the Delivery appear the more extraordinary.

After a tedious Detail of our Author's Dissections of the Rabbits, he tells us, " that tho' these Animals were  
 " exactly like those that undergo the  
 " Changes that happen to Adult Ani-  
 " mals by Food and Air, yet they car-  
 " ried with them the strongest Marks  
 " of *Fætus's*, even by such Parts as  
 " cannot exist in an *Adult*, and with-  
 " out which a *Fætus* cannot possibly be  
 " supposed to live"; and yet he has be-  
 fore asserted in Page the 17th and 18th  
 " of his *Narrative*, " That he could  
 " not discover in any of the Livers he  
 " examined, the *Ductus Venosus*, nor  
 " the Implantation of the *Umbelical*  
 " *Vein*"; without which *Ducts* it's im-  
 possible for a *Fætus* to exist a Moment,  
 and indeed it is equally impossible for  
 a *Fætus* to be form'd without them.  
 If our Author can make these Things  
 tally with Skill in Anatomy and Inno-  
 cence, for my Part I shall be willing to  
 believe the *Narrative* without the help  
 of a *Recantation* to explain it. But to



go on with the Show, he farther endeavours to prove, in the strongest Terms possible, that these Animals were of a particular Kind, and not bred in a natural Way; and I wish, for the Credit of these two clever Operators, that they don't prove to be of as particular a Kind themselves when *Mary Toft's Confession* appears.

There's another Passage I cannot pass by; where he says, "That there will be no Doubt remaining of what he has been before asserting, even with the least knowing in these Matters, when those Parts which are subservient to the Circulation of the Blood and Nourishment, between an *Adult* Creature and its *Fœtus*, are brought away; which I am fully satisfy'd, says he, must shortly happen, or if retained, be the Cause of this Woman's Death." An ugly Conjecture! If the Fraud had not been detected, who knows but the Persons that are said to have poison'd the Anatomist, might have bestow'd a Cast of their Office on poor innocent *Mary Toft*?

He then proceeds to inform us, that all these Facts were verify'd before his Majesty on *Saturday* the 26th of *November*.

*vember*, by the Anatomical Demonstration of the First, Third, Fifth and Ninth of these Animals; which he says were compared with the Parts of two natural Rabbits, the one of the Age of four Months, and the other of five Days, Dr. *Steigerthal* and Dr. *Teissier* being present. How true this Verification was, those gentlemen are best able to tell us, and I hope they'll take a proper Time to do it, to the Edification of his Majesty's Anatomist, and to the Honour of his Recantation. But here it may not be improper to consult Mr. *Ablers Postscript*, viz.

“ **M**onsieur *St. André* having asserted in his *Narrative* (pag. 20.) that all the Facts, as by him there related, were verified before his Majesty on *Saturday, Nov. 26.* Dr. *Steigerthal* and Dr. *Teissier* being present, I was desired by Dr. *Steigerthal*, to inform the Publick in his Name, that he all along suspected this whole Affair to be a Fraud and Imposture; and was far from thinking the comparative Anatomy, which is there mention'd by Mr. *St. André*, any ways fa-

“ tisfactory to verifie his Assertions.

CYRIACUS AHLERS.

Decemb. 8. 1726.

After this, our Author tells us, “ that  
 “ with all convenient Speed he will  
 “ publish the Anatomy of these præter-  
 “ natural Rabbets, with their Figures  
 “ taken from the Life, and compared  
 “ with the Parts of Rabbets of the same  
 “ Growth, that the Differences before-  
 “ mentioned may be fully understood.”

But I hope I have in some Measure saved him the Trouble; and that the Publick will very readily excuse his delaying these Prints, till his Account of the Delivery of the 18th Rabbet is ready to come out. Our Author, still intent upon his Comparative Anatomy, and not considering how he has embarrassed his Recantation, goes on to acquaint us of the Difference he found between two common Rabbets, that he says he dissected before Mr. *Molyneux*, and those he calls the præternatural ones.

In the Course of his Dissections he assures us, that he found the Lungs of a common Rabbet 20 times bigger than the same Parts of what he calls the præternatural one, tho' he agrees they were much of a Size, that is, about 4 Months Growth.

Growth. *Quære* whether this Dissector ever saw a *Fœtus* Rabbet four Months old? He tells us too, that his other common Rabbet was barely fifteen Days old; and yet he says the Lungs of it were at least 8 times bigger than the Lungs of his præternatural one, (which was about the Size of one four Months old.) Sure our Author had his *Microscopical Spectacles* on when he magnified his Objects at this prodigious Rate in his natural Rabbits; and must have been at a vast Distance from his præternatural Conies, when they diminish'd in a Vicesimal Proportion. But for my Part, who only view'd his præternatural Rabbits Lungs at the *Bagnio* with my *naked Eye*, I could discover nothing different in their Structure or Proportion from natural Rabbits. How far our Author's *Optics* may have been disordered, by *Poison* or too hard Study, he will do well to set forth in his promised Apology.

Our Author goes on with his Microscopical Observations; and in the Stomach and Intestines, pretends to observe, "that the Difference was so *notoriously* great from those he had examined, that even in the Sucking Rabbet, (he says) the Stomach and Cœcum were at least three times larger than those Parts in the præternatural ones." *Quære* whether our Author makes a proper Allowance for the Pellets and Mucus he found in the Dung of his *Fœtus*?

I much wonder, that with all this Penetration and Sharp-sightedness, he did not discover the Pieces of Hay, Straw, &c. that Mr. *Ablers* and other Gentlemen discovered in the Fæces of his Animals; and it is as strange to me that our Author's Anatomy should all turn one way,

and still in favour of an Event, that he said himself he has at length with much ado found out to be an Imposture.

And that our Anatomist could take his Rabbits for *Fœtus's*, when, as I hinted before, he does not so much as pretend to have discover'd in them either *Umbelical Vein*, or *Arteries*, or *Urachus*, or *Ductus Venosus*, all which are absolutely necessary to the very Being of a *Fœtus*, is beyond my Conception; and how he came to take no notice of the longitudinal and oblique Incisions in the abdominal Muscles, and the Marks of Violence I observed in the torn Parts of the Viscera of the Abdomen, is equally amazing to me. But perhaps his next Book will account for these and other surprising Phænomena, that appear'd in his monstrous *Fœtus's*.

We now come to our Author's second Journey to *Guilford* on the 22d of last Month, where, after a frivolous Account of Labour-pains, &c. he tells us, that his Patient, *Mary Toft*, voided a piece of one of the *Membranes* of the *Placenta*, rolled up like Parchment; and that when it was extended, it measured about six Inches over. In order to explain this Passage, and farther to illustrate our Author's Probity and Innocence, I beg Leave to quote *Sir Richard Maningham's Diary*, Page the 11th and 12th.

“ Mr. *John Howard* brought us, wrapt in  
 “ a Paper, a Piece of Membrane, which he  
 “ said he had just taken from the Woman,  
 “ and shew'd it us. I told him he ought to  
 “ have sent for me, that I might have taken  
 “ it away myself, being come down for that  
 “ Purpose: To which he reply'd, 'twas true,  
 “ but

“ but he believ'd there was more to come,  
 “ which I should take away before I return'd  
 “ to *London*, or to that effect. Upon examin-  
 “ ing the Membrane which he brought, it ap-  
 “ pear'd to me like a piece of Bladder, but he  
 “ insisted it was a part of the *Chorion*, and that  
 “ he had more of it at home.” And indeed  
 as Mr. *Howard* had foretold, Sir *Richard*, up-  
 on a second Visit to the Patient, found a Piece  
 of Membrane in a very particular Manner,  
 which he mentions Page the 13th.

“ I then touch'd her, and in the *Vagina*  
 “ perceiv'd with my Forefinger and Thumb  
 “ somewhat like a piece of Skin; but being  
 “ willing to know whether it come out of  
 “ the *Uterus*, I press'd my Finger on one side  
 “ the said piece of Skin in the *Vagina*, to find  
 “ if there was any part of that Skin or Mem-  
 “ brane yet remaining within the *Uterus*, but  
 “ perceiving the *Os Uteri* close, as before, and  
 “ in the same Form as I left it last, I present-  
 “ ly took out what lay in the *Vagina*, and up-  
 “ on examining it, confess I was much sur-  
 “ priz'd, it appearing to me so like a Piece of  
 “ Hog's Bladder, that I was not able to form  
 “ any other Judgment of it, as I then told Mr.  
 “ *Howard*, Mr. *St André*, Mr. *Limborch* and  
 “ all that were there present, assuring them  
 “ that it was my Opinion that Membrane ne-  
 “ ver came out of the *Uterus*.

“ The Woman, *Mary Toft*, from whom I  
 “ had taken it, seem'd much concern'd at  
 “ what I said, and cry'd. I ask'd her the  
 “ Reason of her Crying, to which she gave me  
 “ no Answer; but the Women about her said,  
 “ it was because she suppos'd I thought her a  
 “ Cheat.

Upon

Upon this, Sir *Richard*, suspecting the Fraud, says, that he call'd for a Hog's Bladder, which it seems they had ready, and which added to his Jealousy ; he tells us too, that he compared them, and that they were alike, and had both the same urinous Smell ; he also informs us, that Mr. *John Howard* and Mr. St. *Andre* bid him have Patience, and he shou'd be satisfied ; but it seems, Mr. St. *Andre* cou'd not then help owning, “ That had he  
 “ not actually delivered the Woman of Part  
 “ of a Rabbit from the *Uterus* itself, this Cir-  
 “ cumstance would also have induced him to  
 believe the whole a Fraud.”

But we see, that notwithstanding the Discovery of the foisting in of the Piece of Bladder into the *Vagina*, our Anatomist never pretends to suspect the Cheat any more either at *Guilford* or *London*, 'till other People found it out for him ; but after this Affair of the Bladder, he publishes his *Narrative*, and varnishes over that Circumstance in the best Manner he is able, tho' Sir *Richard* told him at *Guilford*, “ that he was convinced,  
 “ the Piece of Bladder was artfully conveyed  
 “ into the *Vagina*. Then Sir *Richard* farther tells  
 “ us, that warm Disputes arose amongst them,  
 “ and that Mr. St. *Andre* urged, that the De-  
 “ livery of the Bladder was not more sur-  
 “ prising than his taking a Rabbet from the  
 “ *Uterus* ; and our *Narrative* Writer after all  
 the Disputes at *Guilford*, would have the Piece of Bladder pass for a Membrane of the *Placenta*, without taking the least Notice in his *Narrative* of Sir *Richard Manningham's* and Dr. *Hamp's* Suspicions ; but goes on farther to tell us, “ that she was a second Time  
 “ dif-

“ disburthened of a Membrane in Structure,  
 “ Shape, and Size like the former.

The Probity and Veracity of this Affair may be a little more clear'd up by Dr. *Hamp's* Advertifement of the 13th Instant.

*Whereas Mr. St. Andre in his Narrative lately published of an extraordinary Delivery of Rabbits, has made use of my Name: I do hereby declare that this has been done without my Knowledge and Consent; which I never should have given in a Matter, the Truth of which I did not believe.*

London, Dec. 13, 1726. *J. Hamp, M. D.*

Our Author concludes his *Narrative* with his hearty Endeavours to asperse Mr. *Ablers*, who as well as Dr. *Hamp* and Sir *Richard Manningham* (to his Knowledge,) had suspected the Fraud even at *Guilford*; and for fear Mr. *Ablers* should be believ'd, in blasting the Credit of the Imposture, or for some other Reason best known to himself, he publishes the Affidavits of the two *Howards*, of the Patient *Mary Toft*, and of 2 other Women: But as that Gentleman has fully answered them in his Preface and Book, and has gone a good Way towards explaining both Mr. *Howard's* and Mr. *St. Andre's* Conduct in this pretended Delivery, and in the producing the Affidavits abovemention'd, he has left me the less to say upon these extraordinary Proceedings.

I could have enlarged more upon the Anatomical Part of our Author's Book; but as I found he had taken Pains to misrepresent most of the Parts of his pretended præternatural Rabbits, I must have been under the Necessity of contradicting him almost in every Paragraph; therefore I only chose to single out the  
 most



most material Mistakes ; not doubting but some others of the Profession will contribute their Assistance to expose our Author's Ignorance in Anatomy, or any other Motive that might have induced him to represent Facts in the Manner he has done in the *Narrative*.

But after all, if the Author of the *Narrative* should be really sincere in his intended Recantation, (the coming out of which I own I have some Reason to doubt) I assure him solemnly, that I will assist him, as Leisure may permit, with my Advice *gratis*, that he may perfect the same to the Satisfaction of all Parties. And in the mean time, I shall have the Charity to believe, that he is capable of some sort of Reformation ; and shall be very loth to think, like a prejudiced Person, , that his *Depositions* Publish'd in the *Gazette* of Feb. 23. 1724. and in the *Daily Post* of the 4th of *March* following, are of a Piece with his *Extraordinary Narrative* of the DELIVERY of the Rabbits.

F I N I S.

P. S. I believe it will not be amiss for Mr. *St. Andre* to give his Reasons, in his next Book, for refusing to admit Mr. *Gifford*, my self, and several of the Profession, to the pretended Labour of his Patient *Mary Toft*.

Advertisement on the Back of the Title Page of Mr. *St. Andre's Narrative*, viz.

*The Account of the Delivery of the Eighteenth Rabbet shall be published by way of Appendix to this Account.*