A letter from a male physician in the country, to the author of the female physician in London; : plainly shewing, that for ingenuity, probity, and extraordinary productions, he far surpasses the author of the narrative. To which is added, a short dissertation upon generation, whereby every child-bearing woman may be satisfied, that 'tis as impossible for women to generate and bring forth rabbets, as 'tis impossible for rabbets to bring forth women.

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LETTER

A

FROMA

MALE PHYSICIAN

In the Country, to the Author of the

FEMALE PHYSICIAN

In LONDON; Dr. John. Maubray. Plainly Shewing,

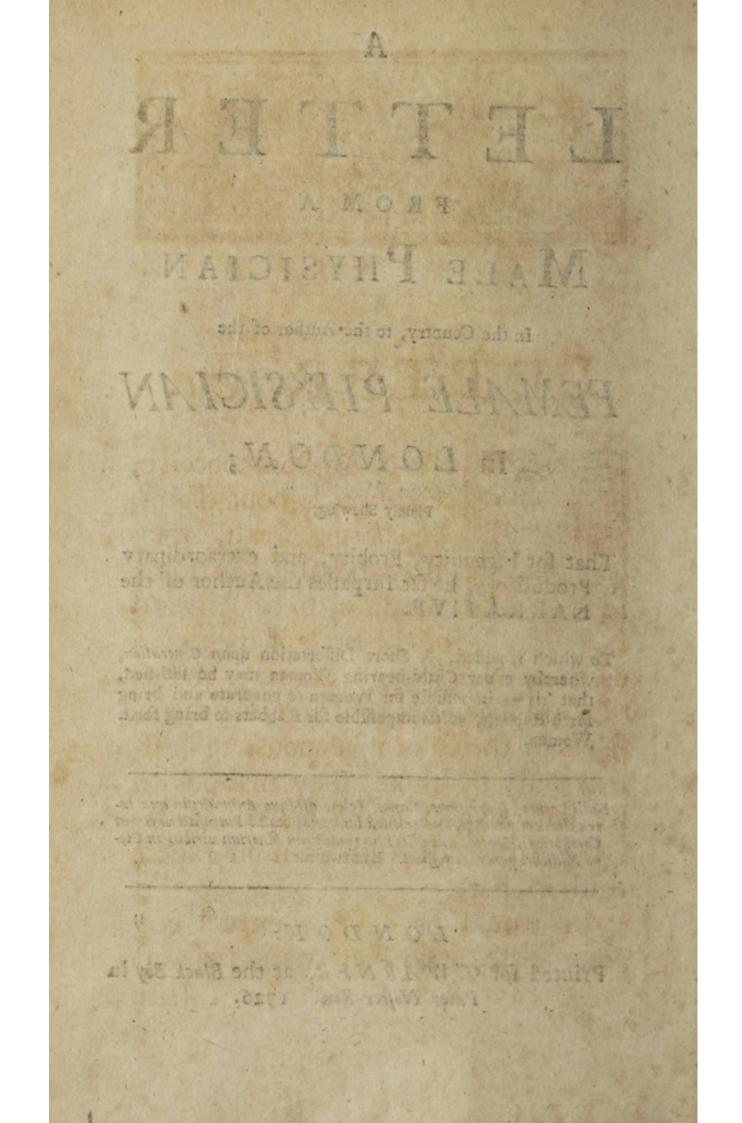
That for Ingenuity, Probity, and extraordinary Productions, he far furpaffes the Author of the NARRATIVE.

To which is added, A Short Differtation upon Generation, whereby every Child-bearing Woman may be fatisfied, that 'tis as impossible for Women to generate and bring forth Rabbets, as 'tis impossible for Rabbets to bring forth Women.

Nulli Leones, Elephantes, Canes, Feles, aliaque Animalcula que intra Uterum pariunt, ex Geniturd humand, nulla Putrefactionis aut Corruptionis Specie, aut ullis imaginantium Matrum viribus in Utero Muliebri generari possunt. Lamzweerde.

LONDON:

Printed for T. WARNER, at the Black Boy in Pater-Nofter-Row. 1726.





LETTER, &c.

Jondenin Alon, as judgment



HEN Authors conceive, undergo Labour - Pains, and bring forth, they may be faid, in fome meafure, to be deliver'd of the Brats of their own

or their Neighbours Brains; and as they are ingenious in delivering themfelves of these, or ingenuous, in dealing justly by those, they may, with Reason, expect to be prais'd or despis'd; For all Authors must expect Authors Fare.

IT would be vain to expect any other Fate, fince all Mens Labours A 2 fhare fhare the fame; for when given to the Publick, they are fubjected to the publick Cenfure, and must stand or fall by their own Worth, or the Reader's Fancy, fo receive Commendation or Condemnation, as Judgment or Caprice prevail.

Now, Sir, tho' all judicious Writers (as you are) be careful to avoid those Impertinences which they know would be taken Notice of and ridicul'd; yet are there not wanting fome who will write in spite of Nature, and being shallow-pated Things themfelves, puff'd up with Self-Conceit, will obtrude on the World what they have taken upon Truit, and even in the most abstruse Secrets of Nature, of which they know nothing, they would appear to be molt ingenious, and have every one give Credit to what they have grossly swallowed, fo would pass for Men of mighty Knowledge, by fetting up for Authors of are, strange, and extraordinary Fooleries,

ries, &c. which only afford Mirth to the Wife.

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Som E Authors admire what others make a Jeft of; and fome are as rafh in publifhing, as in prating; fo fplit upon the Rock of Ridicule. Some again, more cautious, weigh well the Effects and Confequences of their Writings before they lay them open to publick Cenfure, wifely confidering, that a Hurry in the Execution of any thing, efpecially in the publifhing of Books, often produceth galling Reflections.

THOSE Authors who write fenfibly, purely, and naturally, express themfelves modeftly, let nothing escape them but what is judicious, real, and folid (as you have done) may always expect to be esteem'd by Men of Sense.

SOME Authors write to make their Readers laugh; others write only to be laugh'd at. I must own I cannot express to you the Indignation with which which I have read some Mens Works, full of unintelligible Jargon, neither Greek nor English, which, for a seeming Garnish, they crowd in at a Venture, to amuse their Readers, that, (as Erasmus has it) they who understand them, may be tick?'d with them, and those who do not, the less they know, the more they may admire.

NOR can I tell you, Sir, how much I was affected, when I perufed a certain Author, who had ftudioufly fcrap'd together all the rare and extraordinary Events, the ftrange and fupernatural Births, and other Accidents, out of Pliny, Pinto, De la Val, Gonfales, Mandeville, and other tabulous Authors, and fuch romantick Relations as had no Ground in Truth, only to gain a Name by impofing on the eafy Belief of the People.

Now, Sir, as you have industrioully avoided all these Extremes, you merit the Applause of all Ranks, but in a more special manner, of the Fair Fair Sex, whom you have laid under Obligations to fpread your Fame, and perpetuate your Memory, as the most accomplish'd *Female Physician*, and most judicious Author any Age could ever boast of.

As such, Sir, give me Leave, amongst the Crowd of your Admirers, to congratulate your Renown, and apply to you upon an extraordinary Birth of Rabbets: This being a very rare Event in your way, which I hear has puzzled many not unlearned Perfons, and confounded the Multitude; it is to be hop'd, Sir, fince no body has hitherto pretended to account for it, that you would be fo good as to account for this remarkable Delivery, as you have elegantly done for many yet more remarkable Events in your Time: Tell us particularly, Learned Sir, how these Rabbets were generated, and whether you think they were stopp'd in the Fallopian Tubes, as his Majesty's Anatomist has wifely hinted;

ed; or whether you think they were bred in Utero, and forget not to tell us, how they came there; for out of the Uterus he certainly brought forth the Head of a præternatural Rabbet, with the Furr on it, and delivered her of the entire Trunk of a Rabbet ftript of its Skin, of about Four Months Growth; and pray, dear Sir, give us your Opinion of the Placenta's left behind, or, as he calls it, retain'd, and whether they will be the Caufe, as he fays, of this Woman's Death, or not.

You may perhaps wonder what Impertinent prefumes to difturb your Repofe, and dares thus to addrefs you, being an utter Stranger to you. But this will foon ceafe, when I tell you, I believe that none but one of your profound Penetration, and recondite Learning, could folve thefe knotty and difficult Queries, and fully fatisfy us upon thofe Heads: None but one who has obliged the Publick with his excellent Works, wherein he has affured

red them, that he has acquired a perfect Knowledge of the Mysteries and Secrets of Nature in all Cafes incident to the Female Sex; one who infallibly cures all their Diseases, discovers real Conceptions, whether of a Boy or Girl, and is Master even of the greatest Arcana of Nature. One who can rectify Barrenness itself: One who has brought Midwifry to Perfection; and by long Experience in bringing Sooterkins just like Moodiwarps, Oc. into the World, has accounted fo rationally for Dutch Womens being more fubject to bring forth these Animals than any others. See Page 365, 366. One who has fo ingenioufly accounted for numerous Conceptions, but more particularly for the Story of the Countels Margaret at Lofdun, who is faid to have brought forth Three Hundred and Sixty Five Children at one Birth. See Page 358, 359. One who has fo cleverly and nicely accounted for Womens Conceiving, without any virile. STIL

Help

Help or Affistance. See Page 378, 379.

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To whom could I apply with more Reafon and Juffice, upon fuch an extraordinary Event, than to you, Learned Sir, who are daily converfant in deep and profound things of this Nature; and from whom could I hope for any fatisfactory Account of this extraordinary Delivery, *Sc.* but from yourfelf, fince you are the only Perfon alive who ever attempted to account for Extraordinaries of this kind.

AND left your accounting for this extraordinary Delivery of Rabbets fhould chance, when you offer it to the Publick, to be fulpected as fpurious, or to be an Impofture, a Vice very frequent in our Days (for fome do palm things on the World in other Mens Names) I would earneftly beg of you, to hand it to us with the fame Spirit, Skill and Dexterity, you did the former, that when compar'd, they may may tally, shew themselves both of a Piece, and finished by the same Artist; and if by some masterly Strokes of your matchless Pen, you shall be able but to prove equivocal Generation, and that the Woman did generate these Rabbets, eris mibi magnus Apollo.

BUT pray, Sir, forgive me, now when I think on't, I should have stopp'd before this, left I should chance to give a Handle to others to accuse me of what I have reprehended in them; for I have heard it without Doors, that fome, and not a few, doubt of the Fact, as I always did, for which I could, were it neceffary, give Twenty weighty Reafons as big as Plumbs, of which I can only spare one at prefent, and that is from a Defect in Rationals, because it does not fall within the Sphere of my grofs Apprehenfion, and my dull and weak Intellect not being able to comprehend the Equivocal Generation, I do doubt of the Fact, and should do, even tho' the B 2 Maift

Maist Johns in your Country should pronounce the common Malediction, He that doubts shall be damn'd.

Now, whether poffible or impoffible, whether Fact or not? is not the prefent Queftion: It is all one in the *Greek*, and I prefume, with you, moft accomplifh'd Sir: For fuch is your transcendent Genius, that you have cleverly accounted for as extraordinary things as this; and who doubts but that you can account for all the Myfteries in Nature; even all things, and a great many more. Go on then, fweet Sir, and fatisfy the World for once, that there is a Man who can account for Non-Entities, as if they were real Beings.

IN the mean time, forget not to tell us a few of your Rarities and fine things over-again, for if you won't, I must. Ergo. Let a short Sketch by way of Parallel then suffice, till another Opportunity. THE

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THE Author of the Narrative brought away the 15th Rabbet out of the Womb of Mary Toft, a forry Woman; you, Sir, brought away a Sooterkin, the likest of any thing to a Moodiwarp, from the Womb of a Dutch Woman. Of the Truth of these strange things you was afterwards fo well affured, that you always as much expected the thing De Suyger, as the Child it felf. Yours were monstrous little Animals, that run away from you like Dæmons, and those none of the better Sort, which you took them for the first time. See Page 375. He gives Courfes of Anatomy, and will fhortly read Lectures upon Seventeen præternatural Conies, and has promifed, that the Account of the 18th Rabbet shall be publish'd by way of Appendix to the Short Narrative : You give Courses of Midwifry, and have often given Lectures on Conies, and may, if you please, reveal to your Pupils how these Vermine came there, and eales how

how to prevent them, for the future, from creeping into fo warm a Warren. He often advertifes his Courfes to be perform'd by N. St. André, Surgeon and Anatomift to his Majefty : Yours are as often advertis'd to be perform'd by J. M----ry, M. D. Author of the Female Phyfician, and Midwifry brought to Perfection.

ON this Head one thing may be juftly faid, that no two Authors have ever drawn their own Pictures more exactly than you Two have done; for It is fully agreed on all Hands, that ye have drawn them to the Life, and to Admiration.

Your Female Physician was seafonably, not rashly published: Witness the examining strictly into the Truth of the Facts you so dexterously accounted for: His Narrative with the like Discretion, before the Fact was examin'd. Yours was the Fruit of painful Study, and long, very long, Practice in Midwifry, Womens Difeases,

eases, Gc. delivered to the World in a plain easy Style, without the least Defire to fhew your Parts, or the leaft Tincture of Ambition to appear great, or Pretensions to be taken Notice of, by Narrations of fabulous Extravagancies. His Narrative of the extraordinary Delivery of Rabbets shew'd he wanted to be delivered of something extraordinary; whence it may not be improperly faid, That Te are both finely brought to Bed. Yours thew your great Skill in Anatomy and Midwifry; witnefs the two Sinus's of the Womb, with all its various Politions: The Narrative shews his great Judgment in both, witness his Conjectures about the Rabbets being bred in the Tubes, and only came into the Uterus when they gave her those Agitations, which were fenfibly felt many Hours, before their Exclusion, See p. 9, 10. You, with great Prudence and Care, have advanced nothing could render you ridiculous, and have cautioufly avoid-SECT.

avoided giving any the least Handle to find fault with, or question the Sincerity of your Narrations. So has he, witness his Narrative and Recantation. As for the Guilford Performer, who laid the Woman of three more Rabbets, the laft of which leap'd Twenty Three Hours in Utero before it died, See p. 6. and when the 11th Rabbet was taken away, up leap'd the 12th; I have neither Room nor Leifure to animadvert on him or his Wonders, without Worthiness, as Lord Bacon has it; for he feems fitter for a Toad-eater and Mountebank, than a Surgeon or Man-Midwife.

I SHALL beg Leave to prefent the Reader with a fhort Chapter from your *Female Phyfician*, where the Reader will be delighted with a Neatness of Diction, and incomparable Fluency, which discover your Regard to Sense more than *Tuneful Words*, and confequently the Esteem your Works deserve among the Learned. I am, Sir, 50.

Parturiunt montes, &c.

SECT.

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SECT. 8. CHAP. III. P. 398. Of the Strangulation of the Womb.

P. 399. T is also called Strangulation, Suffocation, or Præfocation. Ibid. L. 16. This Suffocation is a Diflemper in which the Patient labours under Inflation, frequent Rumblings of the Belly, with a Refrigeration, p. 400. of the whole Body, and principal Parts, fo as to intercept both Pulfe and Breath; yet the Woman, no lefs than other Animals, fuch as Snails, &c. may have Transpiration.

As there are many different Sorts of Uterine Strangulations, there must also be many peculiar Causes. The Imbecillity of the principal Parts admitting the Humours, must concur at the Latitude of the Passages, which conspiring together, a Suffocation succeeds with Aggravation, p. 402. and draws on the most dangerous Sort of Suffocation, in which the Patient lies for dead, and differs in nothing from a dead Person. Hence fome have been buried for dead, and some have had the good Fortune to return from their Graves to their Houses again. If the Blood be fweet, she only fancies Amours.

P. 403. THIS Affection happens to Women latiated with Vinle C nver fation, p. 402. when they only feem to faint and fall away with a fort of grateful Indulgence, without the Pulfe's Alteration. Upon which I oblerve, that if these Winds or Vapours, arising from corrupted Humours, be communicated to the Heart, the Suffocation happens with Palpitation; if to the Brain, with a Vertigo and Suffusion from the Phanta/ms of the Eyes. This happens to Widows rather than Virgins, because in the one the Paffages are not only dilated, but Nature is accustomed to such Emiffions, as the other is yet wholly a Stranger to. If these be detained too long there. they'll be converted into Venom, or a poyfonous Humour.

It is a Muliebrian Discase, whose Paroxisms are to be help'd by holding Fætids to the Nose, p. 404. and Suaveolents to the Pudendum. It scizes the Patient all at once, tho' 'tis but of a short Duration, p. 405. and, in short, affails the Patient suddenly, without any previous Notice or Signification.

IF a Glass of Water be set on her Breast, if stirred, there's some Motion and Dilatation, confidering well what has been said, that 'tis only by internal Transpiration she draws the Breath of Life. Cure, p. 406. IF she's alive, she will be quickly moved by Sternutation. If she fend forth a cadaverous Smell, it's certain the Body is no more supported by the Soul: Wherefore, she is not to be buried, till after Seventy Two H urs Expiration, because that is the Grifts.

P. 407. THE Learned agree, that a præternatural Situation, namely, the Womb's afcending to the Superior Parts, compressing the Diaphragm, Lungs, and Heart, may induce various Suffacations, which I think is also confirm'd by Reason and Experience. Who knows not, that the Womb may fall down to the very Knees? as I have seen it; and who may not thence conceive, that in the same Laxity of the Ligaments, the Womb may be as well drawn upwards, by Winds, Vapours, or too much gross Blood in the Ligaments?

P. 408. THE imminent Paroxyfm of Suffocation is to be known by Grumblings in her Abdomen, a Differition and Pulfation in the Back, a pale and fad Countenance, attended at laft with the forefaid Senfe of Strangulation, as if the Patient was swallowing a Ball, Goi as also I have known fome Women taken with a Fit of Laughter upon this Occasion.

Deff ocation we here the Hamman at

e napirez-

THE morbifick humorous Particles, as in intermitting Fevers, have their due time of Accumulation and Exaltation, and may lye dormant in our Body, until by fome Procathartick Cause, they are exagitated, and let at Work.

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P 400.

P. 409. Now, this Agitation of Humours depends upon the Course of the Sun and Moon in its Perigæum and Apogæum.

As to the Motion of the Sea, its Efficacy upon the Animal Fabrick may be easily comprehended, p. 409. When the Moon is but half full, the Planets draw each a contrary way, as it is middling during the Time between the dimidiated Orbs of the Moon, and the new and full Moon.

HENCE it is, that our Bodies fo much fympathize and correspond with the Cœleftials, as daily Experience teacheth for Truth, that the hysterick Patient keeps strict Time with these superiour Bodies. So much for Diagnosticks; now

P.114 For the Prognosticks of this Uterine Suffocation. Where the Humours are implicated among themselves, is before, by Stagnation, the Fits don't keep their legitim te Times, fo a Concourse and Confluxion of Humours must needs aggrivate the Distemper; especially if there be a Complication, such as when a Syncope is jour'd with the hysterick Fit, the Cafe is dangerous, p. 412. These things confisting in the Concuption and Inflammation, the Circulations of the Distemper are either shorter or longer.

The Cure. IF it proceed from Suppression, inferior Venæk ction is convenient, even tho' a Syncope join the Suffocation, but mult be done with Caution, because of the present Prostration

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tion and Refrigeration of the Patient's whole Body.

WHEREAS, if the Paroxyfm proceeds from venenated Seed, I would lay her fupine in her Bed; and if Vellication of her Ears, Pilorumve Pudendi, did not help her Condition, p. 413. I would apply Cupping Glaffes, without Scarification, as allo Peffaries, and fometimes Suffumigations of old Leather, a Partridge's Feather, or the Hair of her own —Head, which is much better, always cheruhing her Stomach with Fomentations, p. 414. or the Hoof of an Elk, a prefent Remedy in all Suffocations.

P. 415 IF this Diftemper proceed from the Retention of the vitiated Seed, then, of Courfe, and without Controverly, the hyllerick Paffion muft needs be most familiar to Widows, and marriageable Virgins, to whom I must finally fay, Let 'em marry. In fine, Marriage will very much help fuch indisposed, according to the wife Ancients.

BEFORE I close this finishing Chapter, I mutt finally observe, by way of Recapitulation, That if Marriage can't be, they may try a common Remedy, which they'll find in *Cb. 5. Sect.* 2. called *Copulation*, p 307. Having now candidly laid down, and ingenuously set forth, the most certain, brief, plain, easy, and unprejudic'd Instructions, which perhaps have ever yet been committed to Print upon the Subject of Midwisery, and all for the common Good of Mankind, without any Affectation, Hestation or Reservation. Now tion and Refrigeration of the Patient's whole

NOW, if so many Ations adorn one fingle Chapter of your Speculations, what a Multiplication of such Decorations, must raise our Expectation on a due Perlustration of 398 Chapters of your elaborate Lucubrations.

These, without Exaggeration, must excite the Admiration of the Learned of all Stations, especially those of Physick, to whom your Dedication p. τ . makes its solemn Application for a candid Interpretation, and with protound Veneration shews the sure Foundation on which the Art of Obstetrication stands that in this Nation p. 18. to be imputed alone to your Peregrination.

YOUR divine Contemplations, and Sublime Dissertations on the Author of our Creation, Ch. 1. where, by your Infinuation, the only Catharticks of the Soul are Philosophical Demonstrations, and where, without Affectation you descant on the Powers of Judging, Phantaly and Cogitation, p. 13. 14. and for farther Dilucidation you Philosophize on Sensation. The four Senses you do tell, have their respective Cells in the Head. Of the Brain the two foremost Cells are poffes'd by common Senfe and Imagination. The Middle Part of the Head by Cogitation, and the hindmost Part thereof by Commemoration, p. 17. and how the æthereal Spirit divides it felf into a threefold Diver fification, by the Appropriation of as many Refidencies in the Brain, the Heart, and the Liver, and how thele ton or Refereration?

these by Fomentation cherish the whole Corporation.

ON the Embryo's Formation, p. 20. The Fætus's Animation, p. 24. The Infant's Maturation, p. 29. with their times of Spumification, Lastation, Coagulation, and times of Lineation, Ramification, or Carnification, when the Embryo receives the Name of Fætus.

ON the Powers of Imagination, p. 58. 59. where the fudden Transmutation, by the force of Saltation, at a Dancing-Bout of Recreation, made fuch an Alteration, as amaz'd the good Women, who were turn'd into Men.

ON your Reafons of the Child's Likenefs, from the Mother's Imagination in the time of Copulation, p. 63. In p. 49. Cb. 4. of Love, there you fhew, if any want to know, what is Love's Confummation, deferibed at large in your Ch. 5. p. 53. of Copulation, Ch. 6. Remarks upon Copulation, p. 52. That in Congreffion, they might be mutually charm'd, for many Griefs Compenfation. These Conjunctions of both Sexes, these Completions of our unbounded Passions, these Defires of Procreation, with the fuitable means of Generation, may be all seen at large, and read, by the Modeft, without Blush, or Perturbation. *

P. 140.

* And further, (which is very remarkable) That Women have been turn'd into Men, which fome would perfuade us to believe to be an Effect of the Force of a vehement Imagination acting upon the Soul, with which it is of a near Affinity beyond all the Power of Senfe. P. 140. THE Birth's Legitimation, by your Calculation, feems fix'd to no Station, which occafions Tribulation to the Sex in Gestation, who always rely'd on the common Numeration, believing in the old way of Reckoning, That their full Time was out, at nine Months Consummation, till your Denunciation shew'd your Detestation at such Confabulations, as were only vulgar Errors, and popular Notions, p. 142. founded on Hear-fays, and the general Misconstruction of Women. These idle Reports of Midwives, and their frivolous Relations, even impos'd on the Ancients of Estimation.

LET no Man imagine this a Deviation; for I do affert, that p. 144. Ten and Eleven Months, and your pofterior Births, are furer by far, and more to be reckon'd on, by your Computation. Many still doubt, it's eafily made out; and now, for a clear Probation.

As to this Point, I think we may find more probable Reafons for it, than all the Powers of Imagination, how great foever and marvellous they may be, whereof I fhall mention that which feems to be the most rational Caufe, viz. an extinguish'd or latent forming. Faculty, which (however) fometimes has excited itfalf again like the Blazing of a refuscitated Fire.

For as our Teeth take this Beginning in the Womb, but are perfected without; and as the Teeth called, *Dentes Sapientia* are generated, and break out, even after the 30th Year of our Age: So it may be, that the Virile Genitals have been imperfectly begun in the Womb, and that this forming Faculty has only perfected them by little and little, io that at last they have forung forth, and appeared after the shaking of the *Pudendum*. And confequently such Women as those (upon Dancing-Bouts, or the like, when the Blood and natural Heat had been strongly exagitated) have turn'd into Men.

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second second property in the second of a second second to P. 147.

P. 147. THE Proculean Child you usher'd into the World, that was born just on the 3d. Day of the Eleventh Month, during the Collonel's Absence, on his Lady's Reputation, P. 148. is a full, very full Confirmation. Ergo Probatum eft. *

F

* Chap. 33. Of a Seven Month Birth. Wherefore, in fhort, I cannot help having full as good an Opinion of fuch a Child born about the laft of the Seventh, as of any fuch born in the Beginning of the Ninth.

To examine this nice Matter a little more clearly, let us infpact into the Stature and Quality of the Month, in order to which I hope we may rationally obferve,

That the latter of the Planets (the Moon) influentially prefides over the Infant in this Month, whose frigid and humid Qualities are thought to afford the feveral Parts of it a certain Fatnels, thereby relaxing, and eafily diftending the Matrix; which being done, and the Child being now perfected by the whole Body of the Planets, that have all particularly, in their Order, duly difcharged their refpective Functions towards its Perfection.

It is also farther observable, that as the Soul of Man has Seven different Appellations, according to its principal Offices,

I have allo remarkably obferv'd, that the Number Seven is most powerfully and fignally predominant in Coelectials; as, the Seven Circles in the Heavens, according to the Longitude of the Axle-Tree; the Seven Stars about the Artick Poles, called Charles's Wain; the Seven Stars called the Pleiades, &c.

This Number Seven is likewife to be of the greatest Esteem in Religion; as, the Seven Beatitudes, the Seven Virtues, the Seven Vices, the Seven Petitions of the Lord's Prayer, the Seven Words of our Saviour upon the Crois, Ere. the Seven Seals, Seven Trumpets, Seven Vials, according to the Interpretation of that molt learned Divine, Peter Palladius, Bilhop of Rechel.

I think that Number likewife may properly portend here Perfection in Maturity, and Completion in Vitality to every full Seven Months Child.

Chap. 34. Of an Eighth Month's Birth, p. 142 As to the Eighth Month, it is, and it is not; fo that a Child born in the Eigh h Month (in fome refpect) may be supposed in Being, but really and indeed is not, because it foon vanishes or dies.

Chap. 35. Of a Nine Month's Child. 'The Generality of modern Writers alledge a Nine Months Birth to be the appointed Time of Nature. But unless they can produce better Reasons than I have yet heard of, they thall fcarce influence me to agree with their po-

pular

IF Curiofity prompt so far, as p. 375. of a Sooterkin Generation, here it is amply described, and fully set forth, in a singular Observation,

pular Notions or vulgar Errors. For their fond Opinion feems not to be fo much fupported by any Arguments of natural Reafon, as by an imaginary Experience founded upon Hearfay, or the general Mifconftruction of Women.

However, I must own, that fome auspicious Births happen in this very Month, for several good Reasons.

First, Because Jupiter now returns with his serene Aspect, and renovates the Life of the Infant.

Secondly, Because this auspicious Number Nine is dedicated to the Muses, according to the Order of Coelestial Spheres, hence Nine Moveable Spheres, Erc.

Thirdly, Becaufe, to denote the Sufficiency of this Number, there are alfo Nine Orders and Choirs of Bleffed Angels, Nine precious Stones; befides the Nine internal and external Senfes, E.c.

Yet however, in most natural and philosophical Cales, this Number implies still fome Imperfection, because it comes short of the Great Number Ten, being deficient by One, as St. Austin interprets it of the Ten Lepers.

Chap. 36. Of a Ten Months Birth. This Ten Months Birth is, in my Opinion, as legitimate as the Ninth: Many learned Men are of my Opinion, for the Number Ten is reckoned a compleat and universal Number.

Ten Singers of Pfalms, Ten Mufical Inftruments, Ten Strings in the Pfaltery, Ten Curtains in the Temple, Ten Commandments; and, in fine, the Tenth Day after Afcenfion: Ten Parts, of which Man himfelf confifts intrinfically; Ten fimple integral Parts confituting the Man. In fhort, just fo, after this manner, there are Ten Months required to form and marurate the Man in the fubftantial Completion of these to Perfection.

The Virtue of Numbers is evident in the Herb called Pentaphyllon, which is faid to refift Poifons by Virtue of Number Five, as One Leaf of it taken twice a Day in Wine, cures the Quotidian, Three the Tertian, and Four the Quartan Fever. In like manner, as a Serpent ftruck once with a Spear dies; but if twice, is faid to recover Strength. So much for the Curious.

Chap. 37. p. 147. Of the Eleven Month's Birth. As to the Eleventh Month, many Authors agree to legitimate its Birth, becaufe of feveral repeated Inftances that really happened in their Days. To which I can add one of my own proper Experience, during my itinerant Practice in the City of Prague. I happened to be called to a Lady in Labour, whom I immediately laid of a fine lufty tion, the like whereof was never yet told by any of your Occupation. Let the Curious then ftand aloof and hear, to their grand Mortification. A Fa&! A Fa&! you here relate, without defign'd Defamation, of any of your Neighbours near, of whatever Denomination. For you only told it to make the Fa&t clear, and of the Mystery give a Revelation; of which you found the Learn d did not doubt, elfe you had not made fuch a Proclamation.

WHICH, for Morality and Inftruction fake, as well as the common Good of Mankind, you make this fhort and fincere Narration, not of Manstrupations, nor of Dutch Usurpations, but a faithful Relation of a strange Procreation, peculiar to a High and Mighty Nation, of a monstrous Animal, the likest of anything in Shape and Size to a Moodiwarp, with a

lufty and lively Girl. This Lady was pleafed to tell me out of her own Mouth, that before the Day of her Delivery, her Husband, (who was a Colonel in the Imperial Service) had been gone to the Army, then in Si. ily, 'Ten Months and Two Days: So that this Proculean Child was born at fooneit the Third Day of the Eleventh Month; and in this Cafe, I dare fay, I was no ways miltaken or impofed upon, that Lady being a Perfon endued with no lefs true Honour and ftrist Virtue, than the was otherwile defervedly effeemed, p. 148. Upon which happy Occafion, I was the first Time fully fatisfied and convinc'd, that the Eleventh Month is preferable to any Birth, becaufe the SUN, in the Eleventh Month, returns to take Care of the Infant (yet unborn) by virtue of whofe vivacious Influence, and beneficent Qu dity, Births in this Month are accounted no lefs vital and fuccelsful, than any others differently timed.

P. 149. There are also many Authors over and above, who make mention of Births in the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th Month. Yes verily; and there is one Instance of a certain Marchionels, who had two running Births fuccessively, the one in the 18th, the other in the 20th Month. As to the Months, I defire to be understood as meaning Solar Months, comprehending Thirty Days. hooked Snout, sparkling Eyes, and a short Tail with Acumination, which made its wonderful Egress, and with its Vociferation fill'd your Ears with dismal Skrieches, and your Mind with Consternation.

UPON which the Plump Girl pull'd out of the Frou, without any Deformation; and tho' livid Spots on its Body did grow, they turn'd only to an universal Scurf, as appeared by your Prognostication; and by your wife Orders they diligently us'd the express'd Oil of Almonds, because Dutchmen refused to give any other, for you strictly caution'd 'em against that by Distillation.

THAT this Birth was common among Seafaring Folks you was told in a Grand Confultation of the feveral Doctors of the Universities there, who were Men of a learned Education, that scarce One of Three of these meaner Sort escap'd this strange Birth's Imputation, of which asterwards your Practice 'mongst the Frou's gave full Confirmation, being a stout, oh! very stout Corroboration. The Thing De Suyger you always found upon the Child's Prefentation, and always offer'd it felf as soon, according to Expectation.

FOR which the provident Frou's, in like manner did make a fuitable Preparation, and into the Fire it was generally thrown, so ended in this Conflagration; for all its nimble Feet to get into Holes and Corners for Safety and Confervation. THESE things being fo, for Reafons you know, just cited in your Differtation, all Parents should behave orderly and decently in their dutiful Conjugation, not like infatiable Brutes, but Men of Ratiocination, for several wile Ends, themselves and their Friends, and their Families Preservation, from such an opprobrious Race, to be succeeded by an univocal Generation.

OF the Truth of this Fact, if any yet doubt, as you faw it with your Eyes, you'll furely make it out, without a Procrastination. If an Oath be requir'd, you are ready to give it, at least your Affirmation: If that be not Proof, you'll double it out with numerous Affeverations. But that the whole World may be fully convinc'd by an evident Demonfiration, befides Quotations, and innumerable Citations, let one stand for all, fince Brevity calls, and that's Lemnius's Excarnification.

THAT this and many others you've authentically collected from Authors of good Reputation, befides the many Learn'd at home and abroad, with whom you have had Conversation; and none of them all have denied this great Truth in general, the' fome of them have been pleased to contradict the Truth of this Position in particular; for which Reason you have obliged the whole Earth with your Publication.

Now for the proper Caufes of fuch Births, have at a Discussion. Some nicely account for for them by Mixtures of brutal Seminations; others, from the Influx of Stars and Constellations. Some from Vices of Confficution; and others, from the Womb's Situations. Some from lascivious, and others also, enormous Acts of Copulation. And some at last, from the fordid and corrupted Seminal Matter of the Perfons copulating. All confentaneous to Reason. But in speaking to such Causes, you think Requisites concurring to the Production of the Fætus, ought to have a previous Confideration, what they naturally are, and what their Qualifications. As 1st, The Faculty of Formation ; next, the Spirit and Imagination. 3dly, The Matter viz. both Seeds, and the menttrueus Sanguifications. 1004 1 Proof, you'll double 1

P. 368. PRAY, what Wonder is it if the Woman in time of Conception, conceive and bring forth her Fætus with a Call's Head, Lamb's, Dog's, Cat's Head, p 369. or the Effigie of any fort of thing whatloever? And this the more especially, confidering, that not only the conceiving Woman, but also the copulating Man may effect the fame thing, if he did imprudently set his mind on such Objects, or employ his perverted Imagination that way.

Now, as to the Heart and Spirit contained in the Seed, we may eafily conceive its Eff. cts, and fuch as have been in Glafs Works, may readily comprehend how Monfters are form d in the Womb; for as in modelling the Glafs, if the Workman blow the Pipe too much, the Stuff is extended both longer and wider, than its its due proportionable Form; fo it may happen in the Womb. A glorious Illustration! So much for Formations by the Strength of Imagination, now for

P. 356. Superfætation, which without Difputation is only an Apertion of the Orifice of the Womb, at the Effusion of the virile Seed, and happens to fuch Women, p. 357. as are defirous of Copulation, which the Midwives may know by your not unadvised Inculcation.

P. 358. THAT a numerous Conception may happen, either with, or without Superfatation, is plain from your Book. See the Marginal Quotation, where your accurate accounting for the Caufe of 365 Children born at one Birth, is at once a plain Proof of your prudent Confideration, as it is of your great Faith, and exquifite Knowledge of the Womb's Attractation. O amazing and fingular Speculation ! That there may be a Conception for every Orifice of the Uterine Veins, and that every Veffel, p, 359. may attract its own diffinct Share of the feminal Matter, and thereupon initiate a respective Conception, the' it cannot poffibly bring it to Perfection.

Ibid. and p. 360. THE Cure you here offer by way of Prevention, is, To Temper the Womb by Refrigeration; for which, and all other your nice Observations, your Advices, and Ordinations, whether in Divine, Aftrological, or Physical Consultations, the Publick is indebted, and will doubtless pay their Gratifications, for they certainly must own their vast ObliObligations. for your great Zeal, and close Application, for their real Good, and our Edification; for all which, accept of this Congratulation.

I CONGRATULATE you, Sir, on your new and excellent way of teaching young Gentlemen Midwifry, and Midwives Anatomy, by Lectures in Divinity, Aftrology, and Metaphyfick Philosophy; or rather, a Manual Operation, by Theological Differtations, and Aftrological Contemplations.

ON your Knowledge in piloting the good Women thro' the Torrents of Difficulties, and Oceans of Dangers, in the three Gulphs of Gestation, and at last bringing them into a safe Harbour, there to refit for the same prosperous Navigation. See p. 325. p. 70.

ON your Skill in mooring Mother and Child, when, after ten Months Voyage, they ride at Anchor, against sudden Winds and Storms as may shipwreck them. See p. 309.

ON your nice Calculations of the Latitude of Time (as you phrase it) allow'd Births in Formation, Animation, and Maturation. See P. 132, 3.

ON your remarkable Observation upon the old exploded Story of 182 Males, as many Females, and an odd one, a Hermophradite. See p. 358. viz. Hence the Certainty of numerous Conceptions will evidently appear, p. 359.

ON

ON your most valuable Instructions of great Use to all who read them: See Chap. 11. Of Virginity; Chap. IV. Of Love; Chap. V. Of Copulation; Chap. VI. Remarks on Copulation; Chap. VII. Of Imagination, &c.

ON your clear Annotations, and fine Tranfmutations of Dr. Daventer's Womb's Situations; See Page 227. to 294.

ON your reducing them all to a four-fold Situation, as the Ancients did the Winds, because of the four Regions or Limits of the Heavens, as Ovid in his Metamorphosis. See Pag. 205. Eurus ad Auroram, &c.

ON your free Way of communing and publishing to the World such things as bashful Authors have industriously conceal'd, at least ferv'd up in clean Linnen, for fear of their Reputation, in order to preferve that valuable Thing called Modesty, from Vulgar Prophanation. See Pag. 51, 52, 53.

BUT now, to fum up all, and come to an End, excufe this Ejaculation. May your Eyes be opened, that you may fee fome Mens Infatuation, and Midas-like, when his Ears were transform'd, may you either glory or be afhamed of fuch Infinuations.

MAY your useful Instructions and manual Operations ne'er want Recordation, from this Time henceforth to Time's Termination. May you for your Toil meet with due Exaltation.

E.

AND

AND may those of all Stations, States and Denominations, effecem your Works just as I do, for their folid Learning, valuable Instructions, Modesty, Integrity and Truth, that shine thro' all your Narrations.

MAY your Works be preferved from high Indignation, and into all the known Languages may they have a Translation; and may they endure to the laft Conflagration, unlefs by fome Criticks they be doom'd to a fiery Condemnation, fo fhare that Illumination, long, very long before the Grand Incineration.

So much for Instruction, now for a little Diversion.



G VS R.

A DIA-



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A DIALOGUE between the Lady Sne--er, Mrs. Toft of Godalmin, Midwife, and her Deputy.



Lady.

E feem very merry here, good Folks : How d'ye, Dame Toft?

Mid. At your Ladyship's fervice, Madam; I am perfectly rejoiced to fee one

Mid.

of your Ladyship's merry Disposition here; and that your Ladyship should have popt in upon us, just as we were reading the merricit Book that ever appeared in Print to be fure!

La. Hey dey! what now Goodie? what fine Book can that be?

Mid. The Female Physician.

La. How now, Dame! d'ye laugh at that learned Book? The Title feems to promife well, and the Book to be fit and proper for one of your Business, the Subject itself being ferious. Mid. Ay, marry, fo I thought, an't pleafe your Ladyship, when I had read no further than the Title-Page. But when I peep'd into the Body on't, to be fure Madam, I laugh'd by the Clock, and thought I should have split my Sides, for the whole Book is made up of Wonders.

La. Prithee Dame, speak sparingly of the Labours of the Learned, and let me know what those are you call Wonders.

Mid. First, The Language is wonderful, fuch as neither I nor my Deputy can prehend, nay, not one Word in a Hundred; and I question whether your Top Midwives at London understand it; and, if it was not ill Manners, M.dam, I might even venture to fay your Ladyship would be puzzled with Ten Thousand Crambo Words that I do not understand.

La. You surprize me, Dame, is not the Book English?

Mid. Yes, Madam, it is, and yet I defy your Ladyship to understand it.

La. Well, Goodie, fo much for the Language of it; now tell us what other Wonderfuls it contains.

Mid. Wonderful Stories of Womens being turned into Men! Wonderful Conceptions of Women without the Help of Men! Wonderful Births of wonderful and monftrous little Animals, that at first Sight of the World's Light made wonderful Skrieks, and ran up and down like wonderful little Dæmons, and those none of the better Sort, the first time he saw them. The first of these, he says, made its wonderful Egress, filling his Ears with wonderful Skrieks, &c.

La. Thefe

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La. These are really wonderful things, Goodie.

Mid. They are, indeed, Madam; but which is yet more wonderful, this Great Doctor has given his wonderful Reasons for all he fays, to he must be in the right, being a very reafonable and wonderful Man.

La. Ha! ha! ha!

Mid. I knew I should make your Ladyship laugh with this wonderful Book.

La. Ay, Goodie, fo thou haft, and I'm oblig'd to thee for't.

Mid. But now, dear Madam, were I to tell your Ladyship all I know concerning him and it, Ishould yet surprize you more.

La. Prithee, dear Dame Toft, tell me freely without any Referve, every thing thou knoweft.

Mid. I will then. To be plain with your Ladyship, I'll tell you a strange Story about some Rabbets, perhaps as odd as his Sooterkins; for his Book gave me the first Hint to hatch and contrive Ways and Means to palm an English Rabbet on the World for his Dutch Sooterkins.

La. Prithee do, dear Goodie Toft, and thoul't extremely oblige me.

Mid. Well, has not your Ladyship heard of the Woman that brought forth fo many Rabbets? and has not your Ladyship seen and read a Short Narrative of that extraordinary Delivery?

La. Yes, yes, I have. The Publick have been pefter'd with that Rabbet-Woman a long time; and I had the Curiofity to go fee her at the Bagnio.

Mid. To

Mid. To tell you the Truth, fhe's my Daughter-in-Law, that is, my Son Joseph's Wife, and a Sly Slut fhe is, as little as they think of her. But poor thing fhe's like to come into a great deal of Trouble yonder at London, for a filly, fenfeles Whim of mine, that came into my Head, after reading the Sooterkin Story, &c. in the Female Physician.

La. Ay, indeed ! Prithee be fo kind to tell me the whole, and how ye contriv'd, and cars ry'd it on.

Mid. Well, to be Sincere with your Ladyship, I thought with my felf, That if the Man who had publish'd that he had laid several Women in Holland of Sooterkins, and all the other strange things contain'd in that Book, has been encourag'd and effeem'd, fo as to advertife in the News-Papers, that a compleat Course of Midwifery, &c. was to be perform'd the 22d of September last, by J. M. M. D. Author of the Female Physician, and Midwifry brought to Perfection. I fay, if he still goes on to teach and instruct, and finds Encouragement, being appointed as I hear, Physician to the New Parifh call'd St. George's, after what he has advanc'd in that Book; will it be any Wonder to your Ladyship, that if such gross things cou'd pass upon the Great Ones about your Great City, that these, and the like, might not cafily be fwallow'd down in the Country? This very Thought mov'd me to beftir my felf how to get a Penny, which I did, and would have done more effectually, had it not been for a certain Performer at Guilford.

La. Prithee, Dame, be frank with me, and tell truly how ye did.

Mid. Well,

Mid. Well, Madam, fince I have promifed, I will tell you the Truth; and if one Chriftian can believe another, your Ladyfhip may believe me, when I lay I did not think any harm in it. I wrong'd no body, neither robb'd nor murder'd, but innocently contriv'd (from the broad Hints I had from the Author of The Female Phyfician, how to palm an English Rabbet on the English Nation, as he had done feveral Sooterkins upon the Dutch; and all the Punishment I laid my Account for, let the worft come to the worft, was only to be laugh'd at as he was.

La. In what respect was he laugh'd at?

Mid. Your Ladyship may judge, when you have heard this short, but merry Story, which my Deputy shall read to you. Go, Deputy, take that Book without a Cover, that lyes in the Corner Cupboard.

La. What is it called?

Mid. The Sooterkin Diffected.

Dep. The Story is of two Italian Dames, the one a Taylor's Wife, the other a Gentlewoman. The first brought forth fomething refembling a Rat, without a Tail; the other, fomething the Size of a Cat. Both of them were black, and when they came forth, ran high up the Wall, and stuck fast upon it with their Claws. Now, fays he, had these two been delivered at the fame time in the fame Room, the Gentlewoman's Cat had catch'd the Taylor's Wile's Rat, and frighten'd the Spectators with their yelling and squeaking, as you was with your Sooterkin.

La. This is a comical, merry Passage, I must own.

Mid. And

Mid. And just as true as his Sooterkins, and his Women being turn'd into Men, or his Women being brought to Bed in the Eleventh Month, &c. or my Rabbets. These, and many more things in that Book put me upon the Contrivance of the Rabbets.

La. As how, and after what Manner then, Goodie?

Mid. Being refolved to push something that would fetch a little Money; and having been long in the Practice of Midwifry, and never met with any thing but what had a human Likenels; I thought, if I could put upon the World any thing that was new and extraordinary, I might partly answer that End : So to Work I went, and finding our Mary as fit . a Tool for my Purpose as any, I took the Advantage of a Miscarriage, and having purchafed the youngest Live Rabbet I could get, I ftripp'd and broke it, then lodg'd it in fuch a Part as I could beft convey it to; and when all was ready, the Gypfy performing her Part of mimicking Labour Pains, and I mine, of giving way to the Man-Midwife with Wonder, who not fmelling the Trick, foon proclaimed the extraordinary Delivery, and fo crown'd and approv'd my Industry, and spread it far and near; and as mine came out piping hot (being but just kill'd before the Operator performed his Part); I believe he would have given his Oath before any Judge, that she had brought forth a Rabbet. So all went fmoothly, without any Sufpicion, and I hugg'd my felf with the Success. N. B. But under the Role, this Rabbet was a young Kitten.

Whether

La. You bid very tair for it, Goodie; and I make no doubt, had you kept the Secret to your felf, and Mary kept confin'd to her Bed at Godalming, and never feen London, but ye might have anfwer'd your Ends, and got Money like Dirt. The more I think on't, the more I fee it is a devilifh Invention.

Mid. Indeed fo do I, my Lady: The Devil, I believe, flung that Book in my Way, and that Book put the Devil into my Head, who affifted me in contriving it: But it was the Devil of a Dunderhead, who, in carrying it on, marr'd all; and I'm very much afraid the Devil will have us both at laft.

La. Enough, enough of the Rabbet Story at prefent, let us leave it till another Opportunity; and let me hear fome of the wonderful fine Language you spoke of.

Mid. Go, Deputy, and bring those fine Words you copied out of the Female Physician, which we were to carry to the Parson of the F Parish's Parish's Dictionary, to know their Meaning. But now, my Lady, when I think on't, I can't help laughing.

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La. At what pray?

Mid. At them all; for I think I have put the Bite finely upon them. As for the Country Man-Midwife, they who know him won't much wonder; but for that fuperfine Great Doctor, who calls himfelf the King's A-a-atomift, that came twice down to Guilford in fuch bad Weather; that tofs'd our Mary up in a fine Coach, and took fuch fine Lodgings for her near the Prince's Palace; I am ready to burft, when I think how cleverly he was bit. So much for Rabbets. Now, go on, Deputy, and read over thefe fine Words to my Lady.

Dep. But more particularly, that the Andro-Bæthogynist, p. 179. may be compleatly accomplish'd, I have called the ordinary one Bæthogynift, p. 158. and the extraordinary one Andro-Bæthogynift, for his excellent Skill, p. 169 in these obstetricious Arts, p. 57. whose Authors make long Ambages, or Circumlocutions, teaching how to perforate Secundines with a Hair Meedle, p. 304. hypothetically observing, p. 29. no Proletarian Writer, p. 53. but a Proculean Child, born in the Eleventh Month, p. 148. by a prolifick Contribution, p. 66. not by aggregated, or torpent Seed, P. 198. but that which was fit for Nutrication, p. 66. occasioned by a Fever of Defire, kindled into a startled Flame, p. 50. The Effect of a certain Congruity of Minds sympathetically arifing from the Diastole and Systole of affected Hearts, p. 49. when Love did bloom

bloom with fresh Defires, and vigorous Inclinations, p. 49. Tho', for all that it was but of fhort Duration, p. 50. yet many were the Symptoms did after that attend its Augmentation, p. 102. For when it became a Fætus in the Womb, it was obstreperous, p. 101. becaufe there it was blockaded, p. 304. in the finishing maturating Months, p. 301. when Humours occasioned a mordacious Itching in the Womb, p. 118. they threaten'd a massacrous Death, p. 294. with an Indefinity of Accidents, p. 294. in a difforted as well as obliquated Polition, p. 297. when the Winds were elevated from the Humours fermenting in its Substance, which together with these turgent tear its tender Tunicks, p. 313. with a Vibration and Concuffion of the Skin, with a Coarctation of the upper Belly, and a concomitant Chillness, p. 126. All which imbecillitated the Parturient, because of her internal Calidity and Depravation, p. 113.

Mid. The finest Language in the versal World to be fure. Read on.

Dep. Sometimes from a Cholick infefting the nervous Plexus arising from the Humours aggregated about the Womb, p. 84. and proceeding from frigid Flatulencies in the Abdomen, p. 84. Sometimes fo excellive, that I have feen the Patient fall by its Extremity into a Lypothymia which generally prefages Abortion, if not prevented by Discutients, p. 84. In all which Cafes it may be cur'd by variety of respective means, according to the Qualty of the Cause, whether frigid, calid, serous, saltish, or acrimonious, p. 87. with a preposterous Flux proceeding from fome Procatarctick Accident FZ Dep. Blut

cident, p. 82. or from the Rigidity of the circumjacent Parts, p. 109. and the Disease acute, Ex Decidentia, p 111.

Dep. The Author must be a Foreigner to be fure? for no Englishman would write fo; If any, he's a Flanderkin, I can't tell what Lingo this is for my Blood.

La. Nor Ineither truly. Read on.

Dep. From illuvious Evacuations p. 387. ficcid Intemperatures, p. 95. suppress'd Albedines, p. 94. all which are most to be fear'd after the time of Animation, because the Acetabula or Cavities being then more ficcid, are more eafily broken, p. 114. Hence her Spirits are exagitated or exalted, p. 389. But if it come from a Mordacity of the Mouth of her Stomach, she'll be infected with Fastidy, p. 91. which proceeds from the Womb, p. 92. and occasions difagreable Flatulencies, Belchings, and Fluctuations, p. 82. often Vomiting, which proceeds from the Vapours of the exhaled Humours, and the worfe Part of the Blood infefting the Tunicks of the Orifice of the Ventricle, and flying into the Cavity. p. 79. Or from the Animal Spirits being præternaturally expanded in its orbicular, as well as oblong Fibres, and the too quick and violent Exertion of their elastick Power, when it endeavours to eject through the Œ fophagus, and Mouth, the Contents of its Cavity, p. 79. in which Cafe Ante-Kittean Medicines are to be us'd, p. 84. Mid. Now, Madam, with your Book Learning, explain these Words, if you can La. I think he buries his Meaning in Words which, I must own, I don't understand. But go on.

Dep. But if the Aquæ furtivæ flow, as it were by Distillation, p. 288. then her Pains are tergiversant, p. 214. and require the dextrous Touches, or ingenious Operations of the more judicious Andro-Bæthogynists.

La. The what? This is like Shakespear, in his Romeo and Juliet: Ab! the immortal Paffado, the Punto reverso, the Hay — The Pox of such antique Lisping, Affecting Phantasies, these new Turners of Accent — Jesu!

Mer. Here's a Wit of Cheverel, that stretches from an Inch narrow to Ell bread.

Romeo. I'll firetch it out for that Word broad, which added to the Goose, proves the far and wide a broad Goose. Go on.

Dep. Then is your time to raife the Womb into a refupine Poflure, p. 229. and examine the lefs oblique or median Pofitions, p. 291. confidering full the extensive or ascensive Faculties of the Womb, which chiefly refide in its Bottom, p. 200. the collocative and ordinating Faculty, p. 21. the Womb's præternatural Size, either in Amplitude, or Exiguity, p. 120. and a protracted time of bearing to the Close of the 10th or the 11th Month, p. 98. when I first was convinced that an 11th Month's Child was preferable to any Birth.

Mid. Read me that over again, Deputy, to the 11th Month; that's fomething very extraordinary, indeed: I never knew a Woman brought to Bed in the 11th Month in my Time, and I have practis'd above forty Years, and may be his Great Grandmother for what I know. I think his Births are almost as uncommon as his Words. Well Deputy what dost think? hast thou learn'd much from these fine Words?

Dep. Tru.

Dep. Truly and really, I'm juft as wife as I was. If I'm ne'er to lay a Woman till I understand this Man's fine Language, I fear I ne'er shall do it while I breathe. If this be his newfashion'd way of teaching Midwifry, I despair of learning.

Mid. He's a ftrange Dab, I must fay, at outof-the-way Words; I wish his Head ben't out of the way too. Methinks, it's a burning Shame, that these great Scholars should write such things as no Body can understand. At it again, Deputy.

Dep. The Womb may be equally condens'd by the Imbibition of the fluent Humours which confolidate into it felf by the Pores of its plexous Body, p. 201. The Womb contains the organizing Matter of all neceffary Principles (Active and Paffive) for conftituting the Conception; fomenting the receiv'd Seeds, by its natural Calidity preferving the fame, and preparing the maternal Blood, by its inherent Temperament, for the Use of the Fætus: which Fætus it furrounds and defends from external Accidents, by its substantial Corpulency, p. 198.

La. Most excellent and exceeding fine Language!

Mid. I was thinking fo, whenever your Ladyship understood him, ye would say so; for my part, it is the same to me as if it were all Greek; I cannot guess at the Meaning of one Word.

Mid. Read.

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Dep. Mr. Mauriceau, in his Book of Womens Difeases, has Recourse to Inconfistencies to support his new-fashion'd unreceived Notions. What Comparison can there be betwixt an an animate and inanimate Body? Or what Affinity between the Womb of Animals, and that of a Woman form'd after the Image of God? p. 201.

Mid. Now I understand; that's good indeed ! Go on.

Dep. Whereupon this most excellent Bœthogynist marks with a Bene not and um.

Mid. Now I'm out again. Prithee, Deputy, try another Page.

Dep. No indeed; neither of these Bones can be any great Hindrance to the Paffage of the Infant, fince all Bones, never fo closely knit, may be moved extensively on Occasion, p. 195. --- Now the Actions of the Womb are many; it allures the Maf-ne S-d infufed by Contion into the Fund of its Cavity, as a famishing Stomach fnatches at Victuals; and fo attracting the Mulicbrian S-d from the Teflicles into the fame Cavity, the faid Function of the Womb is the Copulation of the Seeds, or mutual Conjunction, &c. &c. p. 197, 198. The Substance of the Womb is folid and mufcular, p. 198. and has two Sinus's for conceiving the two different Sexes; that if a Male fhould be conceived of the Seed fallen to the left Side, the Place destinated for the Female, he will make but a semi-virile Man; and fo on the contrary, if a Female should be conceived of the Seed fallen to the right Side, the will have some diffinguishable Marks of Virility, fuch as a large Stature ---- Members ____ hairy Face, &c.

Mid. A learned Author indeed! he goes to the Bottom of every thing; fure he knows every Creek and Corner of us. I with he could cure cure fomebody's Bottom that I know. He tells us, that the Extensive and Ascensive Faculties refide in the Womb's Bottom, and that, they exert themfelves without the leaft Extenuation to the Uterine Substance, p. 200. and that the Spirits abfcond themselves in the. Womb's Bottom, p. 62. which is the very Reason, that if any thing leap suddenly on a. Woman with Child, the Mark of it will manifeftly appear on the Part, unless that very Moment the wipe the Part, and clap her Hand to her Bottom, p. 63. Let the Anatomy Folks fee to these things, it's none of my Bufinefs, more than it is to run after the Blood that regorges to the major Veins, p. 44. and fearch into Fluxes of Blood from these Veffels that Nature has referved for a Superfactation, p. 98. or examine into the Necessity of expurging the Blood, when it chances to be fuperfluous, ibid. nor whether Men have their Menstrua, or Monthly Terms, as we have, p. 188. which Evacuation Men themselves are alfo subject to in a great Measure (notwithstanding the inconfiderate Detractions and vain Talk on this Head) fave only, that in them the redundant Humour passes off a different way, by Urine, Nofe and Bottom. p 188. nor of the oblique and all the other Situations of the Womb, p. 204. nor of the Roots of the Umbilical Veffels, and a Thousand other things not to be fathom'd by me.

Mid. Read — Dep. Now for a Touch! Ch. 14. Of Touching. — The Midwife ought o have a special Knowledge in this Matter, ince the Life it self depends on the Touch: Tis only passing two Fingers thro' the Vulva into into the Vagina to reach the Orifice, and difcern its Form.

Mid. That is, if your Fingers see as well as his do. Read p. 207.

Dep. By the Touch a Midwife knows whether a Woman in Labour be with Child, or not, p. 209. when the Child's Head is to be felt, and when ye can get your Fingers round it, you'll know whether the Chines, Elbow, or Buttocks prefent, because the one's harder than the other.

Mid. Provided you have Skill enough. Read.

Dep. The Infant, at full Perfection in Maturity, and Completion in Vitality, p. 140. fcorns any longer Confinement; for the Animal Spirits being difcontented for want of a due Liberty and free Motion, the Vitals for want of Refrigeration, and the natural Spirits, for want of sufficient Respiration, do all concur to make a Commotion or (as it were) a vi-Atorious Revolt, or an Effort pulhing for Conquest, p. 227. Thus the Infant being irritated (an early Paffion) p. 227. immediately shakes off its Fetters, breaks the Ligaments, rends the Membranes, thrufts thro' the Inclofures, and makes its most vigorous Attempts to enlarge it felf, seconded by a peculiar Faculty that expels its troublefome and obftreperous Gueft.

La. What's all this fine Language for Goodie?

Mid. Only his fine way of telling us how a Child comes into the World.

La. Prithee let Deputy read us something about the Child; sure he has wrapt it up in clean Linnen.

TIJ Coulad

Dep. And

Dep. And thus, in fine, having piloted the good Woman thro' the three Gulphs of Geftation, Birth, and Child-Bed, and at laft brought her into a fafe Harbour, we'll provide for the Safety of her Cargo, See p. 325. First I'll confider the Nurfe's elegant and well perforated Nipples, p. 332. In fhort, fhe may be a good Nurfe without abstaining from Wine or Conjugal Conversation, provided fhe'd not give Suck for an Hour or two after Copulation, p. 333. and now Ch. 9. of Ablastation.

Dep. The Babe must be unswadled and reswadled, p. 335. and its Body rubb'd, not only for Concoction of its Aliments, but confolidating its Members, and to be shifted toties quoties, p. 336. If it fits torpidly or drowfily, still and unactive, it is a bad Sign; it is not to use its Feet prematurely, p. 336. The Ablactation is more aufpicioufly done in the encreasing than the decreasing of the Moon. The Child will be out of Order, when subitaneous Inconveniencies join its Dentition, p. 249. if the Meconium call'd Collostro don't follow within an Hour or two after, a Suppository, such as a Sugar Almond, anointed with a little boil'd Honey, may be difcreetly us'd and manag'd to purpole.

Mid. Hey! hey! this is a very fit Ointment indeed! I always thought that Honey, when boil'd, turn'd hard; at least I always found it fo. However, go on.

Dep. As to the small or puny Faults of Nature, such as a difforted or wry Mouth, a crooked or flat Nose, thick or flabby Lips, rough or ugly Visage, or the like Blemisthes, the Child's Body being tractable like a Piece of Wax, Wax, or the Potter's Clay, these may be judiciously corrected, and ingeniously amended, and a more delectable and amiable Form given to every Part; as in case of any Blemish of the Eyes, whether they be discolour'd or sparkling, dim or short-sighted, squint or goggle, rolling, or Goat-ey'd, a lovely black Colour, and graceful Beauty, may be also artfully given P. 345.

Mid. Hey dey! what now ? these are fine things indeed ; but where's the Man can do 'em, I'm fuch an old Fool, as to fancy, that what's born crooked can never be made ftreight. This brings to my mind a comical Adventure between a crooked Gentleman in his Cups, and a Link-The Gentleman, about the small Hours, boy. bargain'd for 6d. to be lighted home; the Boy perform'd his Part, and demanded his Money; the Gentleman swore in his usual way, God mend me, Sirrab, if I'll give you one Farthing more than 3 d. The Arch Rogue finding he could make no more on't, ftares at him, faying, Sir, God mend you, God Aimighty had better make twenty fireight Men, than mend fuch a crooked Son of a Bitch as you are. SUMACTO

La. Hafte now, dear Goodie, and come to an End of all these fine Stories.

Dep. Women may conceive without any virile Affiftance, merely by the Force of Imaginary Venery, efpecially among falacious Women, \mathfrak{Gc} . In fine, don't the neceffitous, and fuch as fuffer Want, refresh themselves by the Savour of our Dishes, and the hunger-starv'd fatiate themselves merely by the Odours of our Kitchen; as possibly may the Widow fill her felf with her odd Imagination, and being debar-G 2 red

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red the Enjoyment of her Paramour, hug him tacitely in her Bofom, and embrace him heartily, however absent, in her Mind, &c. where the may conceive, and that only by Imaginary Venery. See P. 378, 379.

La. Ha! ha! Goodie, ye can't feed your Capons fo.

Mid. No more can you, my Lady; This is Food only for fuch F—lofophical Folks as our Author, who is arriv'd to the tip top of Learning, by the Smell of Books that have Bells on their Backfide; fure the Sound or Chink of Gold will make him rich, fince the bare Smell of Victuals will feed him.

La. Ha! ha! ha!

Mid. Do's your Ladyship know what you laugh at?

La. If I knew, Goodie, perhaps I would not laugh, But I know what I know, that is, that the Author knows not how many will laugh at him, for prefuming, at one Stroke, to cut off the whole Ch-n Rel-n; and I dare fay, had he known what he ought to have known, he had not wrapp'd up his useful Knowledge in fuch a Bag, or rather Package of obsolete, idle hard Words, not worth our knowing, which no Midwife in England knows, and I question if he himself knows (for all he knows) the Meaning of them, or what he would be at. Now, Goodie, becaule they are unknown to us, and perhaps not worth our while to know, as they can be of no Use to any but to the Owner, let them even be disposed of to an Use we all know: And therefore be it known to all Readers, that the Contents of this Book are not worth our know?

Mid. A Pox upon fuch Authors! that affect fuch Whims and new-coin'd Words, and fuch Conundrum Stories as pleafe no-body. Prithee, Deputy, fee, if thou canft read fomething that will charm my Lady.

Dep. P. 49. Love is a wonderful voluntary Separation of the Soul from the Body; the Mind is in one Place, and the Body in another. The Lover is no where, if not with his Love, fo that he's transported into his Object with Satisfaction and Delight. Love overcomes all things; it conquers Hearts, if accompanied with a fervent Defire of Procreation, and meets with suitable Means of Generation, especially, if wrapt up in its Object's Admiration. Then it's at the Pinnacle of its terrene Happines, and at the utmost Height of eager Defires, often quench'd for a little in the Sex's Conjunction, which is Love's Confummation.

La. Prithee, Goodie, come to an End, for I begin to tire.

Mid. So much then, my Lady, for his F—lofophy, now for a fhort Scrap of his Midwifry, and I have done. I'm told, my Lady, he has tranfmogriphied a plain Dutch Man Midwife fo, that ye would fplit your Sides, when you hear how. Read on.

Dep. P. 266. Which fourfold Situation of the Womb may be rightly and properly compared to the four cardinal Points of the Compass, as the reft of its oblique Situations may be be analogoufly adequated to the collateral and middle Points, p. 270. for, because as they decline from the Meridian, and derive themfelves from East, West, North and South, fo these are less difficult Births, and branch out from the four mentioned Extremities, fince the Womb, like a Magnetick Needle, may run quite round, and be ill feated every way, or on every Side. Poor Whirligig! thoul't ne'er be at Reft; or, as some fay, never satiffied. Some will reject this Thefis as falle, or new-fangled; but p. 204. they who are ignorant of this, are meer blind Novices in the Art of Midwifry; for repeated Experience has taught myself and many others, the Certainty of this Truth, p. 205.

P. 294. I observe, that however conspicuous and remarkable the Difference of these preternatural Postures may be, especially that betwixt the four mentioned Extremes, and the natural Situation of the Womb; yet I fear there is too much Reason to suspect, that this Difference is but little known to the Generality of Practitioners in Midwisry, I mean the ordinary Bæthogynist.

P. 292. The Confequences of the Ignorance of these great Truths being fatal, it would be supervacaneous, and altogether needless, to refume or repeat them; wherefore I shall once for all exhort and adjure such Midwives as have any Regard for their Neighbours Lives, that they would qualify themselves duly in these excellent Points of Knowledge: And this I have the more Reason to inculcate, because I never yet knew an assiduous Midwise, who was thus perfectly well endued with the effeneffential Qualifications of her Profession. Poor Midwives! I pity your Ignorance, that never knew the Womb went round like a Magnetick Needle before! Go to School in New Bondstreet, where you may have a Touch of him who lately brought Midwistry to Perfection, and gives compleat Courses of Midwistry to Gentlemen Pupils on reasonable Terms; -for

P. 289. Such Midwives as don't throughly understand these Positions, and the Touch, but place all their Hopes in Nature and divine Mercy, are as nothing, and of no Effect.

P. 296. It is true indeed, it may be objected, that I diffent in this Matter from moft, if not from all Authors; to which I answer in short, that those from whom I do differ, were never acquainted with this complicated preternatural Condition, but always supposed the Womb to continue in its proper Place, never dreaming of its various Motions, nor suspecting its oblique Situation, erroneously imagining all preternatural Births to proceed merely from the ill Version of the Infant. But, p. 297. To farther elucidate the true State of the Case, I know no Situation of the Infant in the Womb more difficult or dangerous, than the Head's offering it felf first. So much for Daventer's Situations.

La. 1 find now, Dame, there are contemptible Animals of all Professions.

Such learned Nothings, in so strange a Stile, Amaze the Unlearn'd, and make the Learned (smile.

Mid. Your

Mid. Your Ladyship has not heard Half the fine Stuff in this fine Book.

La. I have enough of it, Goodie; and if you'll take my Advice, you'll burn it. I would not have fuch ab-dy Book in my Clofet for the World.

Mid. Why fo my Lady?

La. Because, if any of my Daughters (for they are young) shou'd light on it, perhaps it wou'd light them into Flames, not to be easily quench'd; and so long, it may be, for what can't be conveniently had.

Dep. God bless your Ladyship for your just Advice; I really believ'd it deserv'd no better Fate.

Mid. However, it is a great Pity, fuch a fine Book, that has coft fo much Pains, fhould be deftroy'd in this manner, and a new Book too, with Gilding on the Back on't.

Dep. There lye thou, to be reduc'd to Afhes, never more to offend chafte Ears, nor frighten Child-bearing Women, nor be a Difgrace to Midwifery.

Mid. Even so be it, farewel for ever, dear Female Physician. I shall ne'er read thee more.

[The Lady and Midwife apart.

Mid. I thought fuch Words as these that follow not fit for chaste Ears; however, your Ladyship may or may not read them at your Leisure. There they are in a Paper apart.

ech learned Nethinger in fashiange addine.

learn and make the Example

Mid. VOUL

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(57)

DISSERTATION Latara ahar ON GENERATION.



Hoever will allow himfelf fe-rioufly to confider the furprizing Mechanism of Animals (efpecially cline to admire, if not adore, its Maker.

He is (fays the Great Harvey) the right pious Philosopher, who deduceth the Generation of all Things from the eternal and omnipotent Deity, upon whose Pleasure the Universe depends; nor do I think we ought to contend by what Notion, we call or adore this first Agent (to whom all the Names of Veneration are most due) that of Deus, Natura naturans, or Anima mundi; for all Men understand him to be that Beginning and End H

End of all Things which is omnipotent and everlafting, the Author and Creator of all Things, in whom we live, move, and have our Being, Acts xvii. v. 28.

By him Adam alone was created without the Help of Man or Woman, Gen. i. v. 27. Ch. v. v. 1. Luke iii. v. 38. I Tim. ii. v. 13.

By him Eve alone was made out of the Man without a Woman, Gen. ii. v. 22. I Corinth. vi. v. 8.

By him Christ alone was produced out of the Substance of a Virgin without a Man, II. vii. v. 14. Matth. i. v. 23. Luke i. v. 31, 35. And by him the rest of the Offspring of Mankind were procreated of both Man and Woman, Gen. i. v. 26. Matt. xix. v. 4. So God created Man in his own Image, Male and Female created he them.

A Man cannot fearch after a more august Theorem, nor learn any Thing of more Use than this; namely, how all Things are produced by an univocal Agent; or after what Manner the fame Thing doth still generate the fame; as the Son is born like the Father, and the Vertues which do enoble a Family, and the hereditary Vices also, are fometimes after many Generations tranfmitted to Posterity.

To give any fatisfactory Account of this abstrufe Subject, the Generation of Animals would require a Volume apart; and feeing neither my Time, nor my narrow Limits, (were I capable) will permit much to be faid on the Head, it is to be hoped, the candid and generous Reader will accept of my Endeavours, tho' they should only ferve as an Index Index to excite the Curiofity of others, pointing out in general the common Syftems, and those Authors who have treated 'em best.

Amongst the many who have attempted this Subject, I have 'met with none (all Things confidered) that come up to the learn'd and indefatigable Harvey, whose happy Genius render'd a toilsome Inspection into Animals his great Delight.

His wonderful Genius, and profound Judgment, with his amazing Skill in Anatomy, acquir'd by immense Labour, and vaft Experience in Diffections (when in pursuit of the Circulation of the Blood ;) wou'd not of themfelves have been fufficient to enable him to enrich the Republick of Learning with fuch a valuable Treasure as his immortal Piece de Generatione Animalium; had not the Bounty and Favour of his royal Master, who was mighty curious in fuch Refearches himfelf, granted him ftore of Deer to diffect at his Pleafure, by which Means (confidering his unwearied Induftry) he may be faid to have been the fitteft and most likely Perfon then in being, to hand down to us Obfervations by which fomething. might be certainly concluded concerning the Generation of viviparous Animals.

He has fet down nothing but what he faw with his Eyes, and what his mafterly artful Hand diffected; this was the Path he conftantly purfu'd, as the fureft Way to the Knowledge of Truth; nor has he deliver'd any Thing that would not ftand the Teft of ocular Infpection of others, as well as his own; fo that he bids his Reader truft nothing he has faid about the Generation of Animals, for I

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appeal,

appeal (fays he) to none but thine own Eyes.

He tells us, That is a perfect Animal that can beget its like. He has diffinctly explained first in an Egg, and afterwards in other Conceptions of several Creatures, what is constituted first, and what last.

He has fhew'd in the Race of oviparous Creatures, as Hens, Geefe, &c. and of viviparous, as Sheep, Does, and all Cattle that divide the Hoof, and in chief (the perfecteft of all Creatures) Man himfelf, the Manner, Order and Caufes of Generation, becaufe all other Creatures agree, either generically or fpecifically with the aforefaid, at leaft with fome of them, and are procreated after the fame Manner of Generation, or elfe in a Manner proportion'd to it; for Nature being divine and perfect, is always confonant to her felf in the fame Things.

Having given his Reafons why he begins with a Hen's Egg; he fays, It is an eafy Matter to observe out of them which are the most evident and distinct Ground-Works of Generation, and what Progress Nature makes in Formation, and with what wonderful Providence fhe governs the whole Work. He tells us, that there is an Agent in an Egg, and also, that this Agent, which is existent in the Egg, and in every Seed, is fo infpired with Power from the Parents, that it fashions the Chicken to the Likeness of the Parents, and that a mixt Likeness too, as proceeding from them both united in Coition ; and fince all Things are transacted with an admirable Providence and Wifdom, the Prefence

Prefence of the divine Deity is clearly implied.

According to what he has difcourfed of the Hen's Egg, we are to conclude and give Judgment concerning all Kinds of oviparous Productions. So that his Hiftory of the Generation of a Hen's Egg is fufficient, and full enough for the Knowledge of the Generation of all other oviparous Creatures befide.

In Exerc. 73. He tells us, that all viviparous as well as oviparous Animals are, in fome Sort, produced out of an Egg. That all living Creatures muft, of Neceffity, have a Principle, out of which, and by which they are begotten. And this is as true, that the Thing which is called *Primordium*, the firft Rudiment in fpontaneous Productions, Semen the Seed in Plants, and Ovum the Egg in oviparous; the fame Thing in the Generation of viviparous Animals, is Conceptus primus.

Man is the most confummate or compleat Animal of all other; as he has obtain'd all other Parts more perfect than they, fo are his genital Parts also, and therefore the uterine Parts are most distinct in a Woman, and to us (by Reason of the special Industry of Anatomists about this Part) better known for a particular Description, of which see De Graaf, Swamerdam, &c.

It would be vain to inquire after any other Modus of Generation in Mankind and Quadrupeds, than in Hens and Birds.

All living Things do derive their Original from fomething which doth contain in it both the Matter and efficient Virtue and Power, which therefore is that Thing, both out of which which, and by which, whatfoever is born doth deduce its Beginning. Primordium, the first Rudiment, Egg, or what they please to call it, from which an Animal doth spring, as Plants from their Seed.

Nullum animalium genus exors est originis ab ovo. Plut. Symp. 2. Qu. 3. See Drelincourt at large, de faminarum ovis, either within or without their Ovaries, where every Thing is to be met with, that has been hinted by the Learned on that Head.

That Eggs are to be found not only in Birds, Fishes, Grc. but in all Animals, in Quadrupeds, and even in Woman her felf, is plain beyond dispute .-- In Rabbets, Hares, Oc. they have been observed not to exceed the Bignefs of Rape-Seed.-In Swine and Sheep the Bignefs of a Pea.----In Cows, of a Cherry; but it is to be observed, that even in all these Animals many smaller ones are to be difcerned, which in Sheep by Age and frequent Coition change. See on this Head the curious Steno de ovis & oviductibus in Act. Med. Haffn. Hippocrates, in his Book weei ruuainew which he efpouses for his own, has shewn himfelf to be the first on Record that ever attempted to fearch into our primordia vite, wa EINOSIV is in Thelova, Oc. fet twenty and more Eggs under Hens, that he might faithfully learn their Growth, and removing one each Day, took its Shell off, and made his Observations; and also was the first who compared the Bud of a humane Fatus with that of a Hen's Egg; for out of Eggs he opened after Incubation the faid opville que I Eunean-Rei Th TE dy Sewins qu'se, lo compar'd Man's Original

ginal with that of Birds. The first discover'd recent Embryo's swimming in their pellucid Liquids, he compared to raw Eggs shining with their Shells off, and observed a Geniture of fix Days like the raw Egg without its Shell.

Hast thou not poured me out as thick Milk, and curdled me like Cheefe, Job x. 10. Thus the divine Hippocrates, speaking of the femina parentum, first they are mix'd, then condensed, and grow together, and elsewhere Compinguntur atque Coagmentantur.

Galen, his faithful Interpreter, tells us, that all the Eggs of viviparous Animals are bred within, and fo out of an Egg an Animal is fhaped within a Woman. Thus did Oribafius, and the other learned Ancients write. As Nature's Book is the very fame now, as it has been ever funce the Days of Adam, and was, fo is it ftill open to Mankind, and ever will be to our lateft Pofterity, wherein they may exercife themfelves in its Study, as did thefe fagacious and induffrious Ancients.

The celebrated Dr. Charles Drelincourt, who has read all the Ancients and Moderns on this Subject, has delivered us their Opinions in a moft elegant, fuccinct and accurate Manner, and explained their various Sentiments on the Conception, Formation, Nutrition and Birth of the Fætus, to whole Opufcula varia I beg Leave to refer the Curious, after I have mentioned but a few Circumftances as he relates them.

Anno 1666, he was then first convinced by the famous Faber, a Jesuit, that every Conception was truly an Egg, ovum vitello quidem carens carens, & putamine non tamen tunicis & albumine. That in England he met with a Miscarriage of three Months in Dr. Rogers Wife, the Bignefs of a Swan's Egg fwimming in its tranfparent Tunicles. At Naples he was first convinc'd that all viviparous Animals, and even Mankind were born of an Egg, by Thomas Cornelius. --- That Gassendus ingenii stupendi & eterna fame (as he fays) show'd him Embryo's of 12, 25 40, and 42 Days, a 5th of about 60 Days, like raws Eggs without their Shells. --- Then, when at the Heighth of his Enquiries, Dr. Harvey, that glorious Luminary of Great Britain, whole reviving Rays breath'd Health and Life to the Commonwealth of Learning, taught him, That omne Animal gignitur ex ovo, That every Animal is born of an Egg.

Now how the femen virile reaches the Ovary? and how it facundates one, two or more Ova? and how when facundated, they are forc'd from the Ovary thro' the Tube into the Uterus, feems to be the grand Plea, that has occafioned fuch Difputes in the Schools, and the ftaining fo much Paper.

Some have maintain'd, that the Male Semen reaches the fundus Uteri, and thence afcends thro' the Tubes to the Ovary: Others, not without Reason, deny this, and fay, that the collum Uteri is too close to admit the Semen, but of its Ascent thither, nothing certain was ever determin'd until Frederick Rhuysch, an experienced Anatomist at Amsterdam, assured the World in his Thesaurus, Oc. that he found a white Liquor both in the Uterus and Tubes of a Woman he had dissected immediately after she had been killed in the A& of Adultery. Yet Yet the industrious Harvey has faid, That the Geniture of the Male doth not fo much as reach the Cavity of the Uterus, much lefs abide there for any Time, that it doth derive Fæcundity to the Uterus only by a kind of Contagion. The Uterus doth exercise the plaftick generative Power, and procreateth its own Like; so the Conception is made in Utero, as we see with our Eyes, and think with our Brains.

But this plaftick, prolifick, formative, or architectonick Power, attributed to the Uterus, does not feem to fatisfy the Curious, fo by them exploded, tho' maintain'd by Galen, his Followers, and the modern Anatomifts, as Plempius, Faber, Orcham, Diemerbroeck, Barth, &c. nor does the Conception from a Mixture of both Semina, according to Everhard and many more, and La' Motte, a famous Accoucheur, in his Differtation upon Generation, at Paris, 1718.

Nor from the magnetick Attraction of the Uterus, banished by the Platonists, and revived by some Moderns. — Nor from the Vis Insua or Ingenita of Fernelius, nor the vis prolisica of Plazzonus. — Nor the rude and gross Comparison of Vanhorn's, of the Rennet coagulating the semen virile cum sanguine semineo. --- Nor of the Plaste vivisico of Fortunius Licetus, yet more horrid than his Book of Monsters.

That the Ova are facundated in the Ovary, is beyond Dilpute : But how they are impregnated, or rather, how the Male *femen* reaches them, is ftill difputed. Whether it be by its more fpirituous and fubtile Particles? or the Aura feminalis, Harvey mentions? or the Animalcula

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malcula in the Male semen ? is submitted to the Judicious.

What these Animalcules are? whence they have their Origine? how they differ in young vigorous Persons, from old pocky ones? how they are darted forth? and what's necessary for that end? See Hartsoeker (who fays he was the first who discovered them) Suite des Conje-Etures Physiques, Amst. 1708.

That one, two, or more Eggs (as one, two, or more Grains of Corn, when thrown into the Earth, will produce one, two or more Ears of Corn,) when facundated by the Male semen, will produce so many Fætus's, is without Doubt. Aristotle mentions five Children at a Birth, fo do many more Authors. Drelincourt faw five at Paris, and the daily Experience of our own as well as former Ages, confirms this Truth, tho' rarely. How the Semen comes at the Ova? by what Paffage? whether up the Uterus, thro' the Tubes, or imbib'd, (as fome would have it) by the vaginal and uterine Veffels, where circulating, it ferments with the Mass of Blood, and enters into the Ova, fo impregnates them, one, two, or more, by the finall Branches of Arteries, which are upon its Membranes, and ripen it, or them, for their falling off, is likewife left to the Curious.

Upon the Whole (be thefe as they will) we may conclude, That the true Seat and Principle of Generation is to be found in the Ovaries; that when one, two, or more, are facundated by the Male Semen, they ripen, and in due Time fall out of the Ovary into the Tube, whofe flag End, like the large End of a Trumpet, clafps round round the Egg, fo receives it, and conducts the fame to the Fundus Uteri, where it fixes, and like a Shrub takes Root in order to Nutrition, *Gc.* unlefs by fome Accident it be denied a Paffage, fo either fall into the Cavity of the *Abdomen*, or flay in the *Tube*, till its full Time, of which we have many Inftances, from the Authors of our own Time, as well as of former Ages, Men of unfpotted Characters, befides the many Obfervations made upon Brutes by the ableft Anatomifts, and moft accurate Searchers into Nature. That Fatus's have been form'd in the Ovaries, will appear plain from these three following Obfervations, which the Curious may se at large:

The First is from St. Mere's Letter to Dr. de la Closure, April 26, 1682.

The Second is from a Differtation upon the Structure and Use of the Uterus communicated by Dr. Vieuss, and inferted in the last Edition of Verbeyen's Anatomy, called an Observation of Dr. Montagnier, a celebrated Physician at Montpelier, upon the Formation of an human Fætus in an unufual Place, An. 1697.

The Third is from the Transactions of the Academie des sciences, An. 1701, reported by Monssieur de Littre.

That Fætus's have been found in the Cavity of the Abdomen, these following will shew.

The First is from Oldenberg, who An. 1679, took a Fatus out of the Cavity, Gc. See Barthol. L. 1. c. 27. G alios.

The Second is from the Academie des scienees, and diffinctly described by Monf. Saviard, an experienced Hospital Surgeon: See his Recueilde Chirurgie. &c.

The

• The Third is from Courtial a learned Phyfician at Thoulon, his Anatomical Observations, where a Male Fatus, perfectly form'd, was found in the Cavity of the Abdomen, Gr. — The Fourth from John Baptista Bianchi, an accurate Physician, and excellent Anatomist, at Turin, An. 1714.

And as for *Tubarian* Conceptions, fome of these following are Proofs to a Demonstration, that *Factus's* have been detained there after they had arrived at their full Growth.

The First is fresh in our Memories, communicated by *Paul Buiffiere* an eminent Surgeon and expert Anatomist at London. See the Tranfactions for January 1694.

The Second is from de Graaf at the End of his Chap. De mulierum genitalibus, borrowed from Vassalius a sworn Surgeon at Paris.

The Third is from the Acad. des scien. An. 1702.

The Fourth is from Monf. du Verney the most indefatigable and best Anatomist of France. N. B. No Passage into the Uterus could be found, neither by blowing, nor Injection. See L'Acad. des scien. &c.

The Fifth is from Dr. Cyprianus, Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in Franequer, whole great Success in cutting for the Stone at London for many Years, rendred his Memory favoury to all ingenious Men; see his Letter to Sir Th. Millington President of the College of Physicians in London, where the whole Affair is learnedly and most diffinitly narrated, together with many other very useful practical Observations, and judicious Reflections.

This Fætus, full grown, was Twenty three. Months Months in the Tube, and was taken thence by his own Hand, after a large Incifion, 17. Dec. 1694, and may now be feen in Sir Hans Sloan's Collections.

Let these, out of the many I cou'd adduce, suffice. — In Rabbits the very Ova themselves have been seen to pass the Tubes; and not only the Ova, but the Fætus itself, has been sound in the Tube, confirmed by De Graaf, Riolan, and many other Anatomists.

De Graaf fays, That in diffecting feveral Animals post Coitum, he always observed an Inflammation of the outward Membrane of the Ovary, the next Day after Conception; in two Days the Inflammation increased, a little after he found the Membrane broken, and a small Bladder in the Womb.

To infift here upon what Anatomists have advanced on these Heads, would be needlefs, after what has been faid, and altogether incorfiftent with my Brevity : Wherefore, I shall conclude this, with what a great Phyfician has pronounced on this Subject : --- That it is manifest, that the Ovum is facundated, and rendered prolifick by the Male Semen, 10 forced out of the Ovary thro' the Tube into the Uterus, for its Nourishment and Growth there, Ge. --- And that it ever was fo from the Creation of Adam, and ever will be fo to the laft Day, by fuch an irrevocable Law, that no Mortal is, or ever fhall be otherwife conceived. --- For in a mortal Animal, this is immortal; Now, Whether Women, by the Force of

Imagination, or otherwife, can generate and bring forth any Animals but of the human Species, is what remains to be difcuffed.

Were

Were my Time, or the Limits of this fuperficial Effay, equal to my Inclinations, I could launch into a large Field, where, for the Honour of Truth, and Dignity of human Nature, I could place moft, if not all these Stories of Births differing from the Species, in a true Point of Light, refute them, and plainly shew, that not one of an Hundred will ftand the Teft of a judicious Enquiry, however well they may seem attested, and whatever be their Characters who have related 'em. Nor can I think the Difficulty could be great to prove one, and all of them, false, inconfiftent with the Laws of Nature, and to be only the bare Effects of Hearsays.

I shall pass by the many strange Births related by Herodotus, Pliny, and others, long fince exploded; as I do innumerable others impofed on the more fimple Ages; nor fhall I fo much as notice what Lucretius fays, Crefcebant Dteri terra radicibus apti, that the Earth brought forth Mankind. --- Nor how Minerva was Midwifed into the World by the Dint of a Hammer out of Jupiter's Brain.--- Nor how Pyrrhus and Deucalion raifed Mankind by Stones thrown behind them .---- Nor infift on those mythological Gods born in the Brains of the Poets, worshipped by the People, and laugh'd at by the Philosophers.---- I shall also omit all the wonderful Effects of holy Obedience amongst the Monks in the East, as well as the Magicians in Egypt, whole miraculous Stories rendred them ridiculous.---- Nor fhall I dwell on the Miracles faid to be wrought by the Monks of Thebais, not only in Favour of Men, but also in Favour of wild Beafis, with which they

they were faid to be very familiar.--- Leaving then all pious Frauds, all pretended Miracles, and other Abfurdities recorded in Legends, I will fay with Monf. Le Clerc, That if Men will believe every Thing without examining, they will run the Hazard of being always deceived by confounding Truth with Falfhood; and if they believe nothing, they deprive themfelves of the Knowledge of Truth.

Alcippes was faid, for a Punifhment, to have been in Labour, and brought forth an Elephant, Pliny 1. 7. c. 3.--- Argos or Meles to have brought forth a Lion, *ib.* --- The Countefs of Holland to have been delivered of 365 Children at one Birth. --- A Lady at Antwerp of a Dog, Parey 1. 24. c. 12. fome of Serpents, ---Moles, --- Birds, --- and innumerable other Animals.

The Woman in Holland, who acted her Farce fo cleverly as to deceive the Doctors with the Croaking of Frogs, of which fhe pretended her Womb was full, and that fhe often brought them forth, confessed the Cheat on her Deathbed. --- The young Woman Salmuth fpeaks of, who vomited up a Fætus the Length of one's Finger, the 13. of July 1605, not daring to own her Miscarriage, threw this Fætus into a Chamber-pot, wherein another Woman had vomited a little before; and fo by a little dextrous Management, faved her Reputation.

The Story of Amatus Lusitanus, of the Widow that proved with Child by what she received from the other, forte ea hora a marito discedens cum quo rem habuerat, Grc. is ridiculous, and no Faith can be given to such Things, let them swear what they please. Such a Prank as this was plaid at Lifle in Flanders, but on a Process it was plainly made out, that the Hufband, not his Wife, had done it. --- Simbaldus L. I. c. 14. fays, A Midwife at Rome told him of a Woman that got a big Belly in a Bath, fucceeding a young Spark. --- Another proved with Child, Quia consederat alvum exonerandi gratia in latrina, quam paulo ante affinis juvenis bymeneum celebrando manibus polluerat. Upon which fays Lamzweerde, O commentum futile ! O veram anicularum fabellam ! These and the like Stories are only contrived to cover the lascivious Wantonnefs of Women, and conceal their vicious and unlawful Amours. The impious Stories of Devils; Incubus's and Succubus's, that were Spirits, and inflamed with the Love of Women, which fome vainly report, are not worth refuting. --- If the Divines would vouchfafe to confult the Writings of the modern Anatomifts, they would no longer fuffer themfelves to be imposed on by an imaginary Attraction of the Womb, or led afide by fuch falfe Reports of wicked Women, unless they prefer Fables to Truth, or Trifles to ferious Things.

Levinus Lemnius, L. 1. Cap. 8.'de occultis natura miraculis, advances a ftrange Story of a Mole, which occafioned a certain Author to fay, he could give no Faith to fuch a Man who tells us Things more occult than his Book of Occult Miracles; and juftly ridicules him for that as well as what he had faid upon Children, when born with the Galea or Helmet (as the Midwives call it) which is nothing but a Bit of the Membrane Amnios, flicking to the Child's Head, than which nothing is more common: And heartily laughs at Lemnius, as well as Liebaut,

Liebaut, and others, who would have this Cap prefage good Luck, as they tell us from old Womens Tattles .---- The Zealot Du Val would have us believe, a Franciscan Monk must have been its Father, becaufe it was born with a Hood on its Head; and that it portends ftrange Things, not only the old Matrons, but the Authors of occult Philosophy, have babbled This fine Writer will have but little about. Faith given to his Cacata Charta, and thus he ends; Nugigerulis ergo vaneant, & ista muliercularum ultime nuge quas merito Lemnius deliris ignarisque mentibus refert acceptas.---- Nam tales offucias que suo fuco credulis animis errorem offundunt. Lucina horret ac praficis tradit aternum lugendas.

A Dutchman (fays Leonard Bertrand) called Ludovick Roscet, after nine Months Pain in one of his Legs, brought forth a living Child that was chriftened An. 1350.

The numerous Inftances of Women bringing forth by the Mouth, are no better founded than on idle Hearfays .--- I am grieved (faid. one) to fee the Great Bartholine fland up for fach Trifles .--- The impions Paracelfus merits no Regard, who dream'd he could raife Mankind by placing the Sem. bum. in a Dunghill Heat : O ve-Sanas hominum mentes! O pectora caca! & damonum prastigiis irretita. --- Nor Barell's Story of greater Weight, Cent. 1. Obf. 28. of a Fish that bred out of the Finger of a Fisherman, its Seed having infinuated itself into a Wound made there by a Fifh-hook .--- Of a-piece with this is the Story of Heredias, of a Thorn that flourifhed every Year out of a Shepherd's Side .---Nor does Rofencranzius's Mola merit any more Credit than these, because in such Cases Midwives

wives are not to be believed, who first broached them, for Thousands of them are Cheats and Impostors, especially in Germany and the Northern Regions, where Superfition and Credulity reign in the Female Sex. I am fatisfied, if fuch Stories were narrowly enquired into, they would undoubtedly be found to amount to no more than what Augufin Herman met with upon diffecting a Woman, who voided by Stool, red, black, and blue Silk, various small Bones, Sticks, and Straws, as in Obf. 71. I found (fays he) nothing in either her Stomach, or Guts, nor the least Vestige of Inchantment; so that the Question is, Whether this Woman was inchanted 3 or did the deceive her Do-Etors ?

In all odd, out-of-the-way Stories, efpecially Births, we ought to ask, whether their Authors be well informed of the Truth of what they advance? Or, whether they have them at iecond-hand, fo only fpeak upon Hearfay ? Whether they themfelves were deceived; or did they defign to deceive others? In fhort, Whether they did really fee thefe Things they mention, and carefully examined them before they fet them down, and if they were Judges of what they related ?

Such groundlefs idle Stories, handed from one to another, until feveral Impreffions, in feveral Books, have given them a Shadow of Confirmation, and as it were a *droit de Bour*geoife, few will venture to contradict. Thus one led into an Error, may draw in a Thoufand, and fo the Generality of fuperficial Readers are reduced to the Neceffity of fwallowing the greateft Abfurdities, improbable Stories, and and fuch as are no lefs impoffible than incredible.

The Godalmin Imposture (which gave Rife to this Discourse) is too fresh in all our Memories, to admit Repetitions here, and will, on the least ferious Reflection, appear to be a plain Proof of the Truth of what's here infinuated; and without the Spirit of Prophecy, we may venture to fay, that had it not been fo closely followed, it had not been without its Believers, and might, in Time, been confirmed by Authors amd Copiers, fo received a Sanction, that would have framped a Currency on it, equal to, if not exceeding, those Stories here related.

Let all fuch ftrange and monftrous Births then, that partake not of the human Species, fo idle in themfelves, and of fuch a fatal Tendency to the Child-bearing Part of the Sex, be juftly (as they deferve) rejected. Let their Authors be treated with due Contempt, and let them all take Warning from the Fate of those concerned in this late Instance, how they impose on the World, for some or other will do Justice to the Publick, without Fee or Reward.

It is certain, that all Animals are born of their own, and not of the Seed of another; for the Laws of Nature in the Generation of Aaimals, are certain and unchaugeable, which cannot be altered by any, but by the Omnipotent Creator Himfelf, who made them.

In the fmall Edifice of a Chicken, and all its Actions and Operations, the Finger of God, or the God of Nature, doth reveal himfelf. --- A more fublime and divine Artificer therefore,

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(than Man is) feems to make and preferve. Man.

What is there (fays the learn'd Harvey) in Generation, that, by a momentany Touch, can orderly conftitute the Parts of a Chicken, by an Epigenefis, and produce an univocal Creature like itfelf? Limn all the Members of the Chicken in an Egg, which is now exposed to the wide World, and often transported a great Way off.

For nothing can make and generate itfelf into another's Likenels. Philosophers do generally agree in this, that tho' the Woman, by the Force of Imagination, may impress some Stain or Mark on her Fætus, yet she can never alter the Species, because that is not the Work of Imagination, but of the external Formative, Agent, or Power; so that Men can beget only Mankind, their Semen being sufceptible of no other Form.

As often as there is a Conception in a Woman, its Progrefs on feveral Accounts may be hindered, but it can't be transformed into another Species, by any Caufe whatever. For fince no Rudiment of any other Animal, than what's human, can be contained in semine humano, it is impossible any other Animal, but what's human, can be produced. And feeing. every Semen proceeds from the very Substance of the Animal, whole Semen it is, the Seeds themselves must necessarily differ amongst themielves, as much as the Animals do; fo no Animals, differing in Genus and Species, can be mutually transformed into one another's Likenefs; wherefore fuch Changes can never happen in utero muliebri.

But were it poffible, a Generation of any other than human Monfters would confound Nature, deftroy the beautiful uniform Order, eftablished by the Great Creator, when he first ranked and disposed the several Species of Animals, and at their Creation pronounced the Almighty Fiat.

Let those then who dare think there is no God, tell us who it was that laid the Plan of the affonishing Structure of the Universe? And who contrived the immense, but beautiful Extent and Order of the Creation? And who created the amazing Fabrick?

Who it was that created all Animal Beings, and ordered the Propagation of their feveral Species out of their own proper Seeds, without Confusion. And who implanted in them the ftrong Inclinations for that Purpose.

Who it was that taught the Spider to weave and fpread its Net fo furprifingly to catch Flies for its Suftenance, when fcarce out of its Egg.

Who it was that taught an Infant (when capable of nothing elfe) fo dextroufly to fuck its Nourifhment, the Moment it breathes the free Air.—Who taught the Bees and Ants to build their Cottages, and furnifh their Store-houfes for further Exigencies.—The Birds their Nefts, &c. that all fhould, by the unalterable Laws of Nature, fo exactly, fo orderly, and fo furely, propagate each their Like, by an univocal Generation, for perpetuating their feveral Species.

Who, but the Great God and Creator of all Things, who faid, Let the Earth bring forth Grass, the Herb yielding Seed after his Kind, and the

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the Tree yielding Fruit after bis Kind, whose Seed is in itself, and it was so, Gen. i. 2. He who created the great Whales, and every living Thing that moveth, ver. 21. He who made the Beasts of the Earth after his Kind, and Cattle after their Kind, and every Thing that creepeth upon the Earth after his Kind, Gen. i. 25.

his Kind, Gen. i. 25. As to human Monfters, however firange they may appear to fome, yet may they be readily acounted for, according to the Syftem of the Animalcula; for when two of them get into one Ovum, a Monfter is born of courfe; that is two Fætus's flicking to one another by fome Parts of their Bodies, which is not more wonderful than to fee two Fingers flicking together.

One of these two Animalcules in the Ovum, being stronger, crusheth some Parts of the weaker, which, being deprived of its nutritious Juice, decays. Hence one appears with two Heads on one Trunk, and another with two Trunks under one Head, which Histories and our Experience verify.

Nam quamvis natura nullibi magis & sepius ludat quam in materia generationis, nunquam tamen a recta speciei concepta imagine prorsus abludit, quia errare e via non est viam tollere.

No fuch Metamorphofis was ever known amongft Vegetables. It was never known that Poppy Seeds would produce Parfley, nor a Grain of Millet or Muftard Seed, a Mulberry Tree.

That Faculty, which diffinguisheth Men from Brutes, has little Room to exercise itself here, fince the most refined Reasoning would be lost, where the Things advanced are not Facts. Facts. In vain then we amufe our felves with empty Trifles, old Womens Tales, and Chit Chat that have no Foundation in Truth, but prima facie appear the impoffible Things they are.—It is impoffible that the Roes of Herrings can produce Salmon, Cod-fifh, and Turtle; Whitings, Whales; or Owls beget Offriches; or Ladies Lap-Dogs, Dromedaries; Ants Eggs, Elephants, &c. Confequently it is as impoffible for Women to generate and bring forth Rabbits, as it is for Rabbits to generate and bring forth Women. Ergo nulli leones, elephantes, &c. as in the Title Page.

Que corpuscula & prima seminis rudimenta, cum sint longe diverse nature in leonum, elephantum, piscium corporibus eorumque genituris, illas geniture humane particulas in quibus prima humane fabrice stamina superstructa, non posse degenerare ibidem in genituram animalis toto genere diversi.---nam omnia animalia ex proprio & non alieno semine nasci, certum est.

FINIS



