

MEMOIRS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.
VOL. II.

SOCIETATI LITERARIÆ SPALDINGENSI

D.D.
W. Stukeley
rector
D. Georgii in area Reginensi.
1750.

Meetings of the Royal Society.

Read to SGS

1. 17 decr. 1741.	pa. 2.	2 nd Jan 1751/2
2. 15 jan. 1741-2.	4.	9 th 1752
3. 21 jan. 1741-2	7.	16
4. 22. jan. memoirs of the egyptian Society.	qoa. 8. 23. 37. 23.	
5. 28. jan. 1741-2 Roy. Soc.	16.	30
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	42.	

Vide pa. 1. 9

MEMOIRS

of
the

ROYAL
SOCIETY.

taken

memoriter,

by

Wm. Stukeley.

Animas sapientiores fieri,
quiescendo.

VOL. II.

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MEMOIRS
of the
Royal Society.

To

Maurice Johnson esqr. founder, ~~perpetual Secretary~~ & {President}¹ of the gentlemens literary society,
Spalding.

Your kind acceptance of the former volume, of these memoirs, induces me to send you another. that you may, in your Society, in some mesure, partake of the pleasure I have, in frequenting the meetings of the royal society; which is one of the cheif amusements, I have in Town².

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where, though in the midst of all the splendor, & tumults of the great ones: yet I enjoy as much of my own time, as when in the country. with this advantage, that I can at pleasure, change the scene; & goe into good company.

however, I never fail to frequent the royal Society, weekly. where besides our own acquaintance, we meet the vertuosos, & curious people, of all europe; & have the literary news of the whole world: whatever is curious in art, or nature.

what passes there, making a considerable impression upon my mind, I fail not to minute it down, as soon as I return home. by this means, I can look back upon all that I have seen, & heard there; as a part of the history of my own life: but further, I can thus have the pleasure of communicating it to my friends.

17 dec. 1741. at the royal society.

an account from mr. fuller³, near battel abby in sussex, in a letter to Sir. hans sloan⁴; of a huge fire-ball seen passing over kent, about one a clock at

¹ Maurice Johnson crossed out Stukeley's words 'perpetual Secretary' and inserted 'President'. Johnson became president of the SGS in 1748 after serving as its Secretary for 36 years.

² i.e., London.

³ John Fuller (1706-1755); FRS, 1727.

⁴ Sir Hans Sloane (1660-1753); FRS, 1685; SGS, 1733.

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noon; going from west to east, but declining. it left a long track of fire after it, but ending in smook. it appeared larger as it descended; at last, parted in two, & went off with two huge Explosions, like two batterys of Cannon, going off nearly together; or like the blowing up of powder mills, so as to shake the houses. Mr. Hadley⁵ saw this too, from Kensington gardens, and it was seen from Lincolns inn fields.

Dr. Parsons⁶ dissected the horse muscle⁷ with a long proboscis 5 inches long, which the animal thrusts out of his shell, to get his food. part of his shell being empty, he fills it with water, to make himself heavier, or lighter, in order to pass from place, to place. this water upon occasion, it spouts out of It's trunk, with great violence.

a Gentlemen brought an abacus, of his invention, as he says, for performing all the operations of Arithmetic, with great facility, & Expedition. It seems to be like the Chinese method, mentioned in y^e phil. trans.⁸ he gave several Specimens in addition, and multiplication of large numbers.

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A Surgeon from Bishops Stratford⁹ brought the machines of his invention, of great use in broken limbs. One for a broken leg, which keeps it in situ & gives leave for the patient to turn him self in bed & the like; with a convenient method to come at it for dressing. many inventions for reduction of disjointed limbs.

he has likewise a pretty invention for the upright motion of pistons, in water works; by means of a circular crank with rack work, & halfwheels thus.

[image]

¶ 15 January 1741-2 at the royal society.

Mr Nourse¹⁰ surgeon brought a bladder taken out of a man who dyed lately. he had taken Mrs Stephens's¹¹

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medicines for the stone, & the surgeon on examining him, pronounced him cured; no stone being to be found: & on this testimony chiefly, the parliament premium of £5000 was paid to Mrs. Stephens. in the bladder were containd 7 or 8 stons as big as Hazel nuts: but nature had kindly formed cells for them out of the duplicature of the coat of the bladder, & warded off the inconvenience of them.

a long Lettre or rather Treatise from Dr. Ruty¹² in Ireland, relating to his observations, & examinations of Mrs. Stephens's medicines. the common method now of taking this medicine is to

⁵ Most likely George Hadley (1685-1768); FRS, 1735, but possibly his brother John Hadley (1682-1744); FRS, 1717..

⁶ Dr James Parsons (1705-1770); FRS, 1741; SGS, 1746.

⁷ Northern horse mussel (*modiolus modiolus*).

⁸ *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*.

⁹ Henry Ettrick (d. 1744).

¹⁰ Edward Nourse (1701-1761); FRS, 1728.

¹¹ Joanna Stephens (fl.1738-1740), received £5000 from Parliament for her 'cure' for bladder stones, in exchange for which she published her recipe in the *London Gazette*.

¹² Dr John Ruty (1698-1775).

omit the great quantity of herbs, and things used chiefly to disguise it, & depend intirely ~~up~~ upon the two principal things: the calcin'd egg shells, run per deliquium¹³ about ʒβ or ʒi¹⁴ in a glass of any liquor, & half a pint of Solution of soap, whether common, or alicant¹⁵.

an Account of a mine of silver in North america, much richer than in Potosi.

Captain Norden¹⁶ presented every member of the Society with a copy of his specimen of Egyptian drawings in antiquity; particularly 4 plates of the famous statue of Memnon¹⁷, which became vocal

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at Sun rising. Mr. Machen¹⁸ gave his opinion as to the interpretation of the heiroglyphical Sculpture in the seat of one of the coloss statues, of the propylæum¹⁹. that it regarded some celebrated marriage, perhaps of Isis, or Osiris; which he collected from the heart at the bottom of the lotus staff, & from the knot tyed by the two genii. in this affair he is right, for it means the conservation of the world, or the continuance of the works of creation, by means of generation, and corruption. of this I have largely written in my Explication of the table of Isis²⁰.

an Account²¹ of an indian poyson, which the proportion so as to kill in a week, a month, or a Year, as they purpose: and of the antidote to it, being an herb.

I gave the Society a drawing of the phænomenon seen at Canterbury, being two mock suns, & two rainbows, from that of Mrs. Tennisons²², sent to the Archbishop of Canterbury²³.

Dr. Desaguliers²⁴ showed us some further experiments in Electricity; which he will publish, when perfected.

A Lettre from Mr. Knowlton²⁵ gardiner to Lord Burlington²⁶ at Longsborough in yorkshire: giving an

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Account of a roman brass gallon, with a lid, lately found near york: of an early blossoming thorn he observed near Stilton, & some other matters.

21 Jan 1741/2 At the Royal Society.

¹³ The process of gradually dissolving or being destroyed, usually through the absorption of moisture.

¹⁴ A half-dram and a dram, respectively, in apothecaries' system units of measurement.

¹⁵ Soap made of olive oil in Alicante.

¹⁶ Frederick Louis Norden (1708-1742); FRS, 1741.

¹⁷ The colossi of Memnon at Luxor, which were reported to make sounds like voices.

¹⁸ John Machin (c.1686-1751); FRS, 1710.

¹⁹ A monumental gateway.

²⁰ William Stukeley, *Palaeographia Sacra or Discourses on Monuments of Antiquity that Relate to Sacred History. Number II. A dissertation on the Mysterys of the Antients in an Explication of that Famous Piece of Antiquity, the Table of Isis* (c.1735-40), Wellcome Collection MS 4722.

²¹ By Edward Milward (c1712-1757); FRS, 1748.

²² Mary Tenison nee Smith (d. 1749) wife of Revd Thomas Tenison (1702-1742). 'A Representation of the Parhelia seen in Kent, Dec. 19. 1741. communicated in a Letter from the Revd Mr. H. Miles, to John Eames, F.R.S. and an Account of the same, as seen by Mrs. Tennison at Canterbury', *Philosophical Transactions* 42 (1743), 46-8.

²³ John Potter (c1676-1747), Archbishop of Canterbury (1737-1747)

²⁴ Dr John Theophilus Desaguliers (1683-1744); FRS, 1714; SGS, 1730.

²⁵ Thomas Knowlton (1691-1781).

²⁶ Richard Boyle, 3rd Earl of Burlington (1694-1753); FRS, 1722.

A Dispute arose concerning the gentleman²⁷ whose bladder was exhibited here, who had taken Mrs Stephens's medicines. some said it was possible, those stones might have grown since he left off taking the medicines, which was two years before his death; he finding himself easy. Others denied it, & that he took of those medicines continually. the President²⁸. desired the true fact might be inquired into, & reported.

An Account²⁹ of a lunar Eclipse observed in America. and some observations concerning the seas, about the magellanic straights³⁰.

the Norway giant³¹ was exhibited, a very wonderful sight. he is about 32 years old, full 7 foot 4 inch: high. no high heels to his shoes. he reached beyond the first moulding of the architrave between the pillars, in the Roy: Society room. he was ordered two guineas. the man is well enough shaped.

an account of some odd formed stones from the Isle of Pomona³², consisting of of [sic] a hard & a soft part in ridges. they find there too, antediluvian bones, the hippopotamus &c.

[image]

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A Machine was shown, a ballance to fasten Children too³³, and suspend them for a swing, in order to prevent, or cure crookedness. together with an Account of it in writing: like a circular spring for navel ruptures.

22d. Januarij 1741-2. At the Egyptian Society³⁴.

The Duke of Montagu³⁵, Duke of Richmond³⁶, were admitted Lord Sandwich³⁷ brought an Ibis embalmed, from the catacombs in Egypt, which he opened before us. they are inclosed in a long earthen vessel of this shape, as long as ones arm. sealed up very carefully with good cement, or mortar, like a lid.

[image]

Under it is the bird wrap'd up in linnen, tyed round with string of the same. the linnen was very firm, & the bird pretty intire, but fryable. the colour of its feathers discernible. a kind of teribinthinate³⁸ smell.

the society asked me, particularly the Duke of Montagu, to give my opinion concerning the sistrum³⁹, which I delivered to this effect. I apprehended it to be a crotalus, or rattle, used from the beginning of

²⁷ The case of one Mr. Gardiner was discussed throughout the month of January 1742. See *Philosophical Transactions* 42 (1743), 11-13.

²⁸ Martin Folkes (1690-1754); FRS, 1713; SGS, 1743.

²⁹ From Edward Legge (1710-1747); FRS, 1736. Related by Joseph Atwell (c1696-1768); FRS, 1729.

³⁰ i.e., The Straights of Magellan.

³¹ Daniel Cajanus (1704-1749) from Finland.

³² Another name for the Mainland, Orkney.

³³ Invented and made by Timothy Shelldrake (1691-1758).

³⁴ The Egyptian Society, founded in 1742.

³⁵ John Montagu, 2nd Duke of Montagu (1690-1749); FRS, 1725.

³⁶ Charles Lennox, 2nd Duke of Richmond (1701-1750); FRS, 1724.

³⁷ John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich (1718-1792); FRS, 1740.

³⁸ i.e., like turpentine.

³⁹ An ancient Egyptian percussion instrument

the world, in religious offices. therefore the Egyptians, fond of antiquity, would not fail to introduce it among their ~~antient~~ sacred instruments; though the true use of

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it was left off. We find Isis & other figures of their deities and priests frequently represented with it, in their hand. the Noise of it was esteemed as prophylactic; & that it would drive off the devil, & all evil powers. the shaking of it during their mysteries, was equivalent to the Cryer in other Countries calling out

--- εχας εχας εζεβεβηλοι.

procul o, procul este profani⁴⁰.

We are to understand, that in the beginning of the world, when providence introduced the mediatorial system of religion, after Adams fall, & instituted the rites of sacrifice, for atonement of sin: it was the usual method & sign of Gods acceptance of the sacrifice, to cause a fire from heaven to descend upon the altar, & consume it. thus we read Gen[esis] IV Cain & Abel offered the accustomed Holocaust⁴¹, at the end of days, i.e. the appropriate season, or festival of the Year; God was pleased to accept the offering of Abel, but not that of Cain. the Author of the Hebrews XI. 4. gives us the reason why: it was want of faith

Tis not to be imagined, that God Almighty should accept of the death of a poor, innocent Animal, as an

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Atonement for a Mans sin: but it was the manner of offering it, that made it meritorious, & that was by faith. so that undoubtedly, the sacrifice procured remission of sins, only through faith in the great mediatorial sacrifice, symbolized thereby.

It was an Act of infinite kindness in God alm[ighty] in the first ages of the world, to testify his approbation, or refusal of the offertory, by a notorious & visible sign; in order to bring mankind into a sure belief, that the practise so cruel, was of his own instituting: & at the same time to show the heinousness of sin, that required so bloody a satisfaction.

In Genesis VIII. after the flood, Noah offered burnt-offerings of every clean beast, & every clean fowl, which God accepted of, & blessed him & his Sons upon it. in time when the affair of sacrificing was sufficiently established among mankind, this preternatural appearance ceased, as being no longer necessary: except upon occasions more than common. as for instance, upon Moses's setting up the tabernacle, & the altars in the wilderness: Levit[icus] IX. 24. “& there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the Altar, the burnt offering, & the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces”

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Again, at the dedication of Solomons temple. II Chron[icles] VII 1. the fire came down from heaven, & consumed the burnt-offering and the sacrifices: & the glory of the LORD filled the house. so in that famous contention between Elijah & the Priests of Baal, I Kings XVIII. 24. “the God that answereth

⁴⁰ Latin, 'Oh be gone, be gone, you uninitiated'.

⁴¹ In Judaism, a sacrificial offering burnt on an altar.

by fire, let him be God.” had the Priests of Baal not known, that the thing had been done, they would never have accepted of the tryal.

therefore to return to our first purpose; in the most early ages of the world, after the sacrifices were laid upon the altar, & the accustomed prayers, & thanksgivings performed; the offerers waited for this demonstration of the divine acceptance, and that with no small patience.

In that very famous federal sacrifice, when God Covenanted with the great Patriarch Abraham, to give the Land of Canaan to him & his posterity; and that among them, the Messiah should be born. Genesis XV. “Abraham took a heifer, a she goat, a ram, a turtle dove, & a young pidgeon. he divided them in the midst, as the custom of federal sacrifices, and laid the halves, one opposite to the other, for the Partys contracting to pass through. this done he sat down, as customarily, to watch the divided animals.

V II And when the fowls came down upon the Carcases, Abram drove them away.”

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the time of morning sacrifice when this was done, was at our nine a clock in the morning: "so that Abraham watched the whole day; waiting for a signal declaration of Gods concurrence in the Covenant proposed.

v. 12. & when the Sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram, and lo' a horror of great darkness fell upon him.

v. 13. and HE said unto Abram &c. that is God" Alm[ighty] said.

v. 17. "and it came to pass, that when the Sun went down & it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, & a lamp of fire, that passed between those pieces.”

this whole story is told in somewhat mysterious manner, as became the dignity of the Subject: & I apprehend, both the original hebrew copy & the translations are faulty. thus to be understood.

the divine Person, or visible deity called Jehovah, making a solemn Covenant with Abraham by this federal sacrifice; it was necessary, that he shoud visibly pass through the divided animals. in order to do this with greater majesty, he chose the evening time after sun set; when the divine shechinah⁴² appeared to Abraham, and talked with him first in his trance,

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which is meant by the horror of great darkness. v. 12.

afterward Abraham awaked & saw that same divine appearance pass through the divided pieces, as a sure token of his ratifying the Covenant. which is meant by v. 17. where tis described by a smoaking furnace, and a Lamp of fire.

I Suppose the meaning to be this. immediately after sun set, during twilight, the divine appearance called shechinah was as a great circular Cloud. as darkness came on, the central glory, which he calls a Lamp of fire, became visible.

⁴² A Biblical Hebrew term meaning 'dwelling', denoting the dwelling of the divine presence of God.

When this same shechinah appeared to the Jews, and Conducted them from Egypt into Canaan, & at last resided on the Mercy seat of the Ark: both in the Mosaic tabernacle, & in solomons temple; we find it described in the day time, as a Cloud; in the night, as a fire.

Your Grace⁴³ will easily observe, I have made a digression: & it was well worth while, If I have been able to explain a little this very great, & important piece of Sacred history. At the same time, I am Confident, Your Grace perceives, my principal view regards the Sistrum or rattle, which Abraham needs must have in his hands, through out that whole days Space; in order effectually to drive off the ravenous fowls from his sacrifice.

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the blood of sacrifices was necessarily to be poured forth on the altar, for that was the matter which was to make the Atonement: and this in a warm Country, would not fail to draw 'em together, from a great distance.

We observe, our Country people have an instrument with a handle to it, of like use, to drive the fowls away from the Corn. the latins call it Crotalus or rattle, the greeks sistrum from its shaking quality; whereby it makes a noise, for that purpose.

therefore in all cases like this before us, of Abraham, & in all common sacrifices, in the early times of the world; when they expected this supernatural celestial fire; such an instrument was useful, & customary. therefore Your Grace spoke very properly, when you called it an Egyptian scare-crow and this as I apprehend, is the meaning of the famous Egyptian sistrum.

the sistrum then being a religious instrument, truly appertaining to the office of religion, & that of the highest antiquity: the Egyptians who affected antiquity, would not fail to introduce it among their most sacred, & venerable utensils. and we find it so in fact. no representations more frequent than this, in all sculptures, coyns &c. because the Egyptians equally, as all the rest of the eastern & antient world, were fond of applying to symbols, on every

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occasion. from driving the profane birds, and beasts away, that disturb the sacrifices, they made this their great prophylactic symbol, able to drive off Typhon⁴⁴, the devil. too much heat, or moysture, any evil power. & this, Authors generally Attribute to it, though they see not its true origin & meaning. We commonly see as Plutarch long since takes notice, a Cat upon the top of the sistrum. the meaning of it I take to be this, in tab. XIII. of my plates of the mystic Egyptian temple⁴⁵.

We observe further, the mistake so common among the learned, of magnifying the Egyptian Antiquity, beyond measure. the Sistrum is not an Egyptian Antiquity, peculiarly so: but as old as the world it self. nay tis less proper to the Egyptians, than to others, because they did not practise the rites of sacrifice, as other nations. therefore they only preserved the symbolical use, & purport of the instrument, without the real, & true use. other nations that rightly practised sacrificing, according to its institution, would necessarily use this instrument of ours; though the memorials of it are perished, for want of monuments, which the Egyptians had the happy art of. & which has gaind them the glory of antiquity, exclusive of other older nations. but tis the business of the learned to distinguish rightly these matters.

⁴³ i.e., John Montagu, 2nd Duke of Montagu.

⁴⁴ In Greek myth, a serpent-like giant who fought with Zeus for control of the cosmos.

⁴⁵ Probably one of a series of prints of Egyptian antiquities drawn by Stukeley and engraved by Elisha Kirkall.

I find one very illustrious monument, concerning the Sistrum, not at all observed, though the greatest, the oldest, & the most glorious in the world. this monument is to be seen in the heavens, in the beginning of our winter Evenings, after the autumnal equinox. in October we behold it setting in the northwest quarter of the heavens. the monument I mean is y^t called Engonasis⁴⁶: the largest, & in my opinion, the most antient picture in the world. it requires a mind noble, elevated & comprehensive, like your Graces, to form a just idea of this Constellations & truly worthy of it. but I beg leave to reserve this argument, for the next opportunity I have of writing to your Grace.

28th Jan. 1741.2. At the Royal Society.

Mr. Tibbald⁴⁷ brought a piece of paper cut in the shape & bigness, of the diamond, lately brought from the Brasils, to the King of Portugal⁴⁸, with an Account of its weight, being 7 ounces, and length 4 inches, & $\frac{1}{2}$ bredth $2\frac{1}{2}$. diamonds are a fluor⁴⁹ that runs hexagonally. take them longitudinally & they split easily. they will waste in working that way easily. Dr. Desaguliers tryed them with Villets burning glass⁵⁰. he could blunt the points of them. which was the only effect the glass had on them.

Dr. Hales⁵¹ sent a Lettre giving an Account of his experiments of drying Gunpowder, by blowing air at noon, in a large pair of bellows under it. being laid on a sieve like bottom. he says it ought to be used in the magazines, which would prevent the danger of fire: as also on Ship board, when the powder has contracted moisture. he uses the same artifice on Ship board, to bring air below deck, & keep 'em wholsom. he says, it may be used too in magazines of Corn.

We measured the height which Cajanus the sweedish giant reached to, being the 2^d. moulding of the architrave, in our room, and found it to be 10 foot compleat.

An Account⁵² of a golden torques found lately in Wales. there was another made of a flat bar of Gold, twisted, found some time since, near borough bridge. I observed them to be ornaments of the antient british kings, after the Phœnician times, & in imitation of them. the wild Arabs to this day, wear such, in pewter, round their necks, wrists, the small of their legs, this found near Borough bridg, was most probably one of the prizes given, at the races there held, at the great midsummer games there in British times, round the wonderful obelisks, which were the meta's. this was at the public quarterly sacrifice, then solemnized.

A long wrangle we had, about the effect of Mrs. Steven's's Medicines, between Dr. Hartley⁵³ and the Surgeons. the latter affirmed, all the Persons (specifying 4) who had been opened after death & that had taken these medicines regularly were found to have stones in the bladder, untoucht by them. that the Urine obtaining a dissolving quality, from those medicines was a jest. that the ease obtained from

⁴⁶ The constellation Hercules.

⁴⁷ Perhaps James Theobald (1688-1759); FRS, 1725; SGS, 1733.

⁴⁸ John V of Portugal (1689-1750), known as the Magnanimous, ruled (1707-1750).

⁴⁹ Fluorite, the mineral form of calcium fluoride.

⁵⁰ A large tin-plated bronze mirror used to reflect the sun's rays and produce heat; invented by French engineer and optician Francois Vilette (1621-1698).

⁵¹ Dr Stephen Hales (1677-1761); FRS, 1718.

⁵² From Sir Thomas Mostyn, 4th Baronet (1704-1758), relayed by Roger Jones (d.1748); FRS, 1736.

⁵³ Dr David Hartley (1705-1757); FRS, 1736

the use of them, was owing to their relaxing quality; for which purpose such medicines had been used from all times. but that in the consequence, they did more harm, than good.

a Book⁵⁴ presented to the society from a foreign professor wrote against Wolfius's⁵⁵ introducing a mathematical method of science, which he said, would in time efface all true science.

4 feb. 1741-2. at the royal Society.

the president distributed the prize medals: given by Sir Godfrey Copley⁵⁶, for 5 Years last past, as ordered by Sir Hans Sloan the late President. The Society gave 50l. for the dye. on one side the arms & supporters of the Society. on the reverse, Pallas⁵⁷ with all her symbols, holding forth a Laurel. inscription **G. COPLEY** dat dignissimo⁵⁸ in the exergue⁵⁹ is engraven the name of the Person & year,

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who showed the most useful Experiment, & to whom it is decreed. the Medals are of Gold, & worth 5 £.

the first was given to the gentleman that sent us his Account of the bones of hogs & chickens, dyed red with eating madder, after the dyers have used it.⁶⁰

the second to the gentleman who showed the method of driving piles, which is practised now at Westm[iste]r bridge.⁶¹

the third was given to Dr. Stephen Hales⁶², for his innumerable curious experiments.

the 4th was given to Dr. Desaguliers for his experiments concerning electricity.

the 5th to Dr. Stuart⁶³ for his experiments on muscular motions.

A Letter was read to Dr. Mead⁶⁴ from a gentleman at St. Albans⁶⁵, concerning a person lately dead, & who had taken Mrs. Stevens's medicines 15 months. he was dissected & a great stone of pear like figure found in his bladder, untouch't of the medicines.

Mr. Bell⁶⁶ gave in an Account of a person⁶⁷ he opened after the taking the medicines 15 months. there were three stones in his bladder, bigger than windsor beans

Dr. Jurin⁶⁸ gave in a long Account in writing, concern[ing] his own case, of the stone. he considered, that Mrs. Steven's's

⁵⁴ Possibly Johann Andreas von Segner, *Specimen Logicae Universaliter Demonstratae* (Jena: Dorothea Rosina Crocker, 1740).

⁵⁵ Christian Wolfius (1679-1754).

⁵⁶ Sir Godfrey Copley (c.1653-1709); FRS, 1691.

⁵⁷ The Greek goddess Athena.

⁵⁸ Latin, 'given to the most deserving'.

⁵⁹ A small space on the reverse of a coin or medal, for an inscription.

⁶⁰ John Belchier (1706-1785); FRS, 1732

⁶¹ James Valoue (fl. 1737)

⁶² Dr Stephen Hales (1677-1761); FRS, 1718.

⁶³ Dr Alexander Stuart (c.1673-1742); FRS, 1714; SGS, 1740.

⁶⁴ Dr Richard Mead (1673-1754); FRS, 1703; SGS, 1746.

⁶⁵ H. Cotton (unknown).

⁶⁶ George Bell (d.1758); FRS, 1750.

⁶⁷ William Payne (c1670-1741).

⁶⁸ Dr James Jurin (1684-1750); FRS, 1717; SGS, 1723.

Medicines were extremely nauseous, both in quality and quantity, & time: that some People have chose to be cut, rather than take them. & he apprehended, the soap was the real efficient in dissolving the stone, if it could perform that; & believed, the Oyl & the fat which makes great part of the Soap, adds to the quantity, and nauseousness of the medicine, without contributing to the work. and he thought the Egg shells as little serviceable: yet he was satisfyed, her medicines had afforded relief in many cases. therefore he judg'd the Lye of which the soap was made consisting of pot ashes dissolved in lime water, was the real and only efficient in the case.

this he set himself to try, taking 4 or 5 teaspoonfuls of it in a glass of water, milk, small beer, london ale, sack, or what he liked best, 3, 4 or 5 times a day for a long time together. which had the desired effect. it brought away several stones as big as barley Corns, which appeared corroded: & in his judgment were detached pieces of a larger stone.

he put some of these stones into some of the lye, diluted in water, as he took it, & in two days time, the stones were dissolved.

[*facing page*: {at the Royal Society}] 11 Feb: 1741.2.

A Sailor was shown, from the Coast of Africa, who has a worm in his leg⁶⁹; which is a common thing there. it ~~leave~~ lives in the fleshy, muscular parts.

A Letter to Mr. Baker⁷⁰ was read, concerning a girl, who had a cancer in her tongue. at length the tongue & cancer separated quite off: yet she can speak tolerably well. Mr. Baker observed on this occasion, that many Letters being gutturals, others labial, require little use of the tongue, which serves chiefly for the linguals, & forming the harmony of the voice.

Another instance of a woman, who had a cancerous breast. after a sharp fever the Cancer & breast mortified, and fell quite off, from the pectoral muscle.

Some Maps were Exhibited, showing, that the northern part of Scotland, & the Isles adjacent, are set a full degree too much northward. Mr. Maclaurin⁷¹ has observed the same thing.

A journal from New England of the earthquakes felt there, through a series of years, of their magnitude, & effects⁷².

18th. febr[uar]y. At the Royal Society.

A Discourse of Mr. Kleyn⁷³ from Hamburgh presented to the society, concerning the nature, and natural history

⁶⁹ Guinea worm (*Dracunculus medinensis*).

⁷⁰ Henry Baker (1698-1774); FRS, 1741. See 'An Account of Margaret Cutting, a Young Woman, now Living at Wickham Market in Suffolk, Who Speaks Readily and Intelligibly, though She has Lost Her Tongue', *Philosophical Transactions* 42 (1743), 143-52.

⁷¹ Colin MacLaurin (1698-1746); FRS, 1719.

⁷² 'A Journal of the Shocks of Earthquakes Felt near Newbury in New-England, from the Year 1727. to the Year 1741. Communicated in a Letter from the Revd. Mr. Matthias Plant to the Revd Dr. Bearcroft', *Philosophical Transactions* 42 (1743), 33-42.

⁷³ Jacob Theodore Klein (1685-1759); FRS, 1719.

of fishes. among other curious particulars, he considers the hearing of those Animals. Mr. Machen observed, that such fishes as had any voice, most certainly had the use of hearing.

A Discourse of Mr. Bakers, concerning his former Account of the girl that lost her tongue, by a cancer, and yet could speak. he enlarged upon that subject, and gave a Copy of queries, which he wrote to his correspondent, to make a particular inquiry about, relating to the girls speaking.

Dr. Milward spoke upon the same subject, in explaining it. & likewise Dr. Parsons. they agree, the lips are more necessary in speech, than the tongue. several certificates were read, concerning the gentlemen who took Mrs. Stevens's medicines, & had stones found in their bladders, after death. Dr. Hartley spoke upon that occasion, & desired the Memoirs of all facts, relating to this affair, may be preserved by the society, that a true judgment may at length be founded, concerning the operation of those medicines.

A Machine was brought to show, how by kindling a fire in it, by pipes conveyed from a ships hold, or the like close place, where damp and unwholsom, stagnating air abides, it may be brought out, and changed for fresh; and wholsom air.⁷⁴

23 Feb[rua]ry

Lord Sandwich dissected an Egyptian Mummy at Mr. Folkes's⁷⁵. the linnen foldings were unwrapt & the flesh was not discernible; being quite changed into dust and gum, together with that part of the Linnen which was next the bones.

25th. Feb[uar]ry. 1741.2

At the Royal Society.

A Drawing, and account of the parhelion seen at Canterbury⁷⁶, brought in a Letter to me, from Mr. Wright⁷⁷, who last night observed the great Comet in the Constellation of Engonasis, near lyra. it has a very long tail, of about 6 degrees, & is now going from the sun. he sent a drawing of it's appearance, & the circumjacent stars.

Dr. Pack⁷⁸ sent an elaborate treatise concerning the hydrography of the river stour in Kent, with drawings of it, all it's branches, banks, high grounds, about it.

Dr. Perry⁷⁹ sent an Account of the formed stones found so frequent ab[ou]t M[ount] Carmel, called lapides judaici⁸⁰ but tis judged they are the exuviae⁸¹ of some antediluvian⁸² fish. or else coralline bodys, thrown up there in the great deluge⁸³.

⁷⁴ Richard Mead, 'An account of Mr. Sutton's invention and method of changing the air in the hold, and other close parts of a ship; communicated to the Royal Society by Richard Mead, M. D. Physician to His Majesty, Fellow of the Royal Society, and of the Royal College of Physicians, London', *Philosophical Transactions* 42 (1743), 42-45.

⁷⁵ Martin Folkes (1690-1754); FRS, 1713; SGS, 1743.

⁷⁶ See above, note 19.

⁷⁷ Probably Thomas Wright (1711-1786), balloted FRS but not admitted, 24 April 1735.

⁷⁸ Christopher Packe (1686-1749).

⁷⁹ Charles Perry (1698-1780).

⁸⁰ Latin, 'Jew's Stones'.

likewise Dr. Perrys experiments upon the water of Asphaltes, or the lake of Sodom, which is intensely salt, & sulphurous.

likewise experiments on the hot waters of Callirhoe⁸⁴ by the sea of Tiberias⁸⁵.

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likewise experiments on a Spring by Coromandel in y^e way to Mt. Sinai. Dr. Pocock⁸⁶ carried these waters to grand Cairo, where the experiments were made.

a brass machine was shown, to be put into the mouth of a mortar to direct it, in order for throwing bombs with great certainty, & exactness; with proper levels, and a telescope.

4 March 1741.2. At the Royal Society.

A fine Account of observations on snow, from abroad, accompanied with drawings of it, in its several spur-like forms, of admirable beauty, & variety: yet I observed they all proceed in an hexagon; except two pictures which had 12 points.

Mr. Tho[ma]s Wright sent a further Acco[un]t of the Comet, & several other Accounts came from different parts, at home, and abroad. they observed it in france before us. I find it is going in a line near direct north, from he beak of the swan, by lucida lyra⁸⁷. now tis above the horizon always, but the light of the moon hinders sight of the tail very much; the tail is extremely thin, & subtle, like the matter of aurora borealis; so that a star is seen through, it: and tis 10 Degrees in length, as seen by some observers.

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A very pretty method⁸⁸ of stripping and drying the skin of a flat fish, to such a nicety, as to spread it on paper, like a plant, in a hortus siccus⁸⁹, performed in holland, & some specimens sent, beautiful, & in full colour, & with the scales on.

Many certificates brought by Dr. Hartley testifying Mr. Gardner⁹⁰ who was opened after taking Mrs. Stevens's medicines, & stones found in his bladder; had not taken the medicines for two years together, after he was well.

An Account of Cornelians⁹¹ found commonly in some partic[ula]r place, in the West indies; also of Mocha stones found commonly there too. the former by digging in the earth, the other are washed down in a river. the branched appearances in the mocha's are earthy black matter, when split in the place.

⁸¹ The cast-off skin of an animal, especially an insect larva.

⁸² Belonging to the period before the biblical flood of Noah.

⁸³ The biblical flood of Noah.

⁸⁴ An ancient city on the shore of the Dead Sea, in modern day Jordan.

⁸⁵ Sea of Galilee.

⁸⁶ Richard Pockocke (1704-1765).

⁸⁷ Vega, the brightest star in the constellation Lyra.

⁸⁸ In an account from John Frid Gronovius (1686-1762).

⁸⁹ A herbarium; a collection of dried plants.

⁹⁰ One of the corpses upon whom autopsies were performed to assess the effectiveness of Joanna Stevens's medicine for gall stones.

⁹¹ A semi-precious stone consisting of a dull red or reddish-white variety of chalcedony (quartz).

A further Account⁹² of the appearance of the fire ball, seen in the day time, some while agoe, in sussex.

18 March 1741.² At the Royal Society.

A Discourse by a Physician at Whitehaven⁹³ concerning fire damp in mines, & mineral exhalations in general. how far they illustrate the appearances of divers diseases. with many curious observations concerning endemic diseases.

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Some fine drawings painted with gold - and curiously wrote in the malabar language⁹⁴, of some solar, & lunar Eclipses observed there.

A further Account⁹⁵ of the fire ball seen in Kent, in Ans[we]r to the queries sent from the Society, in order to find how far off it really was, there was a like fire-ball seen last Summer at Holcomb by Lord Lovels⁹⁶, which ran along the ground, up a hill, till out of sight, with a noise like that of a cart of pebbles unloaded. {electric.}⁹⁷

Dr. Douglas⁹⁸ read one of the Cronian lectures⁹⁹ on the Muscles. he chose the muscles of the larynx to treat of.

Mr. Maitlands Ans[we]r to a Dutchman¹⁰⁰, abrising him about his Calculations of the number of inhabitants in London, compared to those of Amsterdam, & Paris.

Dr. Hales's discourse on the use of changing air, by means of huge bellows, in ships, Granarys, prisons, & the like: with many curious observations, & calcuations, relating to those matters, worthy of his great {ingenuity.}¹⁰¹

I discoursed concerning the manner of a mans articulating the growling noise of a dog; so as to make him pronounce some words very plain. he leans his knee on the dogs belly & forces him to growl. then adapts his fingers, in such a

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manner to the dogs mouth, lips, tongue, throat, nose, that he produces several words very distinctly, in answ[e]r to questions; for instance: where was you last night? Ans[we]r at the Assembly. What had you there, thea, coffee. chocolate. what else? Water. who do you lye with? Betty &c.

19 Mar

⁹² From William Gordon (1705-1769) sent to Samuel Mead (d. 1776); FRS, 1739.

⁹³ William Brownrigg (1711-1800); FRS, 1742.

⁹⁴ Either Malabar Tamil or Malayalam, languages spoken in the Kerala region of southern India.

⁹⁵ From William Gostling (1696-1777).

⁹⁶ Thomas Coke, Baron Lovell (c1695-1759); FRS, 1735.

⁹⁷ A later addition in Stukeley's hand.

⁹⁸ Dr James Douglas (1675-1742); FRS, 1704. The Lecture was entitled 'Description of the several Muscles, Membranes and parts belonging to the Uvula of the Palate, and concerned in its action; as also of the several parts subservient to the uses of the Tuba Eustachiana'.

⁹⁹ The Croonian Medal and Lecture was established by William Croone in 1684, funded by a bequest from his wife in 1701, and initiated in 1738.

¹⁰⁰ William Kersseboom (1691-1771).

¹⁰¹ A later addition in Stukeley's hand.

I saw at Mr. Smart Lethulliers¹⁰², two prints of a statue lately found at Rome. the Roman antiquarys ignorantly call it a stage player. but tis really Silvanus or Silenus, crowned with vine leaves. a strait coat, breeches, & stockings all of one piece, made of Skins, with the hair on. there is another of these statues at Venice. another little one at Wilton. Tis in reallity & primarily, Moses: drest as the rest of the Israelites, during their 40 Years abode in the wilderness, in a habit of skins. the shoes are smooth, not hairy.

25 March 1742 ~~illeg~~ At the Royal Society.

Mr. Frazer¹⁰³ who lately published the history of Kouli Kan¹⁰⁴, and has lived long in the East indies, gave us an Explication of the Eclipses of the Sun, & Moon presented last thursday, finely illuminated with gold, silver & black, predicted by the Bramines. he says, their Year is lunæ solar, made up

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of both sun & Moon: so that one Year is less than Julian¹⁰⁵: two bigger. they have the same Names of the signs of the Zodiac as we. but they call ♐¹⁰⁶ the bow, ♋¹⁰⁷ the fish. The Zodiac with them, has 27 mansions of the moon. the sun enters ♋ about 26 dec[embe]r & so of the rest. whence we guess they know nothing of the precession of the equinox¹⁰⁸, & began this method of time, a little before the Christian æra.

Dr. Hales's treatise of ventilation of houses, Jails, ships, &c. further read.

Dr. Hartley sent a Case of one cured by Mrs. Stevens's medicines.

An Account of Medicinal Waters.

[image]

A Coach that cannot be overturned, suspended on the axles, by a long piece of timber, running along the middle, as in the annexed scheme.

Dr. Coppin¹⁰⁹ sent some books lately publishd by the Dublin society¹¹⁰. the binding in red moroco was observed, being a Manufacture of their own.

tis useful to make iron axles, to Coaches, which work best with wooden naves, make least noise, & friction. put some raspings of lead among your grease & tar, which you Apply thereto. this makes a smooth Mettalin crust upon the wood, & hinders it from wearing.

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¹⁰² Smart Lethieullier (1701-1760); FRS, 1724; FSA, 1725; SGS, 1733.

¹⁰³ James Fraser (1713-1754).

¹⁰⁴ James Fraser, *The History of Nadir Shah, formerly called Thamas Kuli Khan, the Present Emperor of Persia, 2nd Edition* (London: W. Strahan, 1742).

¹⁰⁵ A unit of time equal to exactly 365.25 days.

¹⁰⁶ Sagittarius.

¹⁰⁷ Capricorn.

¹⁰⁸ The slow, continuous change in the orientation of Earth's rotational axis, so called because the equinoxes moved westward relative to the 'fixed stars', i.e., those that do not appear to move relative to one another.

¹⁰⁹ John Copping (d.1743); FRS, 1740.

¹¹⁰ Probably *The Dublin Society's Weekly Observations* (Dublin: R. Reilly, 1739). Earlier books published by the Royal Dublin Society included *Instructions for Managing Bees* (Dublin: A. Rhames, 1733) and *A List of the Members of the Dublin-Society, for the Improvement of Husbandry and other Useful Arts, for the Year 1733* (Dublin: A. Rhames, 1733).

Mr. R. Jones¹¹¹ sent me a little black earthen urn, scarce burnt, said to be british, of this form & bulk.

[image]

1st April 1742. At the Royal Society.

A Discourse of Mr. Watsons¹¹² concerning the different schemes of Ventilation, or bringing fresh air into ships, store rooms, Goals¹¹³, &c.

Dr. Parsons gave an Account; of an unexpected cure he performed on a young Child dying of Convulsions, by applying live ~~young~~ pigeons by the anus, ~~to the anus~~ of the Child. the first pigeon died in 4 minutes. the 2^d. in 6. the 3^d in a longer time, & the fit went off. though otherwise probably the Child would have dyed. the 2^d. day they applyed again when the fitt came on. the first pigeon dyed in 4 minutes. the 2^d. in 8. the third in a longer time, & the fitt went off. the 3^d. day they applied again, & the third pidgeon lived. and the child recovered. the Dr. says, the distemper must

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be convulsions originally, not symptomatic, & that this is a wonderful example of animal electricity. where the creature draws away the venom of the distemper. no doubt this practise may be extended, & improved.

A Letter from Monsr. Goffroy¹¹⁴ to Dr. Hartley on his way of his making soap for Mrs. Stephens's medicines. with many curious remarks on the soap lye, on the use of the calx of egg shells, as an astringent, & about the administration of the medicine.

5 April 1742.

The Duke of Montagu showed me a gold ring with a garnet in it dug up in one of those vast Celtic barrows on Inkpen common Berkshire.

[image]

7 April

I saw Mr. Harrison¹¹⁵ of Barrow Lincolnshire, in his house Orange street, by Gloucester street. he showed me all his Clocks. he is a wonderful genius, having bro[ugh]t his movements to a perfection surprizing; so that they will not vary above a second in a month. their motion

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is so sweet & easy, that we may see, there is no friction: & he has found out such ways of opposing the weight of y^e. atmosphere, the lengthning & shortning of pendulums, by change of air; & such kind of affections in these movements, as never were thought on before. he remembers my digging at

¹¹¹ Perhaps Dr Roger Jones (d.1748); FRS, 1736; or the linguist and philologist Rowland Jones (1722-1774).

¹¹² Sir William Watson (1715-1787); FRS, 1741. *Phil Trans* 42 (1743), 62-70.

¹¹³ Gaols.

¹¹⁴ Claude Joseph Geoffroy (1685-1752); FRS, 1715. *Phil Trans* 42 (1743), 71-77.

¹¹⁵ John Harrison (1693-1776).

Humbers castle¹¹⁶ 15 years agoe, when at Barrow, & at my first finding out, that remarkable antiquity. it seems very probable, that he will carry the prize of longitude found out.¹¹⁷

8th. April 1742 At the Royal Society.

Mr. Wright sent his laborious investigation of the course of the late Comet. Mr. Bevis¹¹⁸ too sent a paper of his, on the same head.

A Lettre from a Religious¹¹⁹ ____ at Leghorn¹²⁰, giving a very curious, & exact account of the late earthquake there.

Dr. Pack of Canterbury bro[ugh]t his large Map of 15 miles round Canterbury, done in a particular manner, so as to show the elevation of the Ground every where.

[*facing page*: {NB. one of these large Maps with a Book to explain It¹²¹ are in the Musæum SGS the Gift of Mr I Roberts Surg[eon] Apoth[ecary]¹²² in Canterbury a worthy Member of our Soc[iety]}]¹²³

A Letter from Whitehaven concerning mineral damps, was read in further part. the author¹²⁴ observes that the acidulæ¹²⁵ & like mineral spaw waters get their qualits & tast, from these mephitic¹²⁶ streams, and

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and spirits which kill the Miners. & in some measure we feel it in the head ach, stupor, listlessness, and uneasiness consequent: nevertheless their use is extremely great, in overcoming chronical distempers, by that spirit tempered in the water: invigorating the animal œconomy¹²⁷, in all its purposes.

14 April

I viewed the New amphitheatre at Chelsea¹²⁸ which is a noble and magnificent design: 180 foot diam[ete]r

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I saw that admirable Grotto at Lord Orfords¹²⁹, at Chelsea. Mr. Henry Gale¹³⁰ with us.

¹¹⁶ Probably the motte-and-bailey castle known as 'Barrow Castle', at Barrow Haven, 1.5 miles north of Barrow-upon-Humber.

¹¹⁷ Although Harrison did not receive the prize, he did receive several smaller payments from Parliament for his designs.

¹¹⁸ Dr John Bevis (1693-1771); FRS, 1765.

¹¹⁹ Revd Sig. Pasqual R. Pedini (dates unknown).

¹²⁰ Livorno in Tuscany.

¹²¹ Christopher Packe, *Ankographia, sive Convallium Descriptio. In Which are Briefly bit Fully Expounded the Origine, Course and Insertion; Extent, Elevation and Congruity of all the Valleys and Hills, Brooks and Rivers, (as an Explanation of a New Philosophico-Chorographical Chart) of East-Kent* (Canterbury, 1743).

¹²² Dr John Roberts (unknown); SGS, 1731.

¹²³ In Maurice Johnson's hand.

¹²⁴ William Brownrigg.

¹²⁵ Springs of cold, sour-tasting mineral waters.

¹²⁶ Foul-smelling or noxious.

¹²⁷ The interactions between organisms, or between parts of a single body.

¹²⁸ A rotunda amphitheatre, the centrepiece of Ranelagh Gardens, a pleasure garden opened in Chelsea in 1742.

¹²⁹ Sir Robert Walpole, 1st Earl of Orford (1676-1745).

¹³⁰ Henry Gale (d.1742).

{¹³¹29 april 1742. at the Royal Society.

more letters¹³², & attestations were read concerning Margaret Cutting¹³³ by ipswich, who is 24 years old, & lost her whole tongue, when 4 years old, by a cancer. yet she speaks, & swallows, without any difficulty.

a paper ascertaining the proper genus of the quinquina tree, or jesuits bark. tis a jasminum¹³⁴.

more of Dr. Hales's book¹³⁵ concerning the ventilation of ships, or discharging the foul air.

a new improved wheel, for spinning of cambricks¹³⁶. &c.

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20 jan. 1742-3. at the Royal Society.

Mr Ledyard¹³⁷ presented his two volumes of the history of the antient german nations¹³⁸, which he has lately translated from the high dutch.

the president brought a new translation of Cudworths intellectual system¹³⁹, in italian; dedicated to the Royal Society; & sent for a present.

an english gentleman} at Pekin in China, sent us some Chinese Prints, of the royal Observatory there: & Of the instruments, set up by order of the emperor, for astronomical observations. with an Account thereof. he desires our transactions from time to time, & promises to return the favour, by sending their observations, & whatever is curious.

A translation was read, of monsieur Raumur's¹⁴⁰ account of his observations on the insect called a Polypus¹⁴¹, to be found in all ditches of water, not much disturbed by motion, having bits of wood, leaves, & weeds in it; which produces plenty of animalcules¹⁴², for the sustenance of the Polypus, a voracious creature. tis not easy to find them, for they are nearly transparent, & when the water is disturbed, they contract themselves into a very small compass. so that in order to find them, you are to take

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up water, with the leaves, & weeds, & put it into glasses. in a little time after the water is quiet, the animal appears. it consists only of one gut, or Canal, reaching from its head to its tail; an inch long

¹³¹ In Stukeley's hand for the remainder of the page.

¹³² From Edward Milward and Benjamin Boddington.

¹³³ 'An Account of Margaret Cutting, a Young Woman, now Living at Wickham Market in Suffolk, Who Speaks Readily and Intelligibly, though She has Lost Her Tongue', *Philosophical Transactions* 42 (1743), 143-52.

¹³⁴ Jasmine.

¹³⁵ Stephen Hales, *A Description of Ventilators: Whereby Great Quantities of Fresh Air May with Ease be conveyed into Mines, Goals [sic], Hospitals, Work-Houses and Ships, In Exchange for their Noxious Air* (London: W. Innys, 1743).

¹³⁶ Dense, finely woven cloth made of linen or cotton.

¹³⁷ Thomas Lediard (1685-1743); FRS, 1742.

¹³⁸ Johann Jacob Mascov, *History of the Ancient Germans*, trans. Thomas Lediard, 2 vols (London: James Mechell, 1738).

¹³⁹ Ralph Cudworth, *The True Intellectual System of the Universe* (London: Richard Royston, 1678).

¹⁴⁰ René Antoine Ferchault de Rémeaur (1683-1747); FRS, 1738.

¹⁴¹ Also known as a hydra.

¹⁴² Microscopic organisms.

commonly. from the head proceed 6 or 8 horns, or hands, like radii resembling the horns of snails, and having the like contractive, & extensive power. this creature contracts, & dilates its body, & its horns wonderfully; & can hold it at any of its dimensions. its method of life, is to place it self by the tail part, on any weed, or leaf, in the water; & extend its arms, as so many traps, to catch it's prey. and whatever it touches, tis sure to take. it bends it's body & arms, on all sides, into all kinds of motions, & so conveys its prey, the animalcules, worms, and the like, into it's mouth: with one or more arms, in proportion to the bulk of the prey. this is that famed vegetable animal that multiplies without coupling, two ways. by being cut in pieces. every piece becoming an intire animal. or by shooting out young ones from its sides: of which I discoursed in the former Volume.

[image]

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An Account of a book lately published by an Italian Philosopher, concerning the generation of seeds. tis an intire & new system of Philosophy; wherein the Author goes to the bottom of things, & begins with considering the atoms, or first principals of body's; & proceeds to account for the generation of metals, of minerals, of vegetables, & of animals. he opposes the Opinion of those, that think all seeds whatsoever were formed at the Creation, & include in themselves in miniature, all the seeds to eternity, which are to proceed from thence: & rather thinks, that every seed has a power of producing the seeds immediately, that are to descend from it. he gives very great power, to Matter, & rests not, either in the Newtonian, or the Mosaic philosophy. he observes polypus's, excrescencys, fungus's, &c. form to themselves Cells, & Membranes, & fibres, & vessels. & that even extravasated blood, & humours, & blood let out of the Veins in a poringer makes a Membrane for its self. & so he supposes of human generation, or other; that the Male & female seed mixes ~~together~~ and begins the root of the fibers, that by degrees propagate themselves, & sprout out more & more. till they compleat the Compages¹⁴³ of an Animal body.

the like Solution (he says) is to be made in the vegetable kingdom. the seed of a plant, the Eye, or bud,

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bud has the power of forming from it self, the whole plant or tree, & all its parts, from Year to Year. grafting, budding, inoculating confirms it. and he says we may pitch upon two plants that tally in the shape of the root, and so splice them together, cutting one half of each away, tying them, and waxing them together, & then setting this amphibious tree in the earth: suppose one is of a sweet, the other of a sower apple: the tree will produce Apples, whereof one half shall be sweet, the other sower.

[image]

A Double Pear was Exhibited to the Society. thus. after one pear was formed, a blossom grew on y^e eye of the Pear, from whence another pear came.

The President read us, an Abstract which he had drawn up, from Monsr. Saumur's's¹⁴⁴ preface to his book, now publishing, of insects¹⁴⁵. tis chiefly a detail of the great discoverys he has made, by his diligent observation of the Polypuse's, upon Monsr. Tremble's¹⁴⁶ plan, who made the original discovery at Genoa, of the foregoing surprizing qualitys. Monsr. Tremble on the Coasts of Picardy

¹⁴³ The whole of a body, made up of its many parts and systems.

¹⁴⁴ A misspelling of Réaumur.

¹⁴⁵ René Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur, *Mémoires pour servir à l'histoire des insectes*, 6 vols (Paris: Académie Royale des Sciences, 1734-42).

¹⁴⁶ Abraham Trembley (1710-1784); FRS, 1743.

observed this in some sort of fishes, starfishes, sea hedge hogs & the like. when you cutt off a ray of a star fish; in time, it shoots out a new one;

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And the amputated ray in a still longer time produces all it wants, to compleat it. the fishermen that frequent that Coast were well aware of this property, before. he says too, not only these water animals, but some Land ones too, were subject to this Experiment

Earth worms have the Male, and female parts of generacion in each, & that pretty near their head, or anterior end: cut it in the middle, and the anterior part which has y^e. generative parts, soon protrudes what it wants of its rings, in the posterior end, to complete it. but the posterior part takes a longer time to form for its self a head & the generative part; to render its self perfect.

22 Jan:

I saw at Mr. Speakers¹⁴⁷, an excellent Model of the principal arch in the New bridg¹⁴⁸, with two turrets, two arcades, & the trophy work: as designed by Mr Labile¹⁴⁹ and my friend Andrew Jelf¹⁵⁰. Mr Foudrinier¹⁵¹ the same time, showed his inimitable drawing in indian ink, of the south east prospect of Saint Pauls Cathedral, which he is going to engrave.

I saw at Dr. Pockocks, an innumerable egyptian Antiquitys. Among them two stone Carvings, Vases in an human body, male & female. Osiris & Isis,

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terrestrial: guardians of the Watery element. she has a sistrum in her hand, he a pine apple. their feet are finely carved.

[image]

At Mr. Scawens¹⁵² sale, at Cocks's¹⁵³ Covent garden, sold to Dr. Smith¹⁵⁴, the antique bronze of Silenus, like to Dr. Meads. £10..15..00.

[*facing page*: {Royal Society}] 27 Jan 1742.3.

An Account was sent from abroad, of a discovery of the longitude. the president thought it was from correcting the dead reckoning at sea, & no great matter. the society has left off taking notice of those

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¹⁴⁷ Arthur Onslow (1691-1768), Speaker of the House of Commons and MP for Surrey.

¹⁴⁸ Westminster Bridge, London.

¹⁴⁹ Charles Labelye (1705-1781), Swiss bridge engineer and mathematician.

¹⁵⁰ Andrew Jelf (d.1759), architect and stonemason.

¹⁵¹ Pierre Foudrinier (1698-1758), engraver.

¹⁵² Thomas Scawen (c.1650-1730).

¹⁵³ Christopher Cock (d.1748), auctioneer and picture restorer.

¹⁵⁴ Dr Robert Smith (1686-1768); FRS, 1719.

Papers, through a notion that as they have no appointment for Considering, or rewarding that discovery: they have nothing to do with it. but this I disprove of. I judge, the invention of the longitude was one thing among the first thoughts of, by the royal founder¹⁵⁵, in instituting the royal observatory, & Society. & though the Parliament has not constituted us the judges, & rewarders of the invention: yet we must be supposed to be judges of it: & it is a part of our Province: and our recommendacion of any advance toward the discovery, would have its due weight with y^e. Commissioners. beside, I think it very unreasonable, & unjust, to deprive the society of the Amusement or improvement to be meet with from Reading such papers. who knows what notions, what improvements may be started from other peoples notions? this Argument serves equally ag[ains]t reading any paper. is not the Society instituted for advancing natural knowledge! why do we hear of any invention, any improvement therein, because we have no fund to reward?

A Lettre¹⁵⁶ to Mr. Collison¹⁵⁷ containing a Calculation

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of the number of seeds in one plant of the althea frutex¹⁵⁸: which was last year a seed it self. it amounts to a prodigious quantity. 200,000 if the birds did not eat these seeds., & a great number miscarry of being sown, so as to live next year. an immense space of ground might be sown with them, even the whole globe of the Earth in a little while, & in a somewhat longer time, they would equal the whole globe of the Earth in bulk.

Another Letter to Mr. Collison from a correspondent at Nurenberg¹⁵⁹ a Question proposed about Amber. what class it is to be refer'd to? whether as some think, it be a vegatable juice, concreted: or a mineral one, an inspissated¹⁶⁰ petroleum, found commonly in the earth. to which latter opinion, our writer inclines. he gives his reasons, & experiments about it, to find out its constituents. Dr. Mortymer¹⁶¹ says, the Chinese have a method of imitating amber.

A drawing¹⁶² of an extravagantly large stone, voided from the bladder, by a woman, without any help.

An elogium on Lord Petre¹⁶³: a great promoter of useful knowledge, in the Vegetable world.

two books in high dutch of Monsieur Kersaboms¹⁶⁴. an Extract¹⁶⁵ made from them, concerning his Calculation of the number of inhabitants, of births, and buryals, in the

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Provinces of Holland and West friesland. he gives many curious tables concerning the duration of lives, in a married couple, & like matters, nearer the truth, he says, than Azout¹⁶⁶, Petty¹⁶⁷, Maitland¹⁶⁸ &c.

¹⁵⁵ King Charles II.

¹⁵⁶ From Joseph Hobson (1709-1765).

¹⁵⁷ Peter Collinson (1694-1768); FRS, 1728.

¹⁵⁸ *Hibiscus syriacus*.

¹⁵⁹ T. Fothergill (unknown).

¹⁶⁰ Thickened or congealed.

¹⁶¹ Dr Cromwell Mortimer (c.1699-1752); FRS, 1728; SGS, 1737.

¹⁶² From H. Hunt (unknown).

¹⁶³ Robert James Petre, 8th Baron Petre (1713-1742); FRS, 1731.

¹⁶⁴ William Kersseboom (1691-1771), Dutch statistician.

¹⁶⁵ By John van Rixtel (d.1774).

¹⁶⁶ Adrien Auzout (1622-1691), French astronomer.

A Book of Mr. Maclaurins, of fluxions¹⁶⁹.

several Lettres from some curious Missionarys at Pekin, to an English gentleman¹⁷⁰, offering to settle a correspondence. to send them their observations, on the eclipses, immersions, emersions of Jupiters satellites, & whatever is curious there. the Philosophical transactions was ordered to be sent to them.

A printed Pamphlet of Mr. Fergusons¹⁷¹ case, a scotchm[an] who has lived many years, on water only, or clarified whey, or barley water. the author Dr. Umfreville¹⁷² quotes like cases out of Physical authors. & proposes a method of restoring y^e. man, to his former way of life.

3 Feb[rua]ry [*facing page*: {1742-3.}]

I took up a butterfly, in St. James street. Mr. Lockyer¹⁷³ showed me a quantity of Syrian coyns in silver, lately brought over, of admirable workmanship, & preservation. one of Antony on one side, Cleopatra on the other. a brass one, greek, of Otho. [image]¹⁷⁴ S.C. in a civic garland.

[*facing page*: {3. feb. R.S.}] At the Royal society.

some prize books from Bourdoux presented to the society, by Mrs. Stuart¹⁷⁵.

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An Account¹⁷⁶ from Italy, of a bed to be suspended like a hammock, with convenient apertures, for dressing patients, that have occasion, from Wounds, or Ulcers in the back, or the like.

An Account from Genoa, concerning the Polypus cut in pieces, which is thought to be independant on Monsieur Trombleys discovery. there is an Experiment made on some other Creatures: for instance the horseleech, which when cut a sunder, soon heals up a gain.

An Account of Monsr. Hollars¹⁷⁷ fine book lately printed of Helvetian plants¹⁷⁸, with very exquisite cuts of them. it treats first of the History of the famous botanists, Baubin's¹⁷⁹, Cordus¹⁸⁰, Clusius¹⁸¹ &c for which this Country has been always famous. there is a detail of the natural history of Helvetia. the Nature of it is such that, it is an epitome of the world: such a vast variety of climates, owing to the different situations, in regard to the adjacent high hills, waters &c hence all kinds of plants grow here, common to Italy, the south of France, England, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Muscovy. You very soon travel here from a torrid to a frozen climate, where Vegetation languishes: where nought but Mosses grow, & a kind of low ash tree, not 2 foot high: in some parts, pleasant, beyond imagination, such

¹⁶⁷ William Petty (1623-1687); FRS, 1660.

¹⁶⁸ William Maitland (c.1693-1757); FRS, 1733.

¹⁶⁹ Colin MacLaurin, *A Treatise of Fluxions*, 2 vols (Edinburgh: T. W. and T. Ruddimans, 1742).

¹⁷⁰ Jacob Hodgson (unknown).

¹⁷¹ John Ferguson (fl. 1720-1740).

¹⁷² Dr Thomas Umfreville (fl.1742-50).

¹⁷³ Charles Lockyer (d.1752); FRS, 1740.

¹⁷⁴ The numismatic symbol for reverse.

¹⁷⁵ Probably the wife of Dr Alexander Stuart.

¹⁷⁶ From Claude Nicholas le Cat (1700-1768); FRS, 1740.

¹⁷⁷ Albrecht von Haller (1708-1777); FRS, 1739.

¹⁷⁸ Albrecht von Haller, *Enumeratio methodica stirpium Helvetiae indigenarum* (Gottingen: Abraham Vendenhoek, 1742).

¹⁷⁹ John Baubin (d.1613) and Caspar Baubin (c.1560-1624), brothers and botanists.

¹⁸⁰ Valerius Cordus (1515-1544)

¹⁸¹ Carolus Clusius (1526-1609).

a profusion of noble plants, as is to be admired. this book in general, bears an excellent character, wrote with great judgment, & presents us with a curious method of classing of plants, & renders the botanic study easy, and delightful.

A Yellow crocus in flower in the garden. 6 feb.

[*facing page*: {6 febr. 1742-3.}] At the Royal Society

A curious Letter from the West Indies, being a dissection of the Male & female opasum¹⁸², a singularity in nature. tis a quadruped somewhat like a fox, but less. It has a false belly, like a pouch, in which it brings up its young, & to which they retire from danger, & as to a kennel. & the Creature carrys them about with her, therein; till able to shift for themselves. but what is the greatest wonder of all is, that the young are not nourished in the womb, by a placenta, & umbilical rope, as all others; but by some strange mechanism, immediately after conception, are conveyed into this double belly, & fastened to the teats of the dam, by the mouth: so as that they grow to it, till separated naturally therefrom, in due process of time: the vessels of the lips of the young ones inoculating themselves, to the skin of the teats.

this Creature is slow of foot, & when dangers approaches feigns it self to be dead, and may be kicked about without motion. but if too roughly handled, has a strong jaw, & teeth, & will defend itself vigorously. it has more over a vehement scent, which makes a dog sick, that attacks it. tis a retrocoient animal.

A gentleman Mr. Bryan¹⁸³ was Introduced to the society, who has succeeded in making the Porcelane or China Ware, here in London; & of materials found in England. he showed some elegant specimens of his art, several cups, cane heads, and the like; & that at different stages of their perfection. he is an enameller by trade, which gave him the Opportunity of the invention. they of Chantilly own, all their materials comes from England. tis thought to be made of our talc, and sand, brought toward a certain degree of vitrification: so that when broke, it looks of a rough surface, like the breaking of loaf Sugar, not smooth like glass. likewise if heated red hot, & put into water, it will not break in pieces, as glass, and vitrified bodys do. {// this has long been put in practice in Staffordshire see Minutes of SGS. Vol. 1. folio 80}¹⁸⁴

part of a M.S. quarto treatise, was read, being some improvements in the doctrine of fluxions.

[*facing page*: {1742-3.}] 18th. Febr[uar]y At the Royal Society.

A preparation of the bones of the Ear, was Exhibited, showing the pretended new invented process. but it was affirmed by the anatomists present, that this process has been known, this 100 years.

¹⁸² Opossum.

¹⁸³ Thomas Bryand (or Briand) (d. 1747).

¹⁸⁴ In Maurice Johnson's hand.

the Phoca¹⁸⁵ being dead, I desired Dr. Parsons to dissect it, and his observations thereon were read; one of the bristles of his beard shown, with drawings of the whole figure, of the cornua uteri¹⁸⁶, a box full of the sharp gravel taken out of its lower stomach. the Creature has a puendum like that of a Cow. its' face has likewise that look: & it's internal parts correspondent.

A large discourse accompanied with some Prints, being a full account of the manner of reducing the dislocated sholder, by an instrument, the ambe of Hippocrates. tis an horizontal leaver, to which the arm of the patient is tyed, after tis thrust as far as possible, into the arm pit. the patient is placed in a chair, & the perpendicular of fulcrum of the leaver is set in a round hole of the arm of the chair, so that it turns the ambe side ways, as well as upwards, & downwards. by this means giving the Surgeon, all manner of motions, to assist him in reducing the joint.

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[*facing page: {1742-3.}*] 24 February 1742 At the Royal Society.

An Account¹⁸⁷ from Vienna, of a Comet very lately seen there, in it's descent tow[ar]d the Sun. it was observed first in the greater bear¹⁸⁸, lastly in the lesser lyon¹⁸⁹, moving swiftly, from North to south.

some fossils taken from a Marly valley, between Winchester, and Southampton. coral, echinus's of various sorts, and other petrified substances. some Petrifaactions from ochey hole¹⁹⁰, somersetshire. at Ochey hole, they are now digging out Copper.

A Lettre¹⁹¹ from Geneva to Sir Hans sloan, wherein many mineral substances are sent to Sir Hans. and a long account of the anatomy, and ~~certain~~ propertyts of a certain long worm, remarkably quick in its motions, & which when cut into several pieces, each piece, in a small while after, becomes an intire animal. he dissected y^e. creature and examined it's parts, very curiously, by a microscope. the body consists intirely of rings of circular fibers, and {of} an artery running through its whole length. this artery is exceedingly remarkable: for tis really a chain of hearts; each having its systole, & diastole: a very pleasant sight to behold.

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We had another Lettre concerning Monsr. Trembleys discovery of the Polypus, on duck weed. confirming, & enlarging on what had been before delivered.

A scotchman bro[ugh]t a child of his about 5 years old, being an hermaphrodite. upon examination, the anatomists differed in their sentiments. Mr. Freke¹⁹² affirmed, that all these appearances, are truly males. and that the Penis & scrotum are preternaturally divided, as in a hair lip. so that the testicles are seperated by the line called zaphé, one testicle lying on each side the aperture taken from y^e. vulva, in the form of a more protuberant labium of the puenda in females.

¹⁸⁵ A seal.

¹⁸⁶ Uterine horns; the point where the uterus and the fallopian tubes meet.

¹⁸⁷ From Peter Carnabe (unknown).

¹⁸⁸ Ursa major.

¹⁸⁹ Leo minor.

¹⁹⁰ Perhaps Wookey Hole, near Dolebury.

¹⁹¹ From Jean Jallabert (1712-1768); FRS, 1740; and Charles Bonnet (1720-1793); FRS, 1743.

¹⁹² John Freke (1688-1756); FRS, 1719.

Dr. Parsons Affirms, they are really females; the clitoris is preternaturally enlarged. the furca¹⁹³ appears evidently in the subject before us, & the foramen of the vagina. that they have all symptoms of females. sometimes the Catamenia¹⁹⁴, though not regularly: a thing not to be wondered at, in a by-blow of nature. that they suffer the embraces of a man: & the like.

the scotchman father of the Child, was drest in the highland manner, which was our English habit 400 years ago. as on the other side.

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[image]

[*facing page*: {1742-3.}] 3^d March

I gave in the following Lettre which was read, being sent from a Lady at Madras¹⁹⁵, to her friend in London¹⁹⁶.

Madras for St. George.

We have had a great man called the Nabob, who is next in dignity to the great Mogul¹⁹⁷, to visit the governor (Bignon¹⁹⁸) the governor with the counsellors & chief gentlemen of Madras, went in great state to meet him. his Lady and all her women came the night before. all the guns were fired off round the fort, on her arrival, as also on his.

they are Moors, whose wives are never seen but by their husbands. they staid here a fortnight. his Lady

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still in the black town. he had many thousand attendants. the governor waited on him at his house, in the black town, & he returned the visit. All the Ladies went to see him go. it was a fine procession of palaquins¹⁹⁹: or sedans they use here. he is of a Majestic form, & the magnificence of his dress, in pearls, and diamonds, is beyond description. he sent the governor a noble present, in a large silver philegre box, placed on the back of a beautiful X [*facing page*: {X this whole account is printed.}]²⁰⁰

Dr. Parsons gave an Account of his opinion & observation on hermaphrodites, & supported his notion, that they are generally females. the elongation of the clitoris deceives people about 'em. in China the mothers studiously pull out, and handle the clitoris of children, on purpose to enlarge them, which they think an ornament. & I observed that part very prominent, in naked figures of women, commonly seen in China shops. the Dr. bro[ugh]t some Male & female fœtus's, to show the largeness of the clitoris, in the latter.

¹⁹³ Frenulum labiorum pudendi, or meeting point of the labia minora.

¹⁹⁴ Menstrual blood.

¹⁹⁵ Jane Smart (unknown).

¹⁹⁶ Sent to Mary Delany (née Granville) (1700-1788)

¹⁹⁷ Nasir-ud-Din Muhammad Shah (1702-1748); Mughal Emperor, 1719-1748.

¹⁹⁸ Richard Benyon (1698-1774); President of Fort St George (Madras) 1735-1744.

¹⁹⁹ A palanquin, or covered litter for one person carried by four or six bearers.

²⁰⁰ Jane Smart, *A Letter from a Lady at Madras to her Friends in London* (H. Piers and H. Holborn, 1743)

A Letter from Monsr. Maupertuis²⁰¹ confirming all the Accounts we have hitherto rece[ive]d, concerning the new discovered property in some animals, of being multiplied by cutting in pieces. though the thing be new, he apprehends it may be vastly extended, in many other animals, by proper tryals, and Experiments.

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[*facing page: {1742-3.}*] 10th March. At the Royal Society.

the rem[ainde]r of Monsr. Bonnets²⁰² letter to Sir Hans sloan, was read, concerning his observations on animals, propagated by section. he has extended his inquiries, about this wonderful property. he tryed sev[era]l worms in the water: & the common earth-worms. he observed the fabrick of them, in the microscope, and says some naturalists pronounce, as Malpighi²⁰³, that they are composed each of many hearts, & many brains, whereas the more perfect animals have these principles but singly. he has a learned, metaphysical inquiry concerning the soul, or first moving principle, that actuates the machines, & proposes queries, how it can be divided; where it resides, &c. but concludes, tis best to admire, & be silent.

Mr. Milles²⁰⁴ sent a Letter to Mr. Baker concerning his observations on several water animals, such as ~~tipula~~ [*facing page: {tipula}*] the water spider, & the like; together with a Phial of some animals swimming in the water.

a french man²⁰⁵ brought a new invention of his, for an Oar to row boats ~~with~~, & Vessells, & galleys; more especially in a calm. it goes with less trouble, more effect, & facility, as he says, than others, of the common method.

the Presid[en]t reported a very fine aurora borealis seen three nights agoe. the colors were much more

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more conspicuous, than common.

Mr. Edwards²⁰⁶ beadle to our College of Physicians presented to the society, his book of birds²⁰⁷, painted, and described.

a tortoise foot was shown, in sceleton, so like the human hand, that it would be difficult to discern the difference.

[*facing page: {1742-3.}*] 17 March 1742. At the Royal Society.

The Presid[en]t reported, that he had rece[ive]d the Polypuses from abroad. that he diligently applied himself to observe them, & when his thoughts upon that matter were compleated, he would communicate them to the society. in the mean time he declared, there was nothing affirmed

²⁰¹ Pierre Louis Moreau de Maupertuis (1698-1759); FRS, 1728.

²⁰² Charles Bonnet (1720-1793); FRS, 1743 .

²⁰³ Marcello Malpighi (1628-1694); FRS, 1669.

²⁰⁴ Henry Miles (1698-1763); FRS, 1743.

²⁰⁵ Pierre Leonard Masson de Cheviere (unknown).

²⁰⁶ George Edwards (1694-1773); FRS, 1757.

²⁰⁷ George Edwards, *A Natural History of Uncommon Birds*, 4 vols (London: 1743-1751); the first volume appeared in 1743.

concerning this curious piece of natural history, from Geneva, but what hitherto, he has found to be true. & he brought some of the Creatures, in a vial of water, for the society to see them.

I viewed them the day before, at the presid[en]ts in the microscope.

[image]

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and drew them, as in appearance. out of the side of one, another is grown. upon putting a worm to them, they both contended for it. but the young one prevaild, and swallowed it. when the worm, which is opaque, is swallowed, we see it in the polypus, which is transparent. the polypus then, contracts itself & lyes as asleep, till digestion is over, which happens the next day. then it throws up the recrements. the animal contracts, & dilates, in a wonderful manner, both its body, and it's horns. it can open its mouth like a purse, as wide as its whole body, & take in a worm larger than its self.

Mr. Baker brought drawings of a water animal before mentioned, & showed it in the microscope. tis of a prismatic shape, covered with hairs. it has two horns.

A Discourse from Mr. Maclaurin containing an extract out of the city records of Edinburgh, concerning a proclamation issued from the King, in relation to the distemper of the pox reigning there in the year 1457. tis called the grand galle, this is the more remarkable because the common opinion is that the pox first appeared in Europe, at the Seige of Naples, which was 1455.

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Mr. Stackhouse²⁰⁸ gives an Account in the philosophical transactions, of the Town of Bridgnorth. he says, on the Moss there, on a gravelly soil, are 5 antient barrows inclosed in a ditch. he dug into two of them, and found bones turned into stones. this shows a long continuance of time, & the aptitude of gravel, for petrification. I conclude, these barrows to be the antient britons, from the measure of the Square, which he says is 36 yards. by this we are to understand 60 cubids of the Druids²⁰⁹, the Diameter of Stonehenge, of Rowbright, of Silbury hill, at top: & many more.

[image]

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[*facing page*: {1742-3}] 24 march. At the Royal Society.

Mr. Collison bro[ugh]t a paper from a correspond[en]t of his, giving him the natural method of the formation of the ætites or eagle stone; accompanied with many stones in papers numbred, to show the progress of their formation, from the uterus to perfection.

a stone being a compages of various shells, found in the bottom of a well, on black heath²¹⁰.

²⁰⁸ Hugh Stackhouse (d.1743).

²⁰⁹ Stukeley believed that Druids used a unit of measure of 530mm in length, called a 'Druid's cubit', in the construction of Stonehenge and Avebury.

²¹⁰ Blackheath, near Greenwich.

Menelai Alexandrini Sphærica²¹¹, a little book formerly printed, in a very small quantity, at Oxford, by Dr. Halley, sent for a pres[en]t to the society.

the Presid[en]t read a curious account, drawn up by himself, of his observations on those polypuses sent him from Monsr. Tremblays: which he rec[eive]d the 10th. of this ins[tan]t. the Animal has generally 10 horns, or hands, sometimes 11, sometimes less, number. they are of a very strange Mechanism, extremely lithe, nimble & tenacious. when a great worm given to it, it is able to drag it about; still he holds fast, & fails not to overcome it, putting its mouth, or head, first into his own mouth, & sucking the blood out, which kills it: then by degrees devours the whole. the Posterior end of the polypus has no passage, being

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being designd only as its suppedaneum²¹², to rest on, & fasten its self by.

several of these Animals have bred, since he had 'em: having young ones growing out of their sides, & sometime one growing out of the young one. he thinks there is a passage between the old one and the young one, till the latter falls off. And that when one feeds, the juices pass into the other; because the other at the same time, contracts its self, in conformity to it.

he divided some longitudinally, and in a few days (even in this cold season) the two halves woud become compleat animals, closing together the wounded sides, & each half shooting out the horns it wants to compleat it, & eating. he divided some across: the like consequence follows. the wound of the anterior part heals up. that which wants a head soon forms one, & the horns shoot out, & it eats.

the Animal consists of horns, a kind of head, projecting out before the horns, a neck, a body, & the hinder end. into which the stomach does not reach. for tis not tinged upon eating a worm: as the rest of the body dos. the sudden & the great dilation & contraction, is one part of the wonder of the Creature. I drew the appearance of them, as I saw them in the microscope, at Mr. Folkes's.

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[*facing page*: {1743.}] 14 April. At the Royal Society.

Mr. Folkes's Account of his Observations on the Polypus was read again.

Dr. Milwards observations & drawings of the Polypus were read, which were curious, & entertaining. he cut one across, that had another growing out of it. the head part eat a piece of meat directly, though it could not hold it fast, but passed through it. both the Dr. and Mr. Folkes have sometimes missed their polypus's. they have escaped unaccountably .: whence one may conjecture, that they have suddenly turned Into a fly, as the knat kind. We may make this general Reflexion, from the surprizing transformations of, insects, that providence seems to have designed them, for a lesson to us, of the certainty of our own transformation. whence in all antiquity, the butterfly was an Emblem of the soul.

A book of Gunnery²¹³ presented to the Society, & an Extract from it, by the Author²¹⁴: giving an Account of the investigation of the strength of Cannon; the force of bullets; the line of Projectiles; & many curious subjects of that sort.

²¹¹ An undated edition of a work published posthumously as: Edmund Halley, *Menelai Sphaericorum Libri III* (Oxford, 1758).

²¹² A support beneath the feet; here, probably a foot-like support.

[facing page: {1743.}] 21 April. At the Royal Society.

Mr. Robyns Account of his own book of gunnery read, being a number of Experiments, & reasonings therefrom; on

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that head. he affirms, the whole quantity of powder is fired, before the bullet is sensibly moved: and that the intire impulse is impressed upon the bullet, whilst it moves the length of the gun.

An Account of Monsr. Bonets treatise of insects was read lately published²¹⁵. a Caterpillar described, that is a lover of Society, and live gregariously; following one leader. how they break out of their cases. they smell like musk at that time.

Dr. Desagulier's account of the rise of vapors, or rain, & dry vapors, or Exhalations. the nature of Water is wonderful. A Globe of Gold has exactly {the Florentine Experiment}²¹⁶ been filld with water, accurately soldered up; then compressed by a machine, till the water issued out of the pores of the gold in form of dew, but could by no means be reduced to less compass. yet though the water seems to have no interstices in its parts; you may Saturate it with sea salt, in a large quantity, after that, it will dissolve a quantity of nitre, & then take more sea salt, then more niter, till it increases in weight, one quarter. & this is the fluid that may be seperated so as ~~that~~ to be specifically lighter than air, & ride in the heavens in the forms of clouds & vapors.

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[facing page: {1743.}] 28th. April. At the Royal Society.

Dr. Desagulier's account continued. the wind is more powerful in raising vapours, than the sun, whence it dries the road more in 2 hours, than the sun in two days.

A Continuation of Monsr. Bonets treatise of insects the formica lea²¹⁷ is an hermaphrodite, produces its Offspring without any ingending.

A discourse²¹⁸ from Ireland, being the natural history of the County of Twomond, now Clare.

a lump or pebble of native gold, as commonly found, containing about 2 ounces.

I made a project for a room of the Royal Society, by taking in the whole floor & staircase, making a stair case & an antiroom in the other house belonging to us, in Crane Court.

²¹⁹and thus ended my entertainments of the royal society; for my life, as I thought. for I quitted my house in Gloucester street, & retired, for alltogether, to Stamford; to the house I had bought, on

²¹³ Benjamin Robins, *New Principles of Gunnery: Containing, The Determination of the Force of Gun-Powder, and An Investigation of the Difference in the Resisting Power of the Air to Swift and Slow Motions* (London: J. Nourse, 1742).

²¹⁴ Benjamin Robins (1707-1751); FRS, 1727.

²¹⁵ Charles Bonnet, 'An abstract of some new observations upon insects', *Philosophical Transactions* 42 (1743), 458-88.

²¹⁶ In Maurice Johnson's hand; the process described here is known as the 'Florentine Experiment'.

²¹⁷ A species of asexually reproducing ant.

²¹⁸ From C. Lucas (unknown).

barnhill, of Beverly Butler esqr. in which I thought of passing the remainder of my life: & in serving the Cure of my Parish. till the Duke of Montagu was pleasd to call me to Town.

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in June 1745 I came to Town on business.

20. june at the Royal Society.

an account of the lambent flame or electrical fire, issuing from many persons, largely deduced from antient & modern history: on rubbing the body, combing the head, shaking the shirt, or the like.

in february 1747-8 I came to my rectory house in Queens square London.

11. at the Royal Society.

an account of Abbè Nolets²²⁰ experiments on water set a running & electrifyd.

an account of the culture of the indigo plant, & management of indigo.

Mr. Arderons²²¹ experiments concerning the hearing of fishes. he says, they have no ears. but that sense is supplyd, by the quickness of their eye. & their being easily affected by the tremor of the water.

an account from a physicion²²² in Muscovy of a fœtus, which, after 9 months being fixed to the fallopian tube, was safely cut out. & what is remarkable, after the fœtus was cut out, the womans breasts swelld, & became full of milk,

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as after a natural birth.

a model of a canon was shown, to discharge 20 times in a minute. for 20 charges are put into a wheel, which by turning round, presents the charges successively to the piece, to be fired off instantly.

[image]

Mr maclaurins posthumous treatise of algebra²²³, presented to the Society.

Mr Dawks's mirabile Willinghamense²²⁴, or an account of a child arrived to a mans stature, & puberty.

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²¹⁹ In Stukeley's hand from this point to the end of the volume.

²²⁰ Jean-Antoine Nollet (1700-1770); FRS, 1735.

²²¹ William Arderon (1703-1767); FRS, 1745.

²²² Dr James Mounsey (1709/10-1773).

²²³ Colin MacLaurin, *A Treatise of Algebra* (London: A. Millar and J. Nourse, 1748).

²²⁴ Thomas Dawkes, *Prodigium Willinghamense; or, Authentic Memoirs of the more Remarkable Passages in the Life of a Boy, Born at Willingham, near Cambridge, October 31, 1741; who, Before he was Three Years old, was Three Feet, Eight Inches high, and had the Marks of Puberty* (London: C Davis, 1747).

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