

MEMOIRS
OF THE
ROYAL
SOCIETY.
VOL. II.

506

SOCIETATI
LITERARIAE
SPALDINGENSI

D. D.

W. Stukeley

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1750.

MJ 16/2

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MEMOIRS
of
the
ROYAL
SOCIETY.

taken
memoriter,

by
W. Stukobey.

Animas sapientiores fieri,
quiescendo.

VOL. II.

Read to 895 Meetings of the Royal Society.

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MEMOIRS
of the
Royal Society.



To

Maurice Johnson esq. founder, President
perpetual secretary of the gentle-
mens 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 measure,
partake of the pleasure I have, in frequenting
the meetings of the royal society: which is one
of the chief amusements, I have in Town.
where



where, tho' 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; & go into good company.

however I never fail to frequent the royal
Society, weekly. where besides our own acquaint-
tance, we meet the virtuoso's, & 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 im-
pression 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 plea-
sure of communicating it to my friends.

17 Dec. 1741. at the royal society.

an account from m^r. fuller, near battel abby
in sussex, in a letter to s^r. Hans sloan, of a huge fire-
ball seen passing over kent, about one a clock
at

noon; going from west to east, but declining. 3
it left a long track of fire after it, but ending
in smoke, 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 Hadley saw this too, from Kensington gardens,
and it was seen from Lincolns inn fields.

Dr Parsons dissected the horse muscle with a long
probe 5 inches long, wch 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 its trunk, with great violence.

a Gentleman bro^{ut} 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
phil. trans. he gave sev^l specimens in addition,
and multiplication of large numbers.

A Surgeon from ^{Mr} Stratford bro^t the machines of his invention, of great use in broken limbs.

One for a broken leg, wch 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.



¶ 15 January 1741-2 at the royal society. Mr Nourse Surgeon brought a bladder taken out of a man who dyed lately. he had taken Mrs Stephens's

medicines for the stone, & the surgeon on exa-⁵
mining him, pronounced him cured; no stone being
to be found: & on this testimony chiefly, the
parliament premium of £5000 was paid to Mr. Stephens.
in the bladder were contain'd 7 or 8 stones as big
as Hazel nuts: but nature had kindly form'd cells for
them out of the duplicature of the coat of the bladder,
& warded off the inconvenience of them.

a long Tre or rather Treatise from Dr. Ruttly in
Ireland, relating to his observations, & examinations of
Mr. Stephens's medicines. the common method now
of taking this medicine is to omit the great quantity
of herbs, and things used chiefly to disguise it, & depend
intirely upon the two principal things: the calcin'd
egg shells, run p deliquium about ℥℥ or ℥i in a glass
of any liquor, & half a pint of solution of soap,
whether the comon, or alicant.

an acct. of a mine of silver in North america,
much richer than in potosi.

Captain Norden 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 Memnon, wch became vocal
at



at Sun rising. Mr. Machen gave his opinion as to⁶
the interpretation of the hieroglyphical Sculpture in
the seat of one of the coloss statues, of the propyleum.
that it regarded some celebrated marriage, perhaps
of Isis, or Osiris; wch 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 Isis.

an acco. of an indian poyson, wch they 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 phenomenon
seen at Canterbury, being two mock suns & two
rainbows, from that of Mrs Jennisons, sent to the
Archbp of Canterbury.

Dr. Desaguliers showed us some further experim^{ts}
in Electricity; wch he will publish, when perfected.

A Tre from Mr. Knowlton gardiner to Lord
Burlington, at Longborough in yockshire: giving
an

7
Acco^t of a roman brass gallon, with a lid, lately found near York; of an early blooming thorn he observ'd near Stilton, & some other matters.

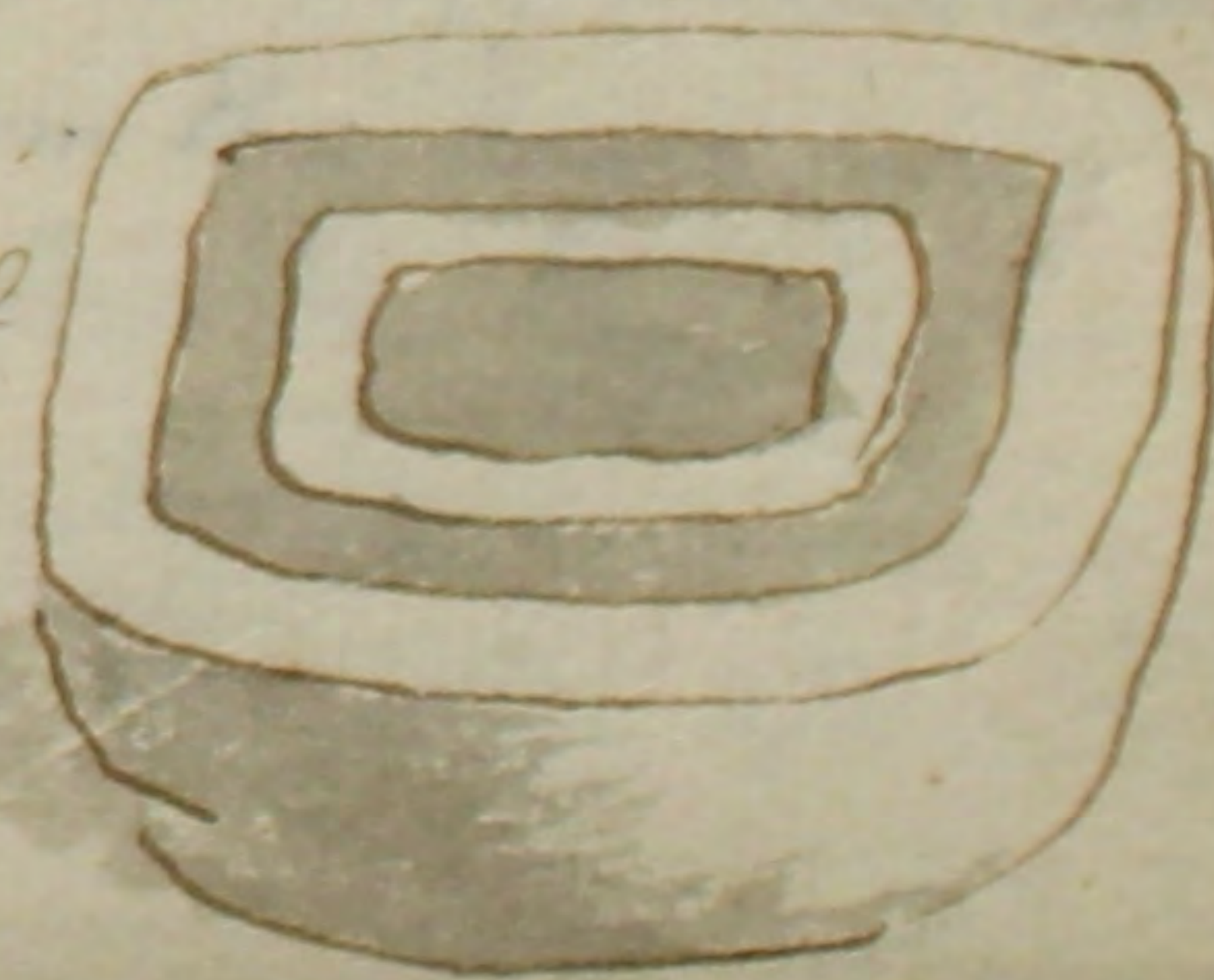
21 Jan 1741/2 At the Royal Society.

a Dispute arose concerning the gentleman whose bladder was exhibited here, who had taken Mr^s Stephens's medic^{ns}. some said it was possible, those stones might have grown since he left off taking the medicines, wch was two years before his death; he finding himself easy. Others denyed it, & that he took of those medicines continually. The Presid^t desir'd the true fact might be inquir'd into, & reported.

An Acco^t. of a lunar Eclipse observ'd in America, and some observations concerning the seas, about the magellanic Straights.

The Norway giant was exhibited, a very wonderful sight. he is about 32 years old, full 7 foot 4 inch; ~~1/2~~ high. no high heels to his shoes. he reach'd beyond the first moulding of the architrave between the pillars, in the Roy: Society room. he was order'd two guineas. The man is well enough shap'd.

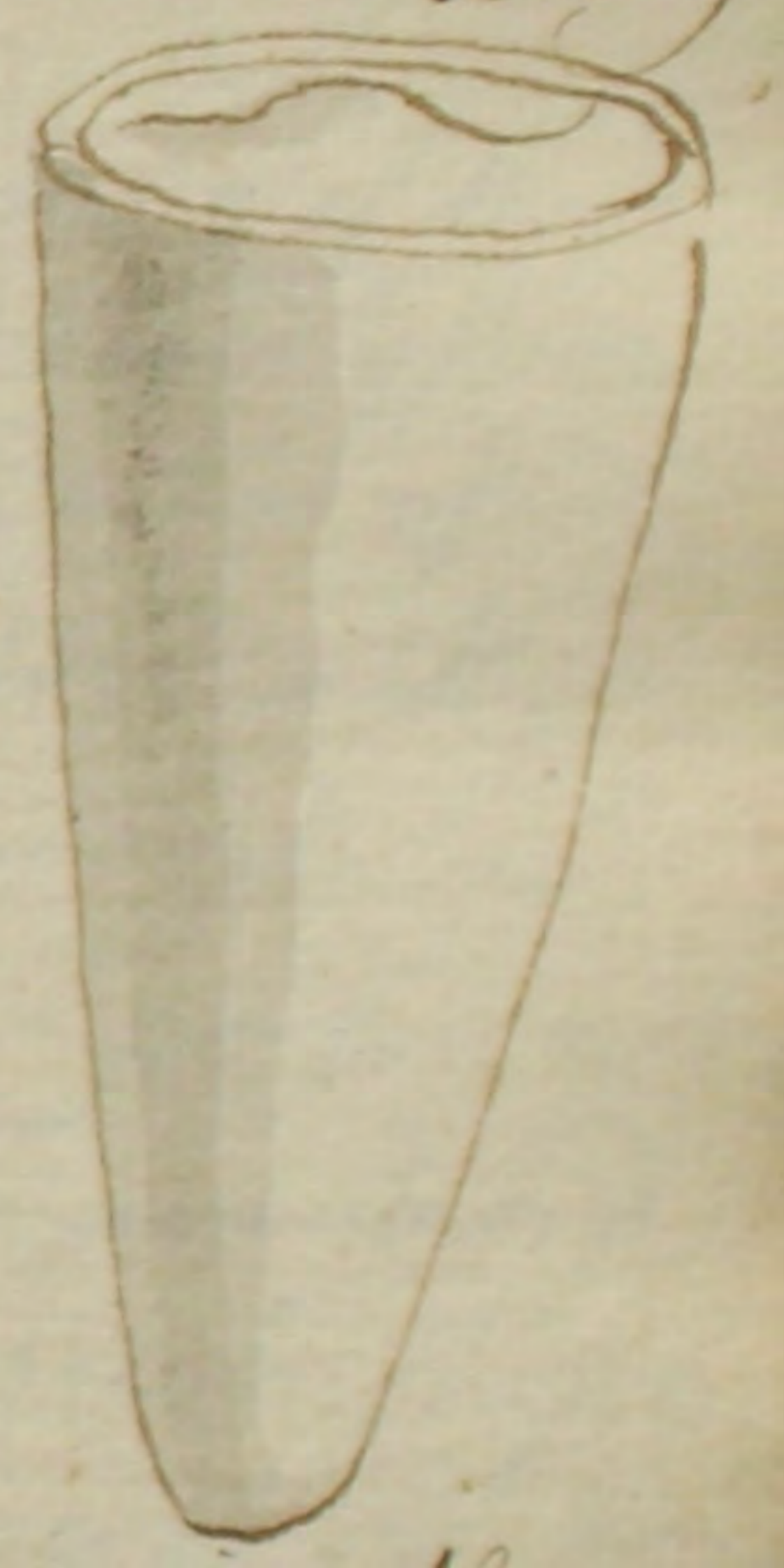
an acco^t. of some odd form'd stones from the Isle of Pomona, consisting of a hard & a soft part in ridges. They find there too, antediluvian bones, the hippopotamus &c.



A Machine was shown, a ballance to fasten Children too, and suspend them for a swing, in order to prevent, or cure crookedness. together with an Acc^t. of it in writing; like a circular Spring for navel ruptures.

22. Januarij 1741-2. At the Egyptian Society.

The Duke of Montagu, Duke of Richmond, were admitted Lord Sandwich bro^t. an Ibis embalm'd, from the catacombs in Egypt, wch he open'd before us. they are inclos'd in a long earthen vessel of this shape, as long as ones arm. seal'd up very carefully with good cement, or mortar, like a lid. Under it is the bird wrap'd up in linnen, ty'd 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 terribinthinatè smell.



The society asked me, particularly the Duke of Montagu, to give my opinion concerning the sestrum, wch I delivered to this effect. I apprehended it to be a crotalus, or rattle, us'd from the beginning of the world, in religious offices. therefore the Egyptians, fond of antiquity, would not fail to introduce it among their antient sacred instruments; tho' the true use of it



it was left off. We find Jhs & other figures of their deities⁹
and priests frequently represented with it, in their hand.
the Noise of it was esteemed as prophylactic; & that it wo^d
drive off the devil, & all evil powers. the shaking of it
during their mystery, was equivalent to the Cryer in
other Countrys calling out

— EXDS. EXDS ESE ΒΕΒΗΧΟΙ.

procul o, procul este profani.

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 acceptation of the sacrifice, to cause a
fire from heaven to descend upon the altar, & consume it.
thus we read Gen IV Cain & Abel offer'd the accustomed
Holocaust, 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

It is not to be imagined, that God Almighty should
accept of the death of a poor, innocent animal, as an
atone-

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 thro' faith in the great mediatorial sacrifice, symbolized thereby.

It was an act of infinite kindness in God alm. in the first ages of the world, to testify his approbation, or refusal of the offerary, 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, wch 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. IX. 24. & there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar, the burnt offering, & the fat: wch when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces.

Again, at the dedication of Solomons temple, II Chron ¹¹ VIII
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 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 accustom'd prayers, & thanksgivings
perform'd; 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 was the
custom of federal sacrifices, and laid the halves, one
opposite to the other, for the partys contracting to pass
thro'. This done he sat down, as customarily, to
watch the ^{divided} animals.

v 11 And when the fowls came down upon the
Carcafes, Abram drove them away.

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

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' said.

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

This whole story is told in a somewhat mysterious manner, as becoms 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 should visibly pass thro' the divided animals. in order to do this with greater majesty, he chose the evening time after sun set, when the divine Shechinah appeared to Abraham, and talk'd with him first in his trance,

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

afterw^d. Abraham awak'd & saw that same divine appearance pass thro' the divided pieces, as a fire token of his ratifying the Covenant. wch 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 darknes came on, the central glory, wch he calls a Lamp of fire, became visible.

When this same Shechinah appear'd to the Jews, and conducted them from Egypt into Canaan, & at last resided on the Mercy seat of the Ark: both in the Mosaic tabnacle, & in Solomons temple; we find it described in the day-time, as a Cloud; in the night, as a fire.

Your Grace 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, thro' out that whole days space; in order effectually to drive off the ravenous fowls from his sacrifice.

14
The blood of sacrifices was necessarily to be poured forth on
the altar, for that was the matter wch was to make the aton-
ment; 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 fistrum
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 call'd it an Egyptian scare-crow
and this as I apprehend, is the meaning of the famous
Egyptian fistrum.

The fistrum 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, or. be's
the Egyptians equally, as all the rest of the eastern & antient
world, were fond of applying to symbols, on every
occasion.

15
occasion. from driving the profane birds, and beasts
away, that disturb the ~~caecus~~ sacrifices, they made this
their great prophylactic symbol, able to drive off
Typhon, the devil, too much heat, or moysture, any evil
power. & this, Authour generally attribute to it, tho' 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 temple,

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
preserv'd the symbolical use, & purport of the instrument,
without the real, & true use. other nations that rightly
practic'd sacrificing, according to its institution, would,
necessarily use this instrument of ours; tho' the memorial,
of it are perished, for want of monuments, wch the
Egyptians had the happy art of. & wch hav gain'd them
the glory of antiquity, exclusive of other older nations.
but tis the business of the learned to distinguish rightly
these matters.

16

I find one very illustrious monument, concerning the Sistrum, not at all observ'd, tho' 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, call'd Engonasis: 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 Constellation & truly worthy of it. but I beg leave to reserve this argument, for the next opportunity I have of writing to your Grace.

th
28. Jan. 1741. 2. At the Roy: Society.

Mr. Tibbald bro^t. a piece of paper cut in the shape & bigness, of the diamond, lately bro^t. from the Brasils, to the King of Portugal, with an acco^t. of its weight, being 7 ounces, and length 4 inches, & $\frac{1}{2}$ breadth $2\frac{1}{2}$. diamonds are a fluor that runs hexagonally. take them longitudinally & they split easily. they will waste in working that way easily. Dr. Desaguliers tryed them with Villet's burning glass. he could blunt the points of them. wch was the only effect the glass had on them.

17
Dr. Stales sent a Tre giving an Acco^t. 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 us'd in the magazines, wch 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 wholesom. he says, it
may be us'd too in magazines of Corn.

We measured the height wch Cajanus the Swedish giant
reach'd to, being the 2^d. moulding of the architrave, in our
room, and found it to be 10 foot compleat.

An Acco^t. 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 observ'd 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 sm all of
their legs, this found near Borough Bridg, was
most probably one of the prizes given, at the
races there hold, at the great midsummer games
there in British times, round the wonderful ob-
lises, which were the meta's. this was at the
public quarterly sacrifice, then solemniz'd.

18

A long wrangle we had, about the effect of Mr. Steven's Medicines, between Dr. Hartley and the Surgeons. the latter affirm'd, all the persons (specifying 4) who had been open'd 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 obtain'd from the use of them, was owing to their relaxing quality; for which purpose such medicines had been us'd from all times. but that in the consequence, they did more harm, than good.

a Book presented to the society from a foreign Professor wrote against Wolfius's 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 Copley, for 5 Years last past, as order'd by Sr Hans Sloan the late presid.^t. The Society gave 50^l. for the dye. on one side the arms & supporters of the Society. on the reverse, Pallas with all her symbols, holding forth a Laurel. inscription G. COPLEY dat dignissimo in the exergue is engraven the name of the person & year, who

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

The first was given to the gentleman that sent us his Account of the bones of hogs & chickens, dy'd red with eating madder, after the dyers have us'd it.

The second to the gentleman who showed the method of driving piles, which is practis'd now at Westm^r. bridge.

The third was given to D^r. Stephen Hales, for his innumerable curious experim^{ts}.

The 4th was given to D^r. Desaguliers for his experim^{ts} concerning electricity.

The 5th to D^r. Stuart for his experim^{ts} on muscular motions.

A Letter was read to D^r. Mead from a gentleman at St. Albans, concerning a person lately dead, & who had taken M^{rs}. Stevens's medicines 15 months. he was dissected & a great stone of a pear like figure found in his bladder, untouch't of the medicines.

M^r. Bell gave in an Acc^t. of a person he open'd after the taking the medicines 15 months. There were three stones in his bladder, bigger than windsor beans

D^r. Jurin gave in a long Acc^t. in writing, concern^g his own case, of the stone. he confid^d, that M^{rs}. Stevens's

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 satisfied, her medicines had afforded relief in many cases. Therefore he judged the lye of w^{ch} 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 tea spoonfuls of it in a glass of water, milk, small beer, London ale, sack, or what he lik'd best, 3, 4 or 5 times a day for a long time together. which had the desired effect. it bro^t away several stones as big as barley corns, which appeared corroded: & in his judgm^t. were detach'd 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.

at the Royal Society

21

11 Feb: 1741.2. A Sailor was shown, from the Coast of Africa, who has a worm in his leg, which is a common thing there. it ~~leave~~ lives in the fleshy, muscular parts.

A Letter to Mr Baker 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 observ'd 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 mortify'd, 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 Maclaurin has observ'd the same thing.

A Journal from New England of the earthquakes felt there, thro' a series of years, of their magnitude, & effects 18th Febr'y. At the Royal Society.

a Discourse of Mr Kleyn from Hamburgh presented to the society, concerning the nature, and natural history of

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

A Discourse of Mr Bahers, concerning his former Acco^t of the girl that lost her tongue, by a cancer, and yet could speak. he enlarg'd 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 Mr Stevens's medicines, & had stones found in their bladders, after death. Dr Hartley spoke upon that occasion, & desir'd the Memoirs of all facts, relating to this affair, may be preserv'd by the society, that a true judgm^t 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 convey'd from a ships hold, or the like close place, where damp and unwholsom, stagnating air abides, it may be bro^t out, and chang'd for fresh; and wholsom air.

23 Febry Lord Sandwich dissected an Egyptian Mummy 23.
at Mr. Folkes's. the linnen foldings were unwrapt & the flesh
was not discernible, being quite chang'd into dust and gum,
together with that part of the Sinner which was next the bones.

25th Febry. 1741. 2 At the Royal Society.

A Drawing, and acc. of the perihelion seen at Canterbury,
brought ⁱⁿ a Letter to me, from Mr. Wright, who last night
observ'd 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 its appear-
-ance, & the circumjacent stars.

Dr. Pack sent an elaborate treatise concerning the
hydrography of the river Stour in Kent, with drawings of
it, all its branches, banks, high grounds, about it.

Dr. Perry sent an acc. of the found stones found so
frequently abt. M. Carmel, call'd lapides judaici but his
judg'd they are the exuvia of some antediluvian fish.
or else coralline bodys, thrown up there in the great
deluge.

likewise Dr. Perrys experim^{ts} upon the water of
Asphaltes, or the lake of Sodom, which is intensely salt, &
sulphurous.

likewise experim^{ts} on the hot waters of Callirhoe
by the sea of Tiberias.

likewise experiments on a Spring by Coromandel in ²⁴ y.
way to m. Sinai. D^r Pocock carried these waters to
grand Cairo, where the experim^{ts} 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 p^{er} levels, and a
telescopes.

4 March 1741. 2. At the Royal Society.

A fine Acco^t of observations on snow, from abroad, &
accompan^yd with drawings of it, in its several spur like
forms, of admirable beauty, & variety: yet I observ'd they
all proceed in an hexagon; except two pictures w^{ch} had
12 points.

Mr Tho^s Wright sent a further Acco^t of the Comet, &
several other Acco^{ts} came from different parts, at home, and
abroad. they observ'd it in France before us. I find it is
going in a line near direct north, from the beak of the
Swan, by Lucida Lyra. 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 soon thro, it:
and tis 10 Degrees in length, as soon by some observers.

25

A very pretty method 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 siccus, performed in holland, & some specimens sent, beautiful, & in full colour, & with the scales on.

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

An Acc^t. of Cornelians found commonly in some partic^r. place, in the West Indies; also of Mocha stones found commonly there too. the former by digging in the earth, the other are wash'd down in a river. the branched appearances in the mocha's are earthy black matter, when split in the place.

A further Acc^t. of the appearance of the fire ball, soon in the day time, some while ago, in Sussex.

18 March 1741. 2 At the Royal Society.

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

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

A further Acc^t. of the fire ball seen in Kent, in Ans^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 Stolcomb by L^d. Lovels, wch ran along the ground, up a hill, till out of sight, with a noise like that of a cart of pebbles unloaded. electric.

Dr. Douglas read one of the Cronian lectures on the Muscles. he chose the muscles of the larynx to treat of.

Mr. Maitlands Ans^r. to a Dutchman, abusing him about his Calculations of the number of inhabitants in London, compar'd to those of Amsterdam, & Paris.

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

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

manner to the dogs mouth, lips, tongue, throat, nose,
that he produces several words very distinctly, in answer
to questions; for instance: where was you last night?
Ans^r. at the Assembly. What had you there, thea, coffee.
chocolate. what else? water. who do you lye with?

Betty or

19 Mar I saw at Mr. Smart Lethulliers, 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. ~~at the~~ At the Royal Society.

Mr. Trager who lately publish'd the history of Kouli Kan,
and has liv'd 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 luna solar, made up

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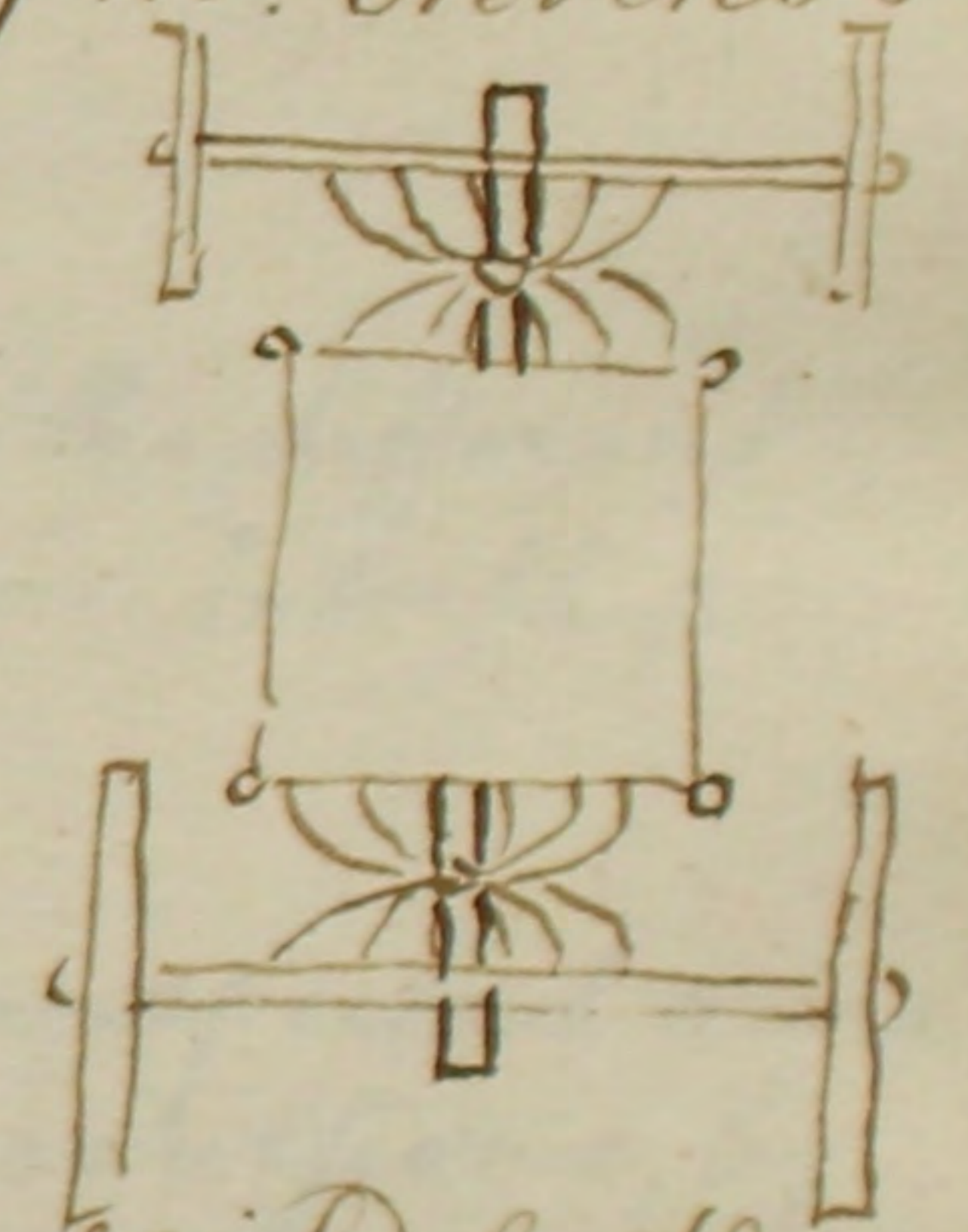
of both Jun & Moon; so that one Year is less than Julian: two bigger. They have the same Names of the Signs of the Zodiac as we. but they call ♋ the bow, & ♓ the fish. The Zodiac with them, has 27 mansions of the moon. The Jun enters ♓ about 26 Dec. & so of the rest: whence we guess they know nothing of the precession of the equinox: & began this method of time, a little before the Christian era.

D.^r Hales's treatise of ventilation of houses, jails, ships, &c. further read.

D.^r Hartley sent a Case of one cur'd by Mrs. Stevens's medicines.

An Acco. of Medicinal Waters.

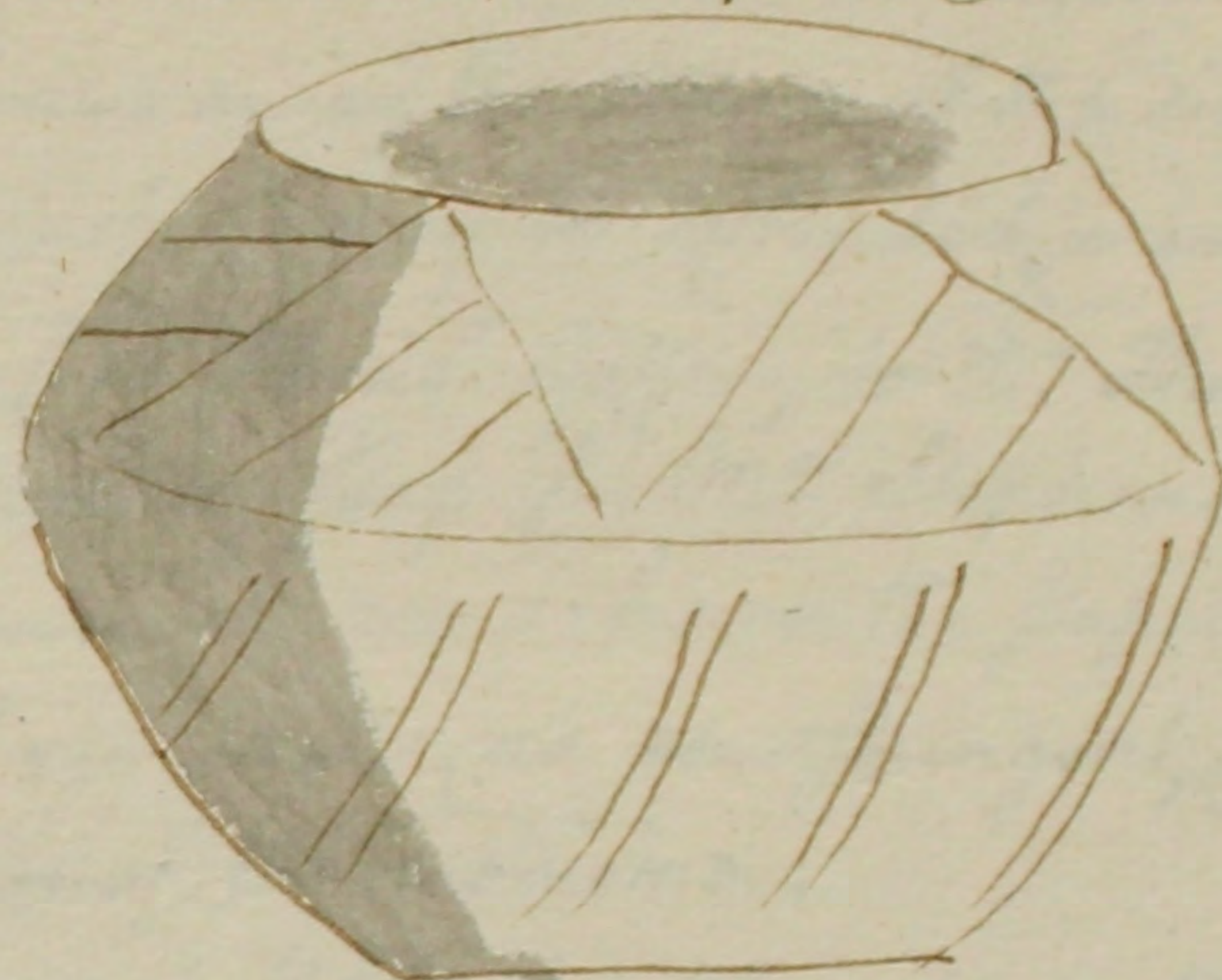
A Coach that cannot be overturn'd, suspended on the axles, by a long piece of timber, running along the middle, as in the annexed scheme.



D.^r Coppin sent some books lately published by the Dublin Society. the binding in red morocco was observ'd, 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 Metallin crust upon the wood, & hinders it from wearing.

Mr. R. Jones sent ^{me} a little black earthen urn, scarce
burnt, said to be British, of this form & bulk. 29



st 1 April 1742. At the Royal Society.

A Discourse of Mr. Watson concerning the different
Schemes of Ventilation, or bringing fresh air into Ships,
Store rooms, Goals, &c

Dr. Parsons gave an Acc^t of an unexpected cure
he perform'd 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, tho' otherwise probably
the Child would have dyed. the 2^d day they apply'd again
when the fit came on. the first pigeon dy'd in 4 minutes.
the 2^d in 8. the third in a longer time, & the fit went off.
the 3^d day they apply'd again, & the third pigeon lived.
and the child recover'd. the Dr. says, the distemper must

30
be convulsions originally, not symptomatic, & that this
is a wonderful instance of animal electricity, where the
creature draws away the venom of the distemper. no
doubt this practise may be extended, & improved.

A Letter from Mons^r. Goffroy to Dr. Hartley on his
way of his making soap for M^r. Stephens's medicines.
with many curious remarks on the soap lye, on the use of
the Calc of egg shells, as an astringent, & about the
administration of the medicine.

5 April 1742. The Duke of Montagu show'd me a gold
ring with a garnet in it dug up in one of those vast
Celtic barrows on Inkpen common Berkshire.



7 April I saw M^r. Harrison of Barrow Lincolnshire,
in his house Orange street, by Gloucester street. he show'd
me all his Clocks. he is a wonderful genius, having
bro^t. his movements to a perfection surprizing; so that they
will not vary above a second in a month. their motion

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 those movements, as never were thought on before. he remembers my digging at Humbers castle 15 years ago, 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.

8th April 1742 At the Royal Society.

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

A Letter from a Religious — at Leghorn, giving a very curious, & exact acc^t. of the late earthquake there.

Dr. Pack of Canterbury bro^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.

A Letter from Whitehaven concerning mineral damps, was read in further part. the author observes that the acidula & like mineral spaw waters get their quality & taste, from those mephitic steams, and
spirits,

N^o. one of these large Maps with a Book to explain it are in the Museum & are the Gifts of Mr. Roberts Surgⁿ Apth in Canterbury a worthy Member of S^c Soc

and spirits wch 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 chronic distempers, by that spirit tempered in the water: invigorating the animal economy, in all its purposes.

14 April I viewed the New amphitheatre at Chelsea which is a noble and magnificent design: 100 foot diam^r

17 I saw that admirable Grotto at Lord Orford, at Chelsea. Mr. Henry Gale with us.

29 april 1742. at the Royal Society.

more letters, & attestations were read concerning Margaret Cutting 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. is a Jasminum.

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

a new improv'd wheel, for spinning of cambricks. &c.

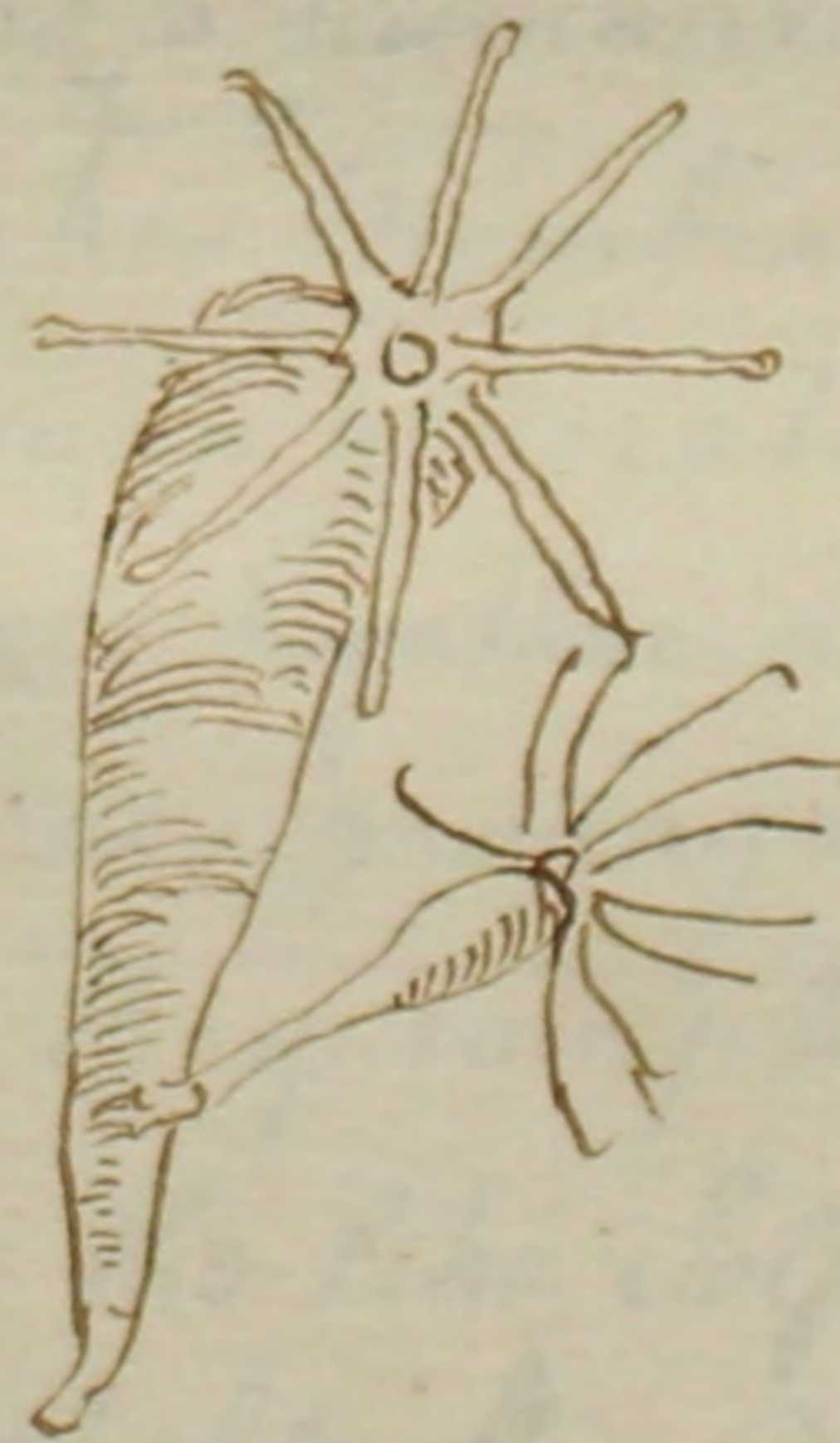
20 Jan. 1742-3. at the Royal Society.

Mr Ledyard presented his two volumes of the history of the ancient German nations, which he has lately translated from the high Dutch.

The president brought a new translation of Gudworts intellectual system, 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 acct. 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's acct. of his observations on the insect call'd a polypus, to be found in all ditches of water, not much disturb'd by motion, having bits of wood, leaves, & woods in it, which produces plenty of animalcules, for the sustenance of the polypus, a voracious creature. tis not easy to find them, for they are nearly transparent, & when the water is disturb'd, they contract themselves into a very small compass. so that in order to find them, you are to take

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 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 wood, or leaf, in the water; & extend its arms, as so many traps, to catch its prey. and whatever it touches, tis sure to take. it bonds its body & arms, on all sides, into all kinds of motions, & so conveys its prey, the animalcules, worms, and the like, into its mouth: with one or more arms, in proportion to the bulk of the prey. this is that



fam'd ^{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 discourse in the form. Volum. 1.

An Acc^t of a book lately publish'd by an Italian philosopher, concerning the generation of foods. tis an intire & new system of philosophy; wherein the Author goes to the bottom of things, & begins with considering the atoms, or first princip^{ls} 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 foods w^hsoever were form'd at the creation, & include in themselves ⁱⁿ miniatures, all the foods to eternity, wch are to proceed from thence: & rather thinks, that every food has a power of producing the foods 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 poiring makes Membrane for its self. & so he supposes of human generation, or other, that the Male & female seed mixe together and begins the root of the fibers, that by degrees propagate themselves, & sprout out more & more. till they compleat the Compages 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,

hav

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.



A Double pear was exhibited to the Society. thus after one pear was formed, a blossom grew on the eye of the pear, from whence another pear came.

The presid^t read us, an Abstract wch he had drawn up from Mons^r. Saumur's preface to his book, now publishing, of insects. tis chiefly a Detail of the great discoveries he has made, by his diligent observation of the polypus's, upon Mons^r. Tremble's plan, who made the original discovery at Genoa, of the foregoing surprizing qualitys. Mons^r. Tremble on the Coasts of picardy observ'd 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;

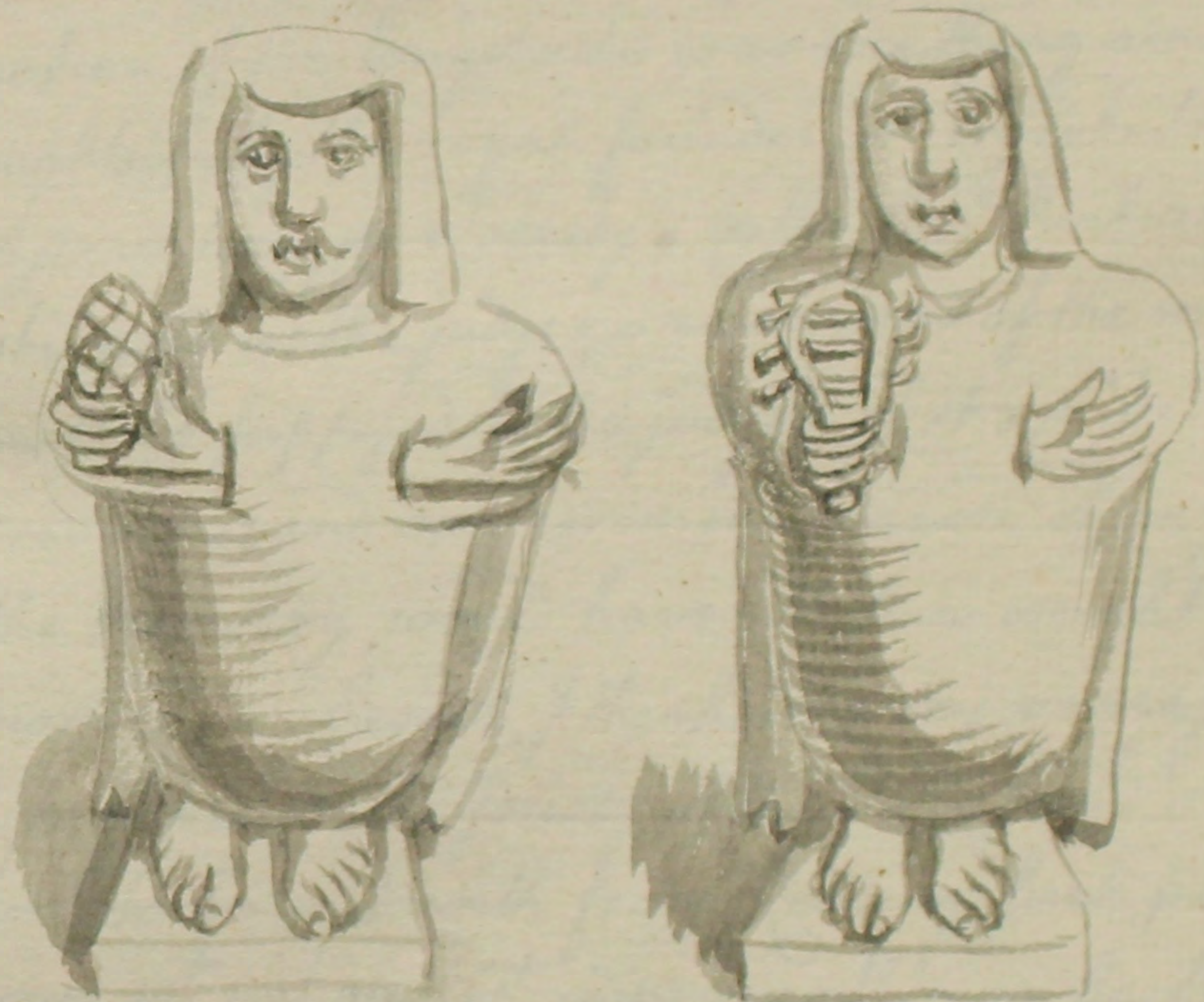
And the amputated ray in a still longer time produces all it wants, to complete it. The fishermen that frequent that Coast were well aware of this property, before, he says too, not only these water animals, but some Land ones too, were subject to this Experiment.

Earth worms have the Male, and female parts of generation in each, & that pretty near their head, or anterior end: cut it in the middle, and the anterior part wch 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 M^r Speakers, an excellent Model of the principal arch in the New Bridge, with two turrets, two arcades, & the trophy work: as design'd by M^r Labile and my friend Andrew Gelf. M^r Toudinier the same time, show'd his inimitable drawing in indian ink, of the south east prospect of Saint Pauls Cathedral, which he is going to engrave.

I saw at D^r Pococks, an innumerable egyptian Antiquities. Among them two stone Carvings, Vases in an human body, male & female. Osiris & Isis, terres-
tial

terrestrial: guardians of the Watery element. she 38.
has a fistru in her hand; he a pine apple. their
feet are finely carved.



At Mr. Scawens sale, at Cochs Covent garden, sold to
D^r. Smith, the antique bronze of Silenus; like to
D^r. Meads. £ 10. 15. 00.

Royal Society

27 Jan 1742-3. An Acc^t. 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
papers,

papers, thro' 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 founder, in instituting the royal observatory, or Society. tho' the Parliam^t has not constituted us the judges, or rewarders of the invention: yet we must be supposed to be judges of it. it is a part of our province: and our recommendation of any advance toward the discovery, would have its due weight with y^r Commissioners. beside, I think it very unreasonable, or unjust, to deprive the society of the amusem^t. or improvem^t. to be met with from reading such papers. who knows w^t. notions, w^t. improvem^ts. may be started from other peoples notions? this Argum^t. serves equally ag^t. reading any paper. is not the Society instituted for advancing natural knowlodge! why do we hear of any invention, any improvement therein, because we have no fund to reward?

A Tre to M^r. Collison containing a Calculation
of

of the number of seeds in one plant of the althea frutex:
 wch was last year a feed 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 M^r. Collison from a correspond^t at Nuremberg
 a Question propos'd about Amber. what class it is to be
 refer'd to? whether as some think, it be a vegetable juice,
 concreted: or a mineral one, an inspissated petroleum,
 found commonly in the earth. to wch latter opinion, our
 writer inclines. he gives his reasons, & experiments about it,
 to find out its constituents. D^r. Mortimer says, the Chinese
 have a method of imitating amber.

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

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

two books in high dutch of monsieur Perfaboms.
 an Extract made from them, concerning his Calculation of
 the number of inhabitants, of births, and buryals, in the
 provinces

Provinces of Holland and Westfriesland. he gives many curious tables concerning the duration of lives, in a married couple, & like matters, nearer the truth, he says, than Azout, petty, Maitland &c.

A Book of Mr. Maclaurins, of fluxions.

Several Trees from some curious Missionarys at Peking, to an English gentleman, offering to settle a correspondence. to send them their observations, on the eclipses, immersions, emerfions of Jupiters satellites, & whatever is curious there. the philosophical transactions was order'd to be sent to them.

A printed Pamphlet of Mr. Hergufons case, a frothm. who has liv'd many years, on water only, or clarify'd whey, or barley water. the author Dr. Umfreville quotes like cases out of Physical authors; & proposes a method of restoring y^e man, to his former way of life.

1742-3.

3 Feby I took up a butterfly, in St. James street. Mr. Lockyer show'd 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. 4 S.C. in a civic garland.

3. feb. R.S.

At the Royal society. some prize books from Bourdoux presented to the society, by Mrs. Stuart.

An Acco. 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, wch is thought to be independant on Monsieur Trombleys discovery. there is an Experm. made on some other Creatures: for instance the horse leech, which when cut a funder, soon heals up a gain.

An Acco. of Mons. Stollars fine book lately printed of Helvetian plants, with very exquisite cuts of them. it treats first of the History of the famous botanists, Bauhin's, Cordus, Clafius &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 a

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.

6 febr. 1742-3.

At the Royal Society a curious Letter from the West Indies, being a dissection of the Male & female opasum. 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 wch they retire from danger, & as to a kennel. & the Creature carries them about with her, thererin; till able to shift for themselves. but what is the greatest wonder of all is, that the young are not nourish'd in the womb, by a placenta & umbilical rope, as all others; but by some strange mechanism, immediately after conception, are convey'd into this double belly, & fasten'd 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.

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This Creature is slow of foot, & when dangers approaches feigns it self to be dead, and may be kick'd about without motion. but if too roughly handled, has a strong jaw, & tooth, & will defend it self vigorously. it has moreover a vehement scent, which makes a dog sick, that attacks it. tis a retrocious animal.

A gentleman Mr. Bryan was introduced to the society, who has succeeded in making the porcelaine or China Ware, here in London; & of materials found in England. he shew'd 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 bodyes do. this has long been said in practice in the Minutes of S.P.S. Vol. 1. folio 80 Staffordshire part of a M.S. quarto treatise, was read, being some improvem^t. in the doctrine of fluxions.

1742-3.

18th Feby. At the Royal Society.

45.

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

The phoca being dead, I desir'd D^r. 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 uteri, a box full of the sharp gravel taken out of its lower stomach. The Creature has a rudendum like that of a Cow. its face has likewise that look: & its internal parts correspondent.

A large discourse accompany'd with some Prints, being a full account of the manner of reducing the dislocated shoulder, by an instrument, the ambe of Hippocrates. tis an horizontal lever, to wch the arm of the patient is ty'd, after tis thrust as far as possible, into the armpit. the patient is plac'd in a chair, & the apponicular or fulcrum of the lever 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.

1742-3.

24 Feby 1742 At the Royal Society.

46

An Acc^t. from Vienna, of a Comet very lately seen there, in its descent tow^d. the Sun. it was observ'd first in the greater bear, lastly in the lesser Lyon, 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 petrify'd substances. some petrifications from ochey hole, somersetshire. at Ochey hole, they are now digging out Copper.

A Letter from Geneva to J^r. Hans Sloan, wherein many mineral substances are sent to J^r. Hans. and a long acc^t. of the anatomy, and certain properties 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 examin'd its parts, very curiously, by a microscope. the body consists intirely of rings of circular fibers, and ^{of} an artery running thro' 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.

47.

We had another Tre concerning Mons^r. Frembleys discovery of the polypus, on duck wood. confirming, & enlarging on what had been before delivered.

A scotchman bro^t. a child of his about 5 years old, being an hermaphrodite. upon examination, the anatomists differ'd in their sentiments. Mr. Brooke 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 raphe 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.

D^r. parsons Affirms, they are really females; the clitoris is preternaturally enlarg'd. the furca appears evidently in the subject before us, & the foramen of the vagina. that they have all symptoms of females. sometimes the Catamenia, tho' 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 dress in the highland manner, with was our English habit 400 years ago. as on the other side.



1742-3.

3^d March I gave in the following Tre wch was road, being sent from a Lady at Madras, to her friend in London.

Madras fort St. George.

We have had a great man called the Nabob, who is next in dignity to the great Mogul, to visit the governor (Bignion) 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
the

x this whole account is printed.

49
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 palaguins: 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
philegro box, plac'd on the back of a beautiful x

Dr Parson gave an acc^t. 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 observ'd that part
very prominent, in naked figures of women, commonly seen
in China shops. the Dr bro. some Male & female fetus's,
to show the largeness of the clitoris, in the latter.

A Letter from Mons^r. Maupertuis confirming all the
Accounts we have hitherto recod, concerning the new discovered
property in some animals, of being multiply'd by cutting in
pieces. tho' the thing be now, he apprehends it may be
vastly exteuded, in many other animals, by proper tryals,
and Experiments.

1742-3.

tipula

10th March. At the Royal Society. The rem^r of Mons^r 50.
Bonets letter to Sr Hans Sloan, was read, concerning his
observations on animals, propagated by section. he has
extended his inquiries, about this wonderful property.
he tryd sev^l worms in the water: & the common earth-
worms. he observd the fabrick of them, in the microscope.
and says some naturalists pronounce, as Malpighi,
that they are composd each of many hearts, & many brains,
whereas the more perfect animals have these principles
but singly. he has a learned, metaphysical inquiry concer-
ning the soul, or first moving princip^l, that actuates the
machines, & propos queries, how it can be divided; where it
resides. &c. but concludes, tis best to admire, & be silent.

Mr. Miller sent a Letter to Mr. Baker concerning his
observations on several water animals, such as tipula the
water spider, & the like; together with a Phial of some
animals swimming in the water.

A french man brought a new invention of his, for an
Oar to row boats ~~sails~~, & Vessels, & 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^t reported a very fine aurora borealis
seen three nights ago. the colors were much more

more conspicuous, than tommion.

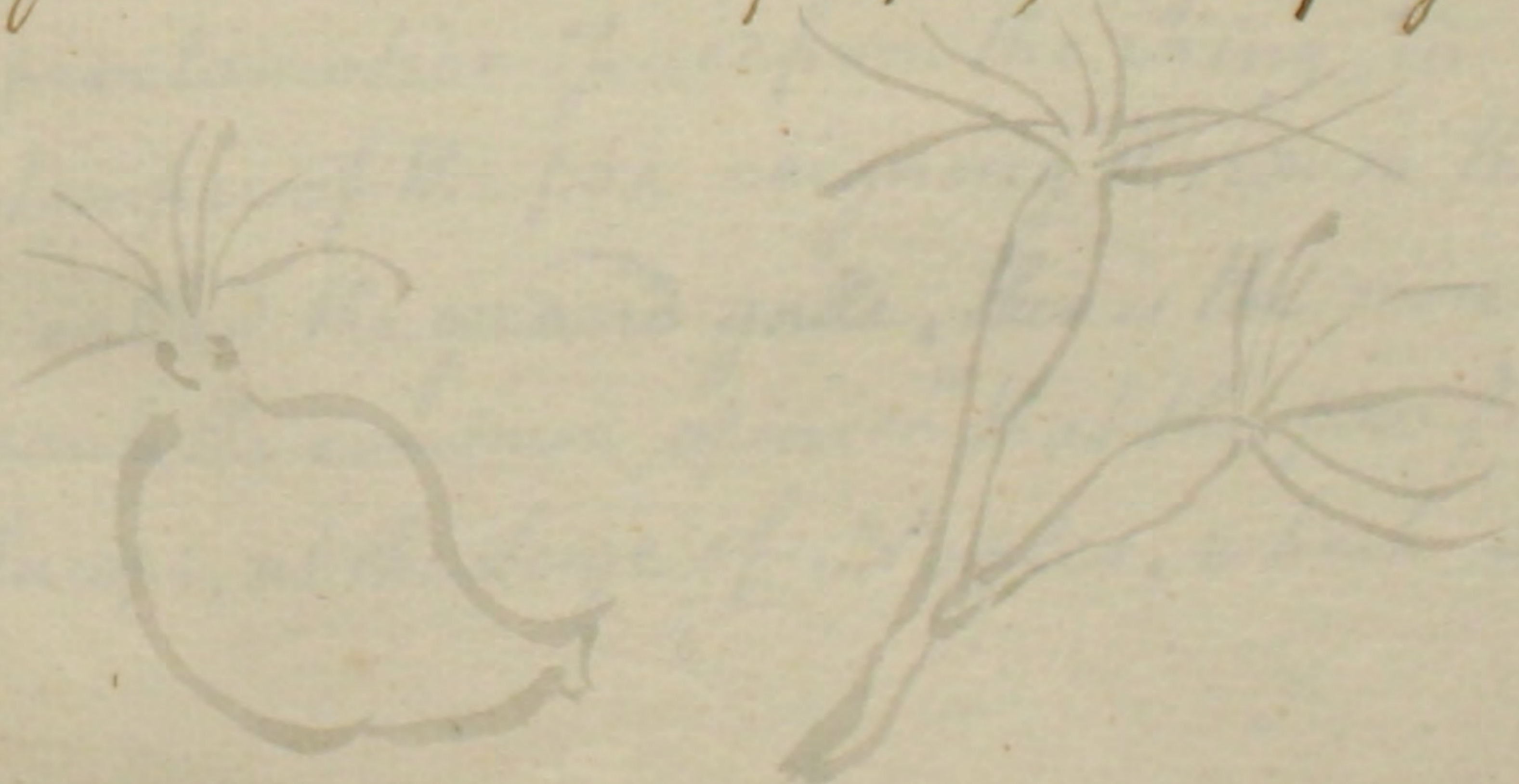
Mr. Edwards beadle to our College of Physicians presented to the Society, his book of birds, painted, and describ'd.

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

17 March 1742. At the Royal Society.

The presid^t. reported, that he had reciev'd the polypus from abroad. that he diligently apply'd himself to observe them, & when his thoughts upon that matter were compleated, he would communicate them to the society. in the mean time he declar'd, there was nothing affirm'd 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 view'd them the day before, at the presid^t. in the microscope.

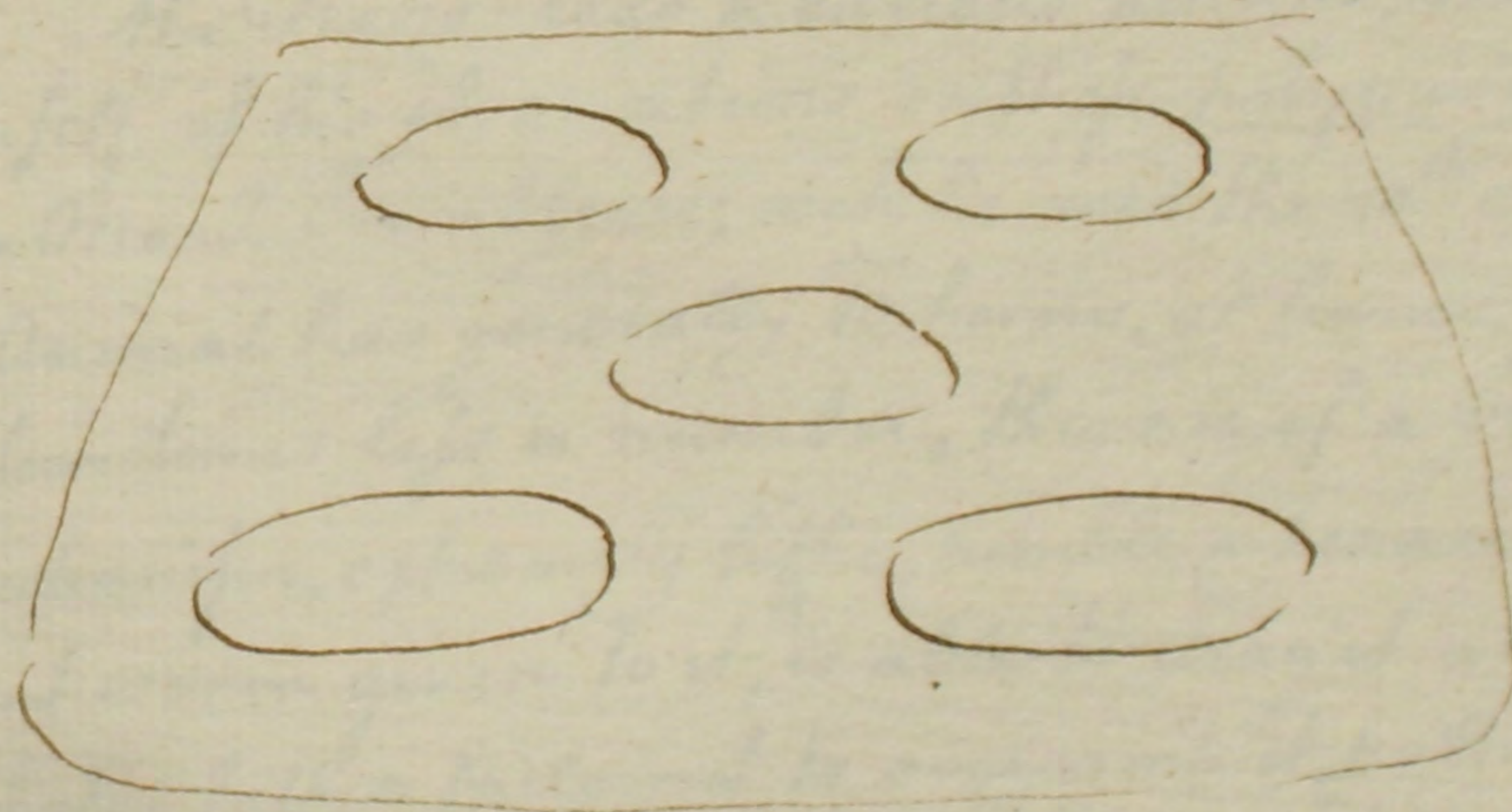


52.
and drew them, as in appearance. out of the side of one,
another is grown. upon putting a worm to them, they
both contended for it. but the young one prevailed, and
swallow'd it. when the worm, wch is opaque, is swallow'd;
we see it in the polypus, wch is transparent. the polypus
then, contracts itself & lyes a^sleep, 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 its 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, & shew'd it in the microscope. tis of a
prismatic shape, cover'd 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 call'd the grand galle. this is the more remarkable
because the common opinion^{is} that the pox first appeared
in Europe, at the Siege of Naples, which was 1455.

Mr. Stackhouse gives an Acco^t. in the philosophical transactions, of the Town of Bridgnorth. he says, on the Moss there, on a gravelly soil, are 5 antient barrows inclos'd in a ditch. he dug into two of them, and found bones turn'd 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 cubits of the Druids, the Diameter of Stonehenge, of Rowlight, of Silbury hill, at top: & many more.



1742-3

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24 march, At the Royal Society.

Mr. Collison bro't a paper from a correspond^t of his, giving him the natural method of the formation of the Stiles or eagle stons; accompanied with many stones in papers numbered, 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 heath.

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

The President read a curious account, drawn up by himself, of his observations on those polypus's sent him from Mons. Trembley; wch he recd the 10th of this ins. The Animal has generally 10 horns, or hands, sometimes 11, sometimes less, a number. They are of a very strange Mechanism, extremely lithe, nimble & tenacious. when a great worm given to 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

55

being design'd only as its suppeditament, 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 would become
complete animals, closing together the wounded sides, &
each half shooting out the horns it wants to complete it, &
eating. he divided some across: the like consequence follows.
The wound of the anterior part heals up. that wch 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
wch the stomach does not reach, for tis not hing'd 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.

1743.

14 April, At the Royal Society.

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

D^r. Milwards observations & drawings of the Polypus were read, wch were curious, & entertaining. he cut one across, that had another growing out of it. the head part eat a piece of meat directly, tho' it could not hold it fast, but pass'd thro' ~~eat~~ it. both the D^r. and Mr. Folkes have sometimes miss'd their polypus's, they have escap'd unaccountably: whence one may conjecture, that they have suddenly turn'd into a fly, as the knat kind. We may make this general Reflexion, from the surprizing transformations of, insects, that providence seems to have design'd 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 Gunnery presented to the society, an Extract from it, by the Author: 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.

1743.

21 April, At the Royal Society.

Mr. Robyns Acc^t. of his own book of gunnery read, being a number of experiments, & reasonings therefrom; on
that

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

An Acco. of Mons.^r Bonets treatise of insects was read lately publish'd. a Caterpillar describ'd, 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.

D.^r Desaguliers'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 Experiments} been fill'd with water, accurately solder'd up; then compress'd by a machine, till the water issued out of the pores of the gold in form of dew, but could by no means be reduc'd to less compass. yet tho' 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 nitre, 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.

1743.

28th April. At the Royal Society.

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Dr Desaguliers account continued. the wind is more powerful in raising vapours, than the sun, when it dries the road more in 2 hours, than the sun in two days.

A Continuation of Mons^r. Bonets treatise of insects the formica lea is an heronaphrodite, produces its offspring without any ingendring.

A discourse from Ireland, being the natural history of the County of Fwinnond, 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 antroom in the other house belonging to us, in Crane Court.

and thus ended my entertainments of the royal society; for my life, as I thought. for I quitted my house in Gloucester street, & retir'd, for all together to Stamford; to the house I had bought, on Barnhill, of Boverly Butler esq. in which I thought of passing the remainder of my life: & in serving the Cure of my Parish. till the Duke of Montagu was pleas'd to call me to Town.

in june 1745. I came to Town on business. ⁵⁹

20. june at the Royal Society.

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

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

11. at the Royal Society.

an account of Abbe Nolots experiments on water set a running & electrifyd.

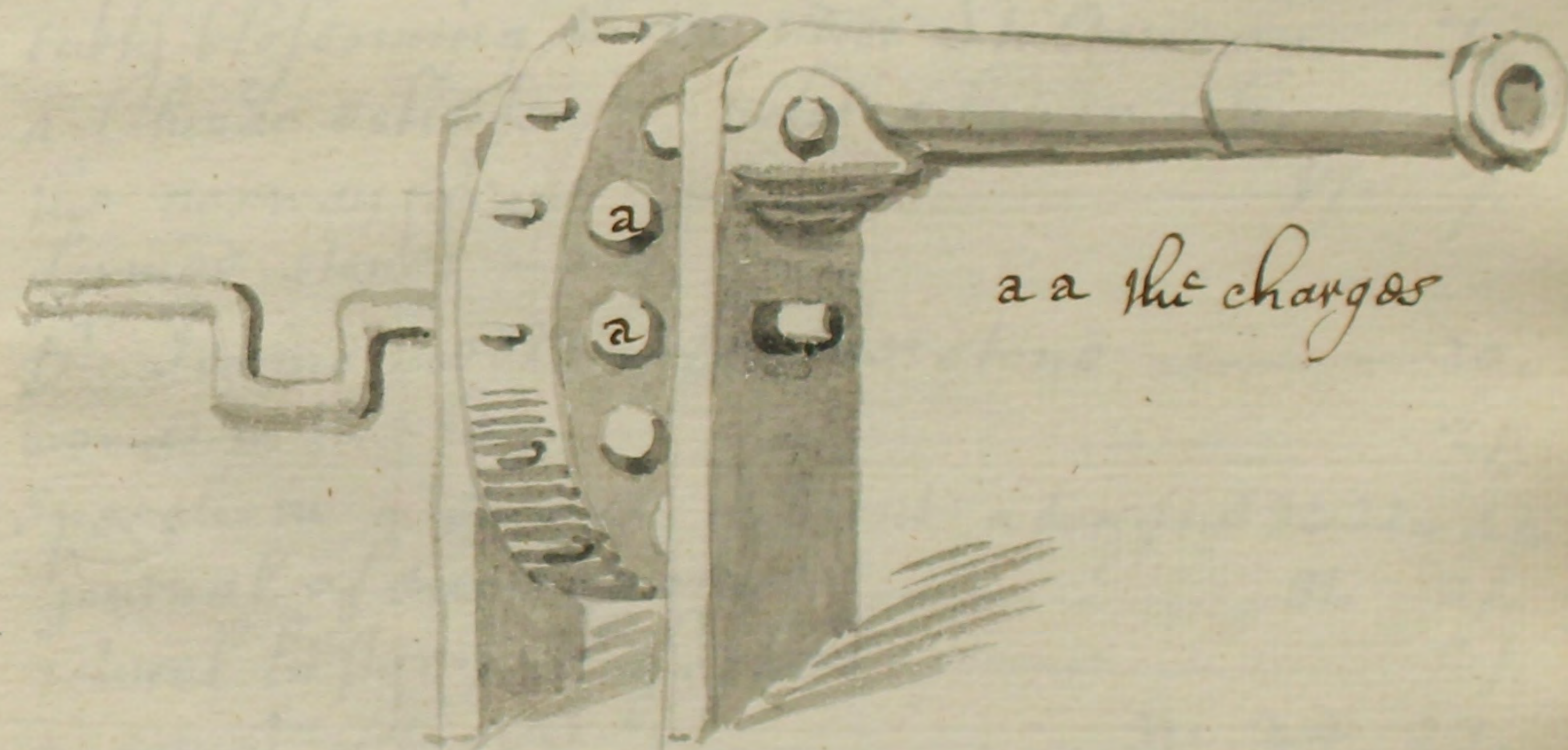
an acct. of the culture of the indigo plant, & managment of indigo.

mr Ardrons 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 acct. from a physician in Muscovy of a fetus, wh ~~was~~, after 9 months being fixed to the fallopian tube, was safely cut out. & what is remarkable, after the fetus was cut out, the womans breasts swoll, & became full of milk,

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, wh^{ch} by turning round, presents the charges successively to the piece, to be fired off instantly.



a a the charges

Mr MacLaurin's posthumous treatise of algebra, presented to the Society.

Mr Dawks's mirabile Willinghamense, or an acc^t. of a child arriv'd to a mans stature, & puberty.

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