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FROM
THE LIBRARY
OF
SIR WILLIAM OSLER, BART.
OXFORD



E. 1

This singularly rare collection was made by Geo. Stevens, at whose sale it was purchased by the late Duke of Roxburghe, who has added a curious original letter from the Accoucheur, John Howard, to himself, then Secretary of State, detailing the whole circumstances of this notorious case.

for £14.10.0 on May 23, 1800

3rd Duke born 1740
1st Duke held no office in 1726 then this letter was written

This volume produced at the Duke of Roxburghe's Sale (No 2001) the sum of £36.12.0.

Resold, White Knights (no. 4149) £12.12.0.

— Mr Jolley's May 1853 (No. 2233) £10.5.0.

The Hope-Edwards Sale } Lot 537
by Messrs Sotheby } May 23 1901
purchased by Messrs Mays for A. M. Broadley
"Daily Telegraph" May 24 1901

Christie

cc

Messrs. Christie concluded their four days' sale of the Hope Edwards Library, the total amount realised being £11,033. Most of the lots, as has already been shown, could be purchased only by bibliophiles whose pocket equals their penchant. A Paris edition dated 1488 of "Des Histoires," by La Mer, from the Jesuits' College, fetched £305; and J. Nichols's "History of the County of Leicester," £165. Nine volumes of that useful book to which allusion was made at the beginning of this notice, Smith's "Catalogue Raisonné of Dutch, Flemish, and French Painters," realised £49. Years ago Mary Tofts, the notorious "Rabbit Woman" of Godalming, was much discussed by the quidnuncs. A collection of rare tracts on her case was sold in the Bedford sale of 1812 for thirty-five guineas. Since then there has been time for excitement to die down, and yesterday only £6 5s was bid. A fourth edition of "The Complete Angler," and two volumes of "The Experienced Angler" brought together £31. The first edition of Spenser's "Colin Clout's Come Home Again," dated 1595, fetched £35, and that curious work on the Stuarts, "The True Effigies of our Most Illustrious Sovereigne Lord King Charles, Queen Mary, with the Rest of the Royal Progenie," published in 1641, £157. The copy of Sidney's "The Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia," which belonged to "Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother," bound in old red morocco powdered with small hearts and flames, reached £255, and that rare Romance of Chivalry, "Tristan," printed anew in Paris, 1533, and ornately bound by Chambolle-Duru in the style of Nicholas Eve, £170. 3.)

I paid £10-10/- for it at the broadley sale W.D.

Roxburghe

Roxburghe?

4115

Doctor Combe presents his respectful compliments to Mrs Stearns
returns him many thanks for $\frac{1}{2}$ examination of his
very curious collection of pamphlets respecting Mary
Tofts & begs his acceptance of the two trifling things
he has added to them.

Bloomsbury Square
Sunday Morning

TOFT [or TOFTS] (MARY) 1701 ?-63.

4115. [A volume containing tracts and transcripts of tracts, and letters, portraits, &c., relating to Mary Toft, the 'Rabbit-Breeder'.] 8°. *Lond.*, 1726-53.

With the Roxburghe crest on the covers; bk.-plates of Sir Henry Hope Edwardes and A. M. Broadley. Inserted: autogr. note to Steevens from Chas. Combe (who added "two trifling things" to the collection); and cuttings from sale catalogues &c.

A MS. note on the flyleaf reads: "This singularly rare collection was made by Geo. Steevens, at whose sale it was purchased [22 May, 1800, lot 1551, for £14. 10. 0] by the late Duke of Roxburghe, who has added a curious original letter [xxiii] from the Accoucheur, John Howard... detailing the whole circumstances of this notorious case. This volume produced at the Duke of Roxburghe's sale (lot 2001) the sum of £36. 15. 0. Re-sold, White Knights [library of the 5th Duke of Marlborough, 1819] lot 4149 £12. 12. 0; Mr. Jolley's, May 1853 (lot 2233) £10. 5. 0"; and, in a later hand: "The Hope-Edwardes sale... lot 537, May 23, 1901, purchased [for £6. 5. 0] by Messrs. Maggs for A. M. Broadley."

I had a number of the pamphlets, but as this set seemed to be of special interest, I sent a bid and got the vol. for £10. 10. 0 (Broadley sale, Hodgson's, 12 June, 1917, lot 310). Broadley, in no. 7077, p. 2, speaks of this as a good example of pre-Granger grangerizing. The D. N. B. has a full account of the case and the literature. It is of interest only as one of the most celebrated instances of hysterical deception. [W. O.]

Contents as arranged in the volume :

i. Two portraits of Mary Toft, one in Indian ink, ascribed in MS. to Sam. Ireland.

ii. A Short Narrative of an Extraordinary Delivery of Rabbets, perform'd by Mr. John Howard Surgeon at Guilford. Published by Mr. St. André Surgeon and Anatomist to his Majesty. *Lond.*, 1727.

iii. The Anatomist dissected: or The Man-Midwife finely brought to bed. Being an Examination of the Conduct of Mr. St. André. Touching the late pretended Rabbit-bearer; as it appears from his own Narrative. By Lemuel Gulliver, Surgeon and Anatomist to the Kings of Lilliput and Blefuscu... The 2nd ed.... *Westminster*, 1727.

Apparently not by Swift. Prefixed is a reproduction of a portrait of St. André.

iv. Remarks on A short Narrative of an Extraordinary Delivery of Rabbets... as publish'd by Mr. St. André... With a proper Regard to his intended Recantation. By Thomas Brathwaite, Surgeon. *Lond.*, 1726.

v. An exact Diary of what was observ'd during a Close Attendance upon Mary Toft, the pretended Rabbet-Breeder . . . Together with An Account of her Confession of the Fraud. By Sir Richard Manningham . . . The 2nd ed. *Lond.*, 1726.

vi. An Advertisement occasion'd by some Passages in Sir R. Manningham's Diary lately published. By J. Douglas, M.D. *Lond.*, 1727.

vii. Some Observations concerning the Woman of Godlyman in Surrey . . . Tending to prove her extraordinary Deliveries to be a Cheat and Imposture. By Cyriacus Ahlers, Surgeon to His Majesty. *Lond.*, 1726.

viii. Much ado about Nothing: or, a Plain Refutation of all that has been written or said concerning the Rabbit-Woman of Godalming. Being a full and impartial Confession from her own mouth . . . *Lond.*, 1727.

ix. The several Depositions of Edward Costen, Richard Stedman . . . and Mary Costen; relating to the Affair of Mary Toft . . . *Lond.*, 1727.

At the end is printed an 'Advertisement' of St. André's, dated 8 Dec., 1726, acknowledging that he had been deceived. Prefixed is a copy, from MS. Sloane 3312, of a letter from Thomas, 2nd Baron Onslow, 4 Dec., 1726, concerning these Depositions which had been taken by him that day.

x. An Account of the Rabbets, &c. *n. pl. or d.* With woodcut heading; 2 leaves; an advertisement of the 'Anodyne Necklace' for teething children.

xi. à Propos. Mr. St. André's Case and Depositions, as published in the London Gazette of February 23, 1724 . . . *Lond.*, *n.d.*

This has reference, not to Mary Toft, but to a previous affair of St. André's, in which he alleged that an attempt had been made, in

Feb. 1724⁴/₅, to poison him (see D. N. B., vol. 50, p. 120).

xii. The Discovery: or The Squire turn'd Ferret. An Excellent New Ballad . . . The 2nd ed. *Westminster*, 1727. [A transcript.]

xiii. A Shorter and Truer Advertisement by way of Supplement to what was published the 7th. instant. Or Dr. D . . . g . . . l . . . s in an Extasy, at Lacey's Bagnio December the 4th. 1726. *Lond.*, 1727. [Ballad, signed 'Flamingo'. A transcript.]

xiv. A Letter from a Male Physician in the Country, to the Author of the Female Physician in London . . . To which is added, A Short Dissertation upon Generation, whereby every Child-bearing Woman may be satisfied, that 'tis as impossible for Women to generate and bring forth Rabbets, as 'tis impossible for Rabbets to bring forth Women . . . *Lond.*, 1726.

With a chapter from 'The Female Physician',

1724, by John Maubray, whose credulity is here compared with St. André's; cf. tract xvii.

xv. St. A—D—É's Miscarriage, or A Full and True Account of the Rabbit Woman. The 2nd ed. *Lond.*, 1727. [A ballad. Transcript.]

xvi. A Song on the Rabbit Breeder by ****
*****. *Lond.*, 1727. [A transcript.]

xvii. The Sooterkin dissected. In a letter to John Maubray, M.D. alias Dr. Giovanni. Wherein is clearly prov'd, I. That there never was such an Animal... [&c.]. By a Lover of Truth and Learning. *Lond.*, 1726.

Signed Philalethes. According to a Dutch superstition, the Sooterkin, or Suyger (sucker), was a parasitic, rat-like animal that developed with the child in utero. Maubray in his book (cf. tract xiv) declared that he had seen one born.

xviii. The Opinion of y^e Rev^d M^r William Whiston concerning the Affair of Mary Toft, asserting it to be the Completion of a Prophecy of Esdras. Extracted from the Memoirs of his own Life and Writings. Written by Himself. The 2nd ed. corrected... *Lond.*, 1753.

A transcript; with a note in a different hand, "This Pamphlet is in the handwriting of George Steevens Esq.". It is preceded by an engr. portrait of Whiston, and a page of MS. notes referring to (a) tract x, above; (b) Hogarth's and other prints of the affair; and (c) a notice in the *Gazetteer*, 21 Jan., 1763, of the death of Mary Tofts.

xix. The Rabbit-Man-Midwife. [Verses transcribed from 'A new miscellany', *Lond.*, 1730.]

xx. The Doctors in Labour, or a New Whim Wham from Guildford... *n. pl. or d.*

Twelve compartments, cut from a large engraving, each with verses beneath and each mounted separately. Another copy, a single sheet print as issued, and with title, is inserted folded at the end of the volume.

xxi. De Muliere Cuniculipara. Autore D^o. Orrery Burdet, Arm^o. [Verses transcribed "from a M.S. of Ballard", i. e. Geo. Ballard, the anti-quary.]

xxii. A note, undated, from St. André to Sir Hans Sloane, stating that he has brought the woman to London. [Transcribed from MS. Sloane 3316.]

xxiii. Autograph letter from John Howard, the apothecary who attended Mary Toft, addressed to 'My Lord Duke' and dated 'Guldeford Nov. 9th 1726'; two leaves, folio, describing the case. "The twelfth Rabbit I believe I shall take from her about six o'clock, I have Eleven of them in Spirits..." A different letter, written the same day, is printed in the 'Narrative' (tract ii), p. 5.

xxiv. Mr. Petit a French Surgeon sent from

Paris to Doctor Meagre to take an exact Account
from him of y^e Præternatural Delivery of Rabbets
(Lond.), sold by J. Clark, engraver, n.d.
An engraving, folded and mounted, a
caricature of St. André. Followed by another
copy, unmounted.

537 TOFTS (MARY). A COMPLETE COLLECTION OF ALL THE TRACTS,

*From Catalogue
of the Hope*

& Edwards Sale

June 1901.

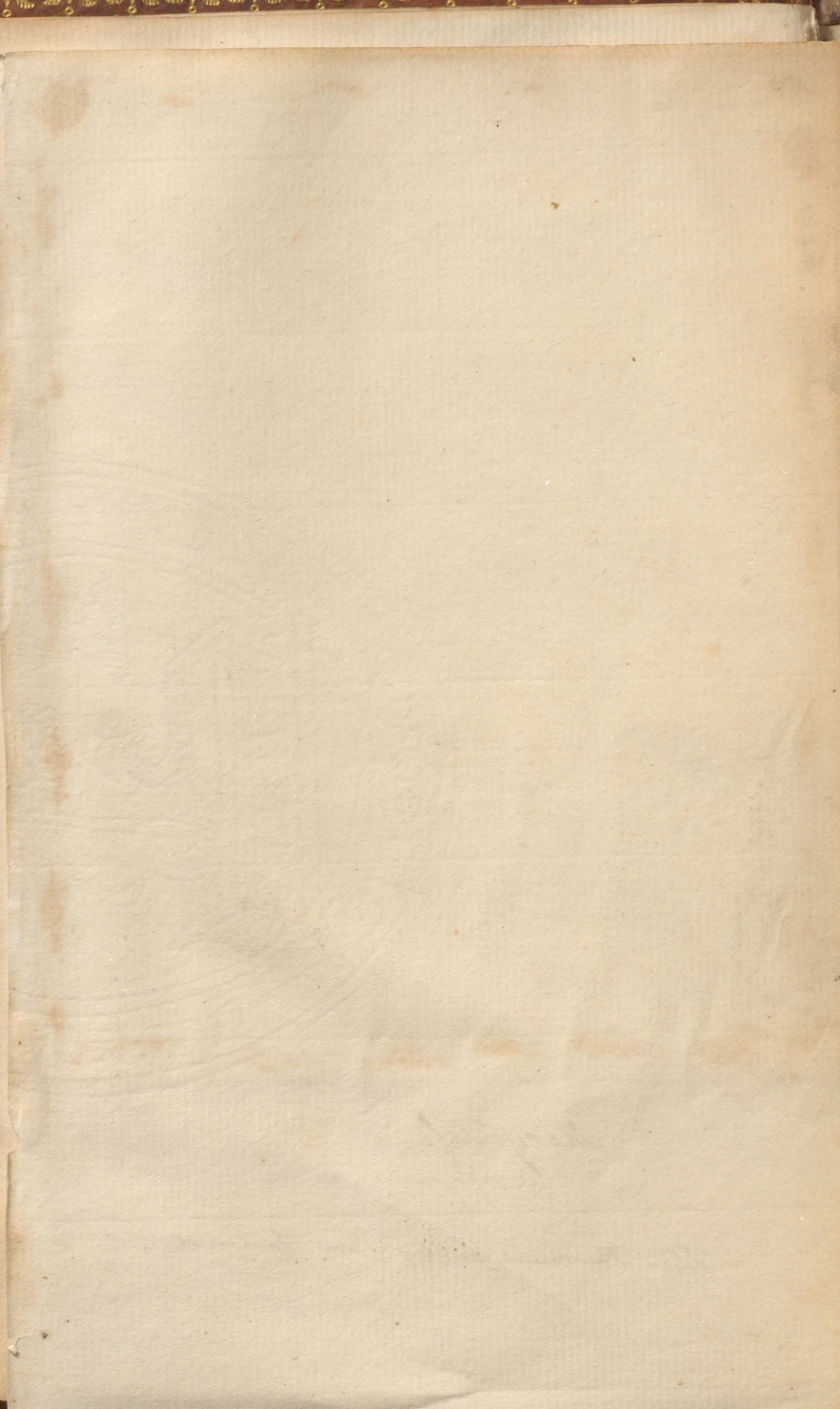
Christie, 23 May, 1901.

both printed and manuscript, relating to Mary Tofts, the celebrated Rabbit Woman of Godalming, collected by G. Steevens, with her Portrait in Indian ink, by S. Ireland, and a curious Autograph Letter from Mr. Howard the Accorcheur, to the Duke of Roxburghe, then Secretary of State, detailing the whole circumstances of the Case, *old russia, with gold borders, from the Library of the Duke of Roxburghe*



Mary Taft.
1727. v.

This Portrait is by Sam. Ireland





Maddocks sculp^t

MARY TOFTS,
(The Pretended Rabbit Breeder.)

10495*

A SHORT
NARRATIVE

Of an Extraordinary

Delivery of Rabbits,

Perform'd by

Mr. JOHN HOWARD

Surgeon at *Guilford*.

Published by Mr. *St. André* Surgeon and Anatomist to his Majesty.



L O N D O N,

Printed for JOHN CLARKE, at the *Bible* under the *Royal-Exchange*. MDCCLXXVII.

G. STEEVENS

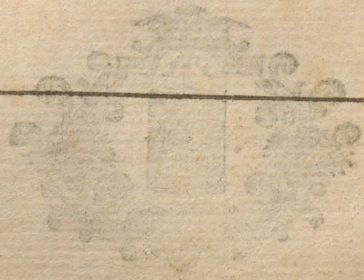
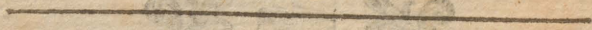
NARRATIVE

Of an Extraordinary

Delivery of Rabbits

Related by

MR. JOHN HOWARD
THE Account of the Delivery of
the eighteenth Rabbit, shall be
Published by way of Appendix to this
Account.



LONDON

Printed by J. B. ...

ESTD 1725



A Short Narrative of an Extraordinary Delivery, &c.



Whatever may be the Fate of this Account, I think myself indispensably obliged to relate the Facts that I saw, and transacted myself, as also the Reasons which first induced me to enquire into the Truth of such an Extraordinary Event; but I here declare that I take on me no other Part of this Narration, than that in which I was actually concerned.

As Mr. *Howard* himself intends shortly to publish the whole Account, and prove every Circumstance of

it, by such Evidences as will put this Matter out of all possibility of Doubt, I must refer to him for several Particulars here omitted.

And as it will be impossible to judge impartially of this Fact, till the Evidences abovemention'd are produced, it cannot be doubted but all such Persons as are not governed by Prejudice, or some worse Motive, will suspend their Judgment till these Facts come to their Knowledge by a more certain way, than by flying Reports and Conjectures.

The first Intelligence I received of this Matter, was on the 5th Instant, when I saw a very particular ^a Account of a Woman living at *Godliman* lately delivered of five Rabbits by Mr. *John Howard*, Surgeon at *Guilford* in *Sur-*

^a This Account was taken the 4th Instant at *Guilford* by Mr. *Davenant*.

rey, a Man of known Probity, Character, and Capacity in his Profession, who has practis'd Midwifery for above these thirty Years.

This Account was again confirmed by two ^bLetters from the said Mr. Howard, the first dated *Nov.* the 6th, 4 a Clock in the Afternoon; the Substance of which is, That from the 4th Instant to the 6th he had deliver'd the Woman of three more Rabbits; that the last of them had leap'd in her Belly, for the space of eighteen Hours, before it dy'd, and that the Moment it was taken away, another was perceiv'd to struggle for Birth.

The second is dated *Nov.* the ninth, and is here transcribed *verbatim*, viz.

SIR,

SINCE I wrote to you, I have taken or deliver'd the poor Wo-

^bThe Letters were directed to Mr. Davenant.

man

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

I am, SIR,

Your humble Servant,

JOHN HOWARD.

If you send a Person, let him bring a Letter from you.

These

These Letters, with others to Persons of Distinction in Town, which all agreed with the above-mentioned, were sufficient to make me desirous of being convinced personally of a Fact of which there was no Instance in Nature. Accordingly on the 15th Instant, I attended the Honourable Mr. *Molyneux*, Secretary to his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, who was inclin'd to enquire into the Truth of this extraordinary Case, and desir'd me to go with him to *Guilford*: We arrived there at about half an hour after two in the Afternoon. We sent to Mr. *Howard*, who came to us immediately, and told us that the Woman was actually in Labour of the fifteenth Rabbet. We had not been at his House long, before the Nurse who attends the Woman came to call Mr. *Howard* to her, she being then in one of her labour Pains. She

She was lodged over against Mr. *Howard's* House, we found her dress'd in her Stays, sitting on the Bed-side with several Women near her. I immediately examined her, and not finding the Parts prepared for her Labour, I waited for the coming on of fresh Pains, which hapned in three or four minutes, at which time I deliver'd her of the entire Trunk, strip'd of its Skin, of a Rabbet of about four Months growth, in which the Heart and Lungs were contained with the Diaphragm entire. I instantly cut off a piece of them, and tried them in Water; they seem'd but just specifically lighter than it, and Mr. *Molyneux* pressing them to the Bottom they rose again very slowly; the Heart was very large, and its *Foramen Ovale* entirely open; the Lungs were remarkably small, and of a much darker Colour

2

than

than commonly the Lungs are of such Rabbits, who have breathed for some time. No Person but my self touch'd her, from the first time that I had examined her, to the time of her being deliver'd by me: Her Pains were pretty smart, and lasted for some Minutes; they went off the Moment she was deliver'd, and she seem'd chearful and easy; walked by herself from the Bed-side to the Fire, and sat on a Chair, where I examined her; and found, that in the Course of the *Fallopian Tubes*, there were some Inequalities, but more sensibly on the right side of her Belly; which made me conjecture that the Rabbits were bred in those Tubes, and only came into the *Uterus*, when they gave her those Agitations, which, according to the account of Mr. *Howard*, and of several other Persons,

B

were

were sensibly felt many Hours before their Exclusion.

As there was no Blood nor Water that issued from the *Vagina*, after I had delivered her, I again examined that Part, and found it not in the least inflamed or lacerated.

Upon examining her Breasts, I found Milk in one of them, but only a little yellowish *Serum* in the other.

Her Pulse was regular, but somewhat low; her Tongue florid; and upon asking for her Water, those about her answered, she made very little, and that they had not saved any.

She informed us, that in the Intervals of her Labour-Pains she was tolerably easy, and had no inclination for any sort of Food but Beef.

About two Hours after we had left her, they came again to call Mr. Howard,

Howard, she being at that Time in violent Labour-Pains ; but he and my self were gone to see the Mayor, who was then ill. The Nurse that attended her had delivered her, before our return, of the lower Part of a Male Rabbet, which we found totally with the Trunk, which I had before extracted : This was also strip'd of its Skin, and compleatly perfect in all its Parts, but more manifestly so in those of Generation.

In the *Rectum* of this Animal, which remain'd affix'd to the Body, we found five or six Pellets, much of the same Colour and Consistence as the common Dung of a Rabbet, little Bodies, like dried Fragments, being matted together with a mucous Matter. The like was observed in some other Parts of those Rabbets, which had come away before. In the other Bowels there was

a dirty colour'd *Mucus*, of the Nature of that which is constantly found in the Bowels of all *foetus* Animals, and which in those that void their Excrements in Pellets, is commonly hard and dry; but the Matter in the Guts of the first Animal was of an entire different Kind, Colour and Substance from any of the rest, this being like little Filaments of an Animal Substance. In the Middle of the Gut *Ilium* of this Creature, I found a very slender, brittle, white Body, of the Length of half an Inch, which in Shape was like a very small Fish-bones.

Between six and seven the same Evening we again visited her; we had not been there long, before she fell into violent Labour-Pains, inso-much that four or five Persons cou'd hardly confine her to an Arm-Chair: As soon as the Violence of the first
Pain

Pain was somewhat abated, I examin-
ed her as before, and found the *Va-*
gina perfectly clear; and the Orifice of
the *Uterus* so far closed, as not to ad-
mit of the little Finger. I constantly
stood before her, nor did any Person
whatsoever touch her, during that
Time. After three or four very strong
Pains, that lasted several Minutes, I
delivered her of the Skin of the above-
said Rabbet, rolled and squeezed up
like a Ball, without the least Moisture
or Blood about it; upon which she re-
cover'd of her Pain.

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

About ten Minutes after, as near
as I can judge, she again fell into La-
bour-Pains, though more sudden and
short than the former; at which time

I again deliver'd her of the Head of the Rabbet, with the Furr on, part of one of the Ears being torn off, also without any Blood or Moisture: And as to these two Deliveries, and particularly as to the Circumstances of the latter, Mr. *Molyneux* having drawn up an Account of this whole Affair, for his own private Satisfaction; immediately upon our return to *London*; I beg leave to refer, for the Conviction he had of the Truth thereof, to that Account, which I have his leave to say, he will communicate to any Gentleman that is desirous to peruse it.

After this she soon grew easy, and Mr. *Howard* gave her a sleeping Draught.

About ten in the Evening we saw the Woman for the last Time, she being then in Bed: Having felt her Belly, I found it soft, except those Lumps, which still were in the same Place as before mentioned. Be-

Between the Times of visiting the Woman, we examined the several Rabbits, which were all kept separate in distinct Pots, with Spirits of Wine, in the Order that they were brought away.

The first Animal did not appear to be a perfect Rabbit, in all its Parts, three of the Feet being like the Paws of a Cat, the Stomach and Intestines like those Parts in the same Animal, as also the Shape and Figure of the *Thorax*; the Lungs and Heart of which were entirely out of their natural Situation, and squeezed out between the upper Ribbs and *Vertebrae* of the Neck, to which Parts they strongly grew and adhered. The Lungs of this Creature, had they been placed in their natural Cavity, would not have filled above a sixth Part of it: The Bones of this Creature being also
so

so different in Substance and Structure, from those of common Rabbits, the Head and one Paw only excepted.

All the other thirteen Animals were, in every Particular, like well formed, common, natural Rabbits, from the Size of two Months Growth to four. They were all broken in Pieces, and much in the same Manner. I shall describe these pieces in the Order that Mr. *Howard* told us they had commonly been brought away. First the four Paws with the Furr on; then the Liver and Intestines; the Trunk and Shoulders in another Part: In three or four Animals the Loyns separated from the *Os Sacrum*; and in the rest, the *Ischium* and Thighs in one piece, with the Loyns; the Head with its Furr, and lastly the Skin.

When all these several Parts were put together in their proper Order, they manifestly

manifestly made up, and appeared to belong to the above-mentioned Animals: But the *Viscera* were wanting in four or five of them. One remarkable Circumstance is, that most of these Animals were Females, as far as I could judge.

The Heart and Liver of those which we examined, appeared much larger than usual, when compared with the *Lungs* and *Intestines* which belonged to them; which on the contrary were extremely small. The *Cœcum* and *Colon*, which are remarkably large in Rabbits, appeared not to exceed in bigness the other Intestines, and the spiral Structure of the *Cœcum* was not yet unfolded; the Stomach was in likemanner much contracted, and its *Pilorus* very streight and narrow. I cou'd not discover, in any of the Livers that I examin'd, the *Ductus Venosus*,

nor the implantation of the *Umbelical* Vein in that Organ.

I open'd three or four of the Hearts, and found in every one of them the *Foramen Ovale*, and the *Ductus Arteriosus* fully open, the two Trunks of the Descendant *Cava* united at the right Auricle of the Heart, agreeable to that Structure which is peculiar to natural Rabbits, and some few other Animals.

The Flesh of these Creatures, particularly of that which I extracted, had the smell of Rabbits just killed: and the Substance of their Bones were, in all respects, like the Bones of *Fœtus* Rabbits; in several of them the *Epiphyses* were separated from the Bones themselves.

All the Heads which I examin'd had their compleat number of Teeth, four Cutters before, and ten Grinders

on each side, but they appeared not in the least worn nor stained, as the Teeth of other Rabbits are by Mastication.

The Nails of the Paws were most of them exceedingly sharp.

The Skins were all produced, being dress'd in Allum; they were of several Colours, as to their Furr, which was considerably long, and in one particularly (which was the fifth Rabbit,) that part which cover'd the Head was curled.

The Rabbit which I extracted weigh'd one and twenty ounces *Averdupoize*, making an allowance for one of the Paws not yet come away, and part of the *Viscera* that were lost.

From all these Considerations I was fully convinced, that at the same time that the external Appearance of these Animals was exactly like such Creatures, as must inevitably undergo the Chan-

ges that happen to adult Animals, by Food and Air, they carry'd within them the strongest Marks of *Foetus's*, even by such parts as cannot exist in an Adult, and without which a *Foetus* cannot possibly be supposed to live. This, I think, proves in the strongest Terms possible that these Animals were of a particular kind, and not bred in a natural Way; nor will there be any doubt remaining (even with the least knowing in these matters) when those parts which are subservient to the Circulation of the Blood, and Nourishment between an adult Creature and its *Foetus* are brought away; which I am fully satisfied must shortly happen, or, if retained, be the Cause of this Woman's Death.

All these Facts were verify'd before his Majesty, on *Saturday Nov. the 26th*, by the Anatomical Demonstration of
the

the first, the third, fifth, and ninth of these Animals, which were compared with the parts of two natural Rabbits, the one of the Age of four Months, and the other of five Days, Dr. *Steigertal* and Dr. *Tessier* being present.

I shall with all convenient speed publish the Anatomy of these Præternatural Rabbits, with their Figures taken from the Life, and compared with the Parts of Rabbits of the same growth, that the differences before mention'd may be fully understood.

In the mean while, I shall relate what appear'd in the Dissection of two Rabbits, which I performed in the Presence of Mr. *Molyneux*, the very Day that we returned from *Guilford*; the one was of four Months growth, and much of the Size of that which I had taken from the Woman, the other was barely fifteen Days old. The

Lungs

Lungs of the larger were, as nearly as I can judge, twenty times bigger in Capacity than those of the præternatural one, and the Lungs of the smaller were at least eight times the bigness of the fore-mentioned; both these were exceedingly different, in Colour and Consistence, from those of the præternatural Rabbet.

The *Foramen Ovale* of the smaller Rabbet was more than two thirds open, and that in the larger was so far closed, as but just to admit a very small Probe.

As to the Stomach and Intestines, the difference was so notoriously great from those we had examined, that even in the sucking Rabbet, the Stomach and *Cœcum* were at least three times larger than those parts in the præternatural ones.

I shall give no other Account of the
 Woman,

Woman, than what I think pertinent to this Subject: By the several Questions which I put to her, I was informed, that she was born and bred at *Godlyman*; She seem'd to be of a healthy strong Constitution, of a small size, and fair Complexion; of a very stupid and sullen Temper: She can neither write nor read: She has been married about six Years to one *Joshua Tost*, Junior, a poor Journey-man Clothier at *Godlyman*, by whom she has had three Children. The account she further gave of herself, was, that on the 23d of *April* last, as she was weeding in a Field, she saw a Rabbet spring up near her, after which she ran, with another Woman that was at work just by her; this set her a longing for Rabbits, being then, as she thought, five Weeks gone with Child; the other Woman perceiving she was uneasy, charg-

ed

ed her with longing for the Rabbet they cou'd not catch, but she deny'd it: soon after another Rabbet sprung up near the same place, which she endeavour'd likewise to catch. The same Night she dreamt that she was in a Field with those two Rabbets in her Lap, and awaked with a sick Fit, which lasted till Morning; from that time, for above three Months, she had a constant and strong desire to eat Rabbets, but being very poor and indigent cou'd not procure any. About seventeen Weeks after her longing, she was taken with a Flooding and violent Cholick Pains, which made her to miscarry of a Substance that she said was like a large lump of Flesh. Three Weeks after this, she was again taken with a Flooding, and voided another Substance like the former, but not so large. Notwithstanding these Accidents, she
 did

did not perceive her self to grow less, but continued with the Symptoms of a breeding Woman; insomuch that in the beginning of *September*, as she was working in the Hop-Ground, the Milk flow'd profusely from her Breasts; and as she had Children before, she thought she felt very differently from what she used to do. That on the 27th of *September* last she was taken very ill in the Night, and sent for her Mother in Law, who is a Midwife, and a neighbouring Woman, at which time she voided somewhat, which she took to be the Lights and Guts of a Pig, which her Husband carried to Mr. *Howard*, who some Days afterwards came to her and deliver'd her of some parts of the Animal first mention'd. After a Fortnight she was Churched, and thought all was over

D

with

with her. She told me that her Husband had not cohabited with her, from the time of her first Miscarriage; and that after the first Rabbet was brought away, she had one regular Menstrual Evacuation.

The Account Mr. *Howard* gave was, in every material Circumstance, the same with the Woman's Relation; he said the Guts and Liver (as he thought) of a Rabbet were brought to him, but he never knew or heard of the Woman or her Friends till then, and that at first he took this to be intended to be an Imposition upon him: but was at last with much Persuasion prevail'd on to go to assist her at *Godlyman*; that he did accordingly deliver her of part of the first Rabbet; that he attended her at *Godlyman*, till she was delivered of the ninth; but

but that it being very inconvenient to attend her there, which made him neglect all his other Business, he had brought her to *Guilford* for better Con-
veniency.

Mr. *Howard* further related, that when she was delivered of one Rabbit, another was immediately felt in her Belly, struggling with such Violence, that the Motion thereof cou'd be sensibly felt and seen: That this Motion has sometimes been so strong, as to move the Bed-Clothes, and that it has lasted for twenty and above thirty Hours together. This particular Fact was unanimously agreed on, and attested by most of the People at *Guilford*, who have had the Curiosity to go to see her, and was confirmed to Mr. *Molyneux* and my self by above ten different Persons, who all
D 2 seemed

seemed to be indifferent in this Matter.

Mr. *Howard* further told me, that, during this Motion, she was always free from Pain, and chearful; but that immediately upon the ceasing of it, she grew sick, and soon began to perceive her Labour-Pains drawing near; that upon her first Pains, the Bones of the Animal were sensibly heard to snap, and break by the violent convulsive Motions of the *Uterus*: This last Circumstance was likewise related by the same Persons that attested the former. He further added, that she had four breakings of Waters in the coming of the Rabbits, although in no great Quantity.

On *Wednesday* the 23d Instant, I set out again for *Guilford*, with Mr. *D'Anteny*, being resolved to bring the

Woman

Woman to Town, if there was any further prospect of more Rabbits. We arrived there at one in the Afternoon, and we found Mr. *Howard* standing at his Door, who told us, that she had been delivered of two more Rabbits since I had seen her, and that he hoped all was over, being he did not perceive in the *Uterus* any Motion as usual. I visited her several times that Day, and proceeded in every respect as before; her Pains, which, when I saw her the first Time, were mixed with intervals of Quiet and Rest, now were constant and fixed on the right Side of her Belly; her Pulse was more irregular; she described her Pain as if very coarse brown Paper was tearing from within her. Towards eight a Clock that Evening she voided a Piece of one of the Membranes of a *Placenta*,
 rolled

rolled up like Parchment; when it was extended, it measured about six Inches over. The next Morning, as I was packing up of some of the Rabbits to bring to Town with me, Mr. *Howard* was sent for over, and Mr. *D'Anteny*, Dr. *Hempe*, and my self attended him. We found her in exquisite Torture, and after seven or eight Minutes, she was again disburthen'd of a Membrane, in Structure, Shape and Size exactly like the former. This was the first part that I saw come from her with some effusion of Blood. She did not seem in the least reliev'd after this Operation, her Pulse continu'd irregular, her Tongue white, and her Urine deeply stained with a *Mucus*: and livid Blood.

Mr.

Mr. *Ablers* having been at *Guilford*, by his Majesty's Order, (as Mr. *Howard* told us) to enquire into the Truth of this Fact, was fully convinced of it, as he himself declared, having assisted the greatest part of *Sunday* the 20th instant, at the Delivery of some of the 16th Rabbet, which he brought to Town with him. But as on this Occasion his Behaviour has been represented here different from what it was at *Guilford*, I cannot better vindicate that Gentleman's Character, than by subjoyning the following Affidavits, which were taken in the presence of Mr. *D'Anteny*, and Doctor *Hampe*. And that the Truth, so far as it relates to this Point, may be known, I think he is strictly obliged, in
 Justice

Justice to the Publick, forthwith to give an Account of what he saw and transacted there; as I here have done.

London, Monday
Nov. 28. 1726.

N. S. T. A. N. D. R. E.

I HAVE carefully read the above Narrative. Whether the Animals mentioned therein were præternaturally produced in this Woman; or that a Fraud is practicable in this Case, I do not take upon me to say: Gentlemen who are sufficient Judges will determine that Matter upon proper Evidence; I can only certify, That I did draw up a Relation as is above-mentioned, which, in the most material Circumstances of Fact, agrees with this Narrative; and I can further affirm, that I did not perceive the least Circumstance of Fraud in the Conduct of this Affair while I was at Guilford.

Nov. 29. 1726.

S. MOLYNEUX.

John Howard of Guilford in the Guilford
in Com' }
Surrey. } R.
County of Surrey Surgeon, ma-

‘ keth Oath, That on *Sunday* the twen-
 ‘ tieth Day of this instant Month of
 ‘ *November*, at or about ten a Clock
 ‘ in the Morning, he this Deponent
 ‘ was called home to a Person who
 ‘ told him his name was *Ablers*; that
 ‘ he was come to see *Mary Toft*;
 ‘ that he was ordered by his Majesty
 ‘ to attend her till all was over; and
 ‘ that he was Surgeon to his Majesty’s
 ‘ *German* Houshold. And this De-
 ‘ ponent saith, That at that very time
 ‘ the Nurse of the said *Mary Toft*
 ‘ came to acquaint this Deponent,
 ‘ that the said *Mary Toft* was in La-
 ‘ bour: And thereupon this Depo-
 ‘ nent carried the said Mr. *Ablers*
 ‘ over to her with him, and having
 ‘ touched her in his Presence, desired
 ‘ him to examine her, for that he found
 ‘ all things ready for a Delivery.

E

‘ That

' That Mr. *Ablers* did accordingly
 ' examine ; but this Deponent finding
 ' that he did not hasten her Delivery,
 ' nor that he proceeded as one who
 ' understands Midwifery should do,
 ' this Deponent directed him how to
 ' proceed in the Extraction, which
 ' after some time Mr. *Ablers* effect-
 ' ed, having brought away the Loins
 ' and inferior Parts of a Rabbet, of
 ' about three Months Growth. That
 ' after this Mr. *Ablers* told this De-
 ' ponent, and all the Persons present,
 ' that he was fully satisfied, and con-
 ' vinced of the Truth, and that he
 ' could have no Doubts after such
 ' Proofs. That at the same time he
 ' gave the Woman a Guinea, expres-
 ' sing great Satisfaction, and promising
 ' that he would procure her a Pen-
 ' sion from his Majesty : That he re-
 ' peated the same Things to Mr. *Tho.*
 ' *Howard* in this Deponent's Presence,

' not

' nor did he offer any Objections or
 ' Doubts to them. That some time
 ' after Mr. *Ablers* desired to touch the
 ' Woman again; but as at the time
 ' before he had put her to a great
 ' deal of unnecessary Pain, this De-
 ' ponent desired him to forbear. That
 ' some time after Mr. *Ablers* said he
 ' was not well, and that he must
 ' hasten back to *London*. That this
 ' Deponent pressed him to stay, that
 ' he might assist at the bringing away
 ' of the Remainder of the Rabbet, but
 ' could not prevail on him; and soon
 ' after he accordingly set out for
 ' *London*, although it was almost
 ' dark.

JOHN HOWARD.

Jur. vicesimo quinto die Novembris,

Anno Reg. Regis Geo. &c. 13.

Anno Dom. 1726. coram

JOS. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFTON.

E 2

Mary

Mary Toft, the Wife of *Joshua Toft*,
of *Godlyman* in the County of
Surrey, Clothworker, and *Mary*
Costen Nurse to the said *Mary*
Toft, severally make Oath, That
Mr. Ablers declared it was wonder-
ful People would not believe a Fact
that was so true as this appeared to
him, and the said *Mary Toft* saith,
That *Mr. Ablers* examined her
Breasts, and found Milk in one of
them.

The Mark of
Mary † Toft.

The Mark of
Mary × Costen.

Jur. Die 3 Anno supradict.
coram

Jos. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.

Eliza-

Elizabeth Helmes of *Guilford* in the Guilford
in Com'
Surrey. County of *Surrey* Widow, maketh
 ' Oath, That on *Sunday* the twentieth
 ' Day of this instant *November*, at a-
 ' bout four in the Afternoon, she ask-
 ' ed Mr. *Ablers*, who dined then at
 ' her House, bearing the Sign of the
 ' *White-Heart*, whether he believed this
 ' Account; and that his Answer was,
 ' That he fully did believe it. To which
 ' this Deponent reply'd; Then I hope,
 ' Sir, you will convince a great many
 ' Unbelievers when you return to *Lon-*
 ' *don*, as some other Gentlemen have
 ' already done; to which he said he
 ' should, as this Deponent apprehend-
 ' ed.

ELIZ. HELMES.

Jur' vicesimo quinto die Novembris
An. Reg. Regis Geo. & c. 13. Anno
Domini 1726. coram

JOS. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.

Olive

O *Live Sands*, the Wife of *John Sands*
 of *Guilford* in the County of *Sur-*
 rey *Sadler*, maketh Oath, That she
 was constantly in the room on *Sun-*
 day the twentieth instant with *Mr.*
Ablers, from eleven in the Morning
 to three in the Afternoon. That
Mrs. Helmes called him to Dinner,
 that during the whole time the Wo-
 man was in violent Labour, and that
 he did not leave her in all that time
 but to go to Dinner. That this De-
 ponent saw *Mr. Ablers* examine the
 Woman's Breasts, and found Milk in
 one of them, and that she heard him
 say he was ordered by his Majesty
 to attend the said Woman, *Mary*
Toft, till it was all over. And fur-
 ther saith, that the said *Mr. Ablers*
 said he would endeavour to get the
 Woman a Pension from his Majesty,

or

or Words to that effect, on his
seeming satisfied of the Misery the
Woman underwent.

OLIVE SANDS.

Jur. Die & Anno
supradict. coram

Jos. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.

Thomas Howard of Guilford in the County of Surrey Surgeon, maketh Oath, } Guilford
in Com' }
Surrey.

That on Sunday the twentieth Day of this instant Month of November, this Deponent went to see the poor miserable Woman Mary Toft, about three of the Clock in the Afternoon, where he found in her Chamber one Mr. Ahlers, a Surgeon, who told this Deponent he was come to see her the said Woman, and that he was ordered by his Majesty to attend her till 'twas all over. That the said Mr. Ahlers himself, in the aforesaid Chamber, shewed this Deponent the Loins and inferior Parts of a Rabbet, which he told this Deponent HE EXTRACTED HIMSELF OUT OF THE UTERUS.

That this Deponent asked him what his Opinion was in this Case, to which he answered, and told this Deponent, HE WAS FULLY

' FULLY CONVINCED AND SATISFIED THAT
 ' IT CAME OUT OF THE UTERUS. That then
 ' the Deponent asked him, if 'twas possible
 ' it could be forced or thrust into the *Ute-*
 ' *rus*; to which his Answer was, N o. That
 ' after this Deponent was with him at the
 ' *White-Hart-Inn* in *Guilford*, and there Mr.
 ' *Ablers* repeated part of what he had said
 ' before. That this Deponent there pressed
 ' him very much to stay all Night, to take a-
 ' way all the rest of the Parts of the aforesaid
 ' Rabbet: Upon which he said he had a Gid-
 ' diness, and a turning round in his Head,
 ' with a Pain on his Neck and Shoulders,
 ' and a soreness of his Throat, which made
 ' him very uneasy, and that he was resolved
 ' to go back to *London*. That the said Mr.
 ' *Ablers* gave the Woman Money, and told
 ' her he would procure her a Pension, and so
 ' took his leave of her. And this Deponent
 ' saith, that the said Mr. *Ablers* went from
 ' *Guilford* about five of the Clock in the Af-
 ' ternoon.

THO. HOWARD.

Jur. vicesimo septimo die Novembris

Anno Reg. Regis Geo. &c. 13. Anno

Domini, 1726. coram

JOS. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.

F I N I S.

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10495ⁿ



R. Wilson sc.

NATHANIEL ST ANDRE,
(Rabbit Doctor.)

The Anatomist Dissected :

OR THE

Man-Midwife finely brought to Bed,

BEING AN

EXAMINATION

OF THE

CONDUCT

OF

Mr. *St. ANDRE.*

Touching the late pretended Rabbit-bearer ; as it appears from his own Narrative.

By *LEMUEL GULLIVER*,
Surgeon and Anatomist to the Kings of
Lilliput and *Blefuscu*, and Fellow of
the Academy of Sciences in *Balnibarbi*.

The SECOND EDITION.

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When these attempt to hoot, or those to bray.*
Garth.

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BEING AN

EXAMINATION

OF THE

CONDUCT

OF

MR. R. ANDERSON

Touching the late pretended
but better; as it appears from
his own Narrative

BY RICHARD COOPER
Surgeon and Assistant to the
Lecturer and Professor of
the Academy of Sciences in London

The Second Edition

Printed by G. G. and J. B. in the Strand
in the Year 1752

WESTMINSTER
Printed by and for A. C. and J. B. and
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Westminster 1752



The Anatomist Dissected :

OR THE

Man-Midwife finely brought to Bed.

BEING AN

EXAMINATION

OF THE

CONDUCT

OF

Mr. *St. ANDRE*, &c.



AFTER that long and particular Detail of my self, and of my various Adventures in so many

different and remote parts of the Globe, as I have lately entertain'd

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the

the Public with, I little thought any private Occurrence, in so small a Spot as the Island of *Great Britain*, could have rous'd my Attention, and broke in upon that Repose, in which I hop'd to have spent the Remains of a declining Life. But small and inconsiderable as it is, I consider it is my own Country; the Thought of which, together with that inextinguishable Thirst after Truth and Knowledge, in regard to myself, and an ardent Inclination of communicating it to others, have prevail'd upon me once more to be expos'd in Print, in order to express my Abhorrence of a late diabolical Imposture: propagated, not so much by the Knavery of some, as by the Ignorance and Stupidity of others. I need not say I mean the Rabbit Affair;

fair ; with which, for some Weeks past, the Minds of the People of this Island have been so seriously and so surprizingly employ'd ; so as scarce to leave them any Leisure for Things of a more sublime Nature, and of vastly greater Consequence and Importance.

And tho' I verily believe this to be the real and only Cause, why the Perusal of my Travels has been so neglected of late, which, by the Decay of the Sale, has sensibly affected a worthy and honest Bookseller ; yet I declare to the World, that my Motives for entering the Lists against Mr. *St. André* (a Person to me wholly unknown, and unheard of till I saw his Name in the News-Papers, upon that unfortunate Accident,

which befel him, when he fancied he was poyson'd) are, that little Skill which, by my Education and Experience, I have attain'd in Surgery and Anatomy, and that great Ignorance in both, which he has betray'd upon this Occasion.

For tho' that Gentleman's Candor is very great in shewing such a remarkable Alertness, at confessing that he has been impos'd upon in this Paltry Business; and tho' perhaps, by that he may flatter himself, that he shall escape all further Censure, yet I shall be at the Pains of Convincing the World that he is mistaken, even in this also; and that, had he not been most profoundly deficient in that discerning Penetration, with which all true Surgeons
make

make Enquiries of this sort, he might have discover'd this Imposture at the very first Sight, and not have drawn in so many Persons of distinguish'd Sense and Figure, to be gull'd and deluded by so coarse and palpable a Fraud.

For, to begin with his Narrative; a true Surgeon, one, I mean, orderly and properly educated in that worthy Profession, would never have suffer'd his Curiosity to be at all alarm'd by seeing a Letter from *Guildford*, which mention'd a Woman's *being deliver'd of five Rabbits*: Suppose one were to see a Letter from *Battersea*, importing that a Woman there had been deliver'd of five Cucumbers, or indeed a hundred Letters, would that lead a Man of Sense to believe
any

any Thing, but, either that the People who wrote those Letters had been grossly impos'd upon themselves, or intended to impose upon him. Either of these two Things may, and do happen every Day; but it was never known, that ever any Creature brought forth any one Creature of a Species in all Respects different from it self, much less five or seventeen such Creatures; for which therefore, a Man of common Sense, much more a penetrating and quicksighted Anatomist, should look upon all such Letters with the utmost Contempt.

Yet it was the Sight of two or three such Letters (and those flagrant with most conspicuous Tokens of Imposture) which induc'd

Mr.

Mr. *St. André*, at this time of the Year, to take two Journeys to *Guildford*, in order to enquire into the Truth of what, in Nature, it was impossible should be true. However, to *Guildford* he came for the first time; where I shall attend him a while, and watch his Motions, perhaps to a better Purpose than he did those of the Rabbit-bearing Woman: For tho', with all his Skill he was not able to detect her Fraud, I hope with very little of mine to display his Ignorance.

In the the first Place, how stupid must he have been, not to suspect a Trick, when *Howard*, upon being sent for, came and acquainted him, that the Woman was actually in Labour of the fiftenth Rabbit. This
puts

puts me in Miud of what, above fix and Forty Years ago, I learn'd at School; where the Sagacity of old *Simo* in the *Andria* of the *Tcrence* appears, to the utter Shame of our modern *St. Andrians*: The old Gentleman had Reason to suspect Fraud from the known Character of a crafty Knave he had to deal with; and whose Business it was to make him believe, that a certain Lady was just then in Labour: Accordingly, as they approach her House, she contrives to be in one of her Labour Pains, and cries out so loud that the old Man must needs hear it: upon which, I remember, he says, with much Humour and Judgment, *Hui, tam cito? ridiculum. Postquam ante ostium me audivit stare, approperat. Non sat commode divisa sunt temporibus tibi,*

tibi, Dave, hæc. For thus, had he been credulous enough to go to *Guildford* to inquire into this Cheat, he would have said, in plain *English*, upon the like Occasion, *What a pox, is she so quick? this is the damn'dest Joke that ever was: the Moment she hears I am arrived, she falls into one of her Labour Pains: ah, Howard! this was not well tim'd of you by any means.*

But, to return from this Digression, if the Woman was *actually in Labour of the fifteenth Rabbit*, why should Mr. *Howard* leave her, and stay with Mr. *St. André* till they call'd him again, when she was said to be in one of her Labour Pains? Here a wise Man would have smelt a Rat instead of a Rab-

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bit:

bit : And much more, when this Woman in Labour Pains, and who had been in Labour some time then, nay fourteen times before, was *found dress'd in her Stays, and sitting on the Bed-side* ; and that not for want of Help to put her to Bed ; for there were *several Women near her*. A Man must have a spritely Genius for swallowing Imposture that was not stagger'd at such an Appearance. This sure it was that prompted Mr. St. André to wave all such Reflections, and proceed *immediately to examine her* ; when, tho' by his own Confession, he *did not find the Parts prepar'd for her Labour*, (which was another plain Indication of the Roguery) yet he was weak enough to *wait for the coming on of fresh Pains*, and, *in three or four Minutes after*, to
think

think he deliver'd her of the intire Trunk, strip'd of its Skin, of a Rabbit about four Months Growth (he meant to have said, of an Animal of the Size and Figure of a Rabbit of four Months Growth) in which the Heart and Lungs were contain'd, with the Diaphragm intire. Well, what does my Gentleman then? He instantly cut of a piece of them, and tried them in Water; in which they swam, and when they were press'd to the Bottom, rose again. Now, it being notoriously the Property of the Lungs of a *Fætus* to sink, and of a Creature which has been some time brought forth alive to swim, in Water; what but an absolute Prepossession in favour of this filthy Miracle, or a consummate Ignorance in these Matters could have hinder'd any so-

ber Inquirer from being determin'd in relation to this Cheat, by the foregoing Trial? Yet Mr. *St. André* never boggles at this, nor at the Impossibility of the Trunk of such a Creature's (suppos'd but just before to be alive) being stript of its Skin, by the contractive Faculty of the Womb; nor at the Woman's being *cheerful and easy, and walking by her self from the Bed-side to the Fire the Moment she was deliver'd*: But goes on *conjecturing* in a yet more absurd manner, that these Creatures, (as big as Rabbits of four Months Growth, which must be within a Trifle as big as full grown ones,) were bred in the *Fallopian Tubes*; and came into the *Uterus* one after another, where they lay and kick'd, till they were press'd to Death, and
 fled,

head, and all their Bones broken, in such a manner, that they were sensibly heard to snap, by the violent convulsive Motions of it.

I take the Liberty to inform my Readers, upon this Occasion, that the *Fallopian Tubes* are a Passage of Communication, of scarce three Inches long, between the *Ovaria* and *Uterus*; thro' which the *Embryo*, after Conception, is convey'd from the one to the other. And tho' at that End next the *Uterus* they open, somewhat like the Mouth of a Trumpet, yet, when stretch'd to the utmost, the general Canal of them scarce exceeds the Thickness of ones Finger: And therefore the Impossibility of any one such Creature being contain'd there, much less

less of eighteen, as this Gentleman suppos'd, must appear to every one of a common Understanding. He tells us, no Blood nor Water issued from the *Vagina* after this Delivery, and that her Pulse was regular. Monstrous! that none of these Indications should open Mr. *St. André's* Eyes. If he thought at all, what could he be thinking of? It is notorious, that in Births of dead Children, Women suffer much more Pain than in those of Living ones; so as to be, during the Operation, in high Fevers, with irregular Pulses, and left in great Weakness afterwards. Yet this Woman is deliver'd of fifteen dead Rabbits, such as of four Months Growth, without any Alteration in her Pulse, without the least Inflammation or Laceration in
her

her *Vagina*, walking from the Bed-side, sitting down in a Chair by the Fire, as well as if nothing had happen'd; and skilful Mr. *St. André* swallowing this foul Imposture, without the least Squeamishness or Reluctance.

In the *Rectum* of this Animal, which remain'd affix'd to the Body, Mr. *St. André* finds five or six Pellets, much of the same Colour and Consistence of the common Dung of a Rabbit. Strange! that this should not alarm him! (it being notorious that the Excrement of a *Fetus* is always liquid) but this he swallows likewise; as he does the Skin roll'd and squeez'd up like a Ball, which he delivers her of some time after: And not long after that, of the Head, with the Fur on, Part of
one

one of the Ears being torn off. Upon all which Occasions, I mean those of the Womb's having the Faculty of skinning a Rabbit all but the Head, of rolling this Skin up like a Ball, and tearing off a Piece of an Ear; this Gentleman speaks as familiarly as if they were common Cafes, which wanted not in the least to be accounted for, or wonder'd at.

In the Intervals between these notable Deliveries, Mr. *St. André* diverted himself and his Company, by examining the several Rabbits, which were kept separate, in distinct Pots, with Spirits of Wine, in the Order that they were brought away. Here likewise, I will do my self the Honour to attend him. And now, methinks, I see him expatiating, in a very genteel adroit manner, upon the

the general Resemblance, but particular and significant Difference between them and natural Rabbits.

“ *The first, says he, does not appear to be a perfect Rabbit, in all its Parts.*

(Here one would suppose, the Difference lay in some one or two, at most, minute, not easily observable, Circumstances, in which this Creature varied from a Rabbit: But, on the contrary, it seems ’twas a perfect Cat in all its Parts, one or two only excepted.)

“ *Three of the Feet being like the Paws of a Cat; the Stomach and Intestines like those in the same Animal; as also the Shape and Figure of the Thorax. Observe, the Lungs and Heart, how entirely they are out of their natural Situation; and squeez’d out between the upper Ribs, and Verte-*

“ brae of the Neck (doubtless by the
 “ convulsive Motion of the Uterus)
 “ to which Parts, observe how
 “ strongly they grow and adhere. The
 “ Lungs of this Creature, had they
 “ been plac’d in their natural Cavi-
 “ ty, would not have fill’d above a sixth
 “ Part of it. The Bones of this Crea-
 “ ture are likewise all so different in
 “ Substance and Structure from those
 “ of common Rabbits, that o’ my Con-
 “ science, the Head and one Paw
 “ only excepted, I think it has not the
 “ least Resemblance of them. All
 “ the other thirteen Animals I pro-
 “ nounce to be in every particular, like
 “ well-form’d, common, natural Rab-
 “ bits, from the size of two Months
 “ Growth to four. These have been
 “ all broken to pieces much in the
 “ same manner; but when these sever-
 ral

“ *ral parts are put together in their pro-*
 “ *per order, they manifestly make up*
 “ *and appear to belong to the abovemention’d*
 “ *Animals. I confess the Viscera*
 “ *are wanting in four or five of*
 “ *them; but that is not very materi-*
 “ *al; that Defect is amply supply’d*
 “ *by this one remarkable Circumstance,*
 “ *which is, that most of these Animals*
 “ *(for Rabbits I will not call them)*
 “ *as far as I can judge, are Females.*
 “ *The Flesh of these Creatures, parti-*
 “ *cularly of that which I extracted, has*
 “ *the Smell of Rabbits just kill’d; and*
 “ *the Substance of their Bones are, in*
 “ *all respects, like the Bones of Fœtus*
 “ *Rabbits. (How particular, how*
 “ *dilucid, and exact is this part of*
 “ *his Lecture!) From all these Con-*
 “ *siderations (and many more too te-*
 “ *dious and impertinent to be reci-*

“ ted) with greater Assurance than
 “ Knowledge, I am fully convinc’d,
 “ that, at the same time that the ex-
 “ ternal Appearance of these Animals
 “ is exactly like such Creatures as must
 “ inevitably undergo the Changes that
 “ happen to adult Animals, by Food
 “ and Air, they carry within them the
 “ strongest Marks of Foetus’s, even in
 “ such Parts as cannot exist in an A-
 “ dult, and without which a Foetus
 “ cannot possibly be suppos’d to live.
 “ This, I think, proves in the strongest
 “ Terms possible, that these Animals
 “ are of a particular kind, and not bred
 “ in a natural way; nor will there be
 “ any Doubt remaining (even with the
 “ least knowing in these Matters)
 “ when these things come to be
 “ clear’d up by the Anatomy of these
 “ præternatural Rabbits (a præterna-
 tural

" tural Anatomist Thou art without
 " Dispute) *which I shall publish with*
 " *all convenient Speed, with their Fi-*
 " *gures taken from the Life, and com-*
 " *par'd with the Parts of Rabbits of*
 " *the same Growth (he would have*
 " *said the same size) that the Diffe-*
 " *rences before-mention'd may be fully*
 " *understood.*

This therefore the publick has
 still just Reason to insist upon from
 Mr. *St. André*; for, however he may
 pretend to be impos'd upon by o-
 thers in the Delivery of these Sup-
 posititious Rabbits, the learned ana-
 tomical Observations, recited above,
 are purely the Result of his own
 Skill and Judgment; and cannot
 with any Colour of Reason, be
 plac'd to the Account of Fraud and
 Imposture

Imposture in others. Especially *those Facts* which he has the Assurance to say were verified before his Majesty on Saturday, Nov. the 26th, by the anatomical Demonstration of the first, the third, fifth and ninth of these Animals.

However, not content with having sufficiently plac'd his Reputation at stake in this audacious manner (for such I must call it) on the wretched Observations abovemention'd, *out he sets for Guildford again, being resolv'd to bring the Woman to Town if there was any Prospect of more Rabbits.* What could this Creature, this Animal have in his Head to hinder him from concluding that a Woman in such a Condition (were it possible any Woman could be in such a Condition) should

should not be mov'd out of her Bed; much less out of her House, and much less from *Guildford* to *London*. Yet since he is resolv'd upon another Expedition, I am resolv'd once more to attend him thither, and observe his Motions.

And here he is again so keen upon this vile false Scent, that tho' he finds Mr. *Howard* standing at his Door, who tells him that he hop'd all was over, because that he did not perceive in the *Uterus* any Motion as usual, yet he visited her several Times that Day, proceeded in every Respect, with the same Sagacity as before; and towards eight a Clock that Evening, deliver'd her of a Piece of one of the Membranes of a *Placenta* (admirable!) roll'd
up

up like Parchment. This shews how well he is acquainted with the Texture of those Membranes. And his Deficiency in that Point was further confirm'd by a second Delivery of (what he took to be) *another Piece of Membrane, in Structure, Shape and Size, exactly like the former.*

Thus I have touch'd upon, and I hope abundantly expos'd the profound Observations contain'd in Mr. *St. Andrè's* short *Narrative*. Whenever he appears in Print again, upon this Occasion, as I find he threatens to do, I shall again be ready to guard the Public against being deluded by his pretended Discoveries. And, tho' it is not my Nature to insult any Man upon Account of his Misfortunes, whether brought up-
on

on him by his own Folly, or the Malice of others; yet give me Leave to say, it is, of the two, a much more eligible Evil, that the Presumption of one ignorant Empiric, should undergo a public Chastisement, than the Understandings, of so many of his Majesty's Loyal Subjects, be corrupted by such sham Demonstrations.

But, after all, as I am a no less strict Lover of Justice, than an indefatigable Searcher after Truth; now my Relentment of Mr. *St. André's* ill Conduct in this Affair, is somewhat cool'd by the Liberty I have taken in censuring and exposing it, I shall offer something, by Way of Abatement of that severe Construction, the World will be apt

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to

to pass upon his Judgment in this
Affair.

In the *first* Place, I have the Charity to believe he has been egregiously impos'd upon, in Relation to the Character he has publish'd of Mr. *Howard*, whom he stiles, a *Man of known Probity*; whereas that Name is as notorious at *Guildford*, and the Parts adjacent, for denoting a Whisker, as ever mine was at *Redriff*, for establishing a Truth. *Secondly*, it must be consider'd that the Pleasure of being talk'd of, and heard to talk, in all Companies public and private, as the very second Discoverer (Mr. *Howard* being indisputably the first) of this extraordinary and præternatural Production, must needs swell the Mind of

a raw Practitioner with Vanity, and make him run blindfold into a Series of Absurdities; no one of which, at another Time, would have found any Admittance within the Bar of his Judgment. And *Thirdly*, The Nature of Climates, together with the several Makes, Capacities and Tempers of the Inhabitants of different Countries, are the Reason why Things may appear puzzling and perplexing in one Place, which in another would be accounted for, with the greatest Ease and Certainty imaginable; and why that, which is here a Cause of the highest Ridicule, in a contrary Part of the Globe, would be the Occasion of raising a Man's Character to the most exalted Pitch of Dignity and Reputation.

For Example, had a Native of the Kingdom of *Lilliput*, happen'd to be in this our Island, when the Story of the Rabbits was first vented at Court; and had such a one been dispatch'd to *Guildford*, in Order to enquire into the Truth of that Matter; upon the first View of those Pellets, against which Mr. *St. André* had no Objection, he, with his fine Microscopic Eyes, would have instantly discover'd every particular Herb the Creature had fed on that Meal. And what Mr. *St. André* calls a dirty-colour'd Mucus, such as is constantly found in the Bowels of all Foetus Animals, and such as in those that void their Excrements in Pellets, is commonly hard and dry, our *Lilliputian*

putian would have distinguish'd to
 have been nothing but a Parcel of
 mere Rabbit's Dung, which to him
 would have appear'd as coarse and
 and large as a Scavenger's Load,
 fresh taken from a Butcher's Lay-stall
 would do to us. And that which,
in the middle of the Gut Ilium of the
Cat, Mr. St. André thought was *like a*
very small Fish Bones, the more quick-
 sighted little Man would have de-
 monstrated to have been nothing
 more than the Bones of a Herring,
 which that Creature had devoured
 a few Hours before it was thrust in-
 to the *Vagina of Mary Toft's Uterus*.
 Tho, as Arts are very much im-
 prov'd with us, I question whether
 a very ordinary magnifying Glass,
 such as Children use to divert them-
 selves

selves with, might not have made the Discovery as well.

But, if I am rightly inform'd, as to the Nature of Mr. *St. André's* Education, I am strangely surpriz'd that He, of all People, should appear so unacquainted with the Materials of which the Strings of a Fiddle are compos'd.

Again, tho', in any of the *European* Nations, those that pretend to any Skill in Anatomy or Midwifery would be scouted to Eternity for only questioning, or going to make Inquiry, whether it was possible for a Woman to be delivered of eighteen Rabbits, from two to four Months Growth; or a *Fætus* of that Size, but just dead, and whose *Flesh* smelt
like

like that of a Rabbit newly kill'd, should be voided in Fragments and Bits ; or that the same Woman, notwithstanding all these Deliveries, should be, during the whole time, perfectly healthy and well, feeding on nothing but Beef, Red-herring, &c. or that a Piece of Hog's Bladder could be part of the *Chorion*, or Membrane of the *Placenta* ; yet give me leave to say, that in the Kingdom of *Balnibarbi*, these things would appear in quite another Light. There, tho' a *Virtuoso* should only endeavour at a Demonstration of this kind, spend many Years in the Attempt, and all his Labours prove abortive at last, yet would his Suppositions be sure to meet with so kind a Reception from the publick, as to procure, at least, his being adopted,

nemine

nemine contradicente, into the Academy of Sciences there; (of which I profess my self an unworthy Member.) Nay, it is ten to one but he would be taken up into the floating Island, and appointed Anatomist extraordinary to the Court of *Laputa*.

Such is the Use I am always determin'd to make of this my Knowledge of the World and Mankind. As I will not suffer any upstart Pretender, of what Profession soever, to monopolize and vend his Absurdities within this my native Country, without such Animadversions as may serve to warn the publick against him: So, on the other side, if he happens to have any Merit which would shine and be distinguish'd in other Regions of the Earth, I shall

shall be ready to do Justice in that Point also, by letting him know in what part of the World he may be sure to find a proper Reward.

But I can't conclude, without seriously lamenting the great Detri-
ment like to accrue to our Nation
by the Stir which has been made a-
bout this foul Imposture, both by
the Actors and Examiners of it; and
that as well in regard to the War-
reners and Poulterers, (who com-
plain that the Consumption of Rab-
bits, within this Metropolis, is be-
come, by two thirds, less than it
was formerly;) as in relation to
those obscene and indecent Images,
which for more than these nine Days
last past, beyond all Example, have
fill'd the Minds, and furnish'd out
F the

the Conversation of People of all Ranks, Ages and Conditions. And whether Ideas of this Nature are fit to be put into the Heads of rude Boys, Boarding-school Girls, and Old Maids, I leave every discreet and prudent Matron to judge.

F I N I S.



REMARKS

ON

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

As publish'd

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

WITH

A proper Regard to his intended
RECANTATION.

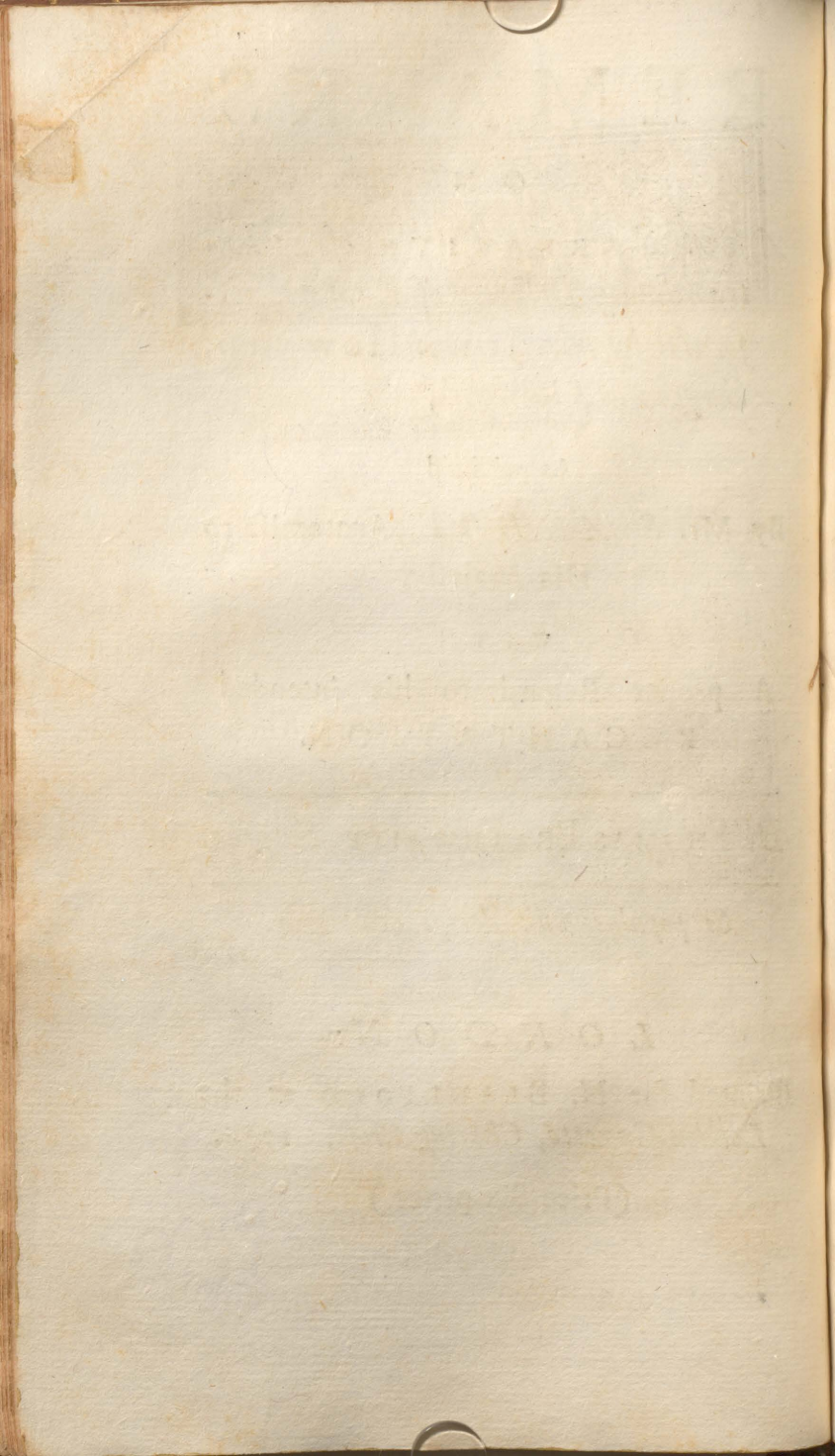
By THOMAS BRATHWAITE, *Surgeon.*

Si populus vult decipi decipiatur.

L O N D O N :

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To the Learned and Profound

Dr. *M E A G R E.*

S I R,



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

DEDICATION.

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

of:

D E D I C A T I O N.

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

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

an

DEDICATION.

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

Your Constant Admirer,

T. B.

P R E



P R E F A C E.



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

P R E F A C E.

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



REMARKS, &c.

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

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

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

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

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

S I R,

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

I am, S I R,
 Your humble Servant,
 John Howard.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

facilitate the Labour, and make the Trick more glib.

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

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

ers of hurting the poor innocent Rabbet-breeder.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

D

“ tisfatory to verifie his Assertions.

CYRIACUS AHLERS.

Decemb. 8. 1726.

After this, our Author tells us, “ that
 “ with all convenient Speed he will
 “ publish the Anatomy of these præter-
 “ natural Rabbets, with their Figures
 “ taken from the Life, and compared
 “ with the Parts of Rabbets of the same
 “ Growth, that the Differences before-
 “ mentioned may be fully understood.”
 But I hope I have in some Measure sav-
 ed him the Trouble; and that the Pub-
 lick will very readily excuse his delay-
 ing these Prints, till his Account of the
 Delivery of the 18th Rabbet is ready to
 come out. Our Author, still intent up-
 on his Comparative Anatomy, and not
 considering how he has embarrassed his
 Recantation, goes on to acquaint us of
 the Difference he found between two
 common Rabbets, that he says he dis-
 sected before Mr. *Molynaux*, and those
 he calls the præternatural ones.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Upon

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

F I N I S.

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

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

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



Sir R. MANNINGHAM'S
D I A R Y
Concerning
MARY TOFT,
The pretended
RABBIT-BREEDER.



THE R. MANNINGHAM'S
DIARY

DIARY

Concerning

MARY TOTT

The preceding

RABBIT BREEDER.

THE R. MANNINGHAM'S

AN EXACT

DIARY

Of what was observ'd during a

CLOSE ATTENDANCE
UPON

MARY TOFT,

The pretended

RABBIT-BREEDER
OF

Godalming in Surrey,

From *Monday Nov. 28,* to *Wednesday*
Dec. 7 following.

Together with

An Account of her Confession of the FRAUD.

By Sir RICHARD MANNINGHAM, Kt.
Fellow of the Royal Society, and of the College
of Physicians, London.

THE SECOND EDITION.

LONDON, Printed for FLETCHER GYLES
over-against *Grays-Inn* in *Holborn*, and sold by
J. ROBERTS at the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick-*
Lane. 1726.

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AN EXACT

DIARY

Of what was observ'd during a close Attendance upon *MARY TOFT*, the pretended *RABBIT-BREEDER*, &c.



*O*N Sunday Evening the 27th of November, 1726. Mr. *St. Andrè*, Anatomist to His Majesty, having received an Express from Mr. *John Howard*, Surgeon and Man-Midwife in *Guilsford*, giving him an Account that another Rabbet was then

then leaping in *Mary Toft*, sent me Notice of it by Letter about eleven of the Clock the same Night, desiring withal that I would keep at home, and he would call upon me some time that Night, in order to carry me with him to *Guilford*.

I sat up till two in the Morning waiting for him, and then sent my Servant to his House, desiring to be excused, for I was then going to Bed; my Servant return'd before I was got into Bed, and told me Mr. *St. André* would be with me presently, and desired I would not go to Bed.

Accordingly, between three and four in the Morning, He and Mr. *Limborch*, a *German* Surgeon and Man-Midwife, came to my House; and Mr. *St. André* told me he had been at *Kensington* since he wrote to
me,

me, and desired me to go immediately with him to *Guilford*; adding, that it was his Majesty's Pleasure that I should go and see this *Godalming* Woman so much talk'd of, and after a strict Examination to make my Report concerning her.

Immediately we set out together for *Guilford* about four in the Morning, and arrived there a little after twelve at Noon: We stopp'd at Mr. *Howard's* House, who being out of Town we went directly over the way to the House where *Mary Toft* (the Woman said to be delivered of seventeen Rabbits) then lodged.

I found her in Bed, and after asking her several Questions in the presence of Mr. *St. Andrè*, Mr. *Limborck*, and several Women and Midwives, I proceeded to examine her Breasts, wherein

wherein was a small Quantity of thin *Serous Matter* like *Milk*; I then felt her Belly all over very carefully, which was soft, and not much larger than ordinary, and by no means like a Woman with Child; the Right side of her Belly, indeed, was somewhat bigger than the Left, with a Hardness a-cross it, which when I press'd, she said it gave her Pain.

I afterwards diligently search'd the whole *Vagina*, and being well assured at that time all was clear from Imposture, I touch'd the *Os Uteri*, which was close and contracted in such manner that it would not receive so much as the point of a Bodkin into it's Orifice; the Neck of the *Uterus* was somewhat long; I then press'd against the *Uterus* with my Fingers opened in such a manner as to receive as much of the Body of the *Uterus* into my Hand

as possible, which seem'd to me to contain something of Substance in its Cavity.

While I was thus examining I applied my other Hand at different times to the several Parts of her Belly, whereby it seem'd to me that there was Substance, not only in the Cavity of the *Uterus*, but also along the right side of the Belly, which I then judg'd to be the *Fallopian Tube*; but feeling no Motion all this while, I enquir'd of the Women then present how long it was since the Rabbet leapt (as they term'd it) and whether they were of Opinion it was now dead; to which they answer'd, the last time it leapt was about one in the Morning.

I left her for that time, and did not visit her again till about five in the Afternoon, jointly with Mr. *John*
 B *Howard*

Howard her Surgeon, when I again examin'd her in like manner as before, and asking Mr. *John Howard*, whether he then thought the Rabbet was dead? He answer'd, he could not exactly tell, but had lately observ'd, if hot Clothes were apply'd, the Rabbet (if alive) would leap again; upon which I immediately ordered Clothes to be made very hot, and apply'd them myself to all her Belly, being very desirous to feel that leaping Motion they so much talk'd of. Upon applying of the first Cloth the Motion began, which they called the leaping up of the Rabbet; it was indeed a Motion like a sudden leaping of something within the right side of her Belly, where I had before felt that particular Hardness.

The Motions were various, sometimes with very strong Throws cross
the

the Belly, especially on the right side, at other times with sudden Jerks and Risings, and tremulous Motions and Pantings, like the strong Pulsations of the Heart; and as I sat on the Bed in Company with five or six Women, it would sometimes shake us all very strongly: The whole appeared to me very different from any convulsive or hysteric Motion I had ever met with before.

We then left the Woman, and Mr. *Howard* parted from us; Mr. *St. André*, Mr. *Limborch*, and myself went to the *White-Hart-Inn*; but within less than an hour Mr. *John Howard* brought us, wrapt in a Paper, a piece of Membrane, which he said he had just taken from the Woman, and shew'd it us. I told him he ought to have sent for me, that I might have taken it away myself,

being' come down for that Purpose: To which he reply'd, 'twas true, but he believ'd there was more to come, which I should take away before I return'd to *London*, or to that effect. Upon examining the Membrane which he brought, it appear'd to me like a piece of Bladder, but he insisted it was a part of the *Chorion*, and that he had more of it at home: Upon which I walked with him to his House to see the Rabbets and Membranes which he said he had taken from the Woman and preserved in Spirits of Wine.

Mr. *John Howard* ask'd me to go with him and see one of his Patients who was very ill; adding, he believ'd it would be some time before any more Membranes would come; and having left Orders to be sent for so soon as the Woman's Pains came on, we forth-

with

with went thither, and from thence to Mr. *Castle's* at the *Priory*, where we met Mr. *Thomas Howard*, his Brother, and several Gentlemen of the Neighbourhood.

About eight in the Evening a Messenger came to us from the Woman and told us she was in Pain: We went immediately, and I found her sitting in a great Chair by the Fire-side; I ask'd her if she was then in Pain, she answer'd, no, but that she had some sharp Pains just before I came in: I then touch'd her, and in the *Vagina* perceiv'd with my Forefinger and Thumb somewhat like a piece of Skin; but being willing to know whether it came out of the *Uterus*, I pass'd my Finger on one side the said piece of Skin in the *Vagina* to find if there was any part of that Skin or Membrane yet remaining within the

Uterus,

Uterus; but perceiving the *Os Uteri* close, as before, and in the same Form as I left it last, I presently took out what lay in the *Vagina*, and upon examining it, confess I was much surpriz'd, it appearing to me so like a piece of Hog's Bladder, that I was not able to form any other Judgment of it, as I then told Mr. *Howard*, Mr. *St. André*, Mr. *Limborch*, and all that were there present, assuring them that it was my Opinion that Membrane never came out of the *Uterus*.

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

I asked

I asked for a Hog's Bladder, and they presently brought one fresh blown up, which it seems they had in the House: This added to my Jealousy. Then I compared the Membrane which I took from the Woman with the Hog's Bladder, and could perceive no Difference but in the Thickness, in which the Bladder something exceeded the Membrane; they had both the same strong *urinous* Smell peculiar to a Hog's Bladder. I still insisted I should not be satisfied as to that Affair, unless I received out of the *Uterus* itself a piece of Membrane of the same kind with that I had already taken from the *Vagina*.

Mr. *John Howard* and Mr. *St. André* bid me have a little Patience and I should soon be fully satisfied. I still urg'd the Similitude of the Membrane

brane to a Hog's Bladder, requiring them to tell me what they themselves thought it did most resemble? Both of them agreed, nothing look'd more like a Hog's Bladder than it did; and Mr. *St. André* added, that had he not actually deliver'd the Woman of part of a Rabbit from the very *Uterus* itself, this Circumstance would also induce him to believe the whole a Fraud.

The same Evening *Mary Toft* had several Pains like Labour-pains while I sat before her, which I believe was full three Hours, and I was all that time in expectation of receiving something from her *Uterus*; the Pains were sometimes very pressing, and the *Os Uteri* seem'd to prepare for opening, but they went off again suddenly.

When

When we return'd from the Woman to the *White Hart*, I told them again, that the more I considered the thing, the more strongly I was convinced, that the Membrane I took from the Woman had never been in the *Uterus*, but was really a piece of Hog's Bladder artfully conveyed into the *Vagina*.

Upon this, very warm Disputes arose amongst us, and Mr. *St. André* urged it was not more surprising, than that Rabbits should come from her *Uterus*; adding, that he was convinced of *that Truth* by examining the Rabbet he had taken from her *Uterus*; which at the same time had the exact external Appearance of Animals, like such Creatures as must inevitably undergo the Changes that happen to adult Animals by Food and
 C Air ;

Air; and that they carried within them the strongest Marks of *Foetus's*, even by such Parts as cannot exist in an Adult, and without which a *Foetus* cannot possibly be suppos'd to live, or to that effect. This he thought prov'd, in the strongest Terms possible, that these Animals were of a particular kind, and not bred in a natural way, saying, Why therefore might not this Membrane which looks like a Hog's Bladder, come also out of the *Uterus*? from whence he verily believed that it did, and that it might be part of the *Chorion*; to which Mr. *Howard* and Mr. *Limborch* assented.

After this Dispute, and at their joint Desire, I determin'd to make no publick Mention of this Affair till I had seen the Event of the whole Transaction, or had fresh Reason to suspect
a Fraud,

a Fraud, lest by such an Alarm I should rather obstruct than forward the finding out the Truth: I then mark'd the Membrane which I took from the *Vagina*, by cutting a small part of it, which I brought with me to *London*.

Tuesday the 29th, we brought *Mary Toft* to *London* with us, and lodg'd her at Mr. *Lacy's* Bagnio in *Leicester Fields*: I sat up with her all that Night; she often had the Motion on the Right side of her Belly, and sometimes very strongly.

Wednesday the 30th, the Motion was more faint, and she pass'd the Night tolerably well. Some time that Day I told Dr. *Douglafs* what I had observ'd at *Guilford*, and took out of my Pocket-Book the piece of Membrane which I called a piece of Hog's

Bladder, and shew'd it him, and ask'd his Opinion; he said it look'd like a piece of Hog's Bladder, and added, Surely this must be a Cheat, or to that effect: The same Day I told the Story of the Hog's Bladder to his Grace the Duke of *Richmond*, Duke of *Montague*, Lord *Baltimore*, and Mr. *Molyneux*, but did not declare it publickly for the Reasons I have given.

Thursday the 1st Instant, about ten in the Morning, the Motion was very languid, and having intermitted for a while, she was seiz'd with Pains like those of Labour: I then prepared, as before at *Guilford*, to deliver her; and having diligently search'd the *Vagina*, I found it clear, and received a Pain or two, which were strong and exactly like Labour-Pains: Upon this I desired Dr. *Douglafs*, who was then present, that

that *he* would please likewise to examine her, and openly declare his Opinion, which he did, and in the hearing of several Persons of Distinction, profess'd that he found the *Vagina* clear, and was of Opinion the Pains were of the same Nature with Labour-Pains. I then took my Place again, and received more Pains of the like Nature, and perceiv'd the *Os Uteri* to spread a little and grow softer, her Face also flush'd and her Pulse was rais'd, as it always was whenever she had those Pains upon her.

After some time the Motion on the right side of her Belly, which they call'd the leaping up of the Rabbet, begun again, and those Pains like Labour-Pains went suddenly off; her Pulse soon became calm as before, and the flushing of her Face disappeared; she pass'd

pass'd the remainder of the Day indifferently well, having for the most part the Motion on the right side of her Belly, which I never observ'd had any Influence on her Pulse; her Diet was Beef, Rabbet, Red-Herring, and such like: That Night she slept very well.

Friday the 2d Instant, she had the Motion the greatest part of the Day, towards Evening it increased extremly, insomuch that she fell into violent Convulsions, which I never before observ'd in her, with frequent Contractions of her Fingers, rolling of her Eyes, and great Risings in her Stomach and Belly: During the Fit she would often make a whining Noise, and at Intervals be more than ordinary faint. She continued in her Fit near two Hours; for some Minutes I could scarcely

scarcely perceive she had any Pulse; when she came out of her Fit, she perceived herself very weak for some time; and when I ask'd if she remembred she had been in a Fit, she answer'd, No; she rested well that Night.

On *Saturday* the 3d in the Morning she was brisk, and all that Day had the Motion by Intervals; towards Evening she had another Convulsion Fit, though not so violent as the former; this Night she was very restless, and sometimes convulsed, had a Difficulty in making Water, and the Motion in her Belly was very little.

On *Sunday* the 4th Instant, about Eleven of the Clock in the Morning, Dr. *Douglafs* and my self did carefully examine her Belly, when we perceived a Swelling a little above the *O*
Pubis

Pubis, such as we had never felt there before, it was long, and, as we apprehended in the Cavity of the *Uterus*, which we observ'd had little or no Motion, this we could not account for; we each of us examined the *Vagina*, and found it clear as before, the *Os Uteri* soft and spread, as on *Thursday* last, but something more relax'd.

About Three in the Afternoon, the Pains, like Labour Pains, came on again: I touch'd her as before, and Dr. *Douglafs*, Dr. *Mowbray*, Mr. *Limborck* the *German* Surgeon and Man-Midwife, who were then present, did the same; and we agreed, that the Nature of the Pains were such, and so violent, as we apprehended something would soon issue from the *Uterus*; and this we declared in the hearing

hearing of many Persons of Distinction, who were then present: And I well remember, the Room being very full, I desired if there was any Person present willing to examine her, that they would do it then while her Pains were upon her. Accordingly, several Persons did examine her, and declared to the same Purpose: After having received several Pains, they, together with the other Symptoms of approaching Labour, vanished on the sudden, as formerly.

In the Evening, *Thomas Howard*, Porter to Mr. *Lacy's Bagnio*, made an Information against *Mary Toft*, before Sir *Thomas Clarges*, Bart. one of His Majesty's Justices of Peace, concerning a Rabbet she had clandestinely procured by his Assistance; upon which she was taken into Custody, and

D strictly

strictly examined by Sir *Thomas*: She very obstinately denied all the Porter had sworn; but her Sister, who nurs'd her, being examined to the said Fact upon Oath, acknowledged the procuring the Rabbet in a clandestine manner; but that it was not designed for the Use we suspected, but for eating only.

Soon after *Mary Toft* confess'd she had procured the Rabbet, according to the Porter's Deposition, but that it was her Intention to eat it, she having long'd for it, and most obstinately persisted that she was still big with a Rabbet.

The same Evening I examined her again, and her *Uterus* appear'd to me to contain something of Substance in it; whereupon I earnestly press'd Sir *Thomas Clarges* that she might not be
sent

sent to Prison that Night, being still apprehensive there might something come from her *Uterus* in a little time; and, as the Fraud was not fully detected, I judg'd it might prove of very ill Consequence to remove her till the whole was found out.

On *Monday* the 5th, I gave my Opinion to Sir *Thomas*, concerning *Mary Toft*; and, lest he should commit her to Prison, I spoke to several Persons of Distinction, and the next Day wrote to the Honourable Mr. *Molyneux* to assist me in that Affair, well knowing how industrious they had always been, in endeavouring to find out this supposed Fraud; for I believ'd a sudden Commitment of her to Prison, before the Cheat did manifestly appear, would be a means of preventing

a Discovery: The Copy of my said Letter is as follows.

To the Hon. Mr. MOLYNEUX.

Dear Sir,

“ I Have, since I left you, very
 “ maturely considered what you
 “ said this Morning, and the Con-
 “ tents of the Letter frank'd by
 “ Lord *Onslow*, which you also shew-
 “ ed us, importing a Discovery of a
 “ Fraud in the Affair in the Coun-
 “ try; and adding, *that*, to what
 “ happen'd to my self at *Guildford*,
 “ in relation to my taking away from
 “ the *Vagina* of *Mary Toft* the *Godal-*
 “ *ming* Woman, what I call the Piece
 “ of Hog's Bladder, and the Deposi-
 “ tion about the Rabbet last *Sunday*
 “ Night, which I heard *Thomas*
 “ *Howard*,

“ *Howard*, the Porter of *Lacy’s*
 “ *Bagnio*, make before Sir *Thomas*
 “ *Clarges*, in the Presence of several
 “ Persons of Quality, and the Unna-
 “ turalness of the Production, sup-
 “ posed to have been; all this, I say,
 “ laid together, is to me such Evi-
 “ dence of *Roguary*, as makes me
 “ strongly believe the whole to be a
 “ Fraud. Therefore, that our En-
 “ deavours fully to detect the Cheat
 “ may prove most effectual, and the
 “ unnatural Imposture may most clear-
 “ ly appear to the Publick, I think
 “ *Mary Toft* should by no means be
 “ sent to Prison, till the Truth comes
 “ out; but that she should rather be
 “ kept, and most strictly watched in
 “ some private House, where all Per-
 “ sons, those of the Faculty especial-
 “ ly, may have free and convenient
 “ Access

“ Access to her, which a Prison will
“ not so well afford, till the Matter be
“ as plainly and fully detected as
“ possible; for which Purpose, I will
“ wait upon Sir *Thomas Clarges* to
“ take Measures accordingly; and, if
“ you will give Leave, will call on
“ you as I come from him, to ac-
“ quaint you with our Resolutions.

I am,

S I R,

Dec. 6,
1726.

Your most humble Servant,

R. MANNINGHAM.

After

After some Difficulty, I prevailed with Sir *Thomas Clarges* to let her remain in the Custody of the *High Constable* of *Westminster*, at Mr. *Lacy's* Bagnio, till the Cheat should be found out, or at least for a few Days longer; to which he agreed.

On *Tuesday* the 6th, Sir *Thomas* threaten'd her severely, and began to appear the most proper Physician in her Case, and his Remedies took Place, and seem'd to promise a perfect Cure; for we heard no more of her former Labour-like Pains.

I urged her very much to confess the Truth; and told her, I believ'd her to be an Impostor, and that she was differently form'd from other Women, having some peculiar way of conveying Pieces of Rabbits into her *Uterus*, and of imposing upon the
World

World by her Motions and Pains, and therefore I resolved to try a very painful Experiment upon her, and was accordingly prepared for that Purpose; whereas if she would ingenuously confess the whole Truth, I would speak to several of the Nobility in her Behalf, some of whom then present promised her their good Offices on the like Condition.

I assured her also there was no Time left for Delay; and if she would not confess, I should immediately proceed to the Operation.

These Threats made great Impressions upon her, and being withal in a most particular manner exhorted by his Grace the Duke of *Montague*, Lord *Baltimore*, Dr. *Douglafs*, and myself, to make a free and open Confession, before it should be done by
any

any other Person in the Country, and avoid so terrible an Operation; she at last begg'd very heartily to be let alone till the next Morning, and said if she did not then confess, I might proceed as I pleased.

Accordingly on *Wednesday December 7*, in the Morning, in the Presence of the two Noblemen before mentioned, Dr. *Douglafs* and myself, she began her Confession of the Fraud; and in her Confession she own'd, That upon her miscarrying she was seiz'd with violent Floodings, and the Womb was then as she thought open as if she had been just deliver'd of a full-grown Child, she did verily believe one of her wicked Accomplices did then convey into her Womb part of the Monster (as she

E calls

calls it) being the Claws and Body of a Cat, and the Head of a Rabbet; this put her to much Pain: After that time she believed nothing was ever put into her Womb, but into the Passage only, by the Advice of a Woman Accomplice whom she has not yet nam'd, and who told her she had now no Occasion to work for her Living as formerly, for she would put her into a Way of getting a very good Livelihood, and promised continually to supply her with Rabbets, and should therefore expect part of the Gain, or to that effect. *Mary Toft* asked what way that was. The Woman told her she must put up her Body so many pieces of Rabbets as would make up the Number of Rabbets which a Doe Rabbet usually

kindles

kindles at one time, otherwise she would be suspected. *Mary Toft* asked how many that was; the Woman told her, sometimes thirteen.

From that time *Mary Toft* did often, by the Assistance of that Woman, convey Parts of Rabbits into her Body, 'till at last she could do it by herself, as she had an Opportunity, and that she did continue so to do.

Now, by the constant Irritation of those extraneous Bodies, thus artfully convey'd into her *Vagina*, the whole *Uterus* suffer'd much, and became larger in Bulk than it ought to be in its natural State; and the Bones, and other Parts of those Rabbits, so convey'd into the *Vagina*, did often offend the Neck of the *Uterus*, which, together

gether with artful Management of herself, did occasion those violent bearing-down Pains, which came on by Intervals, and very exactly counterfeited the true Labour-Pains. The Motions of her Belly were partly Artifice, and partly real Convulsions; for I have often observ'd some of the Motions in her soundest Sleep, and even since she has confess'd the Fraud, part of her Motions being involuntary.

Mary Toft owned there was nothing in her Passage, when I examined her, only that time when I took the Piece of Bladder from her, which she had put into her Body a little before I came to her, on *Monday* the 28th of *November*, 1726. about Eight in
the

the Evening; and ever since that Time she was afraid to put any thing into her Body, because I had often told her, if I found twenty Rabbits at times in her Body, it would go for nothing with me; for I should never be convinced, unless I took some Parts of Rabbits from out of the very *Uterus* it self.

Dr. *Douglafs*, who was so kind as to write down her Confession from her own Mouth, will I hope shortly oblige the World with it at large, when she has discover'd the whole.

Thus have I given a full and faithful Account of every material thing which occurred to me during my constant Attendance upon *Mary Toft* from *Monday*, the 28th of *November*, 1726,
to

to *December* the 7th following, which I thought my self obliged to communicate to the World, as well for their Satisfaction, as for the Justification of my own Conduct.

Decemb. 8.
1726,

R. Manningham.

F I N I S.



A N
ADVERTISEMENT

Occasion'd by

SOME PASSAGES

I N

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*"There all the learn'd shall at the labour stand,
"and Douglas lend his soft obstetric hand."*

L O N D O N:

v. 393.

Printed for J. ROBERTS, in Warwick-Lane;
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A N

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L O N D O N

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REMARKS

ON

SOME PASSAGES

In Sir R. MANNINGHAM'S

DIARY, &c.



Am oblig'd to Sir *Richard Manningham*, for the Justice he has done me in his Diary lately publish'd, by owning, p. 20. that when he talk'd to me of the *Affair of Mary Tofts*, I told
B him,

him, in a peremptory Manner, that it must be a Cheat; and likewise, p. 32. that I assisted him in persuading and preparing that unhappy Woman to make a Discovery of the Truth. But as from some other Passages of his Book, especially Two or Three Expressions related by him as mine, People may be led to believe, that, for some Time at least, I was of the same Opinion of which he has candidly enough acknowledged himself to have been; I think it incumbent on me, in the same publick Manner, to give a short Account of my Behaviour, especially such Parts of it as have been, or may be, excepted against, since I first heard of
this

this extraordinary Delivery of Rabbits.

I begin by declaring it to have been always my firm Opinion, that this Report was false; in the First Place, because I never could conceive the Generation of a perfect Rabbit in the *Uterus* of a Woman to be possible, it being contradictory to all that is hitherto known, both from Reason and Experience, concerning the ordinary, as well as extraordinary Procedure of Nature, in the Formation of a *Fætus*: And, in the next Place, because I never could conceive it practicable, that any such Substances, as were talk'd of, should be

thrust up, through the narrow Neck, into the Cavity of that Organ; that being repugnant to the Structure of the Part so well known from Anatomy. These I gave openly, as my Sentiments of the Matter, in all Companies where I had Occasion to mention it, while the Woman remain'd at *Guilford*, notwithstanding the repeated Confirmations of it, by new and specious Appearances of Facts, with which the Town was every Day alarm'd.

But from the Time that the Woman was brought to the *Bagnio*, in *Leicester-Fields*, I did not so publickly and frequently talk

talk against the Imposture, as I had before done; nor rail at those who suffer'd themselves to be impos'd on, with all that Ill-Nature and Noise with which some others continu'd to do.

On *Wednesday* the 30th of *November*, about One o'Clock in the Morning, I receiv'd the following Letter from Mr. *St. Andrè*.

S I R,

I Have brought the Woman from Guilford to the Bagnio in Leicester-Fields. She has now a live Rabbit in her, and I expect shortly a Delivery; you will

will infinitely oblige me to deliver her yourself. Mr. Amiand is already here.

I am, &c.

Leicester-Fields, Nov.
29, 1726, 12 o'Clock
at Night.

ST. ANDRÈ.

I went immediately to the *Bagnio*, where, besides Mr. Sergeant *Amyand* and Mr. *St. Andre*, I found a good Number of Gentlemen more. Having examin'd the Woman, at Mr. *St. Andre's* Request, and ask'd her what Questions I thought proper, he desir'd me to deliver my Opinion to the Company; which I did in these or the like Words:

“ That

“ That there was nothing in
 “ the *Vagina*, nor, as I believ’d,
 “ in the *Uterus* of that Woman;
 “ that the Motions of her Belly
 “ were very different from those
 “ caus’d by a Child, or any other
 “ living Animal; and therefore
 “ were probably Hysterick, or
 “ only Convulsive Contractions
 “ of the Muscles of the *Abdo-*
 “ *men*; and that the Moisture
 “ which she squeez’d out of her
 “ Nipples, was not really Milk.”

That there was nothing in
 the *Vagina*, Mr. *St. Andrè* own-
 ed, strenuously denying all I
 had said besides: But as I did
 not go there to dispute, the
 Conversation became general,
 and chang’d to something else.

A

A little while afterwards, Mr. *St. André* told me, that tho' he had given me his Word, in his Letter, that I should deliver the Woman; nevertheless, as it was agreeable to his Majesty's Pleasure that he should carry Sir *Richard Manningham* down with him to *Guilford*, he must beg so far to be excus'd from his Promise, as that I would allow this Gentleman to perform that Office first, assuring me withal, that as the Rabbits were always brought away in Pieces, I should soon have a full Opportunity of being satisfy'd of the Truth.

I answer'd, That it was perfectly indifferent to me, whether

ther I deliver'd her first or last ;
 only I begg'd these Two Con-
 ditions might be agreed to, nei-
 ther of which, as I conceiv'd,
 could be reckon'd an Incroach-
 ment on the Privilege he now
 claim'd for Sir *Richard*.

First, that before any thing
 was brought away, I might be
 allow'd to feel it while in the
Cervix Uteri before it passed
 thro' the *Os Tincæ* ; because,
 by any thing less than that, it
 would be in vain for him to
 endeavour to convince me that
 it really came from the *Uterus*.

Secondly, That Mr. *Chesel-*
den might be sent for, and Mr.
Amyand and he be allow'd the
 C same

same Liberty which I ask'd for myself.

Both Sir *Richard* and Mr. *St. André* accepted these Conditions; but it was not without some Difficulty that I could persuade them to call in Mr. *Cheselden*. I likewise, afterwards, propos'd that more *Accoucheurs*, Surgeons and Physicians too, than they had upon their List, might be desir'd to attend; but this I could not prevail with them to grant, till it was too late. About Ten o'Clock, Mr. *Cheselden* came; and, among other Things, ask'd Mr. *Howard* several Questions, which, however much to the Purpose, I took the Liberty to tell him, I thought not at all proper

proper at that Time: The Reason I then gave him, I shall have Occasion to mention in another Place.

On *Thursday, December 1.*
 The Leaping of the Rabbit, as it was call'd, ceas'd, and the Woman was taken with Pains, in which all the Appearances of those by which a true Labour usually begins, were very exactly counterfeited; and I then publickly said, that from any thing in these Pains consider'd in themselves only, I was not able to distinguish them from such; for there was certainly a very great forcing down of the *Uterus*, and *Vesica Urinaria*, with a Fullness and Constriction of the *Vagina*, occasion'd by

C 2 holding

holding in her Breath, and straining down with Violence; but I never perceiv'd them to be accompanied with any Opening of the *Osculum Uteri*, or Pains in the Back and Belly; neither did they go off after the Manner of true Pains.

That same Day several Persons of great Distinction and Worth did me the Honour to ask me what had pass'd: I told them in general Terms, that no Delivery had as yet happen'd; that Mr. *St. Andrè* and Mr. *Howard* still expected one very suddenly; and that I would not fail to give them Notice upon the first Appearances of any thing that look'd like it.

Mr. *St. Andrè* having shew'd me the Proof Sheets of his Narrative, which I read over in some Hurry, I told him, that to me it appear'd to contain nothing but a Collection of Impossibilities; particularly that what he said about the Formation of these Animals in the *Fallopian Tubes*, and their passing through the narrow Endings thereof, into the Cavity of the *Uterus*, in so short a Time, was equally repugnant to the Structure of these Parts, and to universal Experience; for that, in all *Tubarian* Conceptions, of which only Two had occur'd to me in Twenty Seven Years Practice of Midwifery, the *Fœtus* forces its Way through

through the Tubes, not into the *Uterus*, but into the Cavity of the *Abdomen*, and there soon kills the Patient. I added further, That the Noise of snapping and breaking of the Bones, which he talk'd of, must certainly be a Romance, notwithstanding the Number of the Witnesses he appeal'd to; and that for this plain Reason, among many others, because it is impossible that such a Noise should ever be heard. He made answer, by assuring me, in a very positive Manner, that I should soon hear it myself.

On *Friday*, Mr. Sergeant *Amyand* desir'd me to go and see the Rabbits, which Mr. *Ablers* had brought

brought some Days before from *Guilford*; but I excus'd myself, by telling him that I thought such Enquiries were improper at that Time, for the same Reason which I had before given Mr. *Chefelden*. But the most remarkable Thing that occur'd to me that Day, was, that having desired to visit the Woman, I was denied Admittance, Mr. *St. Andrè* and Mr. *Howard* being both abroad. I told several Gentlemen, then at the *Bagnio*, that I was afraid some *new Monster* was breeding; and went away with a Resolution to return no more.

On *Saturday* Afternoon, Mr. *St. Andrè*, who had not only
sent

sent me a Letter the Night before, but dispatch'd Two Messengers to me that Morning, and left another Letter for me at Noon, came himself to my House, and begg'd very earnestly that I would go and attend but a little while longer, or promise to come whenever he should send me Word; adding withal, that if he could but once satisfy me about the Reality of the Thing, he did not care who else disbeliev'd it. These pressing Sollicitations prevail'd on me to change my former Resolutions; but during all the Time I staid, the Woman was without any Appearance of Pain, and nothing extraordinary happen'd to her. However, I reckon'd my Attendance very well rewarded

rewarded by an Incident that fell out in the Evening, which serv'd to usher in the Discovery of the whole Imposture, an Information being given to the Right Hon. the Lords *Albemarle* and *Limerick*, by a Servant of the Bagnio, that the Woman had imploy'd him to procure her a Rabbit clandestinely: My Lord *Limerick* did me the Honour to desire I would be present, and Sir *Richard Manningham* wrote down the Information. It was not, however, thought convenient to divulge this Piece of News, till next Day, that more effectual Measures might be taken to come at the whole Truth.

D

On

On *Sunday* Morning I was very much surpriz'd to find a sensible Swelling and Fullness a little above the *Os Pubis*, which I thought I could circumscribe with my Fingers. Several Gentlemen perceiv'd and examin'd it likewise, but none of us knew, at that Time, to what Cause it was to be ascrib'd : But as it quite disappear'd before the Afternoon, I then judg'd it to have proceeded from some flatulent Humours collected and pent up in the lower Part of the *Abdomen*.

Between Three and Four o' Clock in the Afternoon the
 Woman

Woman fell again into Pains, but not near so violent as those she had on the *Wednesday* before. Mr. *St. André* and Mr. *Howard* very confidently assured us that these were the Fore-runners of Labour, which they expected would follow in a very little Time. Sir *Richard Manningham* being present, all I had to do was to desire him and Mr. *St. André* to remember their Promise; but the Pains soon went off, without any farther Appearance of what they expected.

The Servant at the Bagnio made Oath this Evening of all he had inform'd us of the Night before; and as from that Time

the Affair came under the Cognizance of the Civil Magistrate, the Sequel of it is foreign to the Design of this Relation; wherein I have taken Care not to omit the least Circumstance, from which it may, with any Colour of Probability, be inferr'd, that I ever so much as suspected that the Story of this Woman's breeding, and being deliver'd of Rabbits, might have any real Foundation.

I come, in the next Place, with the same Freedom and Sincerity, to offer the Reasons and Motives of my Behaviour, by which I hope fully to evince that as upon the first News I heard of this Affair, I was firmly

ly

ly persuaded the whole was a Trick; so no Part of my Conduct, after the Woman was brought to Town, can have given any just Ground for imagining that I either really did, or was ever inclin'd to change my Opinion,

In general, therefore, I desire it may be observ'd, That even the greatest Sticklers for the Reality of this wonderful *Phænomenon*, did not pretend that it was, in any Respect, confirm'd by new Proofs, after the Woman came hither; if I had chang'd my Opinion, therefore, it must have been upon no Manner of Foundation.

Further,

Further, from what I observ'd myself, in examining the Woman, during my close Attendance on her, and in comparing every Day's Experience with the positive Assurances of a Delivery, constantly given us by Mr. *St. Andrè* and Mr. *Howard*, I must have concluded the Credibility of the whole to be in a declining Condition; and this Conclusion could not but be very much strengthened by the positive Appearances of Fraud, some of which I have mentioned, chusing, for the Sake of others, to pass over the rest. If in this State of Things,
any

any Body can believe I changed my Opinion, he must suppose me capable not only of doing it without Grounds, but in spite of all the Proofs of that which I first entertain'd, that the Nature of the Thing would allow of, till the whole Discovery of the Imposture was made.

But without insisting any longer on these, however strong Presumptions in my Favour, I go on to the exceptionable Part of my Conduct. And first, The Reservedness of my Behaviour, in not talking with the same Openness and Freedom against the Cheat as I did at first; which, how
it

it came ever to be made an Argument either of my Ignorance or Credulity, is to me a very great Mystery; and, I believe, must be so to every thinking Person, who considers the Situation I was in.

For, in the first Place, as it was of the utmost Consequence that the whole Truth of this Affair should be detected, because of the bad Effects with which it might otherwise have been attended; so I may without Vanity affirm, that the Town seem'd to repose some Confidence in what should be my Determination.

To

To be able to determine, to the Satisfaction and Conviction of all Sorts of Persons, other Arguments were necessary, than Anatomy, or any other Branch of Physick, could furnish. Of these the greatest Number are not Judges. It was therefore undoubtedly very natural for me to desire that People would suspend any farther Judgment for a little Time, till such Proofs could be brought of the Imposture as they requir'd; and as I was assured, from the Two Reasons already mention'd in the Beginning of this Relation, and other Circumstances that occur'd every Day, I should soon be able to bring, or,

E which

which was the same Thing, to assist others in bringing; being resolv'd to spare no Pains nor Attendance in discovering the past Frauds, as well as in preventing new Impositions. This was the principal End I propos'd to myself in all I did, and not my own Satisfaction, in a Thing which from the Beginning I believ'd to be so far impossible, as that had I not, with good Reason, apprehended the fatal Tendency of it to the weaker Sex especially, I very much question whether ever I should have spent any more Time in enquiring about it, than about any other Piece of News which engrosses the Conversation of the Town.

Again,

Again, it has but too plainly appear'd, from all that has happen'd in this Affair, how deeply the Reputation of several Persons was engag'd in it, even from the Beginning: Mr. *Howard* and Mr. *St. André* were of this Number. Of the first of whom I had heard a very advantageous Character; the second, tho' a most ingenious Anatomist, I all along believ'd to be impos'd upon; and both of them seem'd extremely desirous that the Thing should be brought to a fair Trial, at which I could not help expressing my Surprize and Amazement oftener than once. This I judg'd not only to require of me the utmost Caution and Circumspection; which,

where People's Reputation and Bread are concern'd, can hardly ever be too great; but it likewise inclin'd me to allow them, as far as it was in my Power, both Time and Opportunity, first of undeceiving themselves, and then of making some Atonement to the World for their past Behaviour, in the Manner they should have thought most proper.

As these were the general Views that led me into this Affair at first, so they serv'd to conduct me in every Step of my Proceedings; and will at first Sight justify every Expression, and every Action of mine, thro' the whole Course of my Attendance;

dance; the sole Design of which was to come at a speedy Discovery of the Imposture, by plain, sensible, and undeniable Facts, of which all the World might be Judges, and not Physicians and Anatomists only, who were capable of determining the Matter upon other Principles. With this View, and with this View only, it was, that upon my first going to the Bagnio, I began by making such Terms with those more immediately concern'd, as I thought were most likely to put the whole Affair upon the shortest and surest Issue, and that I again reminded them of our Agreements, at Times when I found them most positive that some extraordinary Event was
to

to happen. Neither could I have any other Motive for the Caution I presum'd to give some of my very good Friends, unquestionable Judges in such Matters, and equally convinc'd of the Fraud with myself, not to trouble themselves, nor divert me at that Time, by entering upon Anatomical Discussions, which I was of Opinion would still leave Room for Cavils, Replies and Misapprehensions, and at best could end in nothing more than what we all already knew. But especially I thought it improper that Mr. *Howard* should be ask'd too many Questions, which he being unable to answer, the Effect of them must be only to puzzle and confound,

not

not to convince him; and thereupon, perhaps, incline him to take some sudden Resolutions, which would rather have obstructed than forwarded us in making the Discovery, in the Way I all along wanted it to be made.

In this Manner are all the other Facts I have set down to be judg'd of; neither do they suffer any Difficulty, after what has been said, except in as far as they have been misrepresented. This brings me to Sir *Richard Manningham's* Diary which obliges me to trouble the Publick at this Time.

In

In p. 21. I am said to have been of Opinion, that the Pains which the Woman had upon her at the Time he talks of, *were of the same Nature with Labour Pains*; without the Addition of any Restriction. But I am very positive that I never us'd that Expression (if I us'd it at all) in any other Manner than I have above related; neither were more particular Explanations to be expected from me at that Time, the Company then present being a very unsuitable Audience for a Lecture in Midwifery. But even this is not the worst Sense in which my Words have been misconstru'd; for Mr. *Howard*, who pretended

to

to have been present at her former Deliveries, having made Answer to what I said, that the same Sort of Pains always preceded these; some busy People, either out of Ignorance or Malice, by joining my Words and his Answer together, have made me represent her as actually going into Labour, a Thing I never said, nor ever Imagin'd.

P. 23. I am said to have apprehended that the Swelling which I perceiv'd on *Sunday Morning*, was in the Cavity of the Uterus, by which, if he means that I apprehended it to proceed from any Animal, or Part of an Animal, either formed or lodged in that Cavity,

F

I can

I can very positively assert, that I was fully convinc'd of the contrary, and never express'd any thing like it.

P. 24. I am said to have agreed with the other Physicians, &c. then present, in apprehending *that something would soon issue from the Uterus*. Whether these Gentlemen either did apprehend, or said they apprehended any such Thing, I leave it to them to determine; but that I agreed with them in these Apprehensions, I utterly deny. It may indeed be true, that being then so much us'd to Mr. *St. André's* and Mr. *Howard's* positive Way of talking about every thing that related to this Woman, I
did

did not immediately express my Dissent to what they said (to the Reason of which Behaviour I hope the Reader is by this Time no Stranger) and from thence, together with my having put him in Mind of his Promise, I imagine he has concluded that I was of the same Opinion with them. If this be not the Case, his Memory must have fail'd him, or he has mistaken the Voice of some other Person then in the Room for mine; for I cannot believe him capable of using any unfair Means, to have the *Latin* Proverb on his Side.

To conclude, If, notwithstanding this fair and open Representation of my Conduct, and of the Motives I was influenc'd by in every Step of it, any Expression or Action of mine should still continue to be constru'd to my Prejudice, by Persons who think the best Way of establishing their own Character is by preying upon those who have some to lose; all the Justice I have further to beg of the impartial World, is, that other People's Words may not be mistaken for, nor confounded with mine, nor Conclusions ascrib'd to me, which the Malice of some may make them ingenious enough to draw from what I either have said in
a Hurry,

a Hurry, in a ludicrous Manner, or at Times and Places where I did not think it convenient to come to more particular Explications. If this be granted me, as I doubt not but it will, by all whose Opinion of me it is worth my while to regard, I shall have no farther Occasion to trouble the Publick about the Affair of *Mary Tofts*, till I have finish'd the Considerations advertiz'd by me some Time ago; in which I shall fully evince, from what may be certainly known concerning the Theory of Generation, from the Principles and Practice of Midwifery, from the Structure of the Uterine Parts in a Woman, and from the Appearances
of

of the Rabbits themselves, that such a Delivery was impossible. In the mean Time, I hope all breeding Women will depend on this as a certain Truth, that it is no less probable, that a Rabbit should conceive and be deliver'd of a Human Child, than that any Creature whatever, of an intirely different Species, should be form'd in the Belly of a Woman.

London, Dec.
16. 1726.

Ja. Douglas.

S O M E
O B S E R V A T I O N S

C O N C E R N I N G

The W O M A N of *Godlyman*

In *Surrey*.

Made at *Guilford* on *Sunday*, *Nov. 20. 1726.*

T E N D I N G

To prove her extraordinary Deliveries
to be a Cheat and Imposture.

By CYRIACUS AHLERS, Surgeon to
His Majesty.



L O N D O N :

Printed for *J. Roberts* in *Warwick-Lane.*
1726.

SOME

OBSERVATIONS

CONCERNING

The Woman of Goshannon

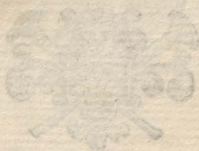
In 1745.

Printed in Goshannon on Sunday, Nov. 20. 1745.

T E N D I N G

To prove her extraordinary Beliefs
to be a Ghost and Imposture.

By CYRILUS ALEXANDER, Surgeon to
His Majesty.



L O N D O N

Printed for R. Roberts in Warwick Lane.

1745.



T H E

P R E F A C E

T O T H E

R E A D E R .



THE following Sheets contain a short, and fair, Narrative of the Observations I made at Guilford, concerning the Woman of

Godlyman in Surrey, whose uncommon Deliveries are now become the general Talk of the Town. It is drawn up with all possible Candour ; and the Facts, whether seen or transacted by me, faithfully stated, and

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P R E F A C E.

altogether agreeable to the Report I had the Honour to make to his Majesty immediately upon my Return from thence. I had no Thoughts at first to appear with it in Print; but being call'd upon in so publick a manner, I could not, in justice to my own Reputation, deny that Gentleman as publick a Satisfaction. Let the Event of this Affair be what it will, I dare appeal to every judicious and impartial Reader, whether I had not sufficient Reason to suspect a Fraud and Imposture, and whether I could not upon very good Grounds venture to declare it openly, as I will not deny to have done. I was very much surpriz'd to find, at the latter End of the Narrative publish'd by Mr. St. André, several Affidavits concerning me, and my Conduct at Guilford; none indeed tending to prove the Truth of what was attested in the Narrative itself, but all purely levell'd at my Character and Reputation. By the following Account, which I do here most solemnly declare to be true in every

P R E F A C E.

every Particular, having asserted nothing herein, but what I can take upon me, and what I my self saw, heard, or transacted, it will appear, that it agrees in some Particulars with the Depositions mention'd above; but greatly differs in others. I must own, that it grieved me to find so many apparent Untruths therein sworn to; several of which, for being too trifling, I forbear mentioning at present: But it is absolutely necessary that I should clear up two Points, upon which both the officious Gentlemen, who, out of a tender, though undeserved, Regard for the Vindication of my Character, were pleas'd to procure the Affidavits aforesaid, and to subjoin them to their Narrative, and upon which the Persons that swore to the Truth thereof seem to have laid the greatest stress of their Evidence. These are, I. My telling Mr. Tho. Howard, That I EXTRACTED the Loins and Inferior Parts of the Rabbit, which I brought away from Mary Toft, OUT OF THE UTERUS. II. My Refusal to say at Guilford, to take away the Rest of

a 2

the

P R E F A C E.

the Parts of the aforefaid Rabbet, *altho'* very much preffed *both* by Mr. J. and Mr. Tho. Howard. *As to the first of thefe two Points, which, in the Corrected Edition of the Narrative, was expreffed in Capital Letters, it is fo very absurd and ridiculous, that it fcarce needs any Reply at all. Was I to grant, that I did make ufe of thefe very Exprefions, which Mr. Howard fwears I did, would it have done the Cause any good? Surely, it would be an inexcufable Prefumption in me to imagine, that the Publick fhould believe a Thing, for no other Reason, but becaufe I believ'd, and faid fo. I do not deny, but that at Guilford I behaved my felf all along, like one who was perfectly fatisfied of the Matter: I had very good Reasons for fo doing; and was not afhamed to own it upon my Return. But as to the Terms in Mr. Howard's Affidavit, I do aver, that I never fo much as thought of them, till I found them in Print. Having had no manner of Reason, no private Views*

P R E F A C E.

nor indeed any Motive at all, that could induce me to disguise my Conduct, I flatter my self, that I shall be allow'd in justice, at least so much Credit and Belief, as People can pretend to, who, when once concern'd in an Imposture, will venture every thing to go through with it. As to the second Point, My Refusal to stay at Guilford, till the Woman was deliver'd of the remaining Parts of the sixteenth Rabbet, Part whereof I had extracted in the Morning, this is something more material; and insinuates plainly, as if the Rabbet, which I brought to Town with me, and which I had the Honour to shew to his Majesty, and afterwards to several Persons of Note and Distinction, was not come away from the Woman during my Stay at Guilford. There being no Mention made of this Particular in the Evidence of the Women, I will confine my self to the Affidavit of Mr. John, and Mr. Tho. Howard. I do suppose, in the first Place, that these two Gentlemen
made

P R E F A C E.

made proper Allowances, for that the Exclusion of Mr. Brand, whom Mr. John Howard would not suffer to come with me into the Patient's Room, depriv'd me of a proper Witness, to attest what pass'd on both sides. This was most certainly a Hardship upon me, and, beyond all doubt, done with some sinister View. The Intention of these Affidavits, and indeed the necessary Consequences, evidently tending to an indirect Accusation, not only of a gross Imposture, for which, were I guilty of it, I ought to be severely punished; but, moreover, of a notorious Breach of Faith to the King my Master, for which I should deservedly incur his utmost Displeasure, my Honour and Reputation call loudly for Redress and Satisfaction, which I shall endeavour to obtain in the most publick and ample manner. I could, indeed, in my own Defence, previously insist upon the very Improbability of the Thing; I could alledge the Character of a Man of Honesty and Probity, which I
have

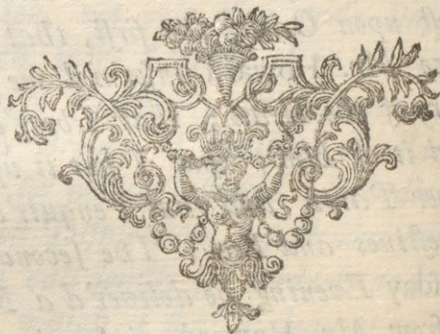
P R E F A C E.

have hitherto bore, and hope to preserve among all those I have the Honour to be acquainted withal, and which hath made me not unworthy to be employ'd in his Majesty's Service; but I shall purposely avoid these, and the like Proofs, being able to produce others still stronger, to evince the contrary; I mean, the joint Evidence of Mr. Brand, who was with me at Guilford, and Mr. Ziegler, who lives with Mr. Jagers the King's Apothecary, and who are both ready to attest upon Oath, the first, that in his Presence Mr. Howard inform'd me of the Delivery of the Head; that I begg'd, and obtain'd it of him; that I put it up with the other Parts, and that I enquir'd after the Intestines and Feet: The second, that on Tuesday Evening he deliver'd a Message to me from Mr. Howard, informing me of the Delivery of the seventeenth Rabbet, and requesting me to send back mine, being the sixteenth, according to Promise. After all if my Endeavours have been any ways serviceable,

P R E F A C E.

viceable, to find out the Truth of this Matter, I shall think them well bestowed; and as to the rest, generously overlook the scandalous Aspersions, and malicious Insinuations of some Persons, of whom I had no reason to expect such Usage.

CYRIACUS AHLERS.



P O S T.

POSTSCRIPT.

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

CYRIACUS AHLERS.

Decemb. 8. 1726.

SECRET

POSTSCRIPT

M. O'Brien, Sr. and his wife having asserted
 in his Narrative (p. 20)
 that all the Facts, as by him there
 stated, were verified before his Ma-
 jesty on Sunday, Nov. 26. Dr. Stei-
 nthal and Dr. Yessler being present,
 I was desired by Dr. Steingartel, to
 inform the Publick in his Name, that
 he all along insisted that while Af-
 fairs to be a Fraud and Imposture, and
 as far from checking the contra-
 diction, which is there men-
 tioned by Mr. O'Brien, any ways fa-
 vourable to verify his Assertions.


CYRILLUS AHLERS.

Decemb. 2. 1726.



SOME
OBSERVATIONS
CONCERNING

The WOMAN of GODLYMAN, &c.

N Saturday, Nov. 19. 1726.

I went, with his Majesty's Leave, to *Guilford*, there to enquire into the Condition of the Woman, who was said to have been delivered of fifteen Rabbits, and to inform my self of all the Circumstances of this uncommon Event, in order to make my Report to His Majesty. I set out that Afternoon at

A

Four

Four of the Clock, in Company with Mr. *Brand*, a Relation of Mr. *Jager*, the King's Apothecary. We lay at *Cobham*, and did not reach *Guilford* till Sunday the 20th, at Ten in the Morning. We took our Lodgings at the *White-Hart*, where we did not stay above a quarter of an Hour: For the Drawer, who said, he was just come from Mr. *Howard*, informing us, that he was at Home, we went strait to his House. As we came in they told us, that he would be with us presently; but about half an Hour after they said, that he was gone to dress the Mayor of the Town. After we had been waiting full three quarters of an Hour, he at last came to us, dress'd in his Night-gown; and having been told by me, by whose Leave I came, and about what Business, he informed me in presence of Mr. *Brand*, that the Woman

had

had been already delivered of fifteen Rabbits, and was just now fallen in Labour of a sixteenth.

We had been told at the Inn, that they heard Mr. *Howard* say, that the Rabbet had not been perceiv'd to leap, as it usually did, for about six Hours; but Mr. *Howard* himself assur'd us, that it had left off leaping ever since *Saturday* Ten of the Clock in the Morning, and that he presumed it must be dead since that Time.

Hereupon we went to the Woman's Lodging, which was over-against Mr. *Toward's* House, who would not suffer any Companion to come into the Room where the Patient was, for fear, as he said, that too much Company should frighten her; for which Reason also he order'd the Nurse to see, that the Door might be well fasten'd, and to suffer no body to come in: Nevertheless, a
 A 2 little

little while after, several Women went in and out, as they pleased. The Door being lock'd, the Nurse told us, that the Skin dropp'd down from her just now. Mr. *Howard* thereupon examin'd the Patient, whom we found sitting in a narrow Elbow-Chair. I was preparing to do the same; but was prevented by Mr. *Howard*, who said, he would let me know when it was convenient.

The Nurse, in the mean time, at our Desire, shew'd us the Skin, laid in a Bason. I touch'd it, and found it to feel something warm, a little moist round the Border; but every where else dry; and the Hair appeared smooth and even. Upon unfolding it, I could discern some small Blood-Vessels on the inside; but found not the least Drop of Blood, nor any Appearance of Water or Membranes. It smelt

very

very fresh, like the Skin of a wild Rabbet, just stripp'd. I asked Mr. *Howard*, how it was possible for the Rabbet to have been thus stripp'd of its Skin in the Woman's Belly; to which he answered, He apprehended, that it must be owing to the violent Pression of the Womb against the *Os Pubis*. The Patient, who continued all the while sitting in her Elbow-Chair, with her Stays on, was now desired by Mr. *Howard* to walk a little about the Room. I found her Pulse very easy and quiet, without the least Appearance of any feverish Disorder: There was little or no Swelling in her Belly, which, I must own, surpriz'd me very much. I likewise examin'd her Breasts, which I found relax'd, without any Hardness in the Glands, and no Milk in them; only upon squeezing, a little clear Serum came out, scarce enough to wet the tip

tip of my Finger. I asked, whether the Swelling of her Belly had ever been greater: And was answered by the Nurse, That all along it had been much at one; only that sometimes a little Swelling was observ'd about the Stomach, which quickly disappeared again. I ask'd the Patient herself some Questions; but could obtain no Answers from her: And Mr. *Howard* said, he would take care to inform me fully of every Circumstance relating to her Case. I observ'd her with some Attention, as she was walking about the Room, and found that she press'd her Knees and Thighs close together, as if she was afraid something might drop down, which she did not care to lose.

Not long after she pretended to fall in Labour, and behaved herself in the following manner: She stood with her Knees close together against the
Seat

Seat of an ordinary Chair, and holding the upper Part of it fast with her Hands, she began to squall and roar, and to move the upper Parts of her Body in a very strange Manner, twisting it from one side to another. I could not help wondering at her pressing her Knees so close together, and not choosing rather to keep them asunder, to make way for the Birth; but doubtless she knew best, what Posture was the most advantageous for her singular Delivery.

Mr. *Howard* and I, in the mean time, conversing together, and the Discourse happening to turn upon Subjects, which made us laugh, the Patient laugh'd very heartily with us, which I thought so extraordinary for a Woman in her Condition, that I could not forbear looking at Mr. *Howard*, who, in her Excuse, told me, that she

had

had an excellent Constitution, and did not matter her Labour-pains, as soon as they were over. Her Pulse continued all the while pretty easy and quiet, excepting only, that when she had been in Agitation for some time, it went a little quicker. She was now ordered by Mr. *Howard* to sit down again in her Elbow-Chair, upon which he examin'd her, and sat himself down opposite to her upon another Chair, in a Posture which appeared to me very uncommon, and indeed not a little Suspicious : He made her put her Legs between his, and with his Knees he press'd hers close together. There was a small Charcoal-fire lighted in the Room, and they were both sitting hard by the Chimney, after such a manner, that it was impossible for me to observe distinctly what they were doing, and in particular to mind the
 Motions

fleshy Body, which with the Bones stood a little way out of the Orifice of the *Vagina*. The *Vagina* was strongly contracted, closely embracing the Body, which presented itself, and which I conjectur'd to be the hind Part of a Rabbet, stripp'd of the Skin. The extreme Dryness of the Parts, the strong Contraction of the *Vagina*, and the Apprehension I was under, left the Fore-Part should be in the same Condition with that I felt, made me proceed with some Caution, insomuch that I resolv'd rather to wait the Return of new Labour-pains, than by using any Violence, to tear and to injure the *Vagina*. Having retired for these Reasons, Mr. *Howard* ask'd me, whether I would not extract it; and upon my answering, No, he offer'd to make it easier for me, pretending,
that

that his Fingers were slenderer than mine: Accordingly he examin'd her, and presently desir'd me to touch her again, which I did, and found the Body abovesaid advanced a little way; but when I laid hold of it, the *Vagina* contracted itself so strongly, that it snapp'd back again full the Breadth of a Finger. Upon this I would have desisted a second Time; but Mr. *Howard* observing it, urg'd me in strong Terms to proceed. So I took hold again, and to my surprize drew it out with all imaginable Ease. I found it to be only the hind Part of a Rabbet bent in a singular manner, and again without the least Drop of Blood, or any Moisture. I was in no small Surprize at what I had hitherto seen and transacted; and being previously told by Mr. *Howard*, that the Head and second Part

were still behind, I would fain have examin'd her farther, to look for them; but Mr. *Howard* would not permit it, saying, That he would deliver her of what was left, himself; in order to which he sat himself down before her in the Posture above describ'd. I was very much startled at this; and the Woman soon falling into fresh Labour-pains, I very earnestly renew'd my Instances; telling him, that to search her now she was in Labour, would best enable me to judge what Condition the Womb and its Orifice were in, and where the remaining Parts of the Rabbet lay. But he remain'd constant in his Denial, and with a sudden high Colour in his Face, answer'd me, *By no Means*; alledging, that Mr. *St. André* himself had examin'd her but twice, and that therefore I ought

ought to be satisfied with having extracted part of it my self.

By this Time I began to conceive a violent Suspicion of the whole Matter; but thought fit to conceal it, having resolv'd to behave my self all along, like one, who had no Reason to be dissatisfied. Nay, I feigned a great Compassion for the Woman's Case, which gave Mr. *Howard* an Opportunity to represent to me, that I could not but observe, what pains he must have been at, and still took, and what the poor Woman had suffered; and that he hoped His Majesty would be so gracious, when all was over, as to give them a Pension, there being many that had Pensions, who did not deserve them. I promised him, that I would not fail in my Report to His Majesty,

Majesty, to remember them in the best Manner I could. The Woman having, in the mean time, overcome another of her pretended Pains, Mr. *Howard* examin'd her a good while; when of a sudden starting and making an Outcry, he ask'd, *Did I hurt you?* And she answer'd, *Yes.* A little while after new Pains following, Mr. *Howard* said, he hop'd the remaining Part would now shortly present itself, wherein also he was not disappointed; for not long after he deliver'd her of it, and presented it to me. I found it to be the Fore-part of a Rabbet, looking a little redder than the hind Part, which I had brought away from her, otherwise without any Appearance of Blood and Water, something warm to the Touch, and smelling very fresh like a wild Rabbet, stripp'd of its Skin

but

but a little while ago. There was nothing remaining but the Head, In-
 eslines, and Feet.

Much about this Time Mr. *Howard*
 was sent for to Dinner; but I desir'd
 that he would stay till the Woman
 was deliver'd of the remaining Parts,
 and then dine with me at the Inn,
 which he consented to.

This gave me an Opportunity of
 sending for my Companion, under
 pretext of ordering the Dinner; but
 when he came into the Room, I de-
 sired him in *High-German*, to mind
 what Posture both Mr. *Howard* and the
 Patient were in, being that above de-
 scrib'd, and then gave him, in *English*,
 Orders, to provide a Dinner for us.
 Having all along exprefs'd a great Con-
 cern

cern for the Woman's Condition, Mr. *Howard* and she, after some other Pains, and before the Delivery of the Head, laugh'd very heartily, as did also the Nurse; tho' I did not see that they had any Reason for so doing, unless it was to divert themselves with my feigned Compassion.

This Piece of Diversion, and some other Pains being over, Mr. *Howard* desir'd the Woman to lie down, which she did accordingly, and was then to all Appearance pretty easy.

About Two of the Clock I ask'd Mr. *Howard*, whether he would go to Dinner; but he said, it was time enough; and that if we staid a little longer she would be, perhaps, deliver'd of the Head.

About

About half an Hour after (during which Time, Mr. *Howard* sat by the Patient's Bed-side, and sometimes supported her Knees) perceiving, that the Head was not in any forwardness, we went to Dinner. At Dinner Mr. *Howard* told me, that the Woman was a great Lover of salt Beef, and that with my Leave he would send her some; accordingly she had a good piece sent her, tho' it happen'd to be pretty hard, and was very much salted.

We had not been long at Dinner, when Mr. *Howard's* elder Brother, whom I had seen before in the Patient's Room, came in. I desir'd him to sit down with us; and the Discourse quickly falling on the Woman's Case,

I renew'd my Promises to remember them all in my Report to His Majesty. Soon after, Mr. *Howard*, Jun. being sent for, went away, saying, he would come again presently, leaving his Brother with me.

Altho' I at first intended to stay two or three Days, yet considering what had past, and reflecting in particular upon the repeated Denials of Mr. *Howard*, Jun. that I should not examine the Patient any more, I found that it would be to no purpose to continue there longer.

However, I still thought it best to conceal my Suspicion, and therefore complain'd of a violent Head-ach, which, I said, made me desirous to return to *London* with all possible Speed.

Accordingly

Accordingly I order'd the Coach to be got ready. Mr. *Howard*, Sen. continuing to keep me Company at Table, I could not altogether forbear dropping a few Words of the Surprize I was in, with regard, in particular, to the Dryness of the Woman's Delivery, and the Unwillingness of his Brother to let me touch and examine her, after the Delivery of the hind Part of the Rabbet, which I extract'd my self; but he answer'd, that he did not know what Reason his Brother had to deny me this Satisfaction.

Mr. *Howard*, Jun. not returning according to his Promise, I went straight to his House, with his Brother and Mr. *Brand*; but not finding him at home, and being willing to give the Woman something, we went up all together

together to her Chamber, and found Mr. *Howard*, Jun. with her, who told me, as soon as we came into the Room, that he had just now deliver'd her of the Head ; which he gave me to feel, it being pretty dusky, and as yet no Light in the Room. It felt warm, and was a little Moist.

I forgot to mention, that before we went to Dinner, I desir'd Mr. *Howard* to let me take the Skin, with the Fore and Hind-part of the Rabbet, along with me, to shew them to His Majesty, which at first he would not consent to : But having promised him that I would take care to send them back again, he permitted me to take them, and so I put them up in an Ox's Bladder, which I had sent for, and turn'd the Inside out. I now beg'd likewise

likewise the Head of him, and put it up with the rest, in Presence of Mr. *Brand*, who was this Time, suffer'd to come in.

I then told Mr. *Howard* of my Intention to return to *London*, and gave the Woman something. But before I went away, I desir'd Mr. *Howard* to shew me some of the Things, which he had brought away from the Woman before. He produced several Pieces, which I look'd over in some haste, being unwilling to stay much longer. However, I ask'd what was become of the Stomach and smaller Guts, to which he answer'd, that he did not mind and preserve them. I likewise ask'd after the Guts and Feet of the Rabbet I was taking with me: To which he replied, that he fancy'd they were

were fallen to the Ground, and got under our Feet. He shew'd me among other Pieces, the Back of a pretty large Rabbet, wherein finding some Parts of the *Intestinum Rectum* remaining, with Pellets of hard Excrements in it, I desir'd he would let me have one; upon which he took one out with a Pin, and presented it to me in a Box, saying, that he had given the like to Mr. *St. André*, and Mr. *Molyneux*. He also read some Papers of his to me, concerning the Woman's Case, from the beginning of her Illness, which being pretty well known in Town, I did not much attend to. I took my Leave of the two Brothers, and left *Guilford* about Five in the Evening, with Mr. *Brand*. We lay at *Cobham*, and came to Town on *Monday* about One of the Clock, when I re-
pair'd

pair'd forthwith to *Kensington*, to make my Report to His Majesty by Word of Mouth.

Before I proceed to the Description of the several Parts of the Rabbet, which I took along with me, it may not be amiss to take Notice, that on *Tuesday* Evening, being at Mr. *Jager's* House, Mr. *Ziegler*, his Man, who had been at *Guilford* that Day, deliver'd a Message to me from Mr. *Howard*, to let me know, that since my Departure she had been deliver'd of another, and that he believ'd, she would have no more. He withal desir'd me, as soon as possible, to send back the Rabbet, according to my Promise; which I would have certainly done, if I had not receiv'd Commands not to part with it till further Orders.

For

For the Satisfaction of the Publick, I will here subjoin the Anatomical Description of the several Parts of the Sixteenth Rabbet, which I brought with me to Town.

THE Skin, as it lay extended, was eight Inches long, and four and a half broad, where broadest, unequally torn with many Holes up and down, and several Pieces of Fat, particularly about the Extremities.

The Head was four Inches and a half long, from the Nose to the Extremity of the Ears, and cover'd with the Skin, all over, except a small Bit, which should have cover'd part of the lower Jaw, but was tore off.

The

The first *Vertebra* of the Neck was luxated, and the Muscles about it lacerated; but the third *Vertebra* was cut in the Middle; the transverse Processes between the first and third *Vertebra* broke off, with the Muscles round it, the Marks of a sharp Instrument appearing very plainly.

The Fore-part was two Inches three Quarters along the Back-bone; there was some part of the Abdominal Muscles left, which I found ripp'd open lengthways: The *Diaphragm* was in its proper Situation, closing the Cavity of the *Thorax*; but I found it necessary to open it, to look for the Heart and Lungs, which I did in Presence of Dr. *Steigenthal*. I found the *Foramen Ovale* as yet open; and having took the Lungs out and laid them in Water, they swam on the Surface; there was

D some

some part of the *Œsophagus* left, most of the Ribs were broke along the *Vertebrae* of the Back on both Sides, and some of them in two Places, and the Muscles about the Fractures lacerated; the Ligaments of the *Vertebrae* were very much distended, and the *Spina Dorsi* itself broke in two Places. Some of the external Muscles were likewise tore, and the right *Scapula* a little separated from the Ribs: Part of the right Fore-leg was broke off, and the Remainder of the *Ulna* and *Radius* stood out in two large Shivers; the Muscles thereabouts were tore. On the left Side, the *Radius* and *Ulna* were entirely wanting, and even the lower Part of the *Os Humeri* cut off, with some sharp Instrument, as it appeared very plain.

Two of the false Ribs were left with the *Vertebrae* of the Loins, which were very visibly cut off from the first, with a sharp Instrument, and all the Ligaments of the *Vertebrae* very much relaxed, that it was no difficult Matter to bend it; there was a good Part of the Abdominal Muscles left with this, and they had been cut transverse-ly. All the Abdominal Contents were wanting, except the Urinary and Parts of Generation, with about two Inches of the *Intestinum Rectum*. I found several Pellets of hard Excrements, two of which I took out, in Presence of Mr. *Amyand*, and observ'd small Bits of Hay, Straw and Corn in them; some Fat appeared in several Parts; the *Tibia* of the right Hind-leg was cut off near the Articulation, with the Bones of the *Tarsus*, and a small Bit
of

of Skin was left there. There was likewise Part of the left Leg chopp'd off, just a-cross the Bones of the *Tarsus*; the Tail was entire, somewhat above two Inches long, and almost covered with the Skin.

F I N I S.





Much ado about Nothing :

O R, T H E

Rabbit-Woman's

CONFESS I O N.



(Price Four-Pence.)

THE

Much also about Nothing:

OR THE

Rabbi-Woman's

CONFESSION.

BY

(Price Four-Pence.)

Much ado about Nothing :

Or, a PLAIN

REFUTATION

OF

All that has been Written or Said

Concerning the

Rabbit - Woman

OF

G O D A L M I N G .

BEING

A Full and Impartial Confession
from her *Own Mouth*, and under her
Own Hand, of the whole *Affair*,
from the *Beginning* to the *End*.

Now made publick for the General
Satisfaction.

L O N D O N :

Printed for *A. Moore*, near *St. Paul's*:

M. DCC. XXVII.

Which was about Nothing:

OF A PLEA

REPUTATION

OF

All that has been Written or Said

Concerning the

Rabbit - Woman

OF

GODALMING

BEING

A Full and Impartial Confession
from her Own Mouth, and under her
Own Hand, of the whole Affair,
from the Beginning to the End.

Now made publick for the General
Satisfaction.

LONDON:
Printed for A. Moore, near St. Pauls.
M. dccc. xxv.

(5)



THE
PUBLISHER
TO THE
READER.

THE poor Wo-
man of *Godal-*
ming being now
the Topic of every
Con-

Conversation, and it being put to the general Vote, whether Rabbits shall be admitted to our Tables, ay or no; it has been thought fit to trace the whole Affair from its first Original; and to hear what the poor Woman has to say for herself, at a time when all Mouths are open against her: in order to which, the Publisher hereof has taken

in-

indefatigable Pains to bring the whole Mystery to light, by purging the Woman in a proper manner, and at proper times, without the low Artifice of Wheedling, or the high Hand of Threatning; but by touching *her in the Tenderest part*, viz. her Conscience; and extracting the very Quintessence of the whole Affair in such a manner, and method,

as

as will fet all Mankind to rights in their various mistaken Notions of this unhappy Woman.

It is therefore to be hoped, they will fufpend their Judgments, till they have heard what ſhe has to ſay for herſelf; and that upon a mature Recollection and Debate of the whole, they will fet the Saddle on the right Horſe, by letting their Reſentments

ments fall on *the true*
Impostors, or Quacks, and
 not on a poor innocent
 Woman, whose Misfor-
 tunes they have made
 the Cat's Paw of their
 Roguery.

P O S T S C R I P T.

IT was thought fit to
 print this Confession
 in *puris naturalibus*, (i.e.)
 in her own Stile and
 Spelling, without any
 C Amend-

Amendment or Adultera-
tion, which would but
spoil its natural Simpli-
city, and render it less
Genuine and Credible.

T H E



T H E

Rabbit-Woman's
CONFESSIO.N.

UNdurstandin I hav bin
mad a toun tauk of, I
thinks it is tim for me
to vindikat my self, hoo am as
innursent of what I am exkuz'd
with, as the child as is unborn.
I here I am mad a sad Cretur of
C 2 by

by a parsel of surjohns, hoo, as all the world noes, ar nun of the onnistists men; but I hope to clere myself, and shaim them all.

Now you must noe, as I beng, thof I sa it as shud not sa it, a Woman as knows wats wat, I was alwas dispektid by my naburs, and in pertikular Mr. ——— hoo alwas told me I wos a Wuman as had *grate natturul parts*, and a *large Capassiti*, and kapible of beng kunterned in depe *Kun-trivansis*; and as how if I wold be rulid by him, and use *Prick-kawshun*, sum think mowt be dun, and as how if I lust Rawbits, I shud navar wont: so he tretid me with as fine a Rawbit as effer I tastid in my born days. Now you must noe his Rawbit had

had an indiffrent tast from ani I had effer ete, for it wos not byld, nor rostid, nor fricumceed, *but tost up skin and aul with its eres prickt up.* How effer, thank G—, I got it all down, and thote I nevr tastid a dellikittur morsil in my lyf; my huzbund had giffen me mani and mani a Rawbit before, but no comparrezon. So I neffur astur vallid his Rawbits, no more then nutthink at all, but alwas honed and honed for my nabor's Rawbit. But he groing wary of suplyng me, fobd me off, and fade as how I had too much *Affucktation* for him: so he brot me one *Surjohn*, and another *Surjohn*, but nun of these Rawbitts went down lik his, nor spent hafe so well: and as for takin them at the mouth,

I

I cood not ; for evar fense I had
 tastid his Rawbitt, I tuk them all
 tuther way, and I humbli kun-
 feve it is the best way, espechal-
 ly if thay ar not flabby ; but if
 thay ar flabby, thay ar not wurth
 a fart.

Astur this, *an ugly old Gentil-
 man* in a grate blak wig cam to
 me, but he had lost his Rawbit
 by the way, for I cood see nun
 he had ; and he onli tez'd me,
 and tez'd me, but mad nutthink
 of it ; for he fumblid and fum-
 blid, but to no porpos, for all
 his grabblin and gropin signe-
 fyd as much as nuthink.

Then thay brote a *purbylynd
 Gentilman*, hoo was for *survay-*
in me with his *Telluskop* ; but it
 was so dark he cood not see,
 tho he got upon a gynt-stool,
 and

and had it not bin for anothur Parson more quick-fited then himself, he had sartinly lost his *Telluskop*.

The next was a *pritty Gentleman*, hoo had a charmin Rawbit, and more thon that *plaid swetly* on the *Fiddil*, and cut *capors* as hy as ani think : He wood have jumpt the Lord noes ware, if he mowt hav had his will, and shakt the powdar out of his wig ; but I likt him the bettar for all that : if I cood ha my will, he shood be the onli man I wood be kunfernd with.

As for the *squab Man*, that cry'd out a *Sooterkin, a Sooterkin*, I dont lik him at all ; for it femes he wonted to mak a Devils Damm of me, and peept, and peept, the Devil peep his
Eyes

Eyes out, in hops to see a dancing Devil cut a capor out of my Belli, but he was disapinted.

But the wurst of them all was a fare-faced long-nosed Gentilman, with a Neck lik a Crain; he was for purformin an *oppurashun*, as he call'd it, and tawkt of making *Insishuns*, and *Cesariums*, and the Lord noes wat: but the othur Gentilman wood not let him, for which I shall alwas pray for um.

Thare was likwys a noutlandish surjohn, a fumbl-fisted fellur, as was nevr cut out to handil Gentilwimin, his fingurs war all astrutt, and he hurt me so, I nevr dezir he shood meddl with me ani mor as long as I liv.

After

After this, thay brot a powr
 mor of surjohns, I nevir see
 such a mortul site of ugli fel-
 lurs in my born days, peepin
 and gropin, and sputturing out
 haf *English*, and haf *Lattin*; nay,
 it mout be *Law-Lattin* for awt
 I noe, for I nevir herd such
 Gibburich sins I was born.

Durin this tyme, I was dele-
 vurd, as they say, of I dont noe
 how mani Rabbitts; but I pro-
 tests I noe nothink of the mat-
 tur, thay mowt put um thare for
 owt I noe, for I cant tell no
 mor then the child as is unborn
 how I cum by um. If I did
 brede um, the mor is my mis-
 fortun, and I thinks I oft in kon-
 shuns to have a Penshun to mak
 ammends, and not to be mad a
 maygam of, and a laffin-stok,
 D and

and sent from post to pillur, to banniurs, and to prisun, and I dont noe ware: But thare is mor lys it semes told of me, for thay say as how I wanted to mak a *Kunny-Worren* of my *Parshy-Bed*, and as how I had agrid to suply the *Poltururs* with *Rawbitts* at an under pryse: But this is a stori raisd by the *Warrinors*, and I wood not have pepel set themselves against *Rawbitts* for my sake, for I nevr did sell a *Rawbitt* to no parson watevur: for how cood I, wen the *surjohns* run away with um as fast as tha cum from me. If tha sold um, or eat um, the more shaim for um; but why shood the lawt be lade at my dore, wen I am in-nursent of the mattur?

As

As for the Portur of the Banniur, he is a lying dog, and onli wonts to mak a peni of me.

As for bing fryted with *Rawbitts*, it is all a ly; for the troath is, I had alwas an ugli wa of crying *Odd Rawbitt me!* at evri turn.

This ugli wurd I uzd in gest or arnist; for if I was angri with ani bodi, I wood cry *odd Rawbitt um*; or if I was gokin or plain the fool with ani bodi, I had alwas *Rabbitt um* at my tungs end: so that I had got such a habit of using myself to this wikid wurd, that I was nikanamd *Rawbittin Merry* long enuff afore this Misfortin hapned.

Now I do follymly deklar, that to the best of my nolige, all this has hapned to me for my rash wishis, and profan swearin, and saing Odd Rawbitt me, and such wikid wishis; tharfor I do besech all Cristiu peple to tak worning by me, and not to wish rash wishis for the futur, or to fware or curs, lest tha be punishid for the sam.

As for the *surjohns*, tha hav mad a *fine kettle of Fish*; but wat is that to me? as tha bru let um bak, I am resolvid to clere miself, and let them git off as well as tha can.

As for thare barbirus Experiment wich tha intended, of sending a *chimni-sweeper's boy up my*
fal-

fallopin Tubb, I thank um for thare luff, but tha shall play no such triks with me : I noes tha wood hang me if tha cood, but I hops sum good Cristiu will stand in *my gap*, and not let a pore Wuman be hangid for a parsil of navs and fools.

I dos declare all this is the trooth, and nuthink but the trooth, as I hops for merci ; and I hops all good peple will tak worning by me, and piti me, and not se me hangid.

And I do assure all peple, gentil or simpl, that tha may *ete Rawbitts* mornin, noon, or nite, without any fere or dangur for the futur ; for all as has bin sad, exept what I have here

here written, is a damd kun-
founded ly.

MERRY TUFT.

POSTSCRIPT.

THOF I be ripurzentid
as an ignirunt littirat Wu-
man, as can nethur rite nor
rede, yet I thank God I can do
both; and thof mahaps I cant
spel as well as sum peple as
fet up for authurs, yet I can rite
trootth, and plane *Inglish*, wich
is mor nor ani of um all has
dun. As for settin my Mark
to a papur, it wos wen I wont
well, and wos for goin the
shortist

shortist wa to work : if tha had
axt me to rite my name, I
wood hav dun it; but tha onli
bid me fet my mark, as kun-
cloding I cood not rite my
nam, but tha was mistakn.

F I N I S.



thou art wroth to work : if she had
axe me to rise my name, I
wood have done it; but she only
bid me set my mark, as kin-
dhooding I could not rise my
name, but she was mistaken.



To the Hon^{ble} Mr. Hans Sloane
To be left at the Grecian Coffee House
in Downe Court near Temple Bar
London
Oxlow

Sir The report of a woman's breeding
of rabbits has almost alarm'd England
and in a manner persuaded several
people of sound judg^t of that truth.
I have been at some pains to discover
the Affair, and think I have
conquerd my point, as you will see
by the Deposition taken before me
which shall be published in a day
or two. I am

Yr Hum^{ble} Servant

Oxlow.

Clendon Dec^r. 4th. 1726.

Ms. Sloan. 3312 xxvii G.

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THE SEVERAL
DEPOSITIONS
OF

Edward Costen, Richard Stedman, John Sweetapple, Mary Peytoe, Elizabeth Mason, and Mary Costen ;

Relating to the Affair of

MARY TOFT,
Of Godalming in the County of
Surrey, being deliver'd of
Several Rabbits :

As they were taken before the Right Honourable the Lord *ON SLOW*, at *Guildford* and *Clandon* in the said County, on the Third and Fourth Days of this instant *December 1726*.

L O N D O N ;

Printed for *J. Pemberton*, at the *Buck* in *Fleet-street*, over-against *St. Dunstan's Church*. 1727. (Price 4*d.*)

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

RESEARCH REPORT
No. 1000
BY
J. H. GOLDSTEIN
AND
R. F. W. WILSON

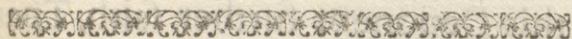
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DEPOSITIONS.



The Deposition of *Edward Costen.*



Edward Costen of *Godal-*
ming in the County of
Surrey, Framework-Knit-
ter, maketh Oath, That about
one Month ago *Joshua Toft* of
A 2 Go-

Godalming aforeſaid, Clothworker, came to this Deponent, and asked him, this Deponent, if he could ſell him any Rabbits; and that this Deponent ſold him two Rabbits of about a Month old at twice, to wit, one Day next after another, for which this Deponent had of him Three Pence each. And this Deponent further ſaith, That at the time the ſaid *Joſhua Toft* came for the laſt Rabbit that he had of this Deponent, he asked this Deponent if he had any more; and this Deponent replied, he had one dead, and that it died in the Night: and that then the ſaid *Toft* asked where it was, to which this Deponent ſaid, he had thrown it
away :

(5)

away: to which the said *Toft*
replied, if you had not thrown
it away, it would have done as
well for me as a live one.

Edward Costen.

*Jur' apud Guldeford in Com' Surr'
tertio die Decembris Anno Dom'
1726. coram*

Onslow.

The



The Deposition of
Richard Stedman.

Richard Stedman of Godal-
ming in the County of
Surrey, Weaver, maketh Oath,
That Joshua Toft of Godalming
aforesaid, Cloathworker came to
this Deponent's House, and en-
quired for Rabbits; to which
this Deponent's Son said he had
some, but he thought them too
small;

small ; to which the said *Toft* replied, small or what they wou'd he must have them ; and that this Deponent's Son went and fetched two young Rabbits of about five Weeks old, and he the said *Toft* bought one of them at that time, being *Saturday*, this Day Fortnight ; and on the *Monday* then next following, he came and bought the other, and that he killed them each as soon as he bought them in the Presence of this Deponent ; and at taking away the first, he the said *Toft* said, you need not let any body know it, for I don't know but I may have occasion for the other ; and accordingly had the other for Two-Pence, because

(8)

cause it was very poor and
small; and this Deponent saith
that one of the said Rabbits
was black, and the other grey.

Richard Stedman.

*Jur' apud Guldeford in Com' Surr'
tertio die Decembris Anno Dom'
1726. coram*

Onflow.

The



The Affirmation of
John Sweetapple.

JOHN Sweetapple of Godal-
ming in the County of
Surrey, Currier, being one of the
People commonly call'd *Qua-*
kers, solemnly affirmeth, That
Joshua Toft of Godalming afore-
B said,

faid, Clothworker, came to this Affirmant on the seventh or eighth Day of *October* last, and asked to buy Rabbits; and that this Affirmant then sold him a black Rabbit, above half grown: And that the said *Toft* came again to this Affirmant after his Wife was gone to *Guildford*, and asked this Affirmant if he had any Rabbits; to which he said he had, but they were small: to which the said *Toft* said, he must have them, be what Size they would. And this Affirmant then sold him two Rabbits, one black, and one grey; and this Affirmant took out the Entrails of them before *Toft* took them away. And this Affirmant further

(II)

ther saith, That the said *Toft*
told this Affirmant, that he was
then going to *Guildford* with
them.

John Sweetapple.

*This Affirmation was taken at
Guildford in the County of
Surrey the third day of De-
cember, Anno Dom' 1726.
before*

Onslow.

B 2

The



The Deposition of
Mary Peytoe.

MART Peytoe, the Wife
of *John Peytoe* of *Godalming* in the County of *Surrey*, Husbandman, maketh Oath,
That *Joshua Toft* of *Godalming*
aforesaid, Clothworker, came to
this

this Deponent to buy Rabbits about five Weeks ago, and that this Deponent then sold him one or two of about six or seven Weeks old. And that at several times in about ten Days then next, this Deponent sold the said *Toft* seven or eight Rabbits more of about six or seven Weeks old; and in particular, this Deponent sold him two of the Rabbits, which he killed and paunched in this Deponent's Presence, and said he must carry them to *Guildford*: which said two Rabbits this Deponent so sold him the same Day that the Wife of the said *Joshua Toft* went to reside at *Guildford*. And this Deponent saith, That she gave him one Rab-

(14)

Rabbit of a sandy Colour for
his Wife.

The Mark of
Mary X Peytoe.

*Jur' apud Guldeford in Com'
Surr' tertio die Decembris
Anno Dom' 1726. coram*

Onslow.

The



The Deposition of
Mrs. *Mason*.

MR S. *Mason* maketh Oath,
That whilst *Mary Toft*
lodg'd at her House, which was
about three Weeks, that there
was no Rabbits dress'd at her
House, or carry'd to *Mary Toft*
to eat; and that she heard the
said *Mary Toft* say, that she
could not eat a Bit of a Rab-
bit,

bit, was she to have a Thousand Pounds for so doing. The Deponent further saith, That *Mary Toft's* Husband had frequent Conference with his Sister, who attended his Wife.

The Mark of
Mrs. *Eliz. X Mason.*

*Fur' apud Clandon in Com'
Surr' quarto die Decembris
Anno Dom' 1726. coram*

Onflow.

The



The Deposition of
Mary Costen.

MARY Costen of Godal-
ming in the County of
Surrey, Widow, maketh Oath,
That about a Month ago she
was hired to *Mary Toft*, the
Wife of *Joshua Toft* of Godal-
ming aforetaid, Cloathworker,
as a Nurse, and that she tended
C her

her as such till the time the said *Mary Toft* went from *Guildford* to *London*; and that the Husband of the said *Mary Toft* came often to see his Wife, and that he was often with his own Sister: And this Deponent further saith, That to the best of her knowledge she never saw any Rabbits brought to her the said *Mary Toft* to eat whilst she was at *Guildford*, nor any dress'd in the House, and verily believes there was not any dress'd for or eat by her the said *Mary Toft* during that Time: And further saith, That she, this Deponent herself, saw the said *Mary Toft* delivered of Seven Rabbits of different Colours whilst she was at *Guildford*, all which came from

from her in several pieces, and not whole: And that this Deponent heard that a black one came from her at *Godalming*. And this Deponent further saith, That as often as the said Husband came to *Guildford*, this Deponent never saw him dejected, or any ways concerned for his Wife's Misfortune: And also saith, That during her attending the said *Mary Toft*, she never heard her or her Husband desire that any Minister might be sent for to pray by her: And this Deponent further saith, That she does not know that the said *Mary Toft* was restrained from any Diet at any time whilst she tended her; And that the said *Mary Toft* generally fed on

C 2

salt

salt Beef, and drank sometimes
 strong Beer, and sometimes
 small, and sometimes Wine :
 And this Deponent also saith,
 That during all the said time she
 never heard Mr. *John Howard*
 prescribe any particular Diet for
 her the said *Mary Toft*; but
 hath heard the said Mr. *Howard*
 tell the People that came to see
 her the said *Mary Toft*, that
 he did not debar her of eating
 any thing. And this Deponent
 further saith, That about nine
 a-clock this Morning Mr. *How-*
ard's Apprentice, one *Mel-*
lersh, came to the Gate of *Mun-*
sted Farm in the Parish of *Go-*
dalming, and enquired for this
 Deponent, and there told her
 that he had heard from his Ma-
 ster

ster and her Dame, and that the Rabbit was alive Yesterday, and that he had heard my Lord Onslow was to send for her, and he would have her stand by the Truth. To which this Deponent said, she would, if the King was to send for her, and that she would not do an ill thing for a Lap-full of Guineas.

The Mark of
Mary X Costen.

*Jur' apud Clandon in Com' Surr'
quarto die Decembris Anno Dom'
1726. coram*

Onslow.

And

And this Deponent further
saith, That to the best of her
remembrance, she never saw the
said *Mary Toft* deliver'd of
any Guts belonging to the seven
Rabbits she saw her deliver'd of
as above.

The Mark of
Mary X Costen.

F I N I S.

not ix

*Since the taking of these Depositions
Mr. St. Andre has thought fit to
publish the following Advertisement
in the Daily Journal of Dec. 9. 1726.*

HAVING contributed, in some measure, to the Belief of an Impostor, in a Narrative lately published by me, of an extraordinary Delivery of *Rabbits*, performed by Mr. Howard, Surgeon, of *Guildford*; and having been since instrumental in discovering the same; so that I am now thoroughly convinc'd it is a most abominable Fraud: I think myself obliged, in strict regard to Truth, to acquaint the Publick thereof; and that I intend, in a short time, to publish a full Account of the Discovery, with some Considerations on the extraordinary Circumstances of this Case, which misled me in my Apprehensions thereof; and which as I hope they will, in some measure, excuse the Mistakes made by myself, and others, who have visited the Woman concerned therein, will also be acceptable to the World, in separating the Innocent from those who have been guilty Actors of this Fraud.

December 8. 1726.

St. ANDRE.

X

An ACCOUNT of the Rabbits, &c.



ONE *Mary Toft*, Wife to *Joshua Toft*, Clothworker, at *Godalming* near *Guildford* in *Surrey*, having so carried on a Trick, as to have been reported to have been delivered of 17 Rabbits in *Novr. 1726*. and that the Person who attended her in her pretended Labours writ the following Letter to *London* about it. Nov. 9. 1726.

SIR, Since I wrote to you, I have delivered the poor Woman of 3 more Rabbits, one of them a *Dun Rabbit*, the last leaped 23 Hours before it died. As soon as the 11th Rabbit was taken away, up leaped the 12th Rabbit which is now leaping. If you have any curious Person, that is pleased to come Post, may see another leap within her, and shall take it from her if he pleases, which will be a Satisfaction to the Curious; I do not know how many Rabbits may be behind. I have brought her to *Guildford* for better convenience. I am, Your hum. Serv. &c.

The Truth of this whole Affair is as follows.

The Account the Woman pretended of the Matter is this: That on the 23d of *April* last, as she was weeding in a Field, she saw a Rabbit spring up near her, after which she ran with another Woman, that was at work just by her; this set her a longing for Rabbits, being then, as she thought, 5 Weeks gone with Child; the other Woman perceiving she was uneasy, charged her with longing for the Rabbit they could not catch, but she denied it.

Soon after another Rabbit sprung up near the same Place, which she endeavoured likewise to catch.

The same Night she dreamt, that she was in a Field with those two Rabbits in her Lap, and awaked with a sick Fit, and from that time for above 3 Months, she had a constant and strong Desire to eat Rabbits, but being very poor and indigent could not procure any, and so went on till she pretended to be delivered of these Rabbits.

A thing of so very odd a Nature as this was, soon made a great Noise, insomuch that some eminent Surgeons went from *London* by the King's Order to examine into it.

These Gentlemen would doubtless have soon perceived the Fraud, and never have been misled in their Apprehensions of the thing as they were, had they but had fair Play in the Matter, and Scope for examining into the Truth of the Fact, but this not being obtained by them, they began to suspect the Juggle in the thing, as long as the Woman remained in the Country along with her own Acquaintance, and therefore it was found entirely necessary to have her brought to *London*, and separated from all of her own Party, and to be attended by Persons, who should have entire fair Room for all proper and requisite Examination into the Matter. Accordingly she was brought to *London*, and lodged at the *Bagnio* in *Leicester-Fields*.

Here she still pretended from time to time to be in Labour Pains, which she had the Art exactly to counterfeit, but being strictly searched in the Matter, 'twas clearly found, that nothing of what she pretended, did come from her as a Birth ought to do. And what now gave still more room to suspect the Fraud, was her having got the Porter of the *Bagnio* clandestinely to procure her a very young *Rabbit*, which she was to carry on her Trick withal, as she had done before, by dividing it into peeces, & so artfully managing the *Matter* as to seem to be delivered of such peeces, for it was never found that she pretended to be delivered of any whole live *Rabbit* at once, notwithstanding the Expressions in the Letter above, and those artful Motions and Tortures she could feign exactly like Labour Pains, and which were so great, that they sometimes shook the whole Bed she lay on.

These great Grounds to believe it a Fraud, made the Physicians, who by the King's Order attended her, urge her to confess the Truth, and that if she did not, they threatened that they would try a very painful Experiment upon her, which should fully try the Truth of the Matter, whereas if she would ingenuously confess the whole Truth, she should not undergo it:

These Threats made great Impressions upon her, so that to avoid so terrible an Operation, she confessed the Matter as follows. On *Wed. Dec. 7.* in the Morning she own'd, That some time since she Miscarried, after which a Woman Accomplice told her, that if she would follow her Advice, she need have no Occasion to work for her Living as formerly, for she would put her into a Way of getting a very good livelihood, and should therefore expect Part of the Gain. *Mary Toft* ask'd what Way that was?

The Woman told her, she would teach her how to pretend to be delivered of *Rabbits*, which *Mary Toft* afterwards thus put in Practice, and so imposed on the World.

Thus the whole Secret came out, upon which this pretended Rabbit Breeder was carried to *Totbill-fields Bridewell*, there to have such Treatment, as such an uncommon *Im-
or* shall be thought fit by the Government to receive.

Advertisement.

VERY proper for a NEW YEARS GIFT (or a Present at any Time) for all God Fathert, God Mothers, Relations, Friends, and Acquaintance to Give to Children is the famous *Anodyne Necklace*, Recommended by Dr. *vanberlen* for Children's Teeth, Fits, Fevers, Convulsions, &c. These incomparable Necklaces have been now long experienced for the absolute Easing Young Children in Breeding and Cutting their Teeth without Pain or Difficulty, a Secret Sympathetick Influence they bear over the Teeth and Gums of Children, insomuch that their Effect almost miraculous, Numbers of Children thought to be on the Brink of the Grave with *Convulsions, Fevers, Fits,* other Ailments all proceeding from their Teeth, have almost instantly recovered after this *Sovereign Necklace* was Put about their Necks, and have suddenly grown stronger and healthier than ever they were before. Price 5 s. with *Directions*. Or 48 s. a Dozen to all Merchants and others who Sell them again, these Necklaces sell very well, and for a very great Price in the East and West Indies, as well as in most Parts of Europe.

All Shopkeepers in the Towns and Cities of Great Britain.
S there is a very great Call for these famous Necklaces, Notice is hereby given to any Publick Shopkeepers in the Market Towns of Great Britain, Scotland, and Ireland, that take these Necklaces to sell again, at any Time whatever Necklaces are not Sold may be returned again. Several Shopkeepers now sell so many of them a Year, as to pay a considerable Part of their Rent the Profit accruing from 'em. Since therefore no Shopkeeper can be no Loser by them, this Notice is given for their taking them in their Shops to sell again, in the Principal Cities and Towns of the 3 Kingdoms. Nothing can be so convenient and pretty a Remedy for Children in the Extremity of their Pains as these Necklaces, which have saved so many from even the Jaws of Death, when all Hopes of Life have been given over. and therefore it can scarce be thought how Mothers should so easily comply with their Obligation, who lets their Children go without one of these Necklaces.



Just Published,

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THE PRACTICAL SCHEME of the *Secret Disease* A GLEET, and a *Constitution Broke* by *Fast Living*, Former Cures, *Self-Defilements*, *Salivations*, *Mercury*, &c.

Shewing Persons, 1st, To understand rightly their own Case, whether infected or not? If infected, to what Disease their Case belongs? And if well after former Cures.

Secondly, How to Cure themselves of these Disorders without *Suspicion*, *Confinement*, or making known their Condition to any one. With sure Rules to know when the Infection of the Distemper is carried off, and whether any *Mercury* lies lurking in the *Body* after any *Former Cure*.

These Books are Given Gratis Up One pair of Stairs, the Sign of the abovementioned *Anodyne Necklace* for Children's Teeth, over against *Devreux Court* without Temple

And by the Author's Servant R. Bradshaw at the Golden *Anchor* by *Great-Russel Street* End, *St. Giles's in the Fields*.

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FINIS.

à Propos

Mr. St. ANDRÉ'S
C A S E
AND
DEPOSITIONS, &c.

Credat qui vult non Ego.

*For the true Character of St. André,
see Mr. Nichols's Anecdotes of Hogarth
1785, and Mr. Thicknesse's Memoirs
of himself, 1788.*

4115, xi.

*This has reference, not to Henry Toft
but to a previous affair of St. André's
in which he alleged that an attempt
had been made, in Feb. 1724 $\frac{1}{2}$, to poison
him (see D.N.B., vol. 50, p. 120). W. W. F., 1925.*

A Report

MR. BEAUFORT'S

CASE

AND

DEPOSITIONS

IN

à Propos. xi

Mr. ST. ANDRÉ'S
C A S E
AND
DEPOSITIONS

As PUBLISHED in the

London Gazette of *Fe-*
bruary 23, 1724. and the
Daily Post of *March* 4,
1725.

Credat qui vult non Ego.

L O N D O N :

Printed for A. MOORE near St. Paul's.

(Price 4d)

A Report.

MR. ST. ANDRÉS

CASE

DEPOSITIONS

As presented in the

London Gazette of Fe-

bruary 23, 1774, and the

Daily Post of March 4,

1775.

Printed and sold by

LONDON:

Printed for A. Moore near St. Paul's

(Price 4d)



THE
DEPOSITION

OF

Nathaniel St. Andre

Of the Parish of

St. Martins in the Fields,

CHIRURGEON.



HO says, That on *Saturday*
last, about Four in the Eve-
ning, he received by the *Pen-
ny Post* a Letter subscribed
W. Baker, desiring the De-
ponent to meet the Subscriber at *Nando's*
Coffee-house, to consult him upon a Case
A where

where a great deal of Skill was required, or to that Effect: That accordingly he went to the said Coffee-house, which is near St. *Dunstan's* Church, and at the Door of the said Coffee-house met a Man, middle-sized, having on a light tyed short Wig, a brownish Coat with close Sleeves, a thin faced middle aged Man, who asked the Deponent if he was not Mr. *St. Andre*? To which the Deponent answering, he was, the said Man said, the Deponent only could resolve him in a Case, and it was but hard by, and desired the Deponent to go along with him. Accordingly they went into a Coach which had brought the Deponent, and the Coachman, by the said Man's Direction, carried them a little below the *Hercules's-Pillars*, where they alighted, and the said Man led the Deponent a little lower; they then turned down on the Right Hand by an Oyl-Shop into a narrow Passage into a Street that leads towards the Water-side, there they turned to the Left-Hand, and walked in that Street about Two Hundred Steps, and turned on the Left into a Court or Alley, and then on the Right-Hand into another Court; as the Deponent best remembers, it being at that Time past Seven at Night, and dark. In this last mentioned Court, the said Man carried the Deponent to the
third

third or fourth House, as he believes, on the Left-Hand; the House had a mean Appearance, the Stair-Case was very strait, and reached near to the Door of the House. Being got up one Pair of Stairs, the said Man carried the Deponent into a Room where a Woman was sitting, and asked him to sit down, and went out, saying he would wait upon him in a Minute, and accordingly soon returned, having in his Hand a Plate, and on it three Glasses of Liquor, of which he gave one to the said Woman, took another himself, and offered the third upon the Plate to the Deponent, who would have excused himself from drinking it, but the said Man told the Deponent, he hoped he would not affront him, or Words to that Effect. Then the Deponent took the said Glass, but finding the Liquor very strong and ill tasted, he drank but very little of it. Then they talked of the Case; the said Man told the Deponent, that the said Woman had the Foul Disease, and upon Examination the Deponent declared himself to be of that Opinion, but the said Woman denied it; upon which the Deponent replied, he had no more to say, or something to that Purpose, and the said Man gave the Deponent a Fee, and then the Deponent came home. The Depo-

nent further says, that when he came in,
 Mr. *Martin's* Wife, with whom he lodges,
 observed that he looked pale, and asked
 if he had been fighting, or had been
 robbed? And to satisfy her it was not
 so, he shewed her his Watch and his
 Purse: She insisted that he looked like
 Death, that his Nostri's were pinched,
 and soon after the Deponent began to find
 himself giddy, and shivering with Cold,
 and desired his Bed might be warmed, for
 he found himself ill, as she said: That
 he has ever since continued very ill, and
 by what he is able to judge himself, by
 the Symptoms he has felt, as well as by
 the Opinion of several eminent Physicians
 who have visited him, he must have taken
 some very strong Poison; and he can ac-
 count for no other Manner or Occasion
 of his doing it, than in the Glass of Li-
 quor presented to him as is above related.

Jurat. 9. Die Febr.

1724-5. coram me

Ch. Delafaye.

N. St. Andre.

T H E

D E P O S I T I O N

O F

Nathaniel St. Andre

Of the Parish of

St. Martins in the Fields,

C H I R U R G E O N .

W H O says, that for a Twelve-month before the Accident, which happened to him on *Saturday* the Sixth of this Instant *February*, as set forth in his Deposition made on the 9th Instant, he had not taken any Mercurial Medicine whatsoever, nor any other Medicine of any kind, except Ass's Milk, Testaceous Powders and Febrifuge Juleps, neither doth this Deponent know that he had any Necessity or Occasion for taking any Mercurial Medicine, or any other Medicine whatsoever,

B except

except those above-mentioned ; this Deponent having been for some time before the above-mentioned Accident in perfect good Health, unless that the great Fatigue in his Calling and Profession occasioned some times feverish Disorders. This Deponent further saith, that to the best of his Knowledge and Remembrance, he never took any Mercurial Medicine or Preparation of any kind whatsoever for above these eight Years last past.

Jurat 20 die Feb.

1724. coram me

Geo. Tilson.

N. St. Andre.



THE Reason that obliges me to publish my Case, is, that while that Account was drawing up, which was inserted in the *Gazette* of *Tuesday* the 23d of *February*, I was so very ill, that I could not satisfy the Physicians, who had the Goodness to attend me, as to several Particulars, which are as follow:

Saturday the 6th of *February*, about eight in the Evening, I felt the first Effects of the Poison (I had taken a little before) which were a giddiness and uncommon Coldness, with Hiccoughs, Pains, and Contractions in the Region of the Stomach, followed with a pressing Inclination to Vomit, and not suspecting the true Cause, going to Bed, I was induced to take a *Julep*, composed of a *Scruple* of *Spirit* of *Lavendar*, four *Drachms* of *Syrup* of white *Poppies*, with two *Ounces* of *Barley Cinnamon Water*. The Inclination to Vomit growing more strong, I soon threw up the *Julep*, with a great Quantity of black and greenish Matter, and perceiv'd a detestable Taste of Copper in my Throat and Mouth, with a burning intense Heat, which soon raised three large Blisters on my Tongue; my Vomit-

1st Day of
the Dis-
ease.

Vomiting continued all Night, with the greatest Violence, and continued without the least Intermission, till two the next Day, being *Sunday* the 7th, inso-much that at Times it depriv'd me of my Senses, being frequently seiz'd with an universal Coldness, and violent Contraction of the Muscles, of the Belly, Thighs, Legs, and Feet.

2d Day.

Sunday the 7th, my Throat and Tongue became so swelled and inflamed, that I could not undergo the Efforts of the Stomach in Vomiting, without the greatest Trouble and Pain; the Giddiness in my Head increased very much, with a violent noise in my Ears, and the Taste and Burning in my Mouth became intolerable; I found the Heat in my Throat and Stomach extending it self in all the Bowels, which by Night were become so painful, that I could not bear the least pressure on them: My Pulse was very low and the Skin parched and dried.

3d Day.

I passed the whole Night between the 7th and 8th, in Fainting Fits, and continual Inclination to Vomit, and began *Monday* the 8th, by six violent Purgings; immediately after follow'd the Rupture
and

and Dilatation of several of the *Hæmorrhoidall* Vessels, attended with a *Procidencia*; those Accidents were accompanied with the return of the Vomiting, which lasted from Nine in the Morning till Two of the same Day; after which, my Tongue and Throat grew black, more swell'd and Painful: I was seiz'd with universal, acute and burning Pains in every Joint, but more tormenting in the Spine of the Back than in the lower Parts, which began to swell from the Belly downwards, especially the *Scrotum*, the Feet only being *Oidematous*. Of a sudden I was oppress'd with a great Shortness of Breath, which lasted till the Evening, then the Distinctness of my Sight began to fail me, Objects appeared double and encircled with a deep green Colour; at other Times, they appeared inverted, dark and confused. In the Middle of the Night between the 8th and 9th, I voided with the greatest Torture some very dark Urine. I was so much exhausted after it, that I fainted away, and notwithstanding the Use of the strongest Volatiles, it was above three Hours before I could be recover'd. From that Time I remained more weak and faint, with universal convulsive Tremblings and Spasms, and a strong Palpitation of the Heart. The most cruel
Symptom

Symptom was the great Thirst, and at the same Time the Horror and Dread I had for the taking of Liquids, equal to what is described by one under the most dreadful Symptoms of an *Hydrophobia*; the Pulse was hardly to be felt the whole Night, and the Skin became more hard and dry.

4th Day. *Tuesday* the 9th in the Morning, the Pains in my Limbs were more acute and extended, so as to occasion a Soreness in all my Flesh, I spit tough Phlegm, and my Throat and Mouth were covered with Eschars and Sloughs, attended with a Stench, as in a *Sphacelus*; however, the dread of taking any Liquid was so great, from the Pain I suffered on that Account, that I could not be prevailed upon to use a Gargarism, to avert the impending Danger of a total Mortification of those Parts. I passed that Night as the last, and voided some Urine, with the same Pain and Accidents as before.

5th Day. *Wednesday* the 10th, the Heat and Pain of my Bowels and Stomach somewhat abated, after two Purgings, which depressed me very much; all the other Symptoms remained, the *Nausea* and Inclinations to Vomit having continued more

more or less, from the Beginning. I passed the whole Night in the greatest Anxieties, the Palpitation and convulsive Spasms remaining strong.

Thursday the 11th, I found some little 6th Day. Abatement in the violence of the predominant Symptoms, but I was so very weak and low, that I hardly remember what happened to me, that Day, and the Night following, neither can I give any Account of the Transactions of the *Friday*, *Saturday*, and *Sunday* following, 7th, 8th, 9th Days. having been all that Time so weak, delirious, and low, that I could not attend to any Circumstances which then happened.

Monday the 15th, I discharged some 10th Day. Blood at the Mouth and Nose, but was not altogether so low nor weak.

Tuesday the 16th, I was seized with 11th Day. racking Pains in the Bowels, which brought on a great Tension of the Belly, and a stronger return of the difficulty of Breathing. In the Night I had two Evacuations (green and porraceous, as were all the former) which left me in the lowest State that human Nature can be supposed to survive.

12th Day. What I remember of the next Day the 17th, is, that the Sloughs of my Throat, Tongue, and Cheeks, began to loose in my Mouth, some of them having separated with a considerable Hemorrhage; it was impossible for me either to swallow or discharge my Spittle, so that I was in perpetual Danger of being suffocated; which was not a little augmented, by the pressing Instances that some of the Physicians made, for me to keep a Gold Ring in my Mouth.

13th Day. *Thursday* the 18th, the Sloughs continu'd to separate, and the whole Coat of the Tongue came of, with some Loss of Blood, but the burning pain of the Parts was somewhat abated, and I spit more freely, but instead thereof there was a great Soreness and Rawness of those Parts, from which the Sloughs had separated. I slept so, for two Hours, which was the first Moment I shut my Eyes to rest since the Accident.

14th Day. *Friday* the 19th, the Ulcers began to clean, the Sloughs still separating from all the parts of the Mouth and Throat; the pain in swallowing was somewhat abated, although I could not take, in the Space of 24 Hours, the Quantity of half a
Pint

Pint of the thinnest Broths: From this Time the Symptoms began visibly to abate, and the Ulcers to incarn, and fill up; the spitting decreasing; the Nights still were bad; the Fever considerable, with Remissions; but the Convulsive Spasms and Contractions not so violent, the Disease having been from this Time upon its decline. I shall not lengthen this Narrative, only observing, that I have not yet been able to swallow any solid Food, not even Jellies, remaining with the greatest Weakness, and in great Measure with the Loss of the Use of my Legs, which I hope, by the Assistance of God, by Degrees to recover.

To the best of my remembrance the Facts happen'd as above related; but I am assisted in fixing the Days by those who constantly were about me, being very deficient in that Point: No doubt several material Circumstances may be here omitted, which could not but escape my Notice; and imperfect as this Account may be, my Weakness is still so great, it is all I am now able to bring into this Form; neither will it, I hope, be expected I can strictly determine the Duration, Violence, and Dependance of the several Symptoms, as if I had been the Observer only; the

C most

most I can recollect, is, that the Vomiting continu'd by Intervals from the first Day of the Disease to the third Day, and the Nauseas and Reachings to the 6th Day.

The Thirst began with the Disease, and did not abate till the 13th Day.

The 2d Day the Skin became parch'd and dry, and continu'd so to the 13th Day of the Disease; during all that Time not having had the least Marks of Perspiration or Disposition to sweat.

The Third Day brought on these Symptoms.

The Fever, which increased to the 9th Day, with irregular Paroxisms the whole Time, there being some returns of it till the 20th.

The Shortness of Breath, which by Intervals continued to the 12th or 13th Day.

The Accidents of Urine, which did not abate till the 7th, it being the 15th Day before they entirely ceased.

The Palpitation of the Heart, and Convulsive Spasms, the first continued only during the Paroxisms of the Fever, *viz.* to the 9th Day of the Disease, the latter held, without Intermision, till the 14th Day of the Disease, and did not entirely cease till a few Days ago.

The Swellings, which were quite dispersed by the 7th Day.

The Disorder of Sight, which lasted till the 9th Day.

The burning Pains in the Joints, which were felt till the 15th Day.

The fourth Day, the Spitting began, and continued till the 6th, then ceased, and returned by Fits, being most considerable after the falling of the Sloughs, which began the 12th Day of the Disease.

I can give no Account of the Changes of the Pulse, any more than what is said above; in my lucid Hours. I often attempted to feel it, but could not enumerate above five or six Pulsations, being incapable to fix my Attention any longer.

It would be very impardonable in me, should I not in this Paper, with the utmost Duty and Veneration, express my most humble and submissive Thanks to his *Majesty*, for the extraordinary Marks of Goodness and Favour, which he hath been graciously pleased to shew me under my Affliction; and must here also return my Thanks to His *Majesty's* Ministers, and all those of the *Nobility* and *Gentry*, who have given me many Instances of their Protection and Assistance upon this Occasion, for which I shall ever have the greatest Sense of *Gratitude*, the affectionate Concern of my Friends for my Misfortune, and the Pains which they have been at to justify me from the Aspersions of such unhappy Men, as may delight in the Aggravation of the Sufferings of the afflicted, will never be erased from my Memory: But I must always, and in a particular Manner acknowledge the Obligations I have to Dr. *Steigertabl*, Dr. *Cockburn*, Dr. *Teissier*, Sir *Hans Sloan* and *Richard Manningham* for the kind Assistance I have received from them, and for the Pains they have been at to extricate me from the greatest Torments and Injuries, that can perhaps be suffered by human Nature: And as I think these Injuries could be of little Service or Satisfaction

faction to those who thought fit to inflict them on me, their Folly seems to deserve rather the Pity than the Resentment of my Friends; as to my own Part, I do forgive them from the Bottom of my Soul; and I do sincerely wish, that it may never be their hard Fate to fall into the Hands of such wicked Men as know not Mercy.

*Northumberland-Court,
March the 1st.*

N. St. Andre.

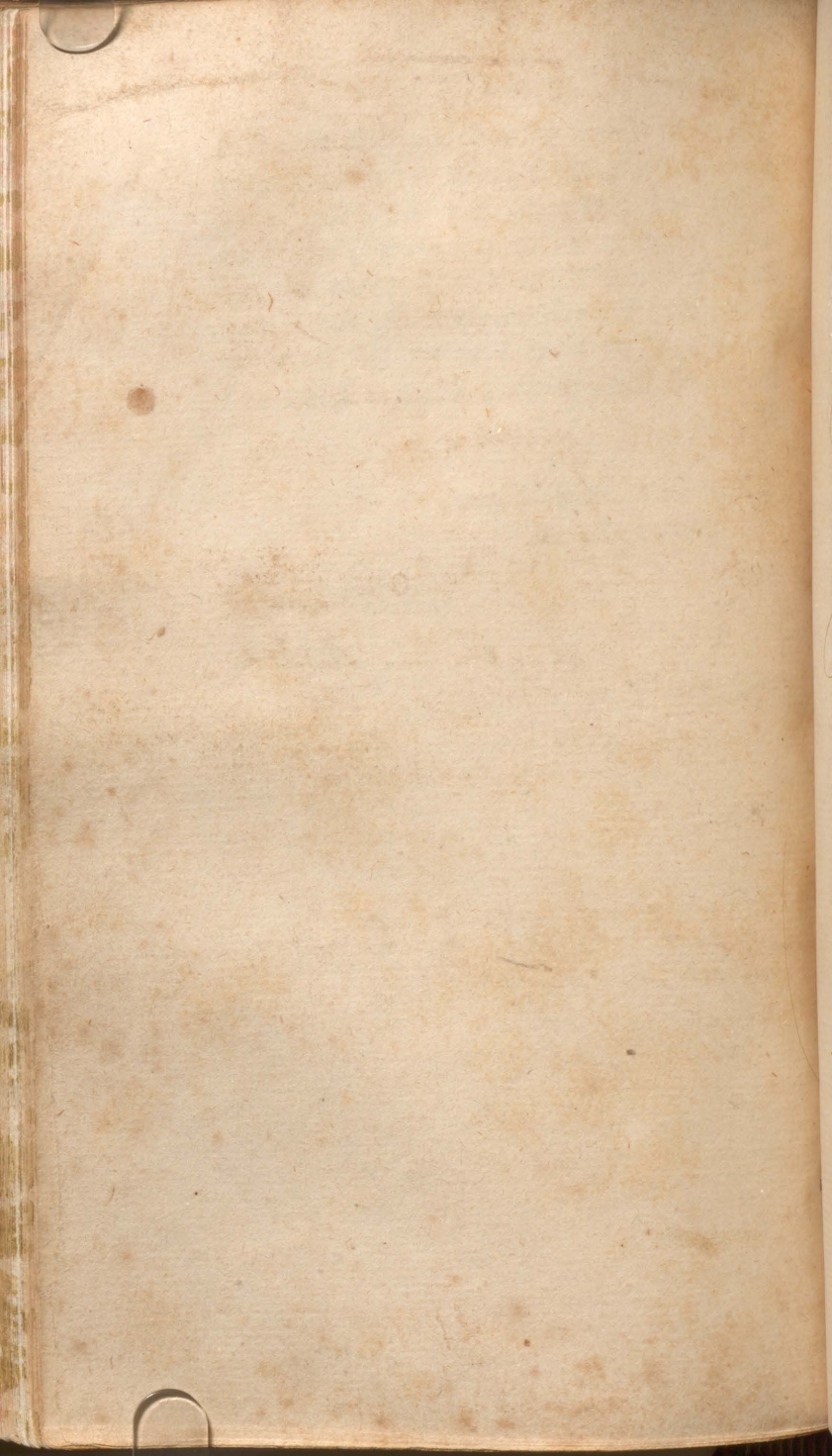
F I N I S.

action to those who thought to injure
them on me, their folly seems to detract
rather the Pity than the Reclamations of
my Friends; as to my own Part, I do
regret them from the bottom of my
Soul; and I do sincerely wish, that they may
never be their bad Fate to fall into the
hands of such wicked Men as know not
Mercy.

Northumberland Court
March the 15.

W. St. Aubert

F I N I S



The
Discovery:
or
The Squire turn'd Ferret.
An Excellent New
Ballad.

To the Tune of High Boys? up go we;
Chevy Chase; or what you please.

Heu me? per Urbem (nam pudet
tanti mali)

Tabula quanta fui?
f

Hor.

The Second Edition.

Westminster
Printed by A. Campbell near New
Palace Yard; for T. Warner at the Black
Boy in Sater Noster Row, and Sold by
the Booksellers 1727. [Price 6 s.]

[Faint, illegible handwriting, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Davenant

[Faint, illegible handwriting, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

The
Discovery
Or
The Squire Turn'd Ferret.
An Excellent New Ballad.
To the Tune of High Boys? up go we;
Chevy Chase; Or what you please.

1^o

Most true it is, I dare to say,
Ever since the days of Eve,
The weakest Woman sometimes may
The wisest Man deceive.

2^o

For D-----nt Circumspect, Sedate,
A Machiavel by trade,
Arriv'd Express, with news of weight,
And thus, at Court, he said.

3^o

At Goodliman, hard by the Bull,
A Woman, long thought barren,
Bear, Rabbits, ----- Gad? so plentifull,
You'd take her for a Warren.

4th

These Eyes, quoth he, beheld them clear;
What, do ye doubt my view?
Behold this Narrative that's here;
Why,OUNDS? and Blood? 'tis true.

5th

Some said that D---gl---s Sent should be,
Some talk'd of W---lk---r's Merit,
But most held, in this Midwifery,
No Doctor like a Ferret.

6th

But M--l--n--x, who heard this Told,
(Right wary he and wise)
Cry'd Sagely, 'Tis not Safe, I hold,
To trust to D-----nt's Eyes.

7th

A Vow to God then he did make,
He would himself go down,
St A--d--re too, the Scale to take
Of that Phenomenon.

8th

He order'd then his Coach and four;
(The Coach was quickly got 'em)
Resolv'd this Secret to explore,
And Search it to the Bottom.

9th
At Godliman they now arrive,
For haste they made exceeding;
As Courtiers should, when e'er they strive
To be Inform'd of Breeding.
10th

The good Wife to the Surgeon sent,
And said to him, Good Neighbour,
'Tis pity that two Squires so Gent---
Should Come & loose their Labour.
11th

The Surgeon with a Rabbit came,
But first in pieces Cut it;
Then slightly thrust it up that same,
As far as Man could put it.

12th
(Ye Guildford Inn-keepers take heed,
You dress not such a Rabbit,
Ye Boultoners eke, destroy the Breed
'Tis so unsav'ry a Bit.)

13th
But hold? says Molly, first let's try,
Now that her legs are open,
If ought within we may descry
By help of Telescope.

34th

The Instrument himself did make,
He rais'd and levell'd right,
But all about was so opaque,
It could not help his Sight.

35th

On Tiptoe then the Squire he stood,
(But first he gave her Money)
Then reach'd as high as e'er he cou'd,
And cry'd, I feel a CONY.

36th

Is it alive? St A--d--re cry'd;
It is; I feel it Stir.
Is it full grown? the Squire reply'd;
It is; See here's the Fur.

37th

And now two legs St A--d--re got,
And then came two legs more;
Now fell the head to Molly's lot,
And so the Work was o'er.

38th

The Woman, thus being brought to bed,
Said, to reward your Pains,
St A--nd--re shall dissect the head,
And thou shalt have the Brains.

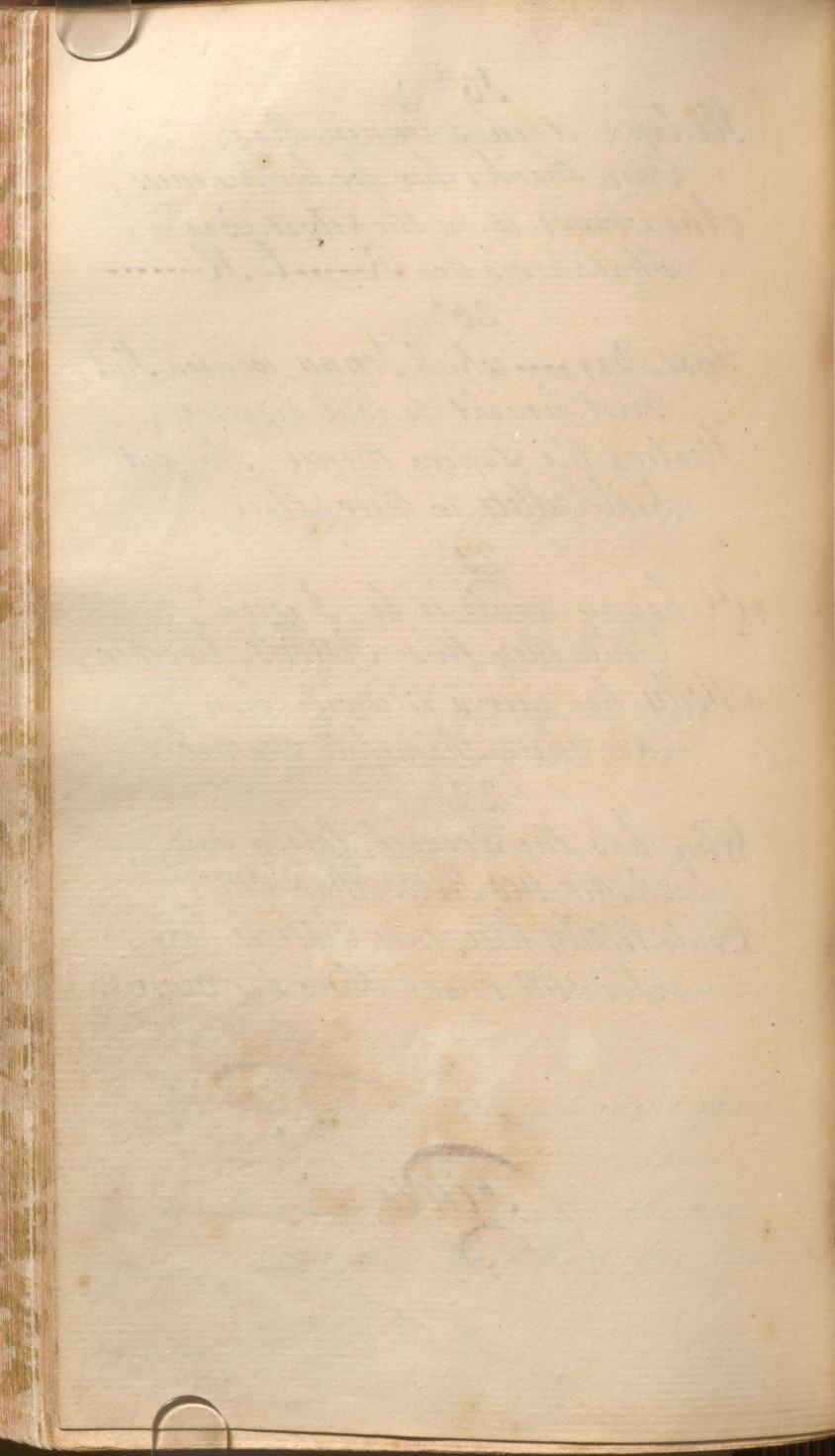
19.th
He lap'd it in a linnen Bag,
Then thank'd her for her kindness;
And Cram'd it in the Velvet Bag,
That serves his R-----l H-----

20.th
That Bag, --- which Jenny, wanton Slut,
First brought to foul disgrace;
Stealing the Papers thence, she put
Veal-Cutlets in their Place.

21.th
O! happy would it be, I ween,
Could they these Rabbits smother;
Molly had neer a Midwife been,
Nor she a Shamefull Mother.

22.th
Why has the Proverb falsly said
Better two Heads than one;
Could Molly hide this Rabbit's head,
He still might shew his own.

Finis.



A
 Shorter and Truer
 Advertisement
 by way of
 Supplement

To what was published
 the 7.th Instant.

Or

Dr. D--g--l--s In an Extasy,

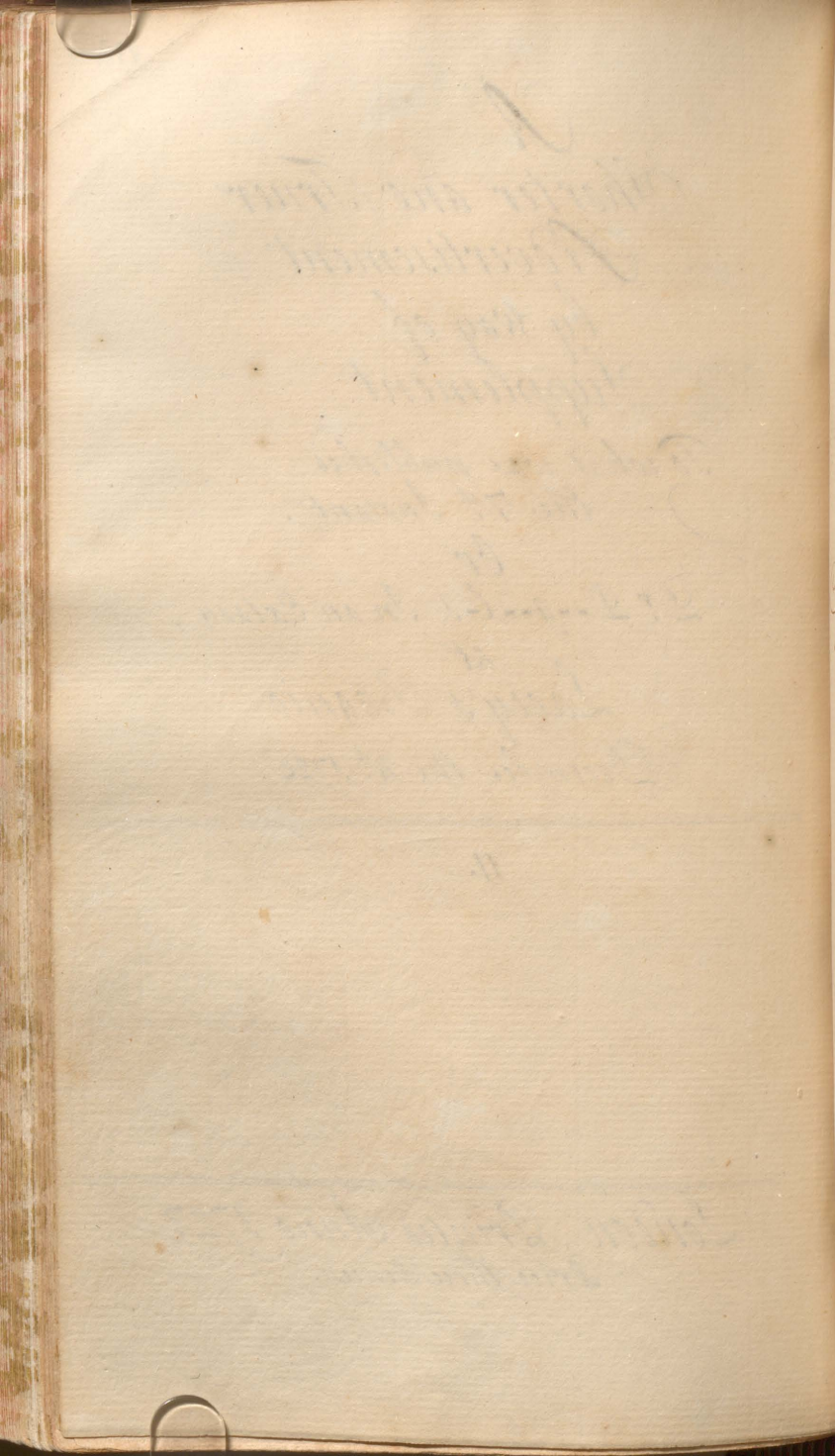
at

Lacey's Bagnio

December the 4.th 1726.

11.

London. Printed Anno 1727.
 Price three Pence.



A
Shorter and Truer
Advertisement
by way of
Supplement

To what was Published
the 7th Instant &c. &c. &c.

Have I my Fingers? and have I my Eyes?
Or are my Senses fled through much Surprise?
There's something sure? must quickly come
From out of Mary Tost her Womb.

See here? Just above the Pubes
Either in Womb, or in th^e Tube is
A Huge Swelling, within her Belly
Which I'm amaz'd at, let me tell ye?

This is no doubt a Curious Case?
Her Pains are sharp upon her,

Oh? keep your word, & give me place,
As You're a man of Honour.

Remember your Promise, break not your ^{Truth,}
This Month of December, and Day the fourth.

Hold, Hold, Sweet Sir, do me no wrong,
Down on my Knees I implore ye,
Her Labour Pains are mighty Strong,
Let's touch't in Uteri Ore.

With usuall Shrug & pearl at tip of nose,
Amongst you all, I solemnly depose,
There's Something Curious? make no doubt
Ere it be long, I'll pull it out.

A Piath, A Birth? is now at hand
Come in without delay,
Nay, Come good Sirs, this moment in,
Or I will run away.

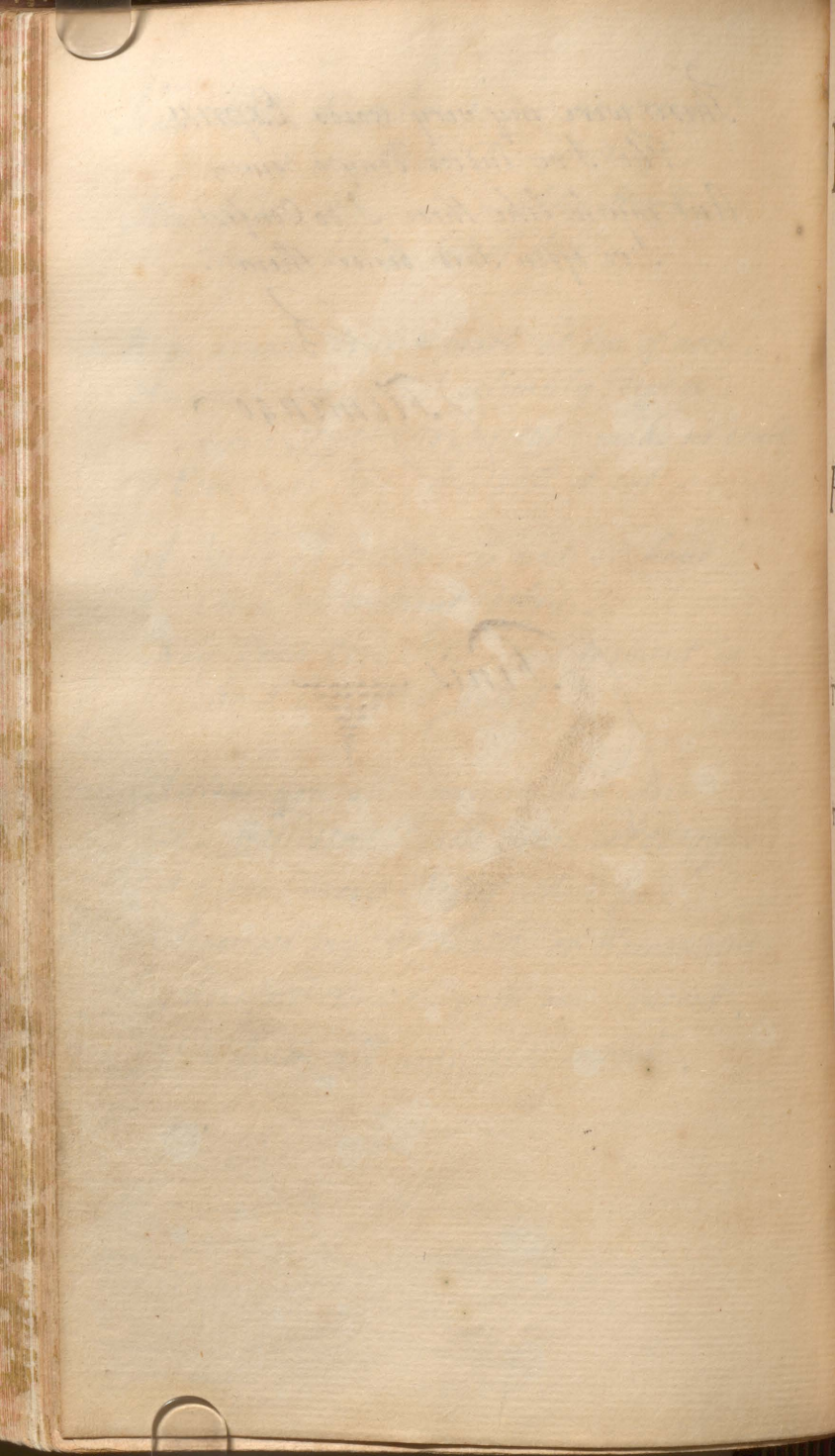
Unless you all come in and see
This Wondrous Piath, this Prodigy:
I never more Belief shall find,
Amongst my Brethren or Womankind;
Therefore come in with one Consent,
For I am all Astonishment.

These were my very words, Express,
Tho: I've indeed deny'd 'em;
And much like these I do Confess,
I've often said beside them.

3

Flamingo

Sinis 



LETTER

FROM A

MALE PHYSICIAN

In the Country, to the Author of the

FEMALE PHYSICIAN

In LONDON;

Plainly Shewing,

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

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

Nulli Leones, Elephantes, Canes, Feles, aliaque Animalcula qua intra Uterum pariunt, ex Geniturâ humanâ, nullâ Putrefactionis aut Corruptionis Specie, aut ullis imaginantium Matrum viribus in Utero Muliebri generari possunt. Lanzweerde.

12.

LONDON:

Printed for T. WARNER, at the Black Boy in Pater-Noster-Row. 1726. 12th.



A

LETTER, &c.



WHEN Authors conceive, undergo Labour-Pains, and bring forth, they may be said, in some measure, to be deliver'd of the Brats of their own or their Neighbours Brains ; and as they are ingenious in delivering themselves of these, or ingenuous, in dealing justly by those, they may, with Reason, expect to be prais'd or despis'd : For all Authors must expect Authors Fare.

IT would be vain to expect any other Fate, since all Mens Labours

A 2

share

share the same; for when given to the Publick, they are subjected to the publick Censure, and must stand or fall by their own Worth, or the Reader's Fancy, so receive Commendation or Condemnation, as Judgment or Caprice prevail.

No w, Sir, tho' all judicious Writers (as you are) be careful to avoid those Impertinences which they know would be taken Notice of and ridicul'd; yet are there not wanting some who will write in spite of Nature, and being shallow-pated Things themselves, puff'd up with Self-Conceit, will obtrude on the World what they have taken upon Trust, and even in the most abstruse Secrets of Nature, of which they know nothing, they would appear to be most ingenious, and have every one give Credit to what they have glibly swallowed, so would pass for Men of mighty Knowledge, by setting up for Authors of rare, strange, and extraordinary Foole-
ries,

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

SOME Authors admire what others make a Jest of; and some are as rash in publishing, as in prating; so split upon the Rock of Ridicule. Some again, more cautious, weigh well the Effects and Consequences of their Writings before they lay them open to publick Censure, wisely considering, that a Hurry in the Execution of any thing, especially in the publishing of Books, often produceth galling Reflections.

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

SOME Authors write to make their Readers laugh; others write only to be laugh'd at. I must own I cannot express to you the Indignation with which

which I have read some Mens Works, full of unintelligible Jargon, neither *Greek* nor *English*, which, for a seeming Garnish, they crowd in at a Venture, to amuse their Readers, that, (as *Erasmus* has it) they who understand them, may be tickl'd with them, and those who do not, the leis they know, the more they may admire.

NOR can I tell you, Sir, how much I was affected, when I perused a certain Author, who had studiously scrap'd together all the rare and extraordinary Events, the strange and supernatural Births, and other Accidents, out of *Pliny*, *Pinto*, *De la Val*, *Gonsales*, *Mandeville*, and other fabulous Authors, and such romantick Relations as had no Ground in Truth, only to gain a Name by imposing on the easy Belief of the People.

Now, Sir, as you have industriously avoided all these Extremes, you merit the Applause of all Ranks, but in a more special manner, of the
Fair

Fair Sex, whom you have laid under Obligations to spread your Fame, and perpetuate your Memory, as the most accomplish'd *Female Physician*, and most judicious Author any Age could ever boast of.

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

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

You may perhaps wonder what Impertinent presumes to disturb your Repose, and dares thus to address you, being an utter Stranger to you. But this will soon cease, when I tell you, I believe that none but one of your profound Penetration, and recondite Learning, could solve these knotty and difficult Queries, and fully satisfy us upon those Heads: None but one who has obliged the Publick with his excellent Works, wherein he has assured

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

B

Help

Help or Assistance. See Page 378,
379.

To whom could I apply with more Reason and Justice, upon such an extraordinary Event, than to you, Learned Sir, who are daily conversant in deep and profound things of this Nature; and from whom could I hope for any satisfactory Account of this extraordinary Delivery, &c. but from yourself, since you are the only Person alive who ever attempted to account for Extraordinaries of this kind.

AND lest your accounting for this extraordinary Delivery of Rabbits should chance, when you offer it to the Publick, to be suspected as spurious, or to be an Imposture, a Vice very frequent in our Days (for some do palm things on the World in other Mens Names) I would earnestly beg of you, to hand it to us with the same Spirit, Skill and Dexterity, you did the former, that when compar'd, they may

may tally, shew themselves both of a Piece, and finished by the same Artist; and if by some masterly Strokes of your matchless Pen, you shall be able but to prove equivocal Generation, and that the Woman did generate these Rabbits, *eris mihi magnus Apollo.*

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

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

N o w, whether possible or impossible, whether Fact or not? is not the present Question: It is all one in the *Greek*, and I presume, with you, most accomplish'd Sir: For such is your transcendent Genius, that you have cleverly accounted for as extraordinary things as this; and who doubts but that you can account for all the Mysteries in Nature; even all things, and a great many more. Go on then, sweet Sir, and satisfy the World for once, that there is a Man who can account for Non-Entities, as if they were real Beings.

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

T H E

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

how to prevent them, for the future, from creeping into so warm a Warren. He often advertises his Courses to be perform'd by *N. St. André*, Surgeon and Anatomist to his Majesty: Yours are as often advertis'd to be perform'd by *J. M---ry*, M. D. Author of the *Female Physician*, and *Midwifry brought to Perfection*.

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

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

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

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

I SHALL beg Leave to present the Reader with a short Chapter from your *Female Physician*, where the Reader will be delighted with a Neatness of Diction, and incomparable Fluency, which discover your Regard to Sense more than *Tuneful Words*, and consequently the Esteem your Works deserve among the Learned. I am, Sir, &c.

*Parturiunt montes, &c.
---vox & pratevea nihil.*

SECT.



SECT. 8. CHAP. III. P. 398.

Of the Strangulation of the Womb.

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

As there are many different Sorts of *Uterine Strangulations*, there must also be many peculiar Causes. The Imbecillity of the principal Parts admitting the Humours, must concur at the *Latitude* of the Passages, which conspiring together, a *Suffocation* succeeds with *Aggravation*, p. 402. and draws on the most dangerous Sort of *Suffocation*, in which the Patient lies for dead, and differs in nothing from a dead Person. Hence some have been buried for dead,

C

and

and some have had the good Fortune to return from their Graves to their Houses again. If the Blood be sweet, she only fancies Amours.

P. 403. THIS Affection happens to Women satiated with *Virile Conversation*, p. 402. when they only seem to faint and fall away with a sort of grateful Indulgence, without the Pulse's *Alteration*. Upon which I observe, that if these Winds or Vapours, arising from corrupted Humours, be communicated to the Heart, the *Suffocation* happens with *Palpitation*; if to the Brain, with a *Vertigo* and *Suffusion* from the *Phantasms* of the Eyes. This happens to Widows rather than Virgins, because in the one the Passages are not only dilated, but Nature is accustomed to such Emissions, as the other is yet wholly a Stranger to. If these be detained too long there, they'll be converted into Venom, or a poisonous Humour.

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

IF a Glass of Water be set on her Breast, if stirred, there's some Motion and *Dilatation*, considering well what has been said, that 'tis only by internal *Transpiration* she draws the Breath of Life.

Cure.

Cure, p. 406. IF she's alive, she will be quickly moved by *Sternutation*. If she send forth a cadaverous Smell, it's certain the Body is no more supported by the Soul: Wherefore, she is not to be buried, till after Seventy Two Hours *Expiration*, because that is the *Crisis*.

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

P. 408. THE imminent Paroxysm of *Suffocation* is to be known by Grumblings in her *Abdomen*, a Distention and *Pulsation* in the Back, a pale and sad Countenance, attended at last with the foresaid Sense of *Strangulation*, as if the Patient was swallowing a Ball, &c. as also I have known some Women taken with a Fit of *Laughter* upon this Occasion.

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

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

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

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

P. 114 FOR the Prognosticks of this Uterine *Suffocation*. Where the Humours are implicated among themselves, as before, by *Stagnation*, the Fits don't keep their legitimate Times, so a Concourse and Confluxion of Humours must needs aggravate the Distemper; especially if there be a *Complication*, such as when a *Syncope* is join'd with the hysterick Fit, the Case is dangerous, p. 412. These things consisting in the Corruption and *Inflammation*, the *Circulations* of the Distemper are either shorter or longer.

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

tion and Refrigeration of the Patient's whole Body.

WHEREAS, if the Paroxysm proceeds from venenated Seed, I would lay her supine in her Bed; and if *Vellication* of her Ears, *Pilorumve Pudendi*, did not help her Condition, p. 413. I would apply Cupping Glasses, without *Scarification*, as also Pessaries, and sometimes *Suffumigations* of old Leather, a Partridge's Feather, or the Hair of her own —Head, which is much better, always cherishing her Stomach with *Fomentations*, p. 414. or the Hoof of an Elk, a present Remedy in all Suffocations.

P. 415. IF this Distemper proceed from the Retention of the vitiated Seed, then, of Course, and without Controversy, the hysterick Passion must needs be most familiar to Widows, and marriageable Virgins, to whom I must finally say, Let 'em marry. In fine, Marriage will very much help such indisposed, according to the wise Ancients.

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

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

These, without *Exaggeration*, must excite the *Admiration* of the Learned of all *Stations*, especially thole of *Physick*, to whom your *Dedication* p. 5. makes its solemn *Application* for a candid *Interpretation*, and with profound *Veneration* shews the sure *Foundation* on which the Art of *Obstetrication* stands fast in this *Nation* p. 18. to be imputed alone to your *Peregrination*.

YOUR divine *Contemplations*, and Sublime *Dissertations* on the Author of our *Creation*, Ch. 1. where, by your *Insinuation*, the only *Catharticks* of the Soul are Philosophical *Demonstrations*, and where, without *Affectation* you descant on the Powers of Judging, Phantasy and *Cogitation*, p. 13. 14. and for farther *Dilucidation* you Philosophize on *Sensation*. The four Senses you do tell, have their respective Cells in the Head. Of the Brain the two foremost Cells are possess'd by common Sense and *Imagination*. The Middle Part of the Head by *Cogitation*, and the hindmost Part thereof by *Commemoration*, p. 17. and how the æthereal Spirit divides it self into a threefold *Diversification*, by the *Appropriation* of as many Residencies in the Brain, the Heart, and the Liver, and how these

these by *Fomentation* cherish the whole *Corporation*.

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

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

ON your Reasons of the Child's Likeness, from the Mother's *Imagination* in the time of *Copulation*, p. 63. In p. 49. *Ch. 4.* of Love, there you shew, if any want to know, what is Love's *Consummation*, described at large in your *Ch. 5.* p. 53. of *Copulation*, *Ch. 6.* Remarks upon *Copulation*, p. 52. That in *Congression*, they might be mutually charm'd, for many Griets *Compensation*. These *Conjunctions* of both Sexes, these *Completions* of our unbounded Passions, these *Desires of Procreation*, with the suitable means of *Generation*, may be all seen at large, and read, by the *Modest*, without *Blush*, or *Perturbation*. *

P. 140.

* And further, (which is very remarkable) That Women have been turn'd into Men, which some would persuade us to believe to be an Effect of the Force of a vehement *Imagination* acting upon the *Soul*, with which it is of a near *Affinity* beyond all the Power of *Sense*.

P. 140. THE Birth's *Legitimation*, by your *Calculation*, seems fix'd to no *Station*, which occasions *Tribulation* to the Sex in *Gestation*, who always rely'd on the common *Numeration*, believing in the old way of *Reckoning*, That their full Time was out, at nine Months *Consummation*, till your *Denunciation* shew'd your *Detestation* at such *Confabulations*, as were only vulgar *Errors*, and popular *Notions*, p. 142. founded on *Hear-says*, and the general *Misconstruction* of *Women*. These idle *Reports* of *Miswives*, and their frivolous *Relations*, even impos'd on the *Ancients* of *Estimation*.

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

As to this Point, I think we may find more probable Reasons for it, than all the Powers of *Imagination*, how great soever and marvellous they may be, whereof I shall mention that which seems to be the most rational Cause, *viz.* an extinguish'd or latent forming Faculty, which (however) sometimes has excited itself again like the Blazing of a resuscitated Fire.

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

P. 147.

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

I F

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

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

That the latter of the Planets (the Moon) influentially presides over the Infant in this Month, whose frigid and humid Qualities are thought to afford the several Parts of it a certain Fatness, thereby relaxing, and easily distending the *Matrix*; which being done, and the Child being now perfected by the whole Body of the Planets, that have all particularly, in their Order, duly discharged their respective Functions towards its Perfection.

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

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

This Number *Seven* is likewise to be of the greatest Esteem in Religion; as, the Seven Beatitudes, the Seven Virtues, the Seven Vices, the Seven Petitions of the Lord's Prayer, the Seven Words of our Saviour upon the Cross, &c. the Seven Seals, Seven Trumpets, Seven Vials, according to the Interpretation of that most learned Divine, *Peter Palladius*, Bishop of *Rochel*.

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

Chap. 34. *Of an Eighth Month's Birth*, p. 142 As to the Eighth Month, it is, and it is not; so that a Child born in the Eighth Month (in some respect) may be supposed in Being, but really and indeed is not, because it soon vanishes or dies.

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

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

pular Notions or vulgar Errors. For their fond Opinion seems not to be so much supported by any Arguments of natural Reason, as by an imaginary Experience founded upon Hearsay, or the general Misconstruction of Women.

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

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

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

Thirdly, Because, to denote the Sufficiency of this Number, there are also Nine Orders and Choirs of Blessed Angels, Nine precious Stones; besides the Nine internal and external Senses, &c.

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

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

Ten Singers of Psalms, Ten Musical Instruments, Ten Strings in the Psaltery, Ten Curtains in the Temple, Ten Commandments; and, in fine, the Tenth Day after Ascension: Ten Parts, of which Man himself consists intrinsically; Ten simple integral Parts constituting the Man. In short, just so, after this manner, there are Ten Months required to form and mature the Man in the substantial Completion of these to Perfection.

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

Chap. 37. p. 147. *Of the Eleven Months Birth.* As to the Eleventh Month, many Authors agree to legitimate its Birth, because of several repeated Instances that really happened in their Days. To which I can add one of my own proper Experience, during my itinerant Practice in the City of *Prague*. I happened to be called to a Lady in Labour, whom I immediately laid of a fine lusty

tion, the like whereof was never yet told by any of your *Occupation*. Let the Curious then stand aloof and hear, to their grand *Mortification*. A Fact! A Fact! you here relate, without design'd *Defamation*, of any of your Neighbours near, of whatever *Denomination*. For you only told it to make the Fact clear, and of the Mystery give a *Revelation*; of which you found the Learn'd did not doubt, else you had not made such a *Proclamation*.

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

lusty and lively Girl. This Lady was pleas'd to tell me out of her own Mouth, that before the Day of her Delivery, her Husband, (who was a Colonel in the Imperial Service) had been gone to the Army, then in *Sicily*, Ten Months and Two Days: So that this Proculean Child was born at soonest the Third Day of the Eleventh Month; and in this Case, I dare say, I was no ways mistaken or impos'd upon, that Lady being a Person endued with no less true Honour and strict Virtue, than she was otherwise deservedly esteem'd, p. 148. Upon which happy Occasion, I was the first Time fully satisfi'd and convinc'd, that the Eleventh Month is preferable to any Birth, because the SUN, in the Eleventh Month, returns to take Care of the Infant (yet unborn) by virtue of whose vivacious Influence, and beneficent Quality, Births in this Month are accounted no less vital and successful, than any others differently timed.

P. 149. There are also many Authors over and above, who make mention of Births in the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th Month. Yes verily; and there is one Instance of a certain Marchioness, who had two running Births successively, the one in the 18th, the other in the 20th Month. As to the Months, I desire to be understood as meaning Solar Months, comprehending Thirty Days.

hooked Snout, sparkling Eyes, and a short Tail with *Acumination*, which made its wonderful Egress, and with its *Vociferation* fill'd your Ears with dismal Skrieches, and your Mind with *Consternation*.

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

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

FOR which the provident Frou's, in like manner did make a suitable *Preparation*, and into the Fire it was generally thrown, so ended in this *Conflagration*; for all its nimble Feet to get into Holes and Corners for Safety and *Conservation*.

THESE

THESE things being so, for Reasons you know, just cited in your *Dissertation*, all Parents should behave orderly and decently in their dutiful *Conjugation*, not like insatiable Brutes, but Men of *Ratiocination*, for several wise Ends, themselves and their Friends, and their Families *Preservation*, from such an opprobrious Race, to be succeeded by an univocal *Generation*.

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

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

Now for the proper Causes of such Births, have at a *Discussion*. Some nicely account
for

for them by Mixtures of brutal *Seminations*; others, from the Influx of Stars and *Constellations*. Some from Vices of Constitution; and others, from the Womb's *Situations*. Some from lascivious, and others also, enormous Acts of *Copulation*. And some at last, from the sordid and corrupted Seminal Matter of the Persons copulating. All consentaneous to Reason. But in speaking to such Causes, you think Requisites concurring to the Production of the Fætus, ought to have a previous *Consideration*, what they naturally are, and what their *Qualifications*. As 1st, The Faculty of *Formation*; next, the Spirit and *Imagination*. 3dly, The Matter *viz.* both Seeds, and the mentitious *Sanguifications*.

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

Now, as to the Heart and Spirit contained in the Seed, we may easily conceive its Effects, and such as have been in Glass Works, may readily comprehend how Monsters are formed in the Womb; for as in modelling the Glass, if the Workman blow the Pipe too much, the Stuff is extended both longer and wider, than
its

its due proportionable Form; so it may happen in the Womb. A glorious *Illustration!* So much for *Formations* by the Strength of *Imagination*, now for

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

P. 358. THAT a numerous Conception may happen, either with, or without *Superfætation*, is plain from your Book. See the Marginal *Quotation*, where your accurate accounting for the Cause of 365 Children born at one Birth, is at once a plain Proof of your prudent *Consideration*, as it is of your great Faith, and exquisite Knowledge of the Womb's *Attraction*. O amazing and singular *Speculation!* That there may be a Conception for every Orifice of the Uterine Veins, and that every Vessel, p. 359. may attract its own distinct Share of the seminal Matter, and thereupon initiate a respective Conception, tho' it cannot possibly bring it to Perfection.

Ibid. and p. 360. THE Cure you here offer by way of Prevention, is, To Temper the Womb by *Refrigeration*; for which, and all other your nice *Observations*, your Advices, and *Ordinations*, whether in Divine, Astrological, or Physical *Consultations*, the Publick is indebted, and will doubtless pay their *Gratifications*, for they certainly must own their vast
Obli-

Obligations. for your great Zeal, and close *Application*, for their real Good, and our *Edification*; for all which, accept of this *Congratulation*.

I CONGRATULATE you, Sir, on your new and excellent way of teaching young Gentlemen Midwifry, and Midwives Anatomy, by Lectures in Divinity, Astrology, and Metaphysick Philosophy; or rather, a *Manual Operation*, by Theological *Dissertations*, and Astrological *Contemplations*.

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

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

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

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

ON

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

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

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

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

BUT now, to sum up all, and come to an End, excuse this *Ejaculation*. May your Eyes be opened, that you may see some Mens *Infatuation*, and *Midas-like*, when his Ears were transform'd, may you either glory or be ashamed of such *Insinuations*.

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

E

AND

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

MAY your Works be preserved from high *Indignation*, and into all the known Languages may they have a *Translation*; and may they endure to the last *Conflagration*, unless by some Criticks they be doom'd to a fiery *Condemnation*, to share that *Illumination*, long, very long before the Grand *Incineration*.

So much for Instruction, now for a little Diversion.



A DIA-



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

Lady.



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

Mid. At your La-
 dyship's service, Mi-
 dam ; I am perfectly
 rejoiced to see one

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

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

Mid. The *Female Physician.*

La. How now, Dame ! d'ye laugh at that
 learned Book ? The Title seems to promise
 well, and the Book to be fit and proper for
 one of your Business, the Subject itself being
 serious.

E 2

Mid.

Mid. Ay, marry, so I thought, an't please your Ladyship, when I had read no further than the Title-Page. But when I peep'd into the Body on't, to be sure Madam, I laugh'd by the Clock, and thought I should have split my Sides, for the whole Book is made up of Wonders.

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

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

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

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

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

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

La. These

La. These are really wonderful things, Goodie.

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

La. Ha! ha! ha!

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

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

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

La. Prithee, dear Dame *Toft*, tell me freely without any Reserve, every thing thou knowest.

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

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

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

La. Yes, yes, I have. The Publick have been pester'd with that Rabbit-Woman a long time; and I had the Curiosity to go see her at the Bagnio.

Mid. To

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

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

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

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

Mid. Well,

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

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

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

La. What is it called?

Mid. The *Sooterkin Dissected*.

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

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

Mid. And

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

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

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

Whether

Whether it was from his Want of Judgment, or whatever other Defect, I will not say; but I'll swear, and on my Conscience do believe, that if I could have been but satisfied with this single Rabbet, and not hearken'd to that Goose cap, *H——d*, who was always for a Litter of them, after I let him into the Secret, I make no doubt but our *Mary's* Birth would have bamboozl'd all Mankind, and *Godalming* in *England* been as famous in History to After-Ages, as ever *Losdun* in *Holland* was; and drawn in as many People to pay for seeing the Rabbet there, as ever were at *Losdun* to see the Basons, wherein 365 Children born at one time, were Christen'd.

La. You bid very fair for it, Goodie; and I make no doubt, had you kept the Secret to your self, and *Mary* kept confin'd to her Bed at *Godalming*, and never seen *London*, but ye might have answer'd your Ends, and got Money like Dirt. The more I think on't, the more I see it is a devilish Invention.

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

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

Mid. Go, *Deputy*, and bring those fine Words you copied out of the *Female Physician*, which we were to carry to the Parson of the

Parish's Dictionary, to know their Meaning,
But now, my Lady, when I think on't, I
can't help laughing.

La. At what pray?

Mid. At them all; for I think I have put
the Bite finely upon them. As for the Coun-
try Man-Midwife, they who know him won't
much wonder; but for that superfine Great
Doctor, who calls himself the King's A-a-a-
tomist, that came twice down to *Guilford* in
such bad Weather; that toss'd our *Mary* up
in a fine Coach, and took such fine Lodgings
for her near the Prince's Palace; I am ready
to burst, when I think how cleverly he was
bit. So much for Rabbits. Now, go on,
Deputy, and read over these fine Words to
my Lady.

Dep. But more particularly, that the *Andro-
Bæthogynist*, p. 179. may be compleatly ac-
complish'd, I have called the ordinary one
Bæthogynist, p. 158. and the extraordinary
one *Andro-Bæthogynist*, for his excellent Skill,
p. 169 in these obstetricious Arts, p. 57. whose
Authors make long *Ambages*, or Circumlocu-
tions, teaching how to perforate Secundines
with a Hair Needle, p. 304. hypothetically
observing, p. 29. no Proletarian Writer, p. 53.
but a Proculean Child, born in the Eleventh
Month, p. 148. by a prolifick Contribution,
p. 66. not by aggregated, or torpent Seed,
p. 128, but that which was fit for Nutricati-
on, p. 66. occasioned by a Fever of Desire,
kindled into a startled Flame, p. 50. The Ef-
fect of a certain Congruity of Minds sympa-
thetically arising from the Diastole and Systole
of affected Hearts, p. 49. when Love did
bloom

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

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

Dep. Sometimes from a Cholick infesting the nervous Plexus arising from the Humours aggregated about the Womb, *p.* 84. and proceeding from frigid Flatulencies in the Abdomen, *p.* 84. Sometimes so excessive, that I have seen the Patient fall by its Extremity into a *Lypothymia* which generally presages Abortion, if not prevented by Discussants, *p.* 84. In all which Cases it may be cur'd by variety of respective means, according to the Quality of the Cause, whether frigid, calid, serous, saltish, or acrimonious, *p.* 87. with a preposterous Flux proceeding from some Procatactick Ac-

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

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

La. Nor I neither truly. Read on.

Dep. From illuvius Evacuations p. 387. siccid Intemperatures, p. 95. suppress'd Albedines, p. 94. all which are most to be fear'd after the time of Animation, because the *Acetabula* or Cavities being then more siccid, are more easily broken, p. 114. Hence her Spirits are exagitated or exalted, p. 389. But if it come from a Mordacity of the Mouth of her Stomach, she'll be infected with Fastidy, p. 91. which proceeds from the Womb, p. 92. and occasions disagreeable Flatulencies, Belchings, and Fluctuations, p. 82. often Vomiting, which proceeds from the Vapours of the exhaled Humours, and the worse Part of the Blood infesting the Tunicks of the Orifice of the Ventricle, and flying into the Cavity. p. 79. Or from the Animal Spirits being præternaturally expanded in its orbicular, as well as oblong Fibres, and the too quick and violent Exertion of their elastick Power, when it endeavours to eject through the *Œsophagus*, and Mouth, the Contents of its Cavity, p. 79. in which Case *Ante-Kittean* Medicines are to be us'd, p. 84.

Mid. Now, Madam, with your Book Learning, explain these Words, if you can.

La. I think he buries his Meaning in Words which, I must own, I don't understand. But go on.

Dep. But

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dep. Tru-

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

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

Dep. The Womb may be equally condens'd by the Imbibition of the fluent Humours which consolidate into it self by the Pores of its plexous Body, *p.* 201. The Womb contains the organizing Matter of all necessary Principles (Active and Passive) for constituting the Conception; fomenting the receiv'd Seeds, by its natural Calidity preserving the same, and preparing the maternal Blood, by its inherent Temperament, for the Use of the Fætus: which Fætus it surrounds and defends from external Accidents, by its substantial Corpulency, *p.* 198.

La. Most excellent and exceeding fine Language!

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

Mid. Read.

Dep. Mr. *Mauriceau*, in his Book of Women's Diseases, has Recourse to Inconsistencies to support his new-fashion'd unreceived Notions. What Comparison can there be betwixt
an

an animate and inanimate Body? Or what Affinity between the Womb of Animals, and that of a Woman form'd after the Image of God? p. 201.

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

Dep. Whereupon this most excellent Boethogynist marks with a *Bene notandum*.

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

Dep. No indeed; neither of these Bones can be any great Hindrance to the Passage of the Infant, since all Bones, never so closely knit, may be moved extensively on Occasion, p. 195.

—Now the Actions of the Womb are many; it allures the Male S—d infused by Coition into the Fund of its Cavity, as a famishing Stomach snatches at Victuals; and so attracting the Muliebrian S—d from the Testicles into the same Cavity, the said Function of the Womb is the Copulation of the Seeds, or mutual Conjunction, &c. &c. p. 197, 198. The Substance of the Womb is solid and muscular, p. 198. and has two *Sinus's* for conceiving the two different Sexes; that if a Male should be conceived of the Seed fallen to the left Side, the Place destinated for the Female, he will make but a semi-virile Man; and so on the contrary, if a Female should be conceived of the Seed fallen to the right Side, she will have some distinguishable Marks of Virility, such as a large Stature ——— Members ——— hairy Face, &c.

Mid. A learned Author indeed! he goes to the Bottom of every thing; sure he knows every Creek and Corner of us, I wish he could cure

cure somebody's Bottom that I know. He tells us, that the Extensive and Ascensive Faculties reside in the Womb's Bottom, and that they exert themselves without the least Extenuation to the Uterine Substance, p. 200. and that the Spirits abscond themselves in the Womb's Bottom, p. 62. which is the very Reason, that if any thing leap suddenly on a Woman with Child, the Mark of it will manifestly appear on the Part, unless that very Moment she wipe the Part, and clap her Hand to her Bottom, p. 63. Let the Anatomy Folks see to these things, it's none of my Business, more than it is to run after the Blood that regorges to the major Veins, p. 44. and search into Fluxes of Blood from these Vessels that Nature has reserved for a *Superfetation*, p. 98. or examine into the Necessity of expurging the Blood, when it chances to be superfluous, *ibid.* nor whether Men have their *Menstrua*, or Monthly Terms, as we have, p. 188. which *Evacuation* Men themselves are also subject to in a great Measure (notwithstanding the inconsiderate Detractions and vain Talk on this Head) save only, that in them the redundant Humour passes off a different way, by Urine, Nose and Bottom. p. 188. nor of the oblique and all the other *Situations* of the Womb, p. 204. nor of the Roots of the Umbilical Vessels, and a Thousand other things not to be fathom'd by me.

Mid. Read — *Dep.* Now for a Touch! Ch. 14. *Of Touching.* — The Midwife ought to have a special Knowledge in this Matter, since the Life it self depends on the Touch: 'Tis only passing two Fingers thro' the *Vulva*
into

into the *Vagina* to reach the Orifice, and discern its Form.

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

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

Mid. Provided you have Skill enough. Read.

Dep. The Infant, at full Perfection in Maturity, and Completion in Vitality, *p.* 140. scorns any longer Confinement; for the Animal Spirits being discontented for want of a due Liberty and free Motion, the Vitals for want of Refrigeration, and the natural Spirits, for want of sufficient Respiration, do all concur to make a Commotion or (as it were) a victorious Revolt, or an Effort pushing for Conquest, *p.* 227. Thus the Infant being irritated (an early Passion) *p.* 227. immediately shakes off its Fetters, breaks the Ligaments, rends the Membranes, thrusts thro' the Inclosures, and makes its most vigorous Attempts to enlarge it self, seconded by a peculiar Faculty that expels its troublesome and obstreperous Guest.

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

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

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

Dep. And thus, in fine, having piloted the good Woman thro' the three Gulphs of Gestation, Birth, and Child-Bed, and at last brought her into a safe Harbour, we'll provide for the Safety of her Cargo, *See p. 325.* First I'll consider the Nurie's elegant and well perforated Nipples, *p. 332.* In short, she may be a good Nurse without abstaining from Wine or Conjugal Conversation, provided she'd not give Suck for an Hour or two after Copulation, *p. 333.* and now *Ch. 9. of Ablactation.*

Dep. The Babe must be unswaddled and re-swaddled, *p. 335.* and its Body rubb'd, not only for Concoction of its Aliments, but consolidating its Members, and to be shifted *toties quoties*, *p. 336.* If it sits torpidly or drowsily, still and unactive, it is a bad Sign; it is not to use its Feet prematurely, *p. 336.* The *Ablactation* is more auspiciously done in the increasing than the decreasing of the Moon. The Child will be out of Order, when subitaneous Inconveniencies join its Dentition, *p. 249.* if the *Meconium* call'd *Collostro* don't follow within an Hour or two after, a Suppository, such as a Sugar Almond, anointed with a little boild Honey, may be discreetly us'd and manag'd to purpose.

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

Dep. As to the small or puny Faults of Nature, such as a distorted or wry Mouth, a crooked or flat Nose, thick or flabby Lips, rough or ugly Visage, or the like Blemishes, the Child's Body being tractable like a Piece of Wax,

Wax, or the Potter's Clay, these may be judiciously corrected, and ingeniously amended, and a more delectable and amiable Form given to every Part; as in case of any Blemish of the Eyes, whether they be discolour'd or sparkling, dim or short-sighted, squint or goggle, rolling, or Goat-ey'd, a lovely black Colour, and graceful Beauty, may be also artfully given

p. 345.

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

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

Dep. Women may conceive without any virile Assistance, merely by the Force of Imaginary Venery, especially among salacious Women, &c. In fine, don't the necessitous, and such as suffer Want, refresh themselves by the Savour of our Dishes, and the hunger-starv'd satiate themselves merely by the Odours of our Kitchen; as possibly may the Widow fill herself with her odd Imagination, and being debar-

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

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

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

La. Ha! ha! ha!

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

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

knowing; for, upon my Word, I think the A — r is a F — losopher past all understanding, whether he knows it, or not. Your *Deputy* may read on to Doomsday, and know no more than I do.

Mid. A Pox upon such Authors! that affect such Whims and new-coin'd Words, and such Conundrum Stories as please no-body. Prithee, *Deputy*, see, if thou canst read something that will charm my Lady.

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

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

Mid. So much then, my Lady, for his F — losophy, now for a short Scrap of his Midwifry, and I have done. I'm told, my Lady, he has transmographied a plain *Dutch* Man Midwife so, that ye would split your Sides, when you hear how. Read on.

Dep. P. 266. Which fourfold Situation of the Womb may be rightly and properly compared to the four cardinal Points of the Compass, as the rest of its oblique Situations may be

be analogously adequated to the collateral and middle Points, *p.* 270. for, because as they decline from the Meridian, and derive themselves from East, West, North and South, so these are less difficult Births, and branch out from the four mentioned Extremities, since the Womb, like a Magnetick Needle, may run quite round, and be ill seated every way, or on every Side. Poor Whirligig! thou'lt ne'er be at Rest; or, as some say, never satisfied. Some will reject this *Thesis* as false, or new-fangled; but *p.* 204. they who are ignorant of this, are meer blind Novices in the Art of Midwifry; for repeated Experience has taught myself and many others, the Certainty of this Truth, *p.* 205.

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

P. 292. The Consequences of the Ignorance of these great Truths being fatal, it would be supervacaneous, and altogether needless, to resume or repeat them; wherefore I shall once for all exhort and adjure such Midwives as have any Regard for their Neighbours Lives, that they would qualify themselves duly in these excellent Points of Knowledge: And this I have the more Reason to inculcate, because I never yet knew an assiduous Midwife, who was thus perfectly well endued with the
essen-

essential Qualifications of her Profession. *Poor Midwives! I pity your Ignorance, that never knew the Womb went round like a Magnetick Needle before! Go to School in New Bondstreet, where you may have a Touch of him who lately brought Midwifry to Perfection, and gives compleat Courses of Midwifry to Gentlemen Pupils on reasonable Terms; —for*

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

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

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

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

Mid. Your

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

La. I have enough of it, Goodie ; and if you'll take my Advice, you'll burn it. I would not have such a b—dy Book in my Closet for the World.

Mid. Why so my Lady ?

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

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

Mid. However, it is a great Pity, such a fine Book, that has cost so much Pains, should be destroy'd in this manner, and a new Book too, with Gilding on the Back on't.

Dep. There lye thou, to be reduc'd to Ashes, never more to offend chaste Ears, nor frighten Child-bearing Women, nor be a Disgrace to Midwifery.

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

[*The Lady and Midwife apart.*]

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

End of all Things which is omnipotent and
 creating the Author and Creator of all



A
 DISSERTATION

ON

GENERATION.



Whoever will allow himself seriously to consider the surprizing Mechanism of Animals (especially of a human Body) will readily incline to admire, if not adore, its Maker.

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

H

End

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

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

By him Eve alone was made out of the Man without a Woman, Gen. ii. v. 22. 1 Corinth. vi. v. 8.

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

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

To give any satisfactory Account of this abstruse Subject, the Generation of Animals would require a Volume apart; and seeing neither my Time, nor my narrow Limits, (were I capable) will permit much to be said on the Head, it is to be hoped, the candid and generous Reader will accept of my Endeavours, tho' they should only serve as an

Index

Index to excite the Curiosity of others, pointing out in general the common Systems, and those Authors who have treated 'em best.

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

His wonderful Genius, and profound Judgment, with his amazing Skill in Anatomy, acquir'd by immense Labour, and vast Experience in Dissections (when in pursuit of the Circulation of the Blood;) wou'd not of themselves have been sufficient to enable him to enrich the Republick of Learning with such a valuable Treasure as his immortal Piece *de Generatione Animalium*; had not the Bounty and Favour of his royal Master, who was mighty curious in such Researches himself, granted him store of Deer to dissect at his Pleasure, by which Means (considering his unwearied Industry) he may be said to have been the fittest and most likely Person then in being, to hand down to us Observations by which something might be certainly concluded concerning the Generation of viviparous Animals.

He has set down nothing but what he saw with his Eyes, and what his masterly artful Hand dissected; this was the Path he constantly pursu'd, as the surest Way to the Knowledge of Truth; nor has he deliver'd any Thing that would not stand the Test of ocular Inspection of others, as well as his own; so that he bids his Reader trust nothing he has said about the Generation of Animals, for I

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

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

He has shew'd in the Race of oviparous Creatures, as Hens, Geese, &c. and of viviparous, as Sheep, Does, and all Cattle that divide the Hoof, and in chief (the perfectest of all Creatures) Man himself, the Manner, Order and Causes of Generation, because all other Creatures agree, either generically or specifically with the aforesaid, at least with some of them, and are procreated after the same Manner of Generation, or else in a Manner proportion'd to it; for Nature being divine and perfect, is always consonant to her self in the same Things.

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

Presence of the divine Deity is clearly implied.

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

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

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

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

All living Things do derive their Original from something which doth contain in it both the Matter and efficient Virtue and Power, which therefore is that Thing, both out of which

which, and by which, whatsoever is born doth deduce its Beginning. *Primordium*, the first Rudiment, Egg, or what they please to call it, from which an Animal doth spring, as Plants from their Seed.

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

That Eggs are to be found not only in Birds, Fishes, &c. but in all Animals, in Quadrupeds, and even in Woman her self, is plain beyond dispute.---In Rabbits, Hares, &c. they have been observed not to exceed the Bigness of Rape-Seed.---In Swine and Sheep the Bigness of a Pea.---In Cows, of a Cherry; but it is to be observed, that even in all these Animals many smaller ones are to be discerned, which in Sheep by Age and frequent Coition change. See on this Head the curious *Steno de ovis & oviductibus* in *Act. Med. Hassn.* *Hippocrates*, in his Book *περὶ Γυναικῶν* which he espoules for his own, has shewn himself to be the first on Record that ever attempted to search into our *primordia vite*, *ὡς εἰκοσὶν ἢ καὶ πλείονα*, &c. set twenty and more Eggs under Hens, that he might faithfully learn their Growth, and removing one each Day, took its Shell off, and made his Observations; and also was the first who compared the Bud of a humane *Fœtus* with that of a Hen's Egg; for out of Eggs he opened after Incubation the said *ὄρνιθος τῆς ξυμβάλλει τῆ τῆ ἀνδρῶπις φύσει*, so compar'd Man's Original

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

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

Galen, his faithful Interpreter, tells us, that all the Eggs of viviparous Animals are bred within, and so out of an Egg an Animal is shaped within a Woman. Thus did *Oribasius*, and the other learned Ancients write.—As Nature's Book is the very same now, as it has been ever since the Days of *Adam*, and was, so is it still open to Mankind, and ever will be to our latest Posterity, wherein they may exercise themselves in its Study, as did these sagacious and industrious Ancients.

The celebrated Dr. *Charles Drelincourt*, who has read all the Ancients and Moderns on this Subject, has deliver'd us their Opinions in a most elegant, succinct and accurate Manner, and explain'd their various Sentiments on the Conception, Formation, Nutrition and Birth of the *Fætus*, to whose *Opuscula varia* I beg Leave to refer the Curious, after I have mention'd but a few Circumstances as he relates them.

Anno 1666, he was then first convinc'd by the famous *Faber*, a Jesuit, that every Conception was truly an Egg, *ovum vitella quidem*

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

Now how the *semen virile* reaches the *Ovary*? and how it facundates one, two or more *Ova*? and how when facundated, they are forc'd from the *Ovary* thro' the *Tube* into the *Uterus*, seems to be the grand Plea, that has occasioned such Disputes in the Schools, and the staining so much Paper.

Some have maintain'd, that the *Male Semen* reaches the *fundus Uteri*, and thence ascends thro' the *Tubes* to the *Ovary*: Others, not without Reason, deny this, and say, that the *collum Uteri* is too close to admit the *Semen*, but of its Ascent thither, nothing certain was ever determin'd until *Frederick Rhuysch*, an experienced Anatomist at *Amsterdam*, assur'd the World in his *Thesaurus, &c.* that he found a white Liqueur both in the *Uterus* and *Tubes* of a Woman he had dissected immediately after she had been killed in the Act of Adultery. Yet

Yet the industrious *Harvey* has said, That the Geniture of the Male doth not so much as reach the Cavity of the *Uterus*, much less abide there for any Time, that it doth derive Fecundity to the *Uterus* only by a kind of Contagion. The *Uterus* doth exercise the plastick generative Power, and procreateth its own Like; so the Conception is made *in Utero*, as we see with our Eyes, and think with our Brains.

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

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

That the *Ova* are fecundated in the *Ovary*, is beyond Dispute: But how they are impregnated, or rather, how the Male *semen* reaches them, is still disputed. Whether it be by its more spirituous and subtile Particles? or the *Aura seminalis*, *Harvey* mentions? or the *Animalcula*

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

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

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

Upon the Whole (be these as they will) we may conclude, That the true Seat and Principle of Generation is to be found in the *Ovaries*; that when one, two, or more, are fecundated by the Male *Semen*, they ripen, and in due Time fall out of the *Ovary* into the *Tube*, whose flag End, like the large End of a Trumpet, clasps round

round the Egg, so receives it, and conducts the same to the *Fundus Uteri*, where it fixes, and like a Shrub takes Root in order to Nutrition, &c. unless by some Accident it be denied a Passage, so either fall into the Cavity of the *Abdomen*, or stay in the *Tube*, till its full Time, of which we have many Instances, from the Authors of our own Time, as well as of former Ages, Men of unspotted Characters, besides the many Observations made upon Brutes by the ablest Anatomists, and most accurate Searchers into Nature. That *Fœtus's* have been form'd in the *Ovaries*, will appear plain from these three following Observations, which the Curious may see at large:

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

The Second is from a Dissertation upon the Structure and Use of the *Uterus* communicated by Dr. *Vieussens*, and inserted in the last Edition of *Verheyen's* Anatomy, called an Observation of Dr. *Montagnier*, a celebrated Physician at *Montpelier*, upon the Formation of an human *Fœtus* in an unusual Place, An. 1697.

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

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

The First is from *Oldenberg*, who An. 1679, took a *Fœtus* out of the Cavity, &c. See *Barthol. L. 1. c. 27. & alios*.

The Second is from the *Academie des sciences*, and distinctly described by *Monf. Saviard*, an experienced Hospital Surgeon: See his *Recueil de Chirurgie. &c.*

The Third is from *Courtial* a learned Physician at *Thoulon*, his Anatomical Observations, where a Male *Fœtus*, perfectly form'd, was found in the Cavity of the *Abdomen*, &c. —

The Fourth from *John Baptista Bianchi*, an accurate Physician, and excellent Anatomist, at *Turin*, An. 1714.

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

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

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

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

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

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

This *Fœtus*, full grown, was Twenty three Months

Months in the *Tube*, and was taken thence by his own Hand, after a large Incision, 17. Dec. 1694, and may now be seen in Sir *Hans Sloan's* Collections.

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

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

To insist here upon what Anatomists have advanced on these Heads, would be needless, after what has been said, and altogether inconsistent with my Brevity: Wherefore, I shall conclude this, with what a great Physician has pronounced on this Subject: — That it is manifest, that the *Ovum* is fecundated, and rendered prolifick by the Male *Semen*, so forced out of the *Ovary* thro' the *Tube* into the *Uterus*, for its Nourishment and Growth there, &c. — And that it ever was so from the Creation of *Adam*, and ever will be so to the last Day, by such an irrevocable Law, that no Mortal is, or ever shall be otherwise conceived. — For in a mortal Animal, this is immortal.

Now, Whether Women, by the Force of Imagination, or otherwise, can generate and bring forth any Animals but of the human Species, is what remains to be discussed.

Were

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

I shall pass by the many strange Births related by *Herodotus*, *Pliny*, and others, long since exploded; as I do innumerable others imposed on the more simple Ages; nor shall I so much as notice what *Lucretius* says, *Crescebant Uteri terra radicibus apti*, that the Earth brought forth Mankind. — Nor how *Minerva* was Midwifed into the World by the Dint of a Hammer out of *Jupiter's* Brain. — Nor how *Pyrhus* and *Deucalion* raised Mankind by Stones thrown behind them. — Nor insist on those mythological Gods born in the Brains of the Poets, worshipped by the People, and laugh'd at by the Philosophers. — I shall also omit all the wonderful Effects of holy Obedience amongst the Monks in the *East*, as well as the Magicians in *Egypt*, whose miraculous Stories rendred them ridiculous. — Nor shall I dwell on the Miracles said to be wrought by the Monks of *Thebais*, not only in Favour of Men, but also in Favour of wild Beasts, with which they

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

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

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

The Story of *Amatus Lusitanus*, of the Widow that proved with Child by what she received from the other, *forte eâ horâ a marito discedens cum quo rem habuerat, &c.* is ridiculous, and no Faith can be given to such Things, let them swear what they please. Such a Prank

as this was plaïd at Lisle in Flanders; but on a Proceſs it was plainly made out, that the Husband, not his Wife, had done it. --- *Simbaldus L. 1. c. 14.* ſays, A Midwife at Rome told him of a Woman that got a big Belly in a Bath, ſucceeding a young Spark. --- Another proved with Child, *Quia confederat album exonerandi gratia in latrina, quam paulo ante affinis juvenis hymeneum celebrando manibus polluerat.* Upon which ſays *Lanzweerde*, O commentum futile! O veram anicularum fabellam! Theſe and the like Stories are only contrived to cover the laſcivious Wantonneſs of Women, and conceal their vicious and unlawful Amours. The impious Stories of Devils, *Incubus's* and *Succubus's*, that were Spirits, and inflamed with the Love of Women, which ſome vainly report, are not worth refuting. --- If the Divines would vouchſafe to conſult the Writings of the modern Anatomifts, they would no longer ſuffer themſelves to be impoſed on by an imaginary Attraction of the Womb, or led aſide by ſuch falſe Reports of wicked Women, unleſs they prefer Fables to Truth, or Trifles to ſerious Things.

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

Liebau, and others, who would have this Cap
 presage good Luck, as they tell us from old
 Womens Tattles.—The Zealot *Du Val* would
 have us believe, a *Franciscan* Monk must have
 been its Father, because it was born with a
 Hood on its Head; and that it portends strange
 Things, not only the old Matrons, but the
 Authors of occult Philosophy, have babbled
 about. This fine Writer will have but little
 Faith given to his *Cacata Charta*, and thus he
 ends; *Nugigerulis ergo vaneant, & ista muliercul-*
larum ultime nuga quas merito Lemnius deliris igna-
risque mentibus refert acceptas.—*Nam tales offu-*
cias que suo fuce credulis animis errorem offundunt.
Lucina horret ac proficis tradit eternum lugendas.

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

The numerous Instances of Women bring-
 ing forth by the Mouth, are no better found-
 ed than on idle Hearsays.—I am grieved (said
 one) to see the Great *Bartholine* stand up for such
 Trifles.—The impious *Paracelsus* merits no Re-
 gard, who dream'd he could raise Mankind by
 placing the *Sem. hum.* in a Dunghill Heat: *O ve-*
sanas hominum mentes! O pectora ceca! & damo-
num præstigijs irretita. --- Nor *Borell's* Story of
 greater Weight, *Cent. 1. Obs. 28.* of a Fish that
 bred out of the Finger of a Fisherman, its Seed
 having insinuated itself into a Wound made
 there by a Fish-hook.—Of a-piece with this
 is the Story of *Heredias*, of a Thorn that flou-
 rished every Year out of a Shepherd's Side.—
 Nor does *Rosencranzius's Mola* merit any more
 Credit than these, because in such Cases Mid-

wives are not to be believed, who first broach'd them, for Thousands of them are Cheats and Impostors, especially in *Germany* and the Northern Regions, where Superstition and Credulity reign in the Female Sex. I am satisfied, if such Stories were narrowly enquired into, they would undoubtedly be found to amount to no more than what *Augustin Herman* met with upon dissecting a Woman, who voided by Stool, red, black, and blue Silk, various small Bones, Sticks, and Straws, as in *Obs. 71. I found (says he) nothing in either her Stomach, or Guts, nor the least Vestige of Inchantment; so that the Question is, Whether this Woman was enchanted? or did she deceive her Doctors?*

In all odd, out-of-the-way Stories, especially Births, we ought to ask, whether their Authors be well informed of the Truth of what they advance? Or, whether they have them at second-hand, so only speak upon Hearsay? Whether they themselves were deceived; or did they design to deceive others? In short, Whether they did really see these Things they mention, and carefully examined them before they set them down, and if they were Judges of what they related?

Such groundless idle Stories, handed from one to another, until several Impressions, in several Books, have given them a Shadow of Confirmation, and as it were a *droit de Bourgeoisie*, few will venture to contradict. Thus one led into an Error, may draw in a Thousand, and so the Generality of superficial Readers are reduced to the Necessity of swallowing the greatest Absurdities, improbable Stories, and

and such as are no less impossible than incredible.

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

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

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

In the small Edifice of a Chicken, and all its Actions and Operations, the Finger of God, or the God of Nature, doth reveal himself, — A more sublime and divine Artificer therefore,

(than Man is) seems to make and preserve Man.

What is there (says the learn'd *Harvey*) in Generation, that, by a momentary Touch, can orderly constitute the Parts of a Chicken, by an Epigenesis, and produce an univocal Creature like itself? Linn all the Members of the Chicken in an Egg, which is now expos'd to the wide World, and often transported a great Way off.

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

As often as there is a Conception in a Woman, its Progress on several Accounts may be hindered, but it can't be transformed into another Species, by any Cause whatever. For since no Rudiment of any other Animal, than what's human, can be contained in *semine humano*, it is impossible any other Animal, but what's human, can be produced. And seeing every *Semen* proceeds from the very Substance of the Animal, whose *Semen* it is, the Seeds themselves must necessarily differ amongst themselves, as much as the Animals do; so no Animals, differing in *Genus* and *Species*, can be mutually transformed into one another's Likeness; wherefore such Changes can never happen in *utero muliebri*.

But

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

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

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

Who it was that taught the Spider to weave and spread its Net so surprisngly to catch Flies for its Sustenance, when scarce out of its Egg.

Who it was that taught an Infant (when capable of nothing else) so dextrously to suck its Nourishment, the Moment it breathes the free Air.—Who taught the Bees and Ants to build their Cottages, and furnish their Store-houses for further Exigencies.—The Birds their Nests, &c. that all should, by the unalterable Laws of Nature, so exactly, so orderly, and so surely, propagate each their Like, by an univocal Generation, for perpetuating their several Species.

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

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

As to human Monsters, however strange they may appear to some, yet may they be readily accounted for, according to the System of the *Animalcula*; for when two of them get into one *Ovum*, a Monster is born of course; that is two *Fetus*'s sticking to one another by some Parts of their Bodies, which is not more wonderful than to see two Fingers sticking together.

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

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

No such Metamorphosis was ever known amongst Vegetables. It was never known that Poppy Seeds would produce Parsley, nor a Grain of Millet or Mustard Seed, a Mulberry Tree.

That Faculty, which distinguisheth Men from Brutes, has little Room to exercise itself here, since the most refined Reasoning would be lost, where the Things advanced are not
Facts.

Facts. In vain then we amuse our selves with empty Trifles, old Womens Tales, and Chit Chat that have no Foundation in Truth, but *prima facie* appear the impossible Things they are.—It is impossible that the Roes of Herrings can produce Salmon, Cod-fish, and Turtle; Whitings, Whales; or Owls beget Ostriches; or Ladies Lap-Dogs, Dromedaries; Ants Eggs, Elephants, &c. Consequently it is as impossible for Women to generate and bring forth Rabbits, as it is for Rabbits to generate and bring forth Women. *Ergo nulli leones, elephantas, &c.* as in the Title Page.

Quae corpuscula & prima seminis rudimenta, cum sint longa diversa natura in leonum, elephantum, piscium corporibus eorumque genituris, illas genitura humana particulas in quibus prima humane fabricae stamina superstructa, non posse degenerare ibidem in genituram animalis toto genere diversi.---nam omnia animalia ex proprio & non alieno semine nasci, certum est.

F I N I S.



Pass. In vain then we make our selves with
 empty Tattlers, old Womens Tales, and Chit
 Chat that have no foundation in Truth, but
 power to appear the impossible Things they
 are. — It is impossible that the Roos of Her-
 tises can produce Salmon, Cod-fish, and Tur-
 tle; Whinnings, Whistles, or Owls best Offi-
 cers of Ladies Lap-Dogs, Broomsticks; Axes
 Eyes, Elephants, &c. Consequently it is as
 impossible for Women to generate and bring
 forth Rabbits, as it is for Rabbits to generate
 and bring forth Women. Page will leave, the
 patient, &c. as in the 1st Page.

The copy of the first volume is
 now in the hands of the
 printer, and will be
 ready in a few days.

P I N I S



St. A-D-E's
Miscarriage
Or

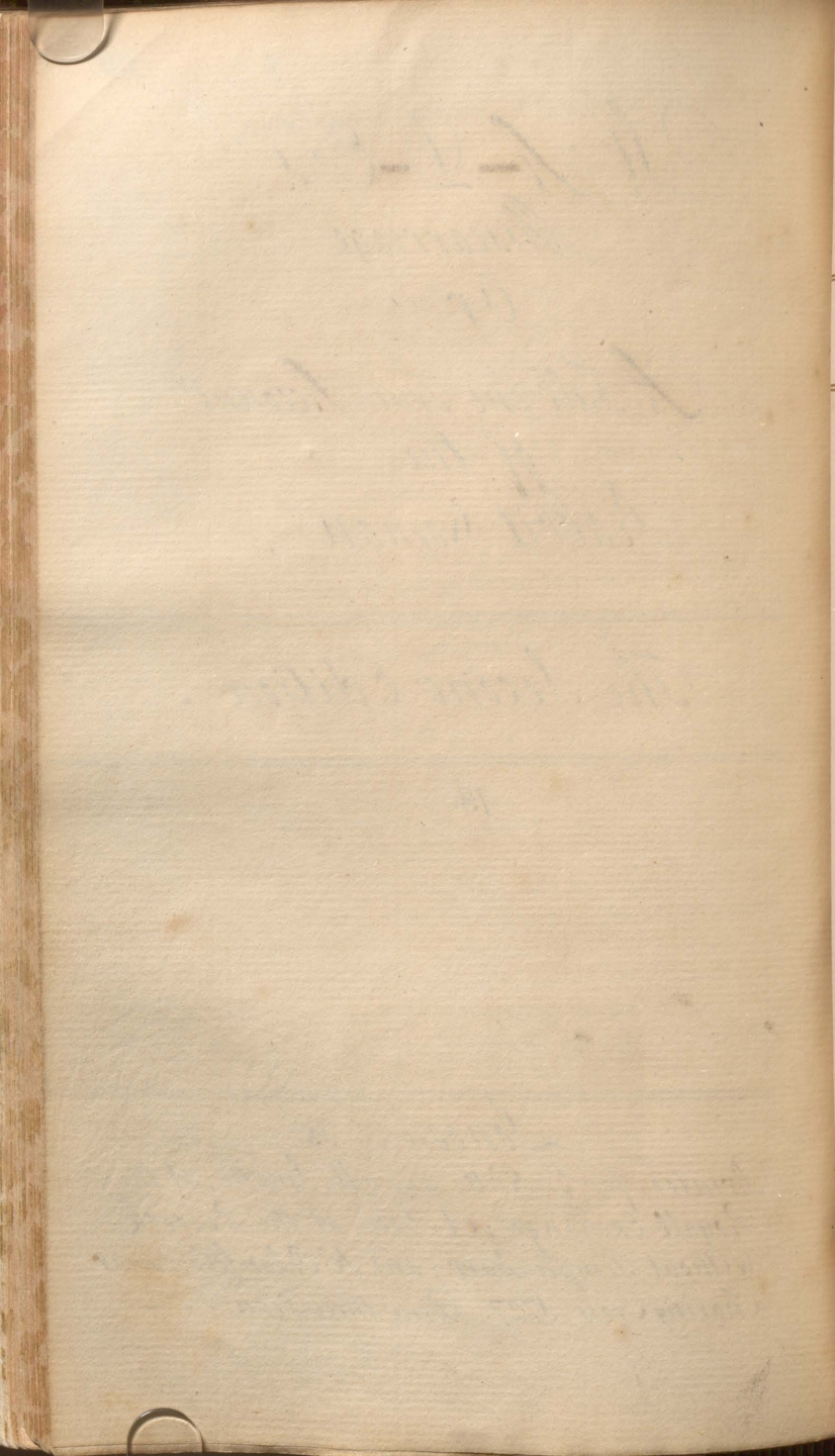
A Full and True Account
of the
Rabbit Woman .

The Second Edition .

13.

London. 1727.

Printed for E. Nutt, and M. Smith, at the
Royall Exchange; A. Dodd, at the Peacock
Without Temple Barr; and N. Blanford, near
Charing Cross. 1727. Price three Pence . . .



St A--D--E's
Miscarriage.

To the Tune of, The Abbot of Canterbury.

1st

Physicians, and Surgeons, & Mid-wives draw near;
Married-Women, & Wives, & Virgins give Ear;
For it is of a Woman, a Woman I sing;
Who Rabbits Seventeen from one C---ly did bring.
Derry Down, Down &c.

2^d

Monsieur St A--D--E, that Anatomist rare,
Says all these same Rabbits Praternatural were;
And faith we must own there is something in that,
For the first that came out, did prove a Black Cat.
Derry Down, Down &c.

3^d

'Tis Strange he shou'd find out a Cat by her Claw,
Yet not see that H---d made him the Cat's Law;
Tho' I rather think he knew PMS by her Gut,
Which he for a String on his Fiddle had put.
Derry Down Down &c.

4th

The Simpathy, Good Folks, is wondrous to speak,
As he touch'd his fiddle, the Woman did squeak,
Which has put our SURGION in such a Sad Pet,
'Tis fear'd his own Guts will to Fiddle-Strings fret.

Derry Down, Down &c^{um}

5th

Such Bangs, such Convulsions, such Groppings before,
Were never endur'd by honest Woman or Whore;
For as sure as St. A-D-E was poison'd not Clapp'd,
The Bonus of a Rabbit in her Uterus Snapp'd.

Derry Down, Down &c^{um}

6th

He dissected, Compar'd, and distinguish'd likewise,
The make of these Rabbits, their Growth & their Scize;
He preserv'd them in Spirits, and---- a little too late,
Preserv'd (Nektue. Sculp) a Neat Copper-Plate.

Derry Down Down, &c^{um}

7th

Tho' So good a Design the Discovery marr'd,
Yet industrious St. A-D-E deserves a reward;
But instead of the Copper, engrave him in Brass,
And take the Impression from his own Modest Face.

Derry Down Down &c^{um}

8th

The Woman, (G'd Bless her) a mere Simple Fool,
Was more Fool than Knave, A--d more Knave than Fool;
But the K--g knows It A-D-E to be twice upon Oath,
A Due Composition of Knave and Fool both.

Derry Down, Down &c.

9th

'Tis monstrous a Woman such a Cheat shou'd pretend;
'Tis monstrous two Surgeons such a Cheat shou'd befriend;
But the Monster of Monsters, beyond Comprehension,
Is that they expect a monstrous UNION.

Derry Down Down &c.

10th

From Godliman to Guildford, from Guildford they brought,
The Woman to London, Rabbit-quick as they thought;
To a Bagnio they brought her, where Money was betted,
When Sir Richard and Molly were damnably sweated.

Derry Down Down &c.

11th

But among the fam'd Doctors there was one Dr. Meagre,
Most learn'd, most profound, most pusillind and eager;
Foutle Fellows! he Cry'd, they have, dam'it, no Skill,
All purge her of Rabbits with one Mercury Pill.

Derry Down Down &c.

12th.

Tho' some say he did a nice Forceps Contriv'd,
To kill the good Woman, & bring the Rabbits alive;
For he had from PARIS no orders to save her,
By Mons: Petit, the french Surgeon or Shaver.
Derry Down Down &c.

13th.

The P-l-t was in a terrible Stound,
Who the Members shou'd be of the Burrow new-found;
And let it be said to the praise of this land,
These were young Folks enough full ready to stand.
Derry Down Down &c.

14th.

The Women, sic on 'em, do talk without Shame,
Nor scruple, in Latin, to mention that same;
And shortly intend to get Fiquas in China,
Of the Diaboli Mousus, and eke the Vagina.
Derry Down Down &c.

15th.


Good Midwives, Alas? your Trade is undone,
Dame Nature's Recuses are secret to none;
And a Girl of fifteen knows so much of the Matter,
She'll deliver her-self without all that Clatter.
Derry Down Down &c.

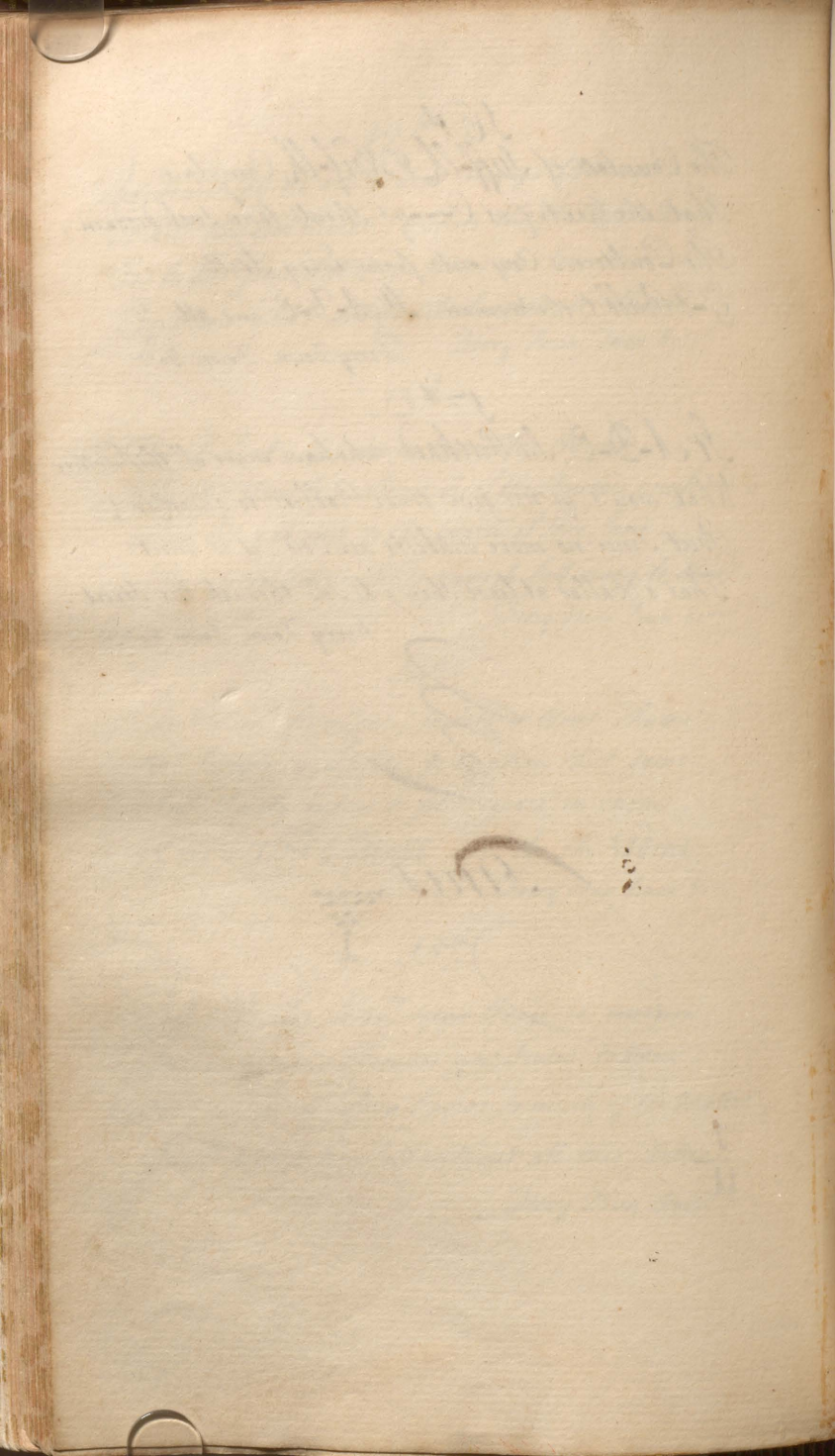
16th
The Countess of Suff-lk & Norf-lk Complain,
That the Gentry at C---y^s should take such disdain;
The Coulters cry out from every Stall,
G-d Rabbit the Woman, St. A-D-E and all.

Derry Down, Down &c.^o

17th
St. A-D-E, Sir Richard, who have made all this Pother,
What wou'd ye not give these Rabbits to smother?
But since no more Rabbits are sold, it is meet
That a Ballad at least shou'd be sold through the Street.

Derry Down Down &c.^o


Finis 



A Song
on
the Rabbit Breeder
by

London

Printed in the year 1727

Price 3^d

at camp

the first of October

at the same place

at the same place

at the same place

at the same place

at the same place

At Guilford there is a most fearfull rout
And what do you think it is about
A Woman breeds rabbits, I vow she crys out
Which no body can deny &c

So severe a convulsion her uterus seizes
That it strips all the rabbits quite out of
Way more than all that, tracks ^{their fleeces} em into small
Which no body can deny &c ^{Pieces}

The cracking of bones gives a mighty surprize
And the striking her womb causes sorrowfull cries
So people breed birds to peck out their own eyes
Which &c

Count de Vaux went to see what was there to be ^{seen}
When he talk'd with Jⁿ H^d he gave him ^{a grin}
And swore that whatever came out was put in
Which &c

St. A — re a novice of very great fame
Was the next that came down to examine ^{that}
But faith he returned just the sort that he came ^{same}
Which &

That puppy before once alarmed the Town
By printed his case which is very well known
But poe on his poison twas thought all his own
Which &

Protermatural parts he had when at school
Protermatural rabbits have shewn him a tool
Of made him appear a more natural fool
Which &

^a A late knighted D.ⁿ was scarce in his wits
When he saw the poor woman in wonderfull
^{fitz}
^b But the Clerk sure that ere he was sexton forgets
Which &

When Ah—rs had seen he thought it no sin
by dissembling to keep his true motions within
& set them a swearing through thick & through
Which & ^{thine}

There are two or three more I could name if I durst
Behave themselves so that 'twould make a man
shake 'em all in a bag & the best will come first
Which &

But the woman at last has made a confession
which shews that the midwives had little discretion
& proves them no conjurers at their profession
Which &

^a I^r Rich^d Manningham
^b he was an apothecary

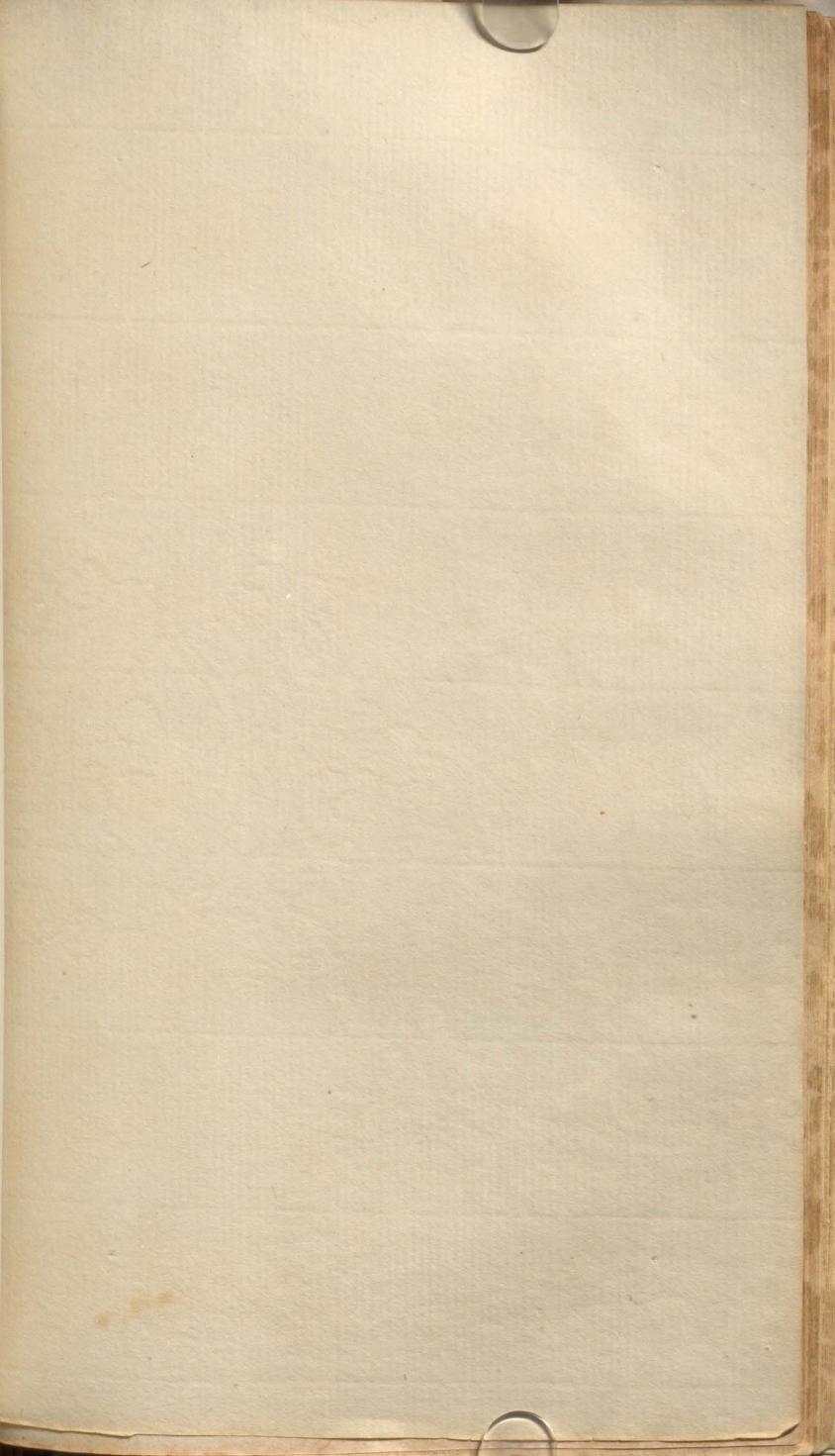
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The Sooterkin Dissected.

xvii

I N A

L E T T E R

T O

JOHN MAUBRAY, M. D.

A L I A S

Dr. G I O V A N N I.

Wherein is clearly prov'd,

- I. That there never was such an Animal in the World.
- II. That God never made it.
- III. That the Devil cannot make it.
- IV. That it is Impudence to assert it.
- V. That it is Stupidity to believe it.
- VI. That it is a mere Fiction of his own Brain.
- VII. That it is contrary to the Opinion of the most learned Physicians and Philosophers in our Days, who maintain the Truth of *Univocal Generation*.

By a Lover of Truth and Learning.

*For Knaves and Fools being near a-kin,
As Dutch Boors to a Sooterkin.*

Hud. Part III. Cant. III.

L O N D O N:

Printed for *A. Moore* near *St. Paul's*, and Sold by the
Booksellers of *London* and *Westminster*. 1726.

The Society of Friends

IN A
LETTER

TO

JOHN MARRIAGE, M.D.

ALIAS

DR. CLAWSON

Written in 1840

The following was the first printed in the U.S.A.
The first printed in the U.S.A.
The first printed in the U.S.A.
The first printed in the U.S.A.
The first printed in the U.S.A.
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The first printed in the U.S.A.
The first printed in the U.S.A.

By a committee of Friends

Philadelphia, 1840

LONDON
Printed by J. G. & Co. 1840



T H E

S O O T E R K I N

D I S S E C T E D.

S I R,



AMONG the antient *Jews* there were a sort of NATURAL PHILOSOPHERS who are by the *Rabbins* called *Sapientes Inquisitionis*, or *Sapientes Scrutationis*, from their diligent Enquiry after natural Causes. Among the Heathens we have a considerable Number who were no less careful in pursuing the same Study; but the Modern Christians excell them both from better Opportunities they have in the Improvements of Learning.

The other Day going thro' among the Booksellers-Shops (as is my Custom when I read in the News-Papers of any Book JUST NOW PUBLISHED) I found one bearing this Title, THE FEMALE PHYSICIAN, By *John Maubray*, M. D. I was mightily taken with it, because the first Chapter treated of GOD. Now thought I, this certainly must be a good Book, and nothing but TRUTH in it. I was soon undeceived, and found the common Proverb verified, that, *In nomine Dei incipit omne malum*. Being desirous to be acquainted with the *Author*, I sent a Letter by the Hands of Mr. *Gilbert Knowles*; soon after you was so kind as to pay me a Visit, and desired me to give my Remarks on your Book, which I could not then do, having read little of it; but afterwards going forward, till I came to Page 375, I met with a strange Passage concerning the DE SUYGER, which I shall here transcribe in your own Words, and give you my Thoughts freely of it, and refer them to the Judgment of the learned World.

' That these Births in those Parts are
 ' often attended and accompanied with a
 ' monstrous little Animal, the likest of any
 ' Thing in Shape and Size to a Moodi-
 ' warp, having a hook'd Snout, fiery
 ' sparkling Eyes, a long round Neck, and
 ' an acuminated short Tail, of an extra-
 ' ordinary agility of Feet. At first Sight
 ' of the World's Light, it commonly yells
 ' and shrieks fearfully, and seeking for
 ' a lurking Hole, runs up and down
 ' like a little Dæmon; which indeed I
 ' took it for the first time I saw it, and
 ' that for none of the better Sort. More-
 ' over,

' The following accidental Passage is so
 ' remarkable, that I cannot pass it by, in
 ' order to convince and satisfy others of
 ' this admirable *Truth*; namely, that not
 ' many Years ago, in coming from *Ger-*
 ' *many* over East and West *Friesland* to
 ' *Holland*, I took Passage in the ordinary
 ' Fare-Vessel from the City of *Harlingen*
 ' for *Amsterdam*, over what they call the
 ' *Zwyder Zee*, which is commonly reck-
 ' oned a Voyage of ten or twelve Hours,
 ' tho'

' tho' at this time we happen'd to be near
 ' thirty six Hours on our Voyage. A-
 ' mongst the better Sort of Passengers,
 ' who possess'd the Cabbin, there happen-
 ' ed to be a Woman big with Child, of
 ' a very creditable Aspect, who afterwards
 ' told me, that she was bound for *Am-*
 ' *sterdam*, on purpose to buy some Ne-
 ' cessaries for her Lying-in at the easiest
 ' Rate. When in the interim the good
 ' provident Woman was taken all at once
 ' aboard the Ship with a sudden surprizing
 ' Labour; upon which Occasion, in short,
 ' I immediately lent her a helping Hand.
 ' Upon the Membranes giving way, the
 ' forementioned Animal made its wonder-
 ' ful egress, filling my Ears with dismal
 ' Shrieks, and my Mind with greater *Con-*
 ' *sternation*; when not immediately recol-
 ' lecting what I had either read or heard
 ' of this Monster, I could not help con-
 ' tinuing in my Surprize, untill I heard
 ' some of our accidental Company call
 ' it *De Suyger*, as they went about to kill
 ' it; upon which I immediately laid the
 ' Woman of a pretty plump Girl, who,

' not.

notwithstanding all this, had no Deformi-
 ty upon her, save only many dark livid
 Spots all over its Body, which I prog-
 nosticated might turn to an universal
 Scurf; in the mean time I order'd the
 express'd Oil of Almonds to be diligent-
 ly used as soon as we landed. After-
 wards I had occasion to talk to some of
 the most learned Men of the several U-
 niversities in these Provinces upon this
 Head, who ingeniously told me, that it
 was so common a thing among the sea-
 faring and meaner sort of People, that
 scarce one of these Women in three es-
 caped this kind of strange Birth, which
 my own small Practice among them af-
 terwards confirm'd, insomuch, that I al-
 ways as much expected the Thing *De*
Suyger as the Child it self; and besides,
 the Women in like manner make a sui-
 table Preparation to receive it warmly,
 and throw it into the Fire, holding Sheets
 before the Chimney that it may not get
 off, as it always endeavours to save it
 self by getting into some Hole or Cor-
 ner. They properly call it *De Suyger*,
 which

which is (in our Language) the *Sucker*,
 because like a Leech it sucks up the In-
 fant's Blood and Aliment. Upon this
 Head, and to this Purpose, I might pro-
 duce the Authorities of sundry good
 Writers, but shall content my self here
 at present with one of the same Nation,
 (*viz.*) the most learned and eminent *Le-*
vinus Lemnius, who gives us a very re-
 markable and particular Account at large
 of a certain Birth which began with a
 monstrous Mole, succeeded by a Sucker,
 and ended by a Production of an excar-
 nificated Male-child. These Things
 being so, and proceeding merely from
 the immediate Reasons above-mention'd,
 ought to be a memorable Caution to all
 Parents, that in their Conjugal Duties
 they behave themselves orderly and de-
 cently, and not like insatiable Brutes,
 but like rational Men, to the End that
 their Families may be preserv'd, and
 their Persons succeeded, not by an op-
 probrious Race, but by an univocal Ge-
 neration of hopeful Children; Men of
 Probity and Integrity both in Body and
 Mind.

Now,

Now, Sir, lest I should exceed the Bounds of a Letter, it's time for me to proceed to the Dissection of this *Animal*. First, you call it a *monstrous little Animal*: Here you stumble in the very Threshold; you should have call'd it a *prodigious little Animal*. This is clear from the Definition of the two Words; *Monstrous*, i. e. what Thing soever is brought forth contrary of the common Degree and Order of *Nature*; so we term that infant *monstrous*, which is born with one Arm alone, or with two Heads. *Prodigious*, is that which happens contrary to the whole Course of Nature, i. e. altogether different and dissenting from Nature, as if a Woman should be delivered of a Snake, a Dog, or a *Sooterkin*. You call it little, it must needs be so, because there was a pretty plump Girl to come after it; and if it had been big, there had been no room for them both. You compare it to a *Moodiswarp*, the most part of your *English* Readers will not know what you mean, a blind Story I fear. You say it yell'd and squeek'd fearfully, why did you not say

it spoke too? which if it had, sure it had forbidden you to publish such ridiculous Nonsense to the World, and to propagate such a notorious Lie to Posterity. It seems you have forgotten what the Apostle says, *refuse profane and old Wives Fables*, 1 Tim. iv. 7.

You say it sought a *lurking Hole*; well it might, as blushing to be described in such a manner. You say 'twas like a little *Dæmon*; it was well for the Woman she was dispossess'd of so bad an Inhabitant. But, Sir, it seems to me you have read but little Divinity, else you would never distinguish *Dæmons* into great *Dæmons* and little *Dæmons*. You call it none of the best; here you are guilty of another Blunder, for no *Dæmon* is good: if you had distinguished Angels into *good* and *bad*, you had done right. You speak of its *extraordinary agility of Feet*, which encreases my Wonder; you talk of its *sparkling Eyes*, were not the Arteries of your own Eyes then inflam'd? you must needs know the Conditions of distinct Vision; First, The Organ must be well disposed.

disposed. Secondly, There must be a due Distance. Thirdly, There must be a proper Medium. Pray, Sir, had you it in your Hand? did you contribute nothing to its wonderful egress? had it Feathers, Scales or Hair upon it? I need not ask you if you had it by the Tail, for I suppose its Shortness would not let you hold it; yet methinks you might have held it by its *hooked Snout*. It's strange to me that the Royal Academy of Sciences at *Paris* has not this Rarity. I went to the Royal Society in *London* to ask for it, an ingenious Member told me it was not there. You say you have talk'd with learned Men in *Holland* about it, so have I, and they all call it a vulgar Error.

I have lately seen a Book of *Ruyschius*, call'd, '*Traſtatio Anatomica de Musculo in fundo uteri*, page 16. where he confesses, that after sixty two Years Practice in dissecting diverse Bodies of Women in *Holland*, he never saw this *Animal*. But *e contrario, quando formam Massæ ex Secali compressæ similem adaptæ sunt hæc ævo pro Molis volantibus habentur*

‘ *cujus denominationes æque ac Relationes
 ‘ superstitioni superstructæ sunt, prolixiore
 ‘ dilucidatione parum indigentes.*

I have discoursed with the *Dutch* Midwives and Nurses about this *Animal*, but they are all clear to give their Affidavits, that it has no Existence in Nature, which brings me to the next thing I intended to prove, *viz.* that there is no such Animal in the World. I confess, Sir, I have undertaken a very difficult Task, seeing it is affirm'd by a Gentleman of your Sense and Education, and it is hard for me to prove a Negative; for *affirmanti incumbit probatio*. For once I shall transgress the Rules of Logick, and range my Thoughts (for Method's sake) into the following Order,

First, I shall endeavour to prove that there never was such an Animal in the World.

Secondly, That God never made it.

Thirdly, That the Devil cannot make it.

Fourthly, That it is Impudence to assert it.

Fifthly,

Fifthly, That it is Stupidity to believe it.

Sixthly, That it is a mere Fiction of your own Brain.

Seventhly, That it is contrary to the Opinion of the most learned Physicians and Philosophers in our Days, who maintain the Truth of *Univocal Generation*.

I shall join the first and second Head together, because of their near Connection; for certainly if ever it had any Existence in the World, God (who is the Framers of all Things) must be the Maker of it. We have a known Maxim, that *Deus & Natura nihil faciunt frustra*. Pray, Sir, where is the Use of this Animal? Is it to suck up the Child's Aliment in the *Womb*, or to be catch'd and thrown into the Fire *with Sheets before the Chimney* as you relate it? God made every Thing after its Kind, *Genes. i. 21. and saw that it was good, vers. 22. and God blessed them*. I'm sure your *Sooterkin* is of no kind of Animal, for if it is, it must of necessity be
either

either *Oviparous* or *Viviparous*, *Male* or *Female*, or *Hermaphrodite*; it must needs have a Parent Animal, for *Nothing* can create or beget *Nothing*. This implies a Contradiction, unless you set up for *spontaneous Generation*, and that there is such a Bird as the *Phoenix*. The ignorant Vulgar are certainly in the right, who ascribe the Cause of this Animal to the *Moon*, for nothing but *Lunacy* can produce it. If there is any such thing as equivocal Generation; Why not a *Bird* or a *Man* produced this way sometimes? Why no new Species now and then? There must certainly be a pre-existent Animalcule. I can't allow my self to believe that the *Stoves* produced them, because these are generally used in Churches, and the Ministers would forbid them. No Animal is bred of *Corruption* whatever be its *Nidus*. *Hudibras* was but in his Philosophy when he said,

*Just like a Maggot in a Sore,
Does that which gave it Life devour.*

How can they breed when the Parent-Animal be destroyed? When we kill our Bugs here, they return not again, but your *Sooterkin* returns often though it be burnt; if they are so plenty as you say in *Holland*, that scarce one in three of the Sea-faring Men's Wives escapes having them, it were good Business for some to be *Sooterkin*-Midwives, or *Sooterkin* Catchers there. All the Creatures which God made were very good, but your *Sooterkin* is not very good, *ergo* God never made it; *probatur minor*. That is not very good that sucks up the poor dear Infant's Blood and Aliment, but your *Sooterkin* sucks up the poor dear Infant's Blood and Aliment, *ergo* your *Sooterkin* is not very good, *Gen. i. 31. and God saw every thing that he had made, and behold, it was very good* I appeal to tender hearted and affectionate Mothers for the Proof of the *major* Proposition. I appeal to your own Description of this Animal for the Proof of the *Minor*, and (I hope) nay, I'm sure, you can't deny the Conclusion. The *Dutch* Mothers call their Children *Sooterkints*, i. e. a sweet

a sweet Child, but are Strangers to your *De Suyger*. Having clear'd this Point, the next is evident (*viz.*) that if God has not made it, the Devil can't. Prov'd by this Syllogism, he that can't create a Fly cannot create a *Sooterkin*; but the Devil can't create a Fly, *ergo* he can't create a *Sooterkin*. I prove the *Minor* thus, he that can create a Fly must be Omnipotent, but the Devil is not Omnipotent, *ergo* he can't create a Fly, far less a *Sooterkin*, with a hook'd Snout, fiery sparkling Eyes, a long round Neck, and an acuminated short Tail, with an extraordinary agility of Feet, &c. Possibly you'll object and say, that the Devil made those Lice and swarms of Flies and Frogs which were sent upon *Aegypt*. I answer, he did no such thing, but only deluded the Senses, he being Prince of the Power of the Air can condensate it, and by the Divine Permission turn it into what Shape he pleases; but I am more apt to think that it was the Devil himself than any Creature of his making, that it was some Hobgoblin, Fairy or other sent to affright you and the rest

rest of the Passengers in the Vessel. Evil Spirits can sometimes turn themselves into various Shapes and wondrous Forms; such as Serpents, Toads, Owls, Lapwings, Crows, Ravens, Goats, Hogs, Dogs, Asses, Cats, Rats, Wolves, Bulls, *Sooterkins*. If the Devil can create one thing, why not another? why not Gold, Silver, and precious Stones? and if so, why are his Favourites so poor? I hope this is clear'd up beyond all exception. I come to the next thing, which was to prove,

That it is Impudence to assert it.

But for brevity sake, I shall join this and the following Head together, *viz.*

That it is Stupidity to believe it.

Excuse me, Sir, If I am unwilling to be impos'd upon in my Intellectuals by any Man's *αυτος εφη* i. e. *ipse dixit*, be his Character what it will. *Aristotle* is my Friend. *Plato* is my Friend; but *Truth* is my greater Friend. I was once in Conversation with a Gentleman who boldly affirm'd, he could lift a Man's Shadow and put it in between the Sun and him. I paus'd a little, and consider'd this Assertion to be contrary to this establish'd Law of Nature, that if you place

an Opaque Body between a luminous Body and a plane, it will cast a Shadow in a direct Line. I ask'd what he would have for this Performance. He told me, a Guinea. Hold, Sir, said I, before I'll give you this, you'll be pleas'd to answer me a few Questions.

1. Can you stop the diurnal Rotation of the Earth upon its own Axis from West to East? 2. Can you stop the Motion of the Earth round its own Orbit from East to West? 3. Can you stop the Flux and Reflex of the Sea? Can you make Iron, which is specifically heavier than the Column of Water, on which you lay it, swim? He answered no, Sir, I cannot indeed. Then said I, neither can you perform what you have undertaken: he that can alter one Law of Nature can alter all the Laws of Nature, therefore you cannot alter this. A very fine Gentleman who was in the Company, and had University-Education, was so well pleas'd with my way of Reasoning, that they hiss'd the other to Scorn. Now, Sir, I'll make a very fair Bargain with you, I'll give you a Guinea for every *Sooterkin* you bring over from *Holland*, provided the Mother and Midwife shall attest it, and the Royal Society

Society in *London* shall be Judges whether 'tis the very *Sooterkin* or not. Never think to cram down my Throat such a notorious Imposture. To deal plainly with you, Sir, (for I hate Flattery) you say you could not pass by this so *remarkable* and accidental a Passage in order to satisfy and convince others of this *admirable Truth*; allow me to be inspir'd with the same Zeal for *Truth* as you are, and be not angry with me, tho' I endeavour to satisfy and convince others of this admirable Falshood. I appeal to yourself, if you would not call it impudence to affirm, that the *Ravens* bring forth their Young at their Mouth, and the *Weesle* propagates at the Ear; that the *Male* is changed into the *Female*, and the *Female* into the *Male*; that *Moles* are bred of the Earth, and *Vipers* out of Ashes; that Lice are made of Sweat and Mites of old Cheese; that Wasps are made of the Flesh of Horses, and *Bees* are made out of Rue; that *Beetles* are made out of Cows Dung, and Scorpions out of Wood-Basil, that *Herbs* are made out of *Animals*, and *Animals* out of *Herbs*; that *Smallage* and *Asparagus* are made out of the Horn of a Stag or Roe-buck: Admirable Untruths!

such a Truth as your *Sooterkin*. I seriously declare that it was not Vain-glory, Arrogancy, or Presumption, Envy or Prejudice at your Person that has put me upon writing this Letter to you, but having applied my Mind to the Study of Nature, and to the diligent searching into the Secrets thereof, I could not forbear sending you my Remarks upon this Animal. Seeing you one Day upon Change, I told you I would print against it, and I expect your Answer so soon as your Conveniency will allow. I hate all personal Reflections, and love dearly to keep close to the Subject in hand. I regard not *Quis dixit sed Quid Dictum*, who says it, but what is said. The next Thing in order to be proved is.

That it is a meer Fiction of your own Brain.

It's hardly to be imagined that a Gentleman of your Letters can be ignorant that the different Ways of knowing the Existence of any Being may be reduced to these Four, *Perception, Judgment, Reason, and Sensation*. You can never pretend to the three former of these, whatever Recourse you may have to the last. Are you sure, Sir, your Senses were not deceived? Are you very sure? I'll

give

give you five Experiments to prove that Men of the clearest Heads, profoundest Judgments, readiest Wit, deepest Understanding and brightest Parts may have their Senses deceived sometimes: *First*, When they are *dreaming*, they very often hear *Sounds* and see *Colours*, tho' in reality there is no such thing. Pray, Sir, of what Colour was this *Sooterkin*? Was it *black*, or *blue*, or *red*, or *white*, or *green*, or *yellow*, or a Mixture of all these, or was it spotted? *Secondly*, Persons in a *Phrenzy*, or a violent Fever, see things without them which really are not. *Thirdly*, Some Persons often hear *ringing of Bells* in their Ears, or a certain Sound which they judge to be at a great distance, when the Cause of it is very near themselves, tho' at the same time there is no *such thing*. *Fourthly*, Some Persons imagine, that a *Candle* or any other small Object at a distance appears double; this is the Case of Men in Drink, or of those who press the Corner of their Eye with their Finger, so that then there will appear to be two Objects. Are you very sure there was but one *Sooterkin*? Could not your small Practice in those Parts discover two at a Birth?

a Birth? what no *Twin-Sooterkins* as well as in other Animals? *Fifthly*, Some Persons if they *wink* in the Dark with their Eyes upon the Flame of a Candle at a little distance, they shall imagine they see Rays of Light, which seem to stream from the Flame upwards and downwards in the Air, and yet really they are nothing. Be so kind as to let me know, whether in the Night, or by Day-light, you saw this *Sooterkin*, then I shall be more capable to judge. I look upon your *Sooterkin* to be of the same Species with *Hirco-cervus, ens rationis, Chimera, universale a parte rei, of an imaginary Existence*. I come now to the last Thing, which is to prove, That it is contrary to the Opinion of the most learned Physicians and Philosophers in our Days, who maintain the Truth of *Univocal Generation*.

Lest I should seem partial and invidious, and to have a Design against you more than another Man, I shall put all the equivocal Gentlemen and *Sooterkin-Doctors* together, and answer them after the same manner. Your first Patron is *Hollerius, lib. de Morb. inter cap. 1.* tells us, that a certain *Italian*, by frequent smelling to the Herb *Basil*, had

had a Scorpion bred in his Brain, which caus'd long and vehement Pain, and at length Death. Anatomy shews us no Passage up the Nostril to the Brain. I hope our Snuff-takers will beware of this Herb as they would of a Scorpion. Perhaps it has gone down the Gullet into the Stomach, circulates with the Blood, rested in the Brain as its proper *Nidus* together with your *Sooterkin*.

Fernelius is another learned Man on your side, who tells us of a certain Soldier who was flat nosed upon the too long Restraint of a certain filthy Matter that flow'd out of the Nose, that there were generated two hairy Worms of the Bigness of one's Finger, which at length made him mad. I went the other Day to see one of the learnedest Men in this City, a great Naturalist, as well as a great Divine, and talk'd seriously with him about this *Sooterkin* (for you must think) I have been at great Pains to find it out, and he told me there was no such Animal, and none but a Madman would affirm it: I was truly afraid there was a stoppage of some certain filthy Matter in your Nose which might occasion this Phrenzy. *Lewis Duret*, also a Man of great Learning

ing and Credit affirms he had come forth with his Urine a quick Creature, of Colour Red, otherwise like in Shape to a Millepes or Hog-louse. You see, Sir, that Men bring forth *Sooterkins* as well as Women. *Nicholaus Flor. God. lib. 7. cap. 18.* affirms, that monstrous Creatures, of sundry Forms, are generated in the Wombs of Women, some-whiles alone, otherwhiles with a Mola, sometimes with a Child naturally and well made, as Frogs, Toads, Serpents, Lizards; this may be true in a moral Sense, but I'm sure it can never be true in a natural. *Fou- bertus* telleth there were two *Italian* Women brought forth each of them a monstrous Birth; the one that marry'd a Taylor, brought forth a thing so little, that it resembled a Rat without a Tail, but the other, a Gentlewoman brought forth a larger, for it was of the Bigness of a Cat, both of them were black, and as soon as they came out of the Womb, they ran up high on the Wall and held fast thereon with their Nails. I can't shun making this Remark upon this wonderful Passage, that if these two *Italian* Women, the Taylor's Wife and the Gentlewoman had been delivered

at the same time in the same Room, the Gentlewoman's Cat had catch'd the Taylor's Wife's Rat, which would occasion such a yelling and squeeking, that would have frightened the Spectators, as you was with your *Sooterkin*. As for *Levinus Lemnius*, he was a Collector of fabulous nonsensical Stories. To all these learned Men, together with your self, I prefer another learned Man, who without Dispute, is one of the most excellent *Philosophers* in our Days, and Professor of Ph—k in a certain College of this City, who owns no such Animal as the *Sooterkin*. If it were above or within the Bowels of the Earth, he would have it among his valuable Collections, but he smil'd at me when I ask'd for it. Were there any *Sooterkins* before the Flood? or how were they preserved? Can you not procure its Skeleton from one of your Correspondents? will you do nothing to satisfy and convince me of this admirable Truth? or shall I disbelieve it? You are pleased to tell us, that these Births in those Parts are often attended with this monstrous little Animal: Why *those Parts* more than any other Parts upon the Globe? Are there

no *French Sooterkins*? no *Spanish Sooterkins*?
 no *Irish Sooterkins*? no *Scotch Sooterkins*?
 Strange! Why *Holland* should be productive
 of these Animals more than any other Part.
 As for *England*, I am sure there is not one *Soo-
 terkin* in it all. I am tired in pursuit of it, for
 I doubt it's got into its lurking Hole by
 reason of its extraordinary agility of Feet;
 and there let it rest till you can pull it out
 by its *hooked Snout*.

I hope the Ladies and Gentlewomen
 have received unspeakable Advantage from
 your wonderful Medicines advertised in
 the *Freeholder's-Journal*, *Wednesday October*
11, 1722, which I shall transcribe for
 the Benefit of the Publick, and give you
 a few Remarks upon it.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Dr. *Giovanni*, by his Travels, Practice,
 and great Experience in *Italy, France, Ger-
 many, Holland, &c.* hath (in especial man-
 ner) acquired the perfect Knowledge of
 the Mysteries and Secrets of Nature in all
 Cases of Indispositions and Distempers in-
 cident to the Female Sex, young and old,
 married and unmarried, which (under God)

he infallibly cures, besides Cases of common Practice, &c.

He rectifies Barrenness it self, and renders the Party deficient, capable of Conception.

He immediately discovers real Conception, and whether a Boy or a Girl be conceived.

He gives most necessary Directions for Women with Child, their due and ordinary way of living, government of Health in the first, second and last three Months of their Times, Ignorance whereof is the Loss and Ruin of so many Women and Children.

He prevents Abortion or untimely Delivery in the most dangerous Cases, and strengthens the debilitated or weakned Vessels.

He also gives the Means to prevent as well as to facilitate and ease a difficult and hard Birth and Delivery.

He's Master of many more, even of the greatest *Arcanums* of Nature, and is to be spoke with at Mr. *Atkins's* at the Sign of the *Boy and White Peruke*, the second Door on the right hand in *Arundel-street*, from eight to eleven, and

four to seven; and on previous Notice he attends any other Hour. And,

February 6, 1722-3, you caused to be put into the said Papers the following Advertisement.

Tho' God and Nature have left no Malady without its proper Remedy for Cure; Men are left to ingenious scrutiny for discovery. As then the better Part of the World hath hitherto been at a Loss for that valuable and comfortable Remedy which (out of Mercy) is provided for Woman in the Hour of her appointed Sorrow,

Dr. Giovanni (out of tender Regard to the Sex) gives Notice, that a certain simple Sympathetick Powder to be used in time of Labour for abating the Pains, hastning the Birth, and strengthening the Woman (both before and after Delivery) is to be had at *Burton's Coffee-House in King's-street St. James's*, and at his own Lodgings (*Mr. Anderson's*) in *New-Castle-Court, Butcher-row, without Temple-Bar.*

And for the Benefit of the Publick, that the Price may suit every Rank of People, it is sold for five Shillings a Paper, Sealed up with Printed Directions. N. B.

N. B. The abovementioned Powder never yet fail'd of answering its desired Effect in the above Cases; and for a further Description of it, refer to the Printed Directions, which may be had at the Places above.

February 20th, with this Addition.

N. B. The Powder is sealed up in such Packets as may be conveyed by the Post to any Part of the Country.

R E M A R K I.

Giovanni.] Is an *Italian* Word for *John*, is not this imposing on the Vulgar, and making them think you are another Countryman than really you are? It is well known in *London* how that you are a *Scotchman*. Is not this enough to make all the Gentlemen of that Country suspected of Falshood? Is not this Equivocation with a witness? It seems your Parents have not behaved themselves orderly and decently in their Conjugal Duties according to your memorable Caution to others, like rational Men, that their Persons may be succeeded not by an opprobrious Race, but by an univocal Generations

ration (for you are of the equivocal Kind) and will find it hard Work by this Conduct to convince the World that you are a Man of Probity and Integrity both of Body and Mind.

R E M A R K II.

Acquired the perfect Knowledge of the Mysteries and Secrets of Nature in all Cases.] May not you blush at this Assertion? *Hippocrates* himself was not so happy as *Dr. Giovanni*; (all Cases) the best of our Physicians cannot say so.

R E M A R K III.

Immediately discovers real Conception, and whether a Boy or a Girl.] You might have said, or *Sooterkin*.

R E M A R K IV.

Master of the greatest *Arcanums* in Nature.] Looks not this like a Quack, and unbecoming a regular Physician who never boasts beyond his Line?

R E M A R K V.

Under God.] Is not this taking the Name of God in vain, who will never concur
with

with an ignorant Prescription, and bless improper Means? If a Man should prescribe corrosive Sublimate in a large Dose inwardly, and say, by God's Blessing, it would cure the Patient, would he not mock God? Every Thing works according to Nature, and we are not to expect Miracles.

R E M A R K VI.

Infallibly cures] I went once to a Turner's-shop near *Fleet-street*, being directed thither by a Bill put in my Hand in the Street to receive a Medicine which infallibly cures the Leprosy. I asked the Price, they told me a Crown; so I put the Crown in another Man's Hand, to be given in case of the Cure; no, he would not trust that, he would have me to believe it infallible, though he did not believe it himself. Implicit Faith will never go down with me.

R E M A R K VII.

For the Benefit of the Publick.] This is pretended, but what is meant by it, I leave to others to judge.

R E-

REMARK VIII.
 Barrenness, &c.] This can never fail
 of rendring you acceptable to the fair Sex,
 provided you can bring them into a firm
 Belief of what you say. But why (Barenness
 itself?) in my Opinion Barenness it self
 cannot be cured. Barenness may be cured,
 but what can a Man not do, who has ar-
 rived at Perfection, and is Master of the
 greatest *Arcanums* in Nature?

Sir, A free and publick Recantation
 of those Errors and Absurdities, will be
 an Honour done to TRUTH, and a Satis-
 faction to

Your most humble Servant,

PHILALETHES.

Anodyne Necklace (See Tract x)

Misto Weekly Journal Sat. Jan 11 1726

The Rabbit Affair made clear in a full Account of the whole Matter: with the Pictures engraved of the Pretended Rabbit Breeder herself Mary Tofts & of the Rabbits & of the Persons* who attended her during her pretended Deliveries shewing who were & who were not imposed on by her. To be given gratis no where, but only upon one Pair of Shaws at the Sign of y^e celebrated anodyne Necklace recommended by Doctor Chamberlen for Childrens Teeth &c

The Original Drawing from which the Print mentioned in Misto Journal was taken was in possession of Mr James Vertue & was probably designed by his Brother George. It now in the collection of Mr Scott of Essex.

One of the first of Mr Hogarth's performances was likewise on this Subject the Surgeons of that time who were out of the scrape subscribing five or six guineas to have it executed. I have the Print in my Collection of Hogarth's Works

* This Print is supposed to have been suppressed as Frederick Prince of Wales is one of the principal figures in the drawing, which I have seen. — I have since met with the Print. See my Collection of Hogarth.

Gazetteer or Daily London Advertiser
Jan 21st 1763.

Last week died at Godalming in Surrey
Mary Tofts, formerly noted for an
Imposition of breeding Rabbits.



B. Wilson fecit 1753

The Rev. Mr. William Whiston
Born 9 Decem. 1667. Died Aug. 22^d. 1752.

The
Opinion of y^e Rev.^d
MR WILLIAM WHISTON
concerning the Affair of
MARY TOFT
asserting it to be the Completion
of a Prophecy
of
Esdras.

Extracted from the Memoirs
of his own Life
and Writings.

Written by Himself.

The Second Edition Corrected.

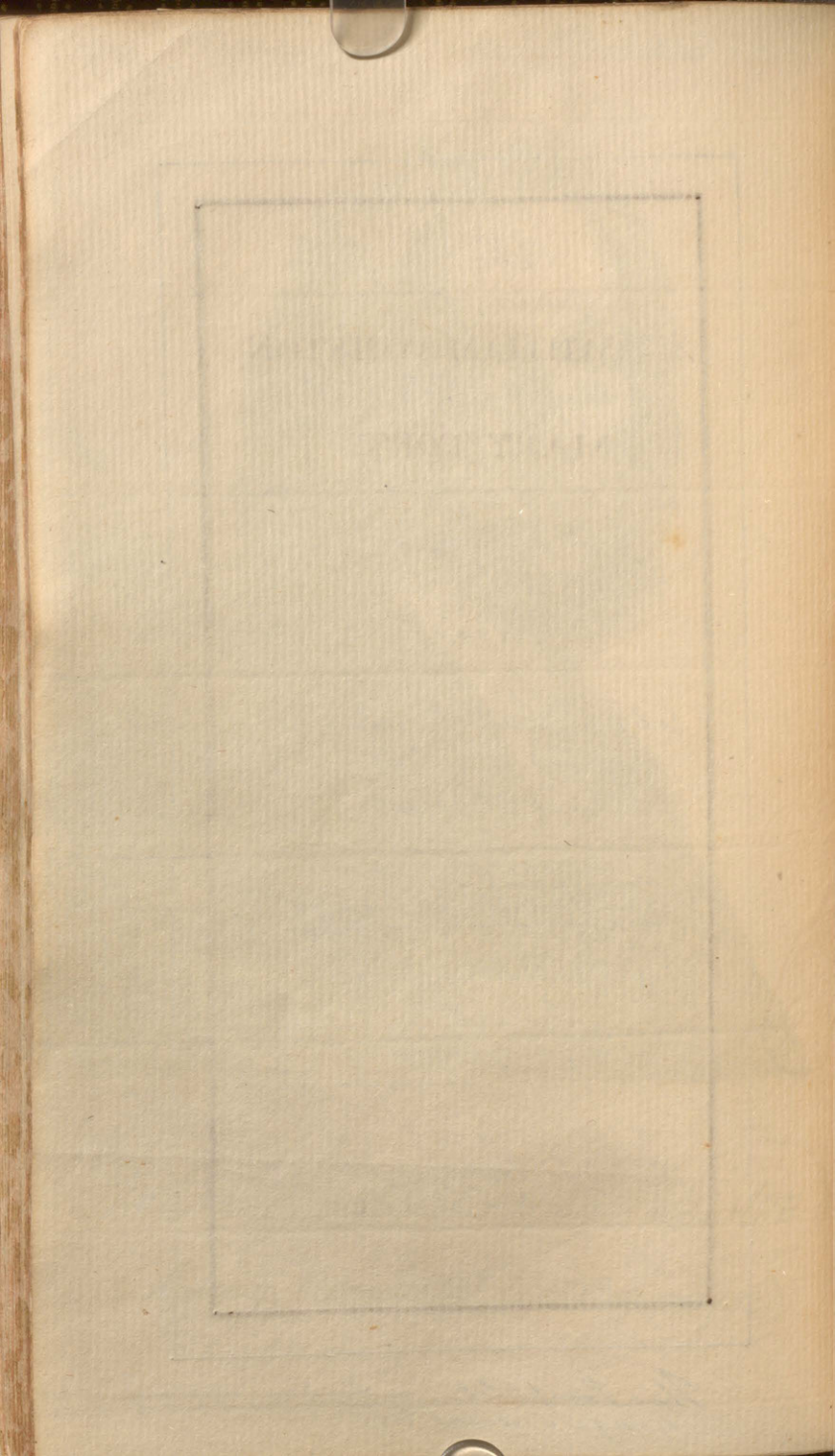
The Authors Motto.

Ne quid falsi dicere audeat:
Ne quid veri non audeat.

London.

Printed for J. Whiston & B. White,
in Fleetstreet. M.DCC.LIII.

This Pamphlet is in the handwriting of
George Stueven Esq.



The
Opinion of the Reverend
M^r William Whiston
concerning
The Affair of
Mary Toft
The Rabbit-Breeder.
Taken from his Life &c
Vol. 2. Page 108.

Prediction 9^e
61.^{sb}

'Tis here foretold, that there should be
"signs in the Women," or more particularly
that "menstruous Women should bring
forth Monsters."

Completion.
61.st

This Prediction has already been
fulfilled in the Willingham Boy,
a particular account of which is given
in the Philosophical Transactions
N^o. 475. In D^r Mandysides, a Man-
Midwifes double monstrous Child;
which the Law has lately allotted to

the

the Parents. In the late thermoplastic
 at Paris, a Grant of which has been
 lately published here, with the Royal
 decree, as the gentleman's magazine
 for Jan. 1750 informs us, and which
 the magazine itself is now published
 by advertisement to be seen in London.
 and before all these, in the famous
 Rabbit Warmer of Surrey, in
 the Days of King George I. As to the
 former three the facts are exactly
 undeniable; but as to the last, the
 poor Warmer, who had seen them or
 eighteen Dozens of Rabbits taken
 out of her Body; the Story has been
 so long laughed out of Countenance,
 that I must distinctly give my
 Reasons for believing it to be true,
 and alledging it here, as the full
 testimony of the Warmer herself,
 before us. Accordingly, besides the
 filling of this ancient Sickness,
 also much great Compaission at
 first, and was relieved by charitable
 persons, because of her Scanty, the
 Man-midwife, Mr Howard of
 Godalman in Surrey, a Son of
 my great Grandfather, Skill and Reput-
 ation in the Profession, attended it.
 It was then delivered by R. George

to be real; it was also believed by my
old Friends the Speaker, and Mr
Samuel Collet, as they told me them-
selves, and was generally believed by
sober Persons in the Neighbourhood,
till it was unjustly laugh'd out of
Countenance at London. Nay, Mr
Molyneux, the Princes Secretary, a
very inquisitive Person, and my very
worthy Friend, assured me, he had at
first so great a Diffidence in the Truth
of the Fact, and was so little biased
by the other Believers, even by the
King himself, that he would not be
satisfied till he was permitted both
to see and feel the Rabbit in that
very Passage whence we all come
into this World out of our Mother's
Womb. Accordingly he told me, he
had more Evidence for it, than he
had that I had a Nose; whilst he
had known that by one of his Sen-
ses only, that of seeing, but knew
this by two of his Senses, both seeing
and feeling. Hear the following Ex-
tracts out of Mr S^t Andre's Narrat-
ive, where Mr Molyneux's Attestation
printed is at the End. This Narrative
was printed for John Clarke at the

Bible under the Royal Exchange
1727.

Extracts out of that Narrative

Page 3. 4. As Mr Howard intends shortly to publish the whole Account, and prove every circumstance of it, by such Evidences as will put this Matter out of all Possibility of Doubt, I must refer to him for several Particulars here omitted.

And as it will be impossible to judge impartially of his Fact, till the Evidences above-mentioned are produced, it cannot be doubted but all such Persons as are not governed by Prejudices, or some worse Motive; will suspend their Judgment till these Facts come to their Knowledge, by a more certain Way, than by flying Reports and Conjectures.

Page 7. On Nov. 15, I attended the Hon.^{ble} Mr Molyneux Secretary to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who was inclined to enquire into the Truth of this extraordinary Case; and desired me to go with him to Guildford. — We heard the Woman was actually in Labour of the 15th Rabbit.

Page 13. I delivered her of the Skin of the above-said Rabbit, [very like the Skin of a Hogs Bladder.]

Page 18. Between the Times of visiting
the Woman, we examined the veins of
Rabbits, which were all kept separate in
distinct Pots, with Spirits of Wine, in the
order they were brought away. The first
Animal did not appear to be a perfect
Rabbit in all its Parts; three of the Feet
being like the Paws of a Cat. The Stomach
and Intestines like those parts in the
same Animal, &c.

Page 19. From all these Considerations
I was fully convinced, that at the same
Time, that the external Appearance
of these Animals was exactly like such
Creatures, as must inevitably undergo
the Changes that happen to adult
Animals by Food & Air, they carried
with them the strongest Marks of Fet-
tus, even by such parts as cannot exist
in an Adult, and without which a
Fetus cannot be supposed to live. This
I think proves in the strongest Terms
possible, that these Animals were of a
particular Kind, and not bred in a
natural Way. Nor will there be any Doubt
remaining (even with the least knowing
in these matters) when those Parts
which are subservient to the Circulation
of the Blood, and Nourishment between
an adult Creature, and its Fetus, are
brought away; which I am fully satisfied
must shortly happen, or if delayed, be
the cause of Miss Womans Death.

Page 21. All these Facts were verified before His Majesty on Saturday Nov^r 26.th by the anatomical Demonstration of the first, the third, fifth, and ninth of these animals, which were compar'd with the Parts of two natural Rabbits, the one of the Age of four Months, and the other of five Days. D.^r Steigerthal and D.^r Tessier being present.

I shall with all convenient speed publish the Anatomy of these praternatural Rabbits, with their Figures, taken from the Life, and compar'd with the Parts of Rabbits of the same Growth, that the Differences there mention'd may be fully understood.

In the mean time I shall relate what appeared in the Dissection of two Rabbits which I performed in the Presence of Mr^r Molynæus the very Day that we returned from Guildford. The one was of 4 Months Growth, and much of the size of that which had been taken from the Woman; the other was 15 Days old.

Page 22. The Lungs of the larger were, as nearly as I can judge, 20 Times bigger in Capacity than those of the praternatural one; and the Lungs of the smaller were at least 8 Times the Bigness of the before mention'd; both these were exceedingly different in Colour & Consistence from those of the praternatural Rabbit.

The Tormenter Ovale of the smaller Rabbit was more than two Thirds open, and

that

that in the larger was so far closed as but
just to admit a very small Probe.

As to the Stomack and Intestines the
Difference was so notoriously great from
those we had examined, that even in the
Sucking Rabbit the Stomack and Caecum
were at least 3 Times larger than those
Parts in the praternatal ones.

Page 23. The Account she gave of her-
self was, That on the 23. of April last, as
she was weeding in a Field, she saw a
Rabbit spring up near her; after which
she ran, with another Woman that was
at Work just by her. This set her a longing
for Rabbits, being then, as she thought 5
Weeks gone with Child.

Page 24. The other Woman perceiving
she was uneasy, charged her with longing
for the Rabbit they could not catch; but
she denied it. Soon after, another Rabbit
sprang up near the same Place, which
she endeavoured likewise to catch. The same
Night she dreamed that she was in a
Field with those two Rabbits in her Laps,
and awaked with a sick Fit, which lasted
till Morning. From that Time for above
three Months, she had a constant and
strong Desire to eat Rabbits; but being
very poor and indigent could not procure
any.

Page 26. The Account Mr Howard gave,
was in every material Circumstance, the
same with the Womans Relation.

Page 27. Mr Howard further related
that when she was delivered of one Rabbit,
another was immediately felt in her
Belly, struggling with such Violence, that

the

the Motion thereof could be sensibly felt, and seen; and that this Motion had sometimes been so strong, as to move the Bedcloaths, that it has lasted for 20 and above 30 Hours together. This particular Fact was unanimously agreed, and attested by most of the People of Guildford, who have had the Curiosity, to go to see her, and was confirmed to **Mr Molyneux** myself, by above 10 different Persons, who all seem'd to be indifferent in this Matter.

Page 31. **Mr Ahlers** (the Kings Surgeon, for his German Household) having been at Guildford, by his Majesty's Order, (as **Mr Howard** told us) to inquire into the truth of this Fact, was fully convinced of it, as he himself declared.

Page 33. **John Howard** of Guildford, in the County of Surrey maketh Oath, That on Sunday the 20th Day of this Instant, Month of November, — **Mr Ahlers** (Surgeon to his Majesty's German Household) brought away the Skins & inferior Parts of a Rabbet, of about three Months Growth.

Page 34. That after this **Mr Ahlers** told this Deponent, and all the Persons present, that he was fully satisfied & convinced of the Truth, and that he could have no Doubts after such Proof: That at the same Time He gave the Woman a Guinea; expressing great Satisfaction, and promising that he would procure her a Pardon from his Majesty — Nov. 25. 1726.

Page 36. **MARY TOFT** and her Nurse make Bath, that **Mr Ahlers** declared, it was wonderful People would not believe a Fact so true, as this appeared to him; and **MARY TOFT** saith, that **Mr Ahlers** examined her Breasts, and found Milk in one of them the same Day.

Page 37. Elizabeth Helmes of Guildford in the County of Surrey, Widow, maketh Bath, that she asked **Mr Ahlers** whether he believed this Account, and that his answer was, that he fully did believe it. To which she replied, then I hope, Sir, you will convince a great many Unbelievers when you return to London, as some Gentlemen have already done, to which he said, he should; as she apprehended.

Page 38. The like was sworn by Olive Sands, the same Day.

Page 39. **Thomas Howard**, of Guildford, Surgeon, maketh Bath.—**Mr Ahlers** shew'd him the Lours and inferior Parts of a Rabbit; which he told him He Extracted Himself Out Of The Uterus.

Page 40. That he told him He was Fully Convinc'd AND SATISFIED, That it Came OUT OF THE UTERUS. That he asked him, if it was possible it could be forced or thrust into the Uterus, He said No. No. 27.

Mr Ahlers Preface to his Observations - I do not deny but that at Guildford I behaved myself all along like one who was perfectly satisfied in that Matter.

1707

M^r MOLYNEUX'S ASSERTION.

I have carefully (says he) read the above Narrative; whether the Animals mention'd therein were preternaturally produced in this Woman [Mary Toft] or that a Fraud is practicable in this case, I do not take upon me to say; Gentlemen who are sufficient Judges will determine that Matter upon proper Evidence. I can only certify that I did draw up a Relation as is above mention'd, which in the most material Circumstances of the Fact, agrees with the Narrative; & I can further affirm, that I did not perceive the least Circumstance of Fraud in the Conduct of this Affair, while I was at Guildford.

Nov. 29.th 1726.

M^r WHISTON in Continuation.

N.B. Neither did M^r AHLERS, the Kings Surgeon, nor S^r RICHARD MANNINGHAM, oppose M^r HOWARD's and M^r S^r ANDRE's Evidence, till the Thing was impudently laugh'd out of Countenance, not in Surry where the Scene lay, but at London, 30 Miles

off.

off, and till those that acted in this
Matter, or believed their Accounts, were
unjustly made Sport of by the Scepticks
of the Town. Nor did the Woman ever
confess a Fraud, till she was herself
throttled with a painful Operation,
and with Imprisonment, which Fraud
was impossible, because, upon Dissection,
it was most evident, that many at
least of those Creatures that were taken
from her, were not true or natural
Rabbits, but of pratermatural Product-
ion; which it was impossible for her
to procure, had she been never so much
disposed for it. Nor did the Surgeons
or Man-midwives pretend to any
Grounds of Suspicion till they found
they were like to suffer greatly in their
own Reputation and Practice, if they
had supported that Story any longer;
which they were not willing to do, as
any one may see in all their Retract-
ations; of which sort of Confessions,
like those made upon Torture, I have
no Opinion at all. Nor does the ridic-
ulous and abusive Pictures set before
Sir RICH^d MANNINGHAM^d Diary,
in the copy I use: Nor a distinct Pamph-
let call'd the Anatomist Dissected,

being

being, as is said, written by Lemuel
Gulliver, a pretended Surgeon and
Anatomist to the King of LILLIPUT &
BLEFUSCU, and Fellow of the Academy
of Sciences in BALNIBARBI, [otherwise
Dean Swift] nor the other Pamphlet
called *The Sooterkin Dissected*, both
written in the Way of the grossest Sat-
ter and Ridicule, which are contained
in my Copy also, move me to alter
my Opinion at all as to the Truth of
those Monstrous Productions, which I
fear not to affirm, I surely believe to
have been undeniably Real, and no
other indeed than *One Direct Com-
-pletion of the eminent Signal
before us, that toward the End
of the World MENSTRUOUS WOMEN
SHOULD BRING FORTH MONSTERS.* And
I well remember, that I then shewed
MR MOLYNEUX this Prophecy of
Esdras, which foretold such Events
about these Times. Nay upon his
further Enquiry and Concern about
the terrible Judgments that the same
Esdras denounced in the same
Prophecy, I comforted him with the
joyful Prediction in the same Author
that good Men would be providentially

preserved

preserved from them. 4 Edw. 3. 7 & 8.
The way of bartering Matters of Fact,
that are disagreeable to Scepticks and
unbelievers, as whatsoever looks Supermat-
-ural or Miraculous always are, seem,
after the Lord Shaftsbury and M^r
Collins, to have almost begun here am-
-ongst us with the Barter of this wonder-
-ful and supernatural Production in
MARY TOFT; tho it be now become a
standing Argument, since the Writings
of D^r Middleton, against all such Facts
as imply a Providence, & the Interposition
of good Angels, or wicked Demons in the
Affairs of this World; which yet has
been the constant Opinion, or rather
Experience & Attestation of all Man-
-kind, excepting the Sadducees, and
Epicureans, in all the past Ages of
the World, till the present Age. And
truly if these merry Infidels could as
well barter off Eclipses, and Comets,
and Northern Lights, and Balls of
Fire, and Earthquakes, and their Effects,
with the like Facility as they now
pretend to do ancient Histories, both
Sacred & Profane, they would soon get
clear of all Arguments for Divine
Providence, and Divine Revelation, &
would openly and universally throw
off all the Obligations of Religion. As
for myself, I have very long, and very

successfully

successfully accustomed myself to be
guided wholly by another Rule; by the
real Evidence of Facts and Testimonies
belonging to the several Ages, whereto
such Facts do belong, and not otherwise,
as do all wise and upright Judges in
their Courts of Justice, without any
regard to the vain Amusement of
our present merry or profane Scribblers.
See Suppl. to the Literal Accomplish-
ment of Prophecies. P. 5, 6. Accordingly
when I heard this **RABBIT WOMAN**,
and her supposed Accomplices, were to
be indicted of a Cheat, and were to be
openly tried for the same, I waited for
the Issue of such a Trial, in order to my
more compleat Satisfaction. But
finding no such Thing was done, I
easily concluded no such Thing could
be done. So I have all along gone by
my original Evidence, and have ever
since believed the Fact to have been
true, and An Eminent Completion
of The Prophecy before Us.

FINIS.

The Rabbit-Man-Midwife.

The Doctor search'd both high and low,
And found no Rabbit there;
But peeping near a cry'd, Soho
I'm sure I have found an Here.

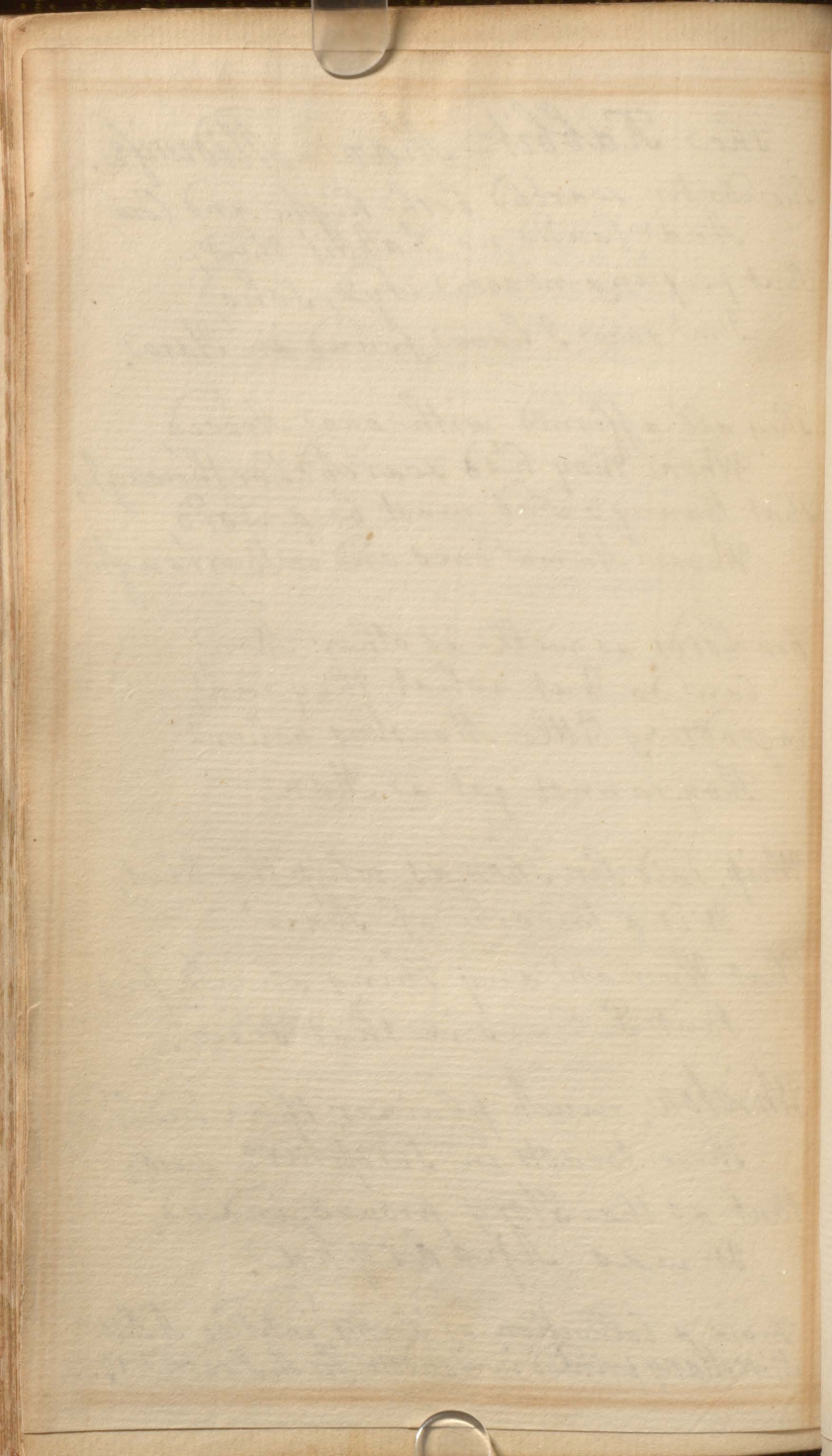
They all affirm'd with one Accord
When they had search'd her thorough,
That Bunny's Dad must be a Lord
Whose Name does end in Burrough.

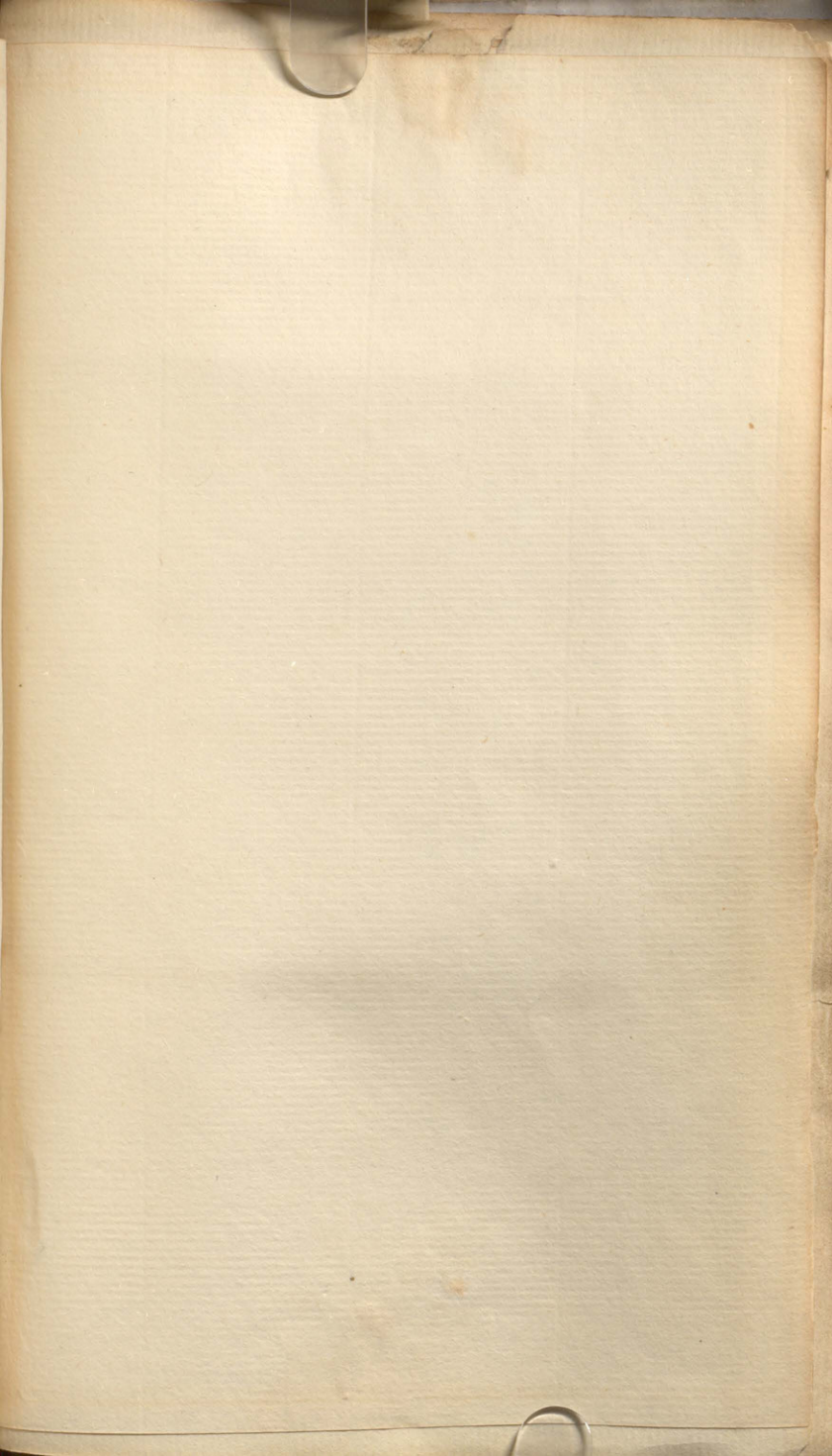
For Lords, as well as other Men
Can do but what they can,
Engendering little Monsters when
They cannot get a Man.

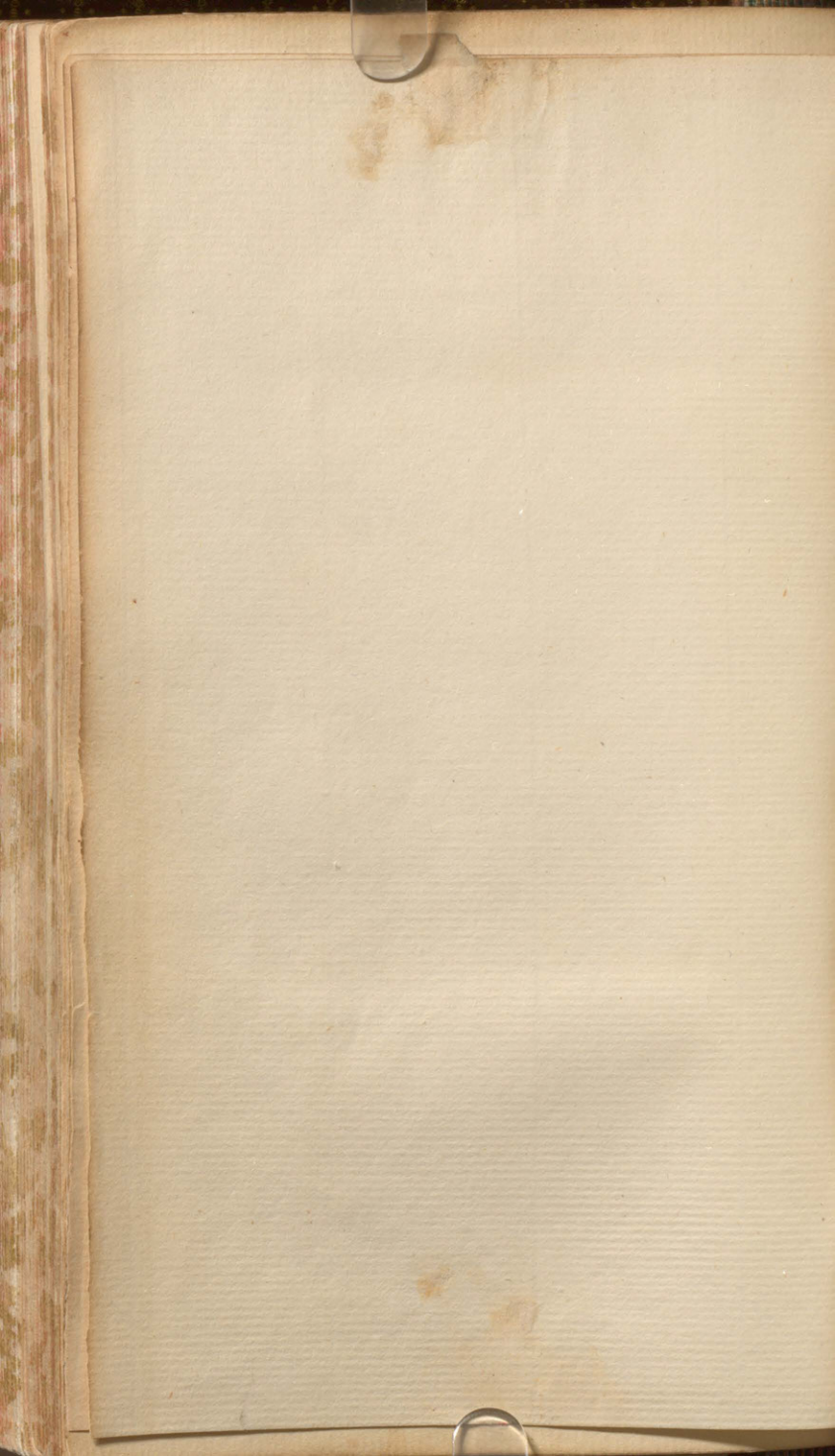
Whip, said Sir Thomas, whip the Slut,
It is a Breach of Peace
That Woman any Thing should put
But P-----s in that Place.

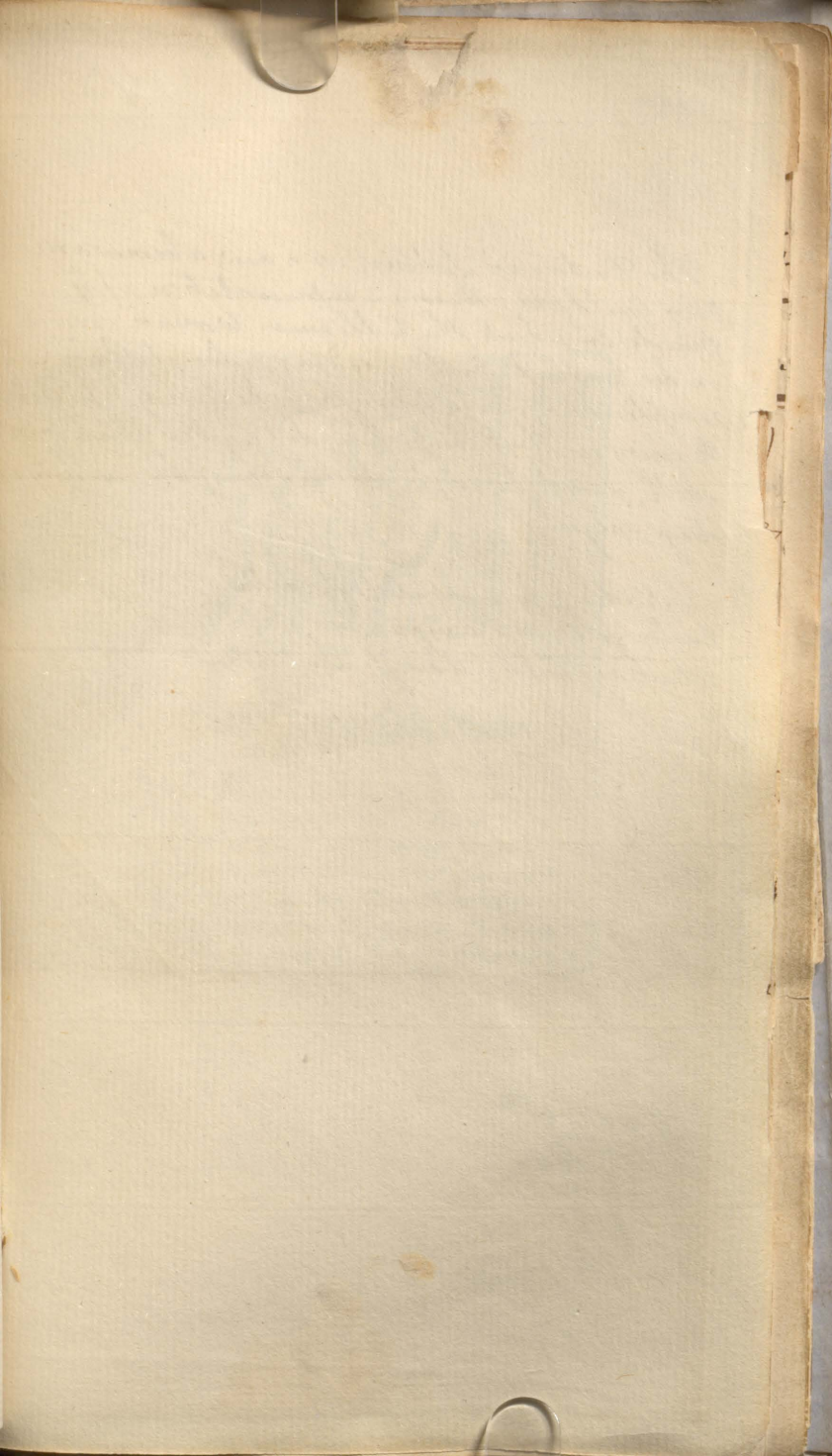
Whiston, much plainer than his Creed,
These Beasts in Scripture saw;
But as the Story proves, indeed,
It was Apocrypha.

From a Collection of Poems, intitled A New
Miscellany printed in London for A. Moore. 1730.







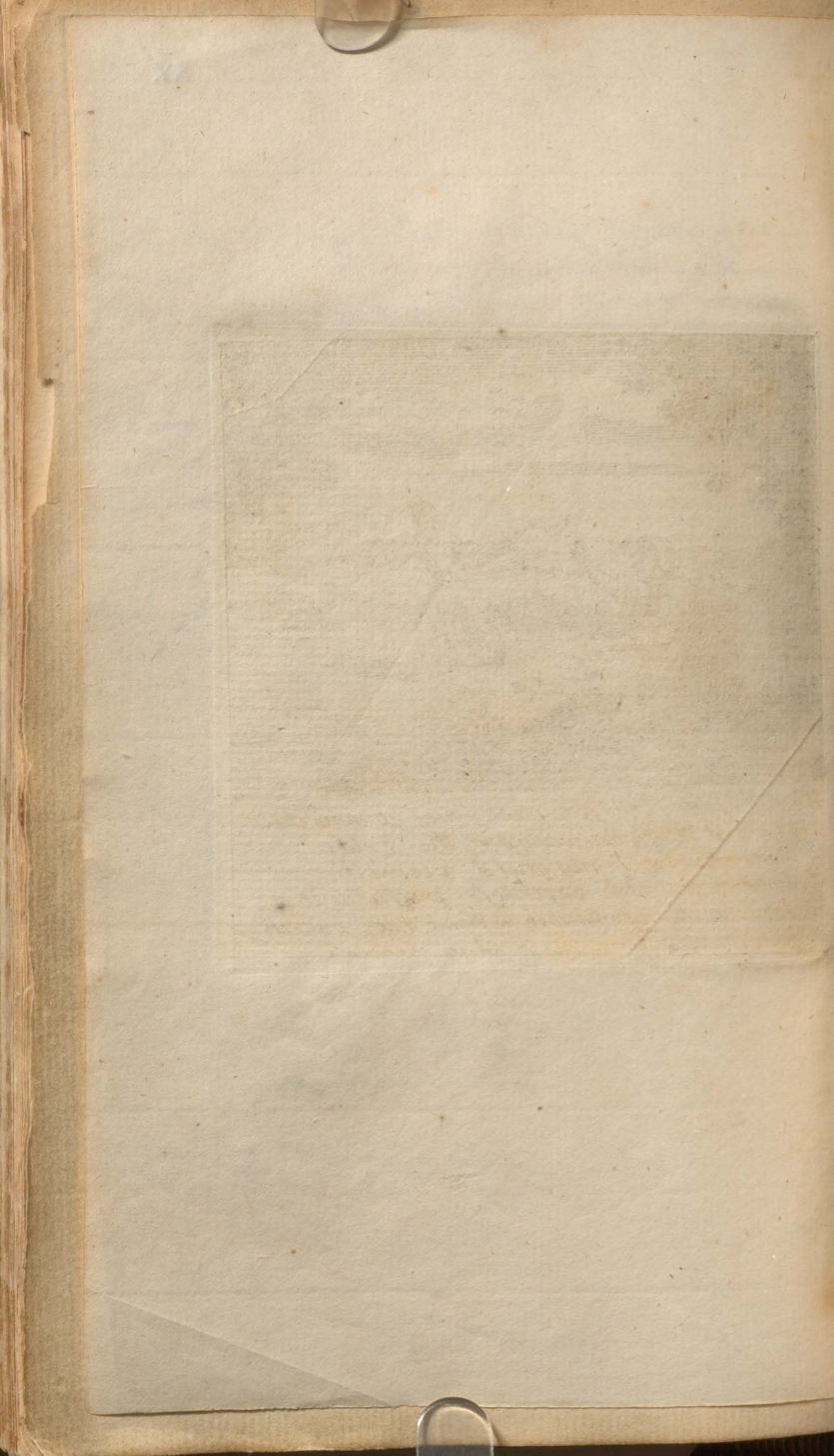


The Doctors in Labour; or a new Whimewarm
 from Guildford. Being a representation of 4
 Frauds by which the godli^man woman carried
 on her pretend Rabbit-keeping; also of the
 simplicity of four Doctors, by which they assisted
 to carry on that imposture, did cover'd their own
 skill, & contributed to the Mirth of his Majesty's
 Luge subjects.

Such is the general title to the
 twelve following compartments,
 which are cut of a single sheet print.

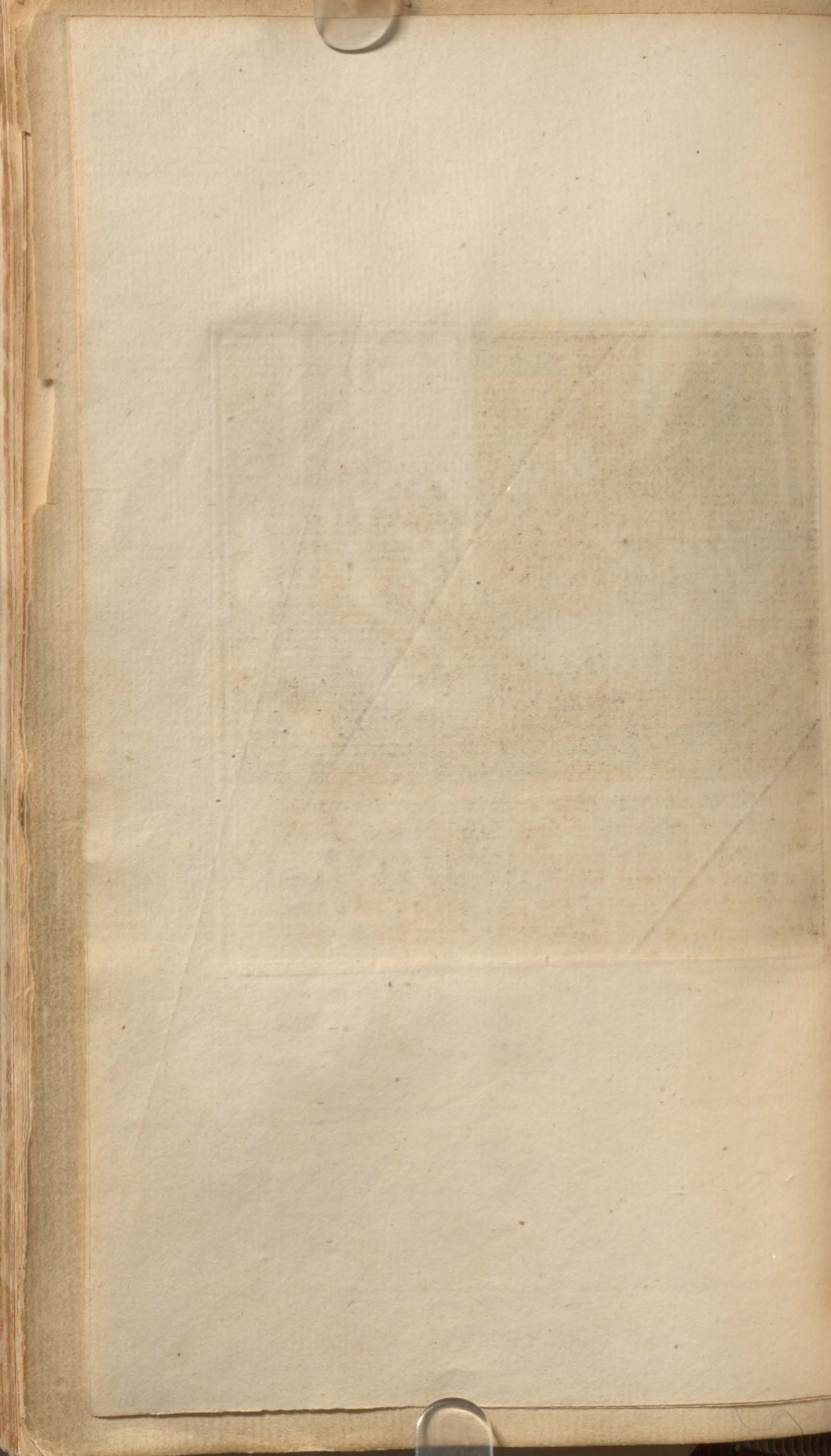


Poor Mary lost in Ignorance was bred,
 And ne'er betray'd a deep designing head,
 Ne'er seem'd cut out for plots: Yet never did wife,
 Like her, impose so grossly on Man Midwife;
 Who Scorning Reason, Common Sense, and Nature,
 Plac'd all their faith in such a Stupid Creature.



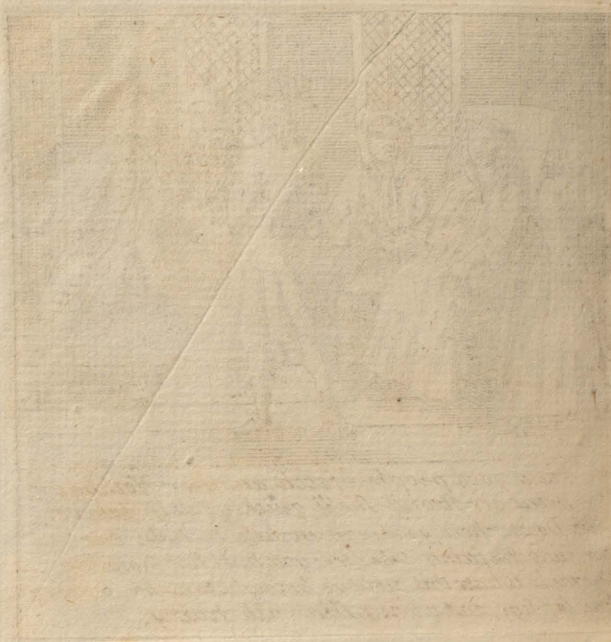


When I (says Moll) five weeks was gone ruth child,
And hard at Work was weeding in the field,
Up starts a Rabbit - To my grief I view'd it,
And vainly tho with eagerness pursu'd it,
The Effect was Strange - Blest is the Womb that's barren
For that can neer be made a loney warren. 2



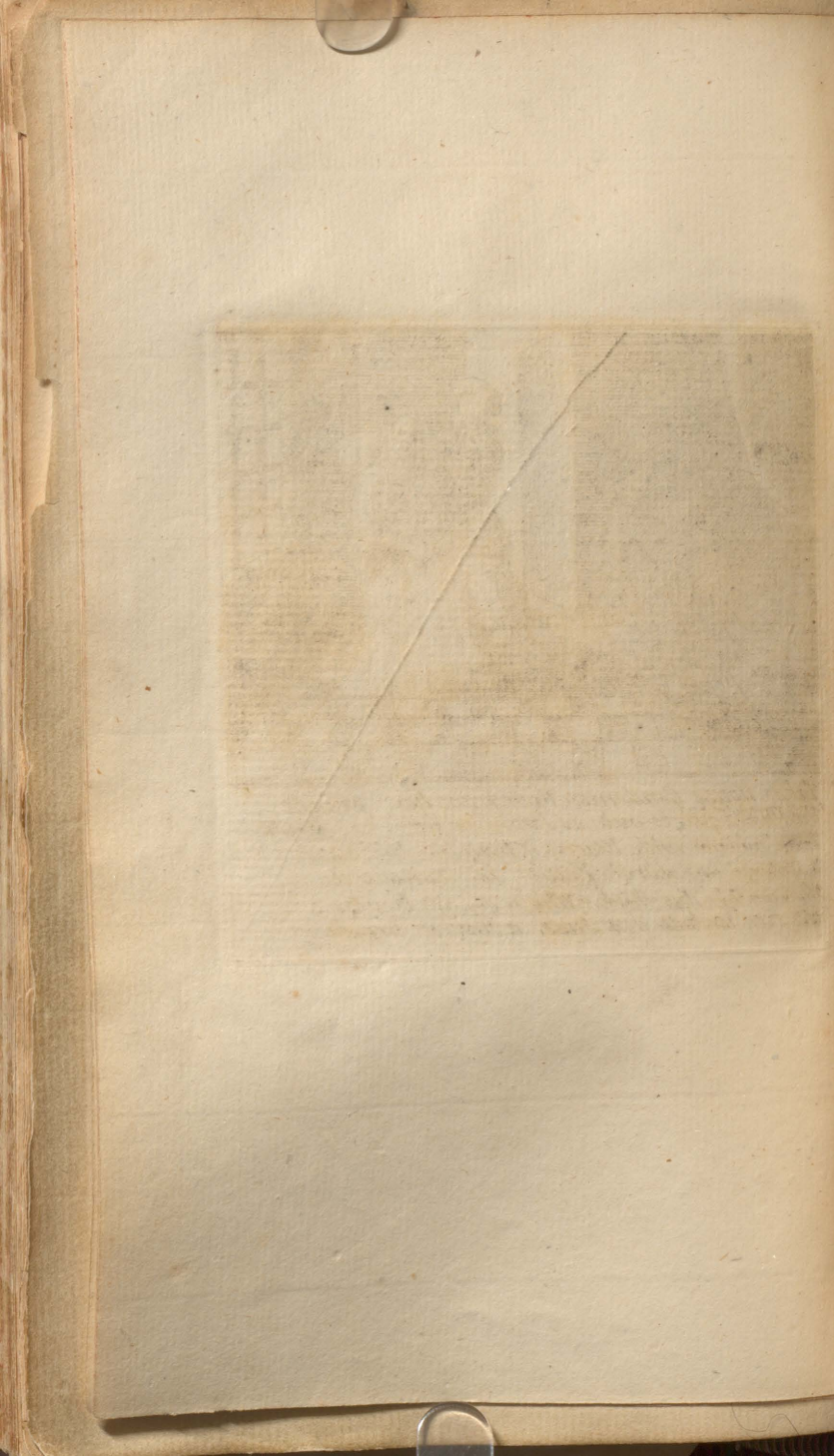


The Rabbit all day long ran in my Head;
At Night I dreamt I had him in my Bed;
Methought, he there a Burrough try'd to make:
His Head I patted, and I Stroak'd his Back.
My Husband wak'd me, and Cry'd, Moll for Shame,
Lett go - What 'twas he meant, I need not Name. 3



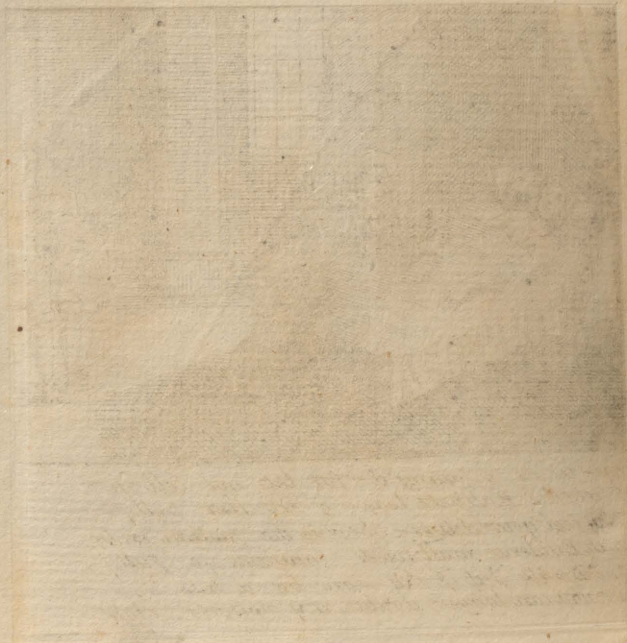


Help, help, good people - fetch another Neighbour,
Her pains are strong - she'll quickly fall in labour.
Here Doctor, here, good women - help to hold her:
Poor thing, she faints, take care; you hurt her shoulder.
Bless me! - Whats this, you've brought to town. - O Mary,
Three cats legs, and a loney skin, all hairy.



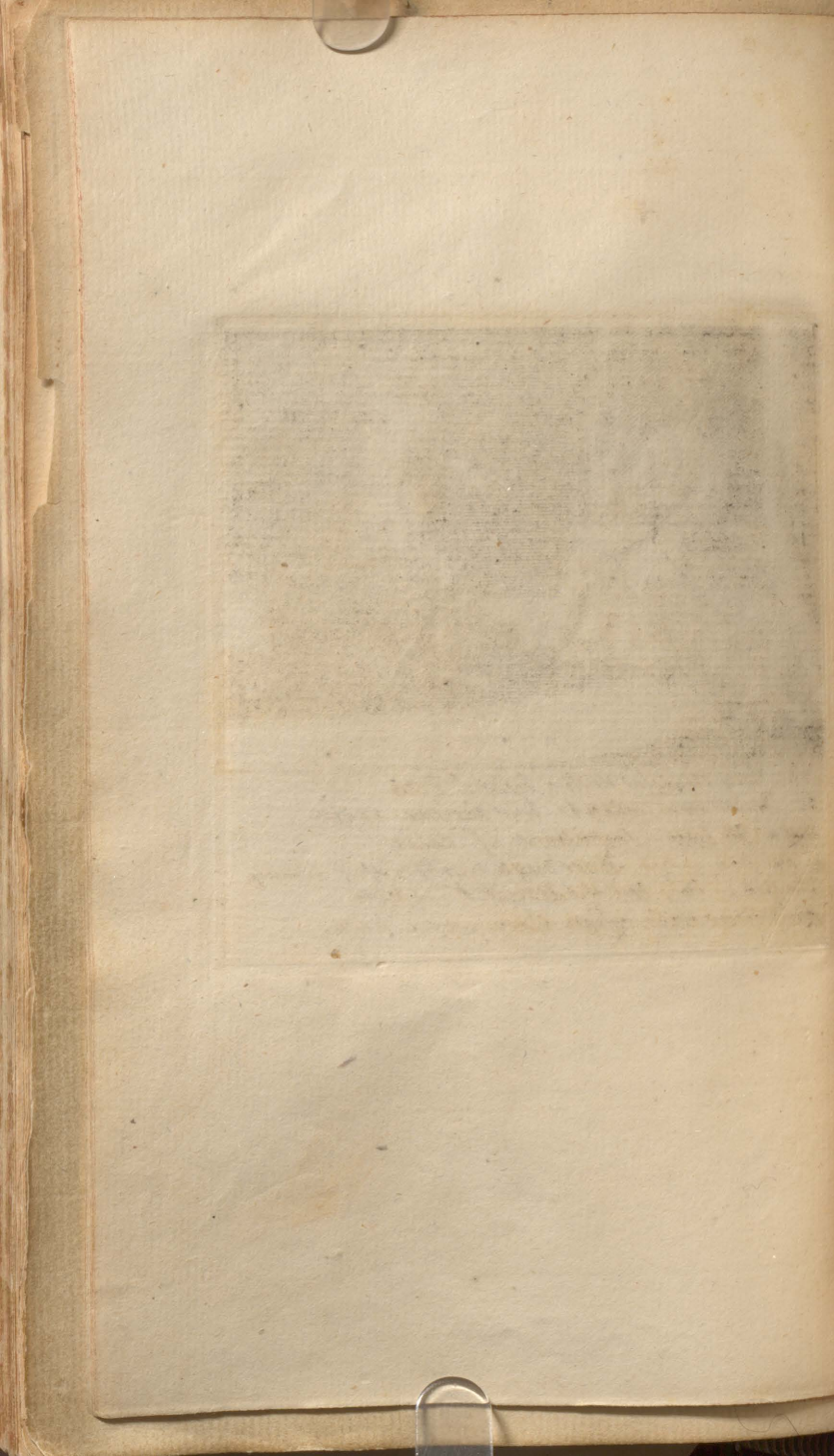


Take Notice, Gentlemen, how from her breast
the Milk Squirts out, as soon as ever tis prest.
From whence, with Reason it may be believ'd,
A strange unnatural Fetus is conceiv'd,
What can it be (dye think.) Why, men of Reading
Will soon conclude, that She's a Rabbet breeding. 5



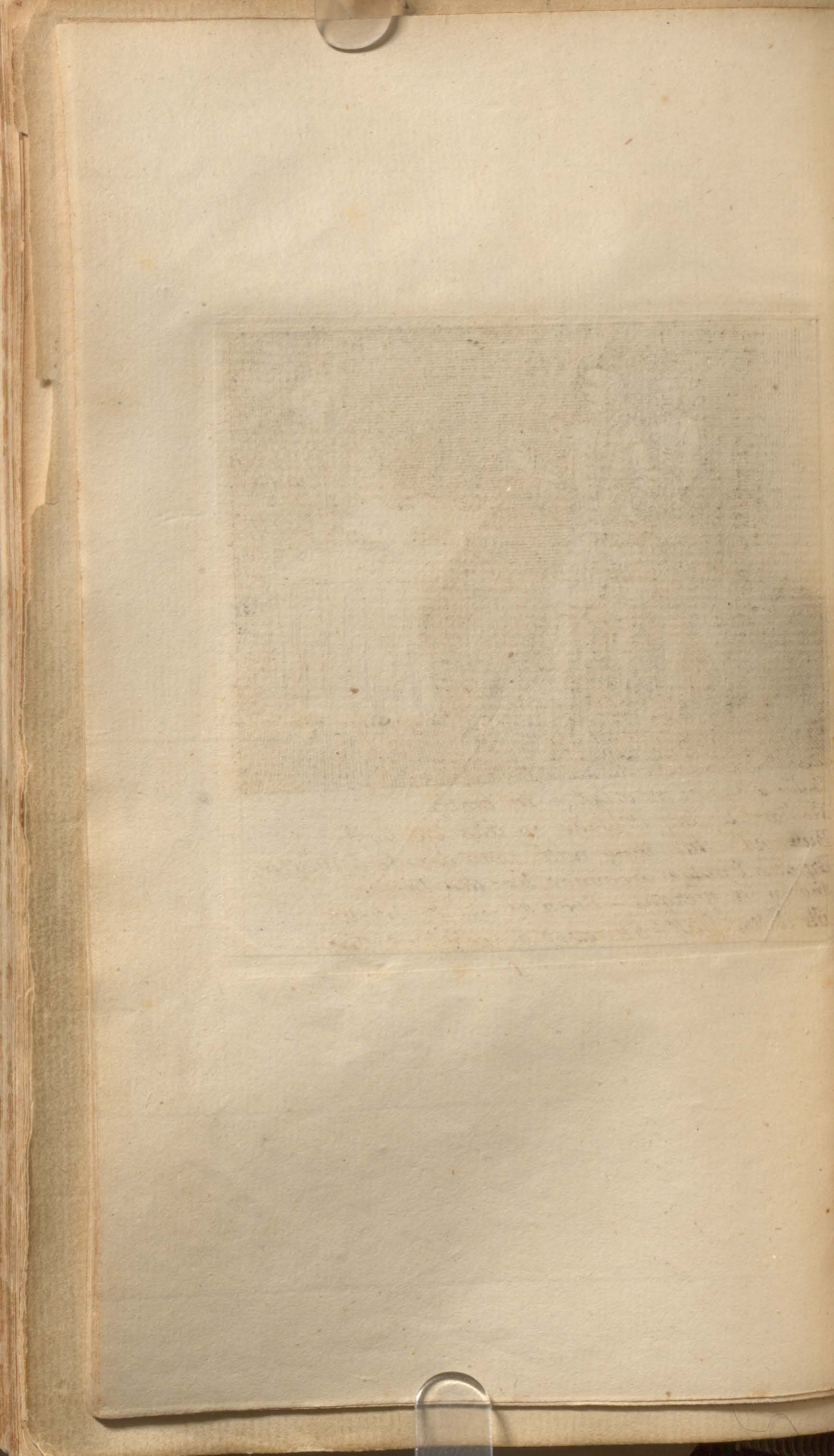


Aye - tis as I suppos'd - for let me tell ye,
I feel the Rabbits leaping in her belly.
Nay, feel your selves - Observe the motion truly;
Such Evidence must needs convince ye fully.
The Devil's in't, if this can be a bite,
Or you can longer doubt my notion's right. 6



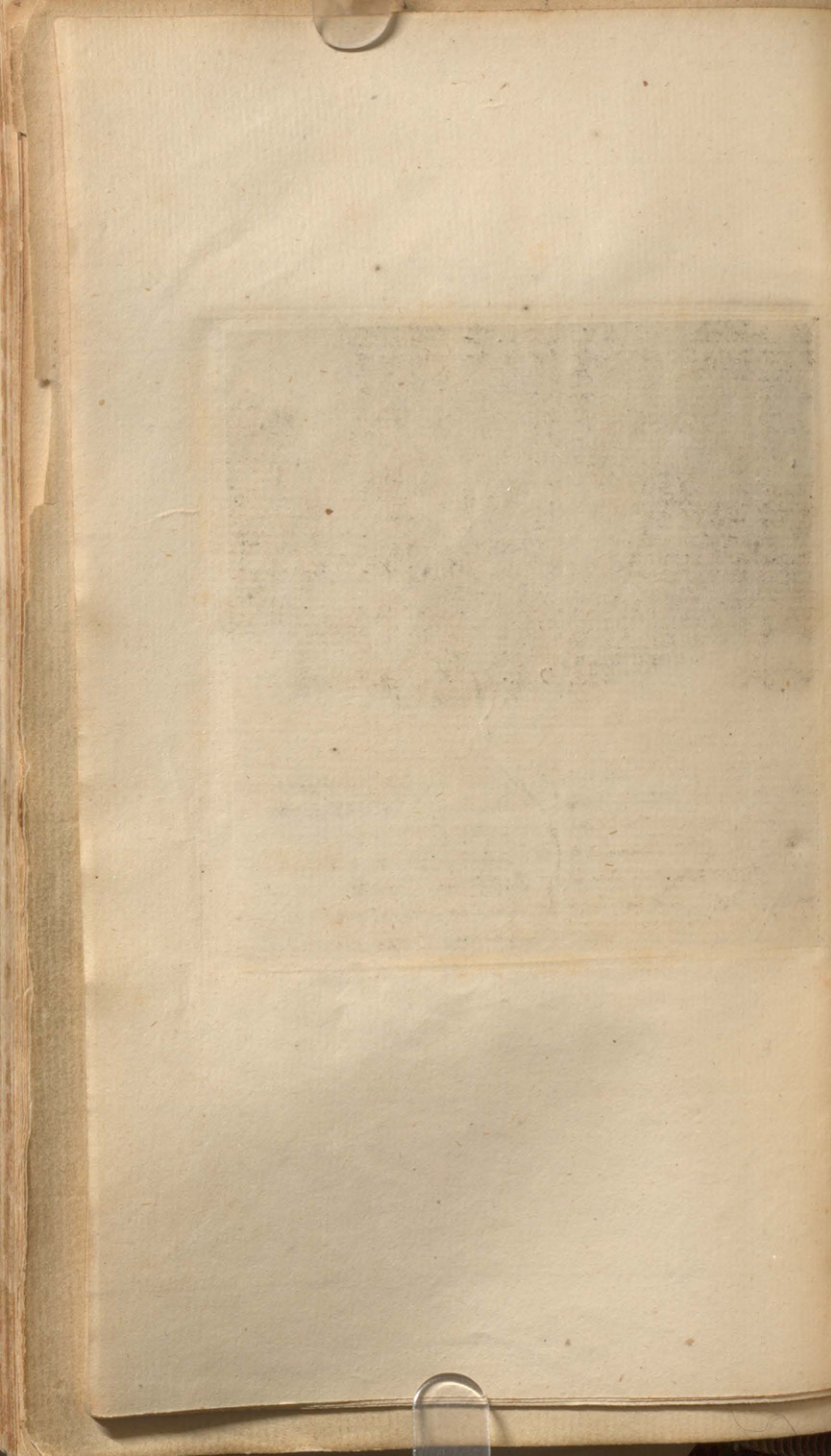


Now Mary struggles with a second Pain;
The Doctor now attends her throes again.
But ah too Late - Impatient of delay,
Bunn thro' - his Burrough works himself a way.
Tho' not so slyly, but the Doctor spies him;
And falls on, with design t' Anatomize him. 7



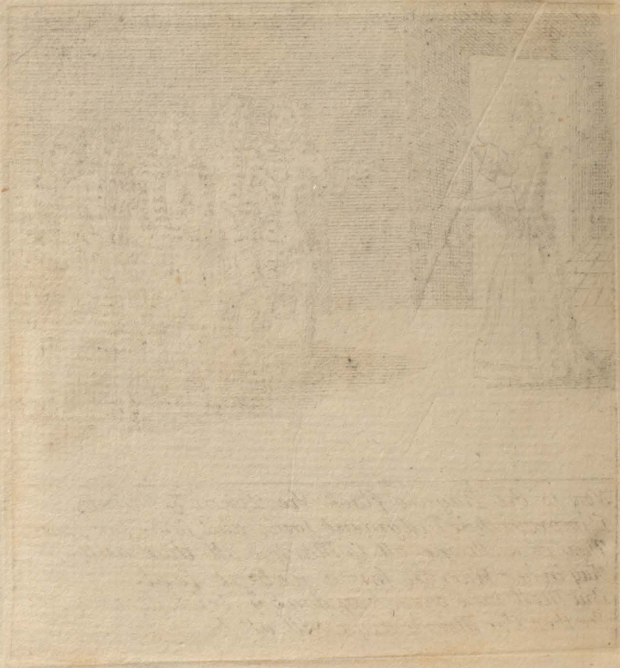


Is this a Rabbit, or a Cat? — in troth,
Tis hard to say, it looks so like 'em both,
But hold — this dung will soon decide if Matter;
By this I judge, it cannot be the latter,
And by its weight — I can as safely swear,
Tho' it has Shit — It never breath'd in Air. 8



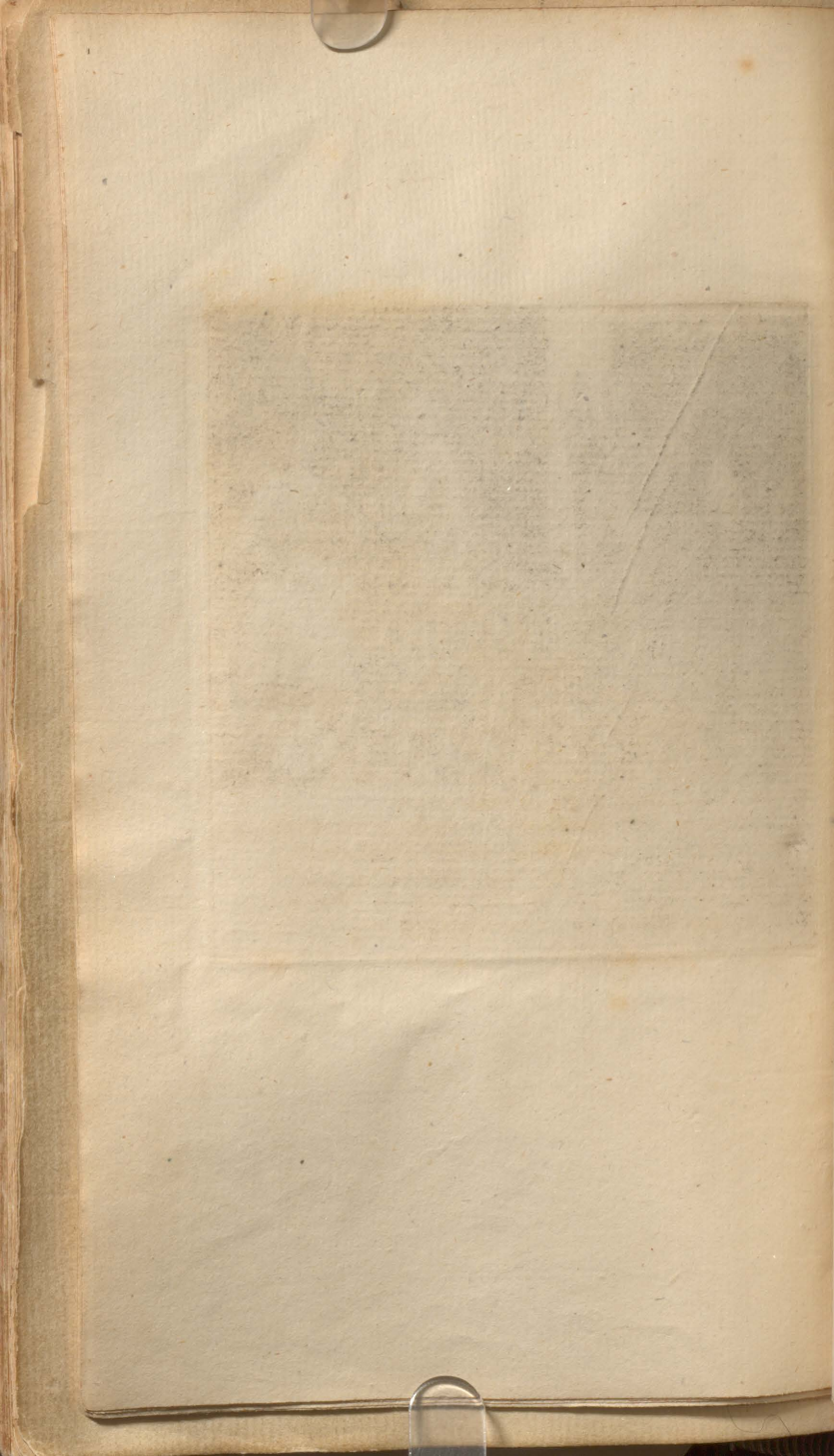


The Doctors here, and Midwives all Consult,
If 'tis a foetus Rabbit, or adult.
When up the learned Merry Andrew Starts,
This Animal (quoth he) in all its parts;
Does with a Natural Rabbit well agree,
And therefore it must Preternatural be.



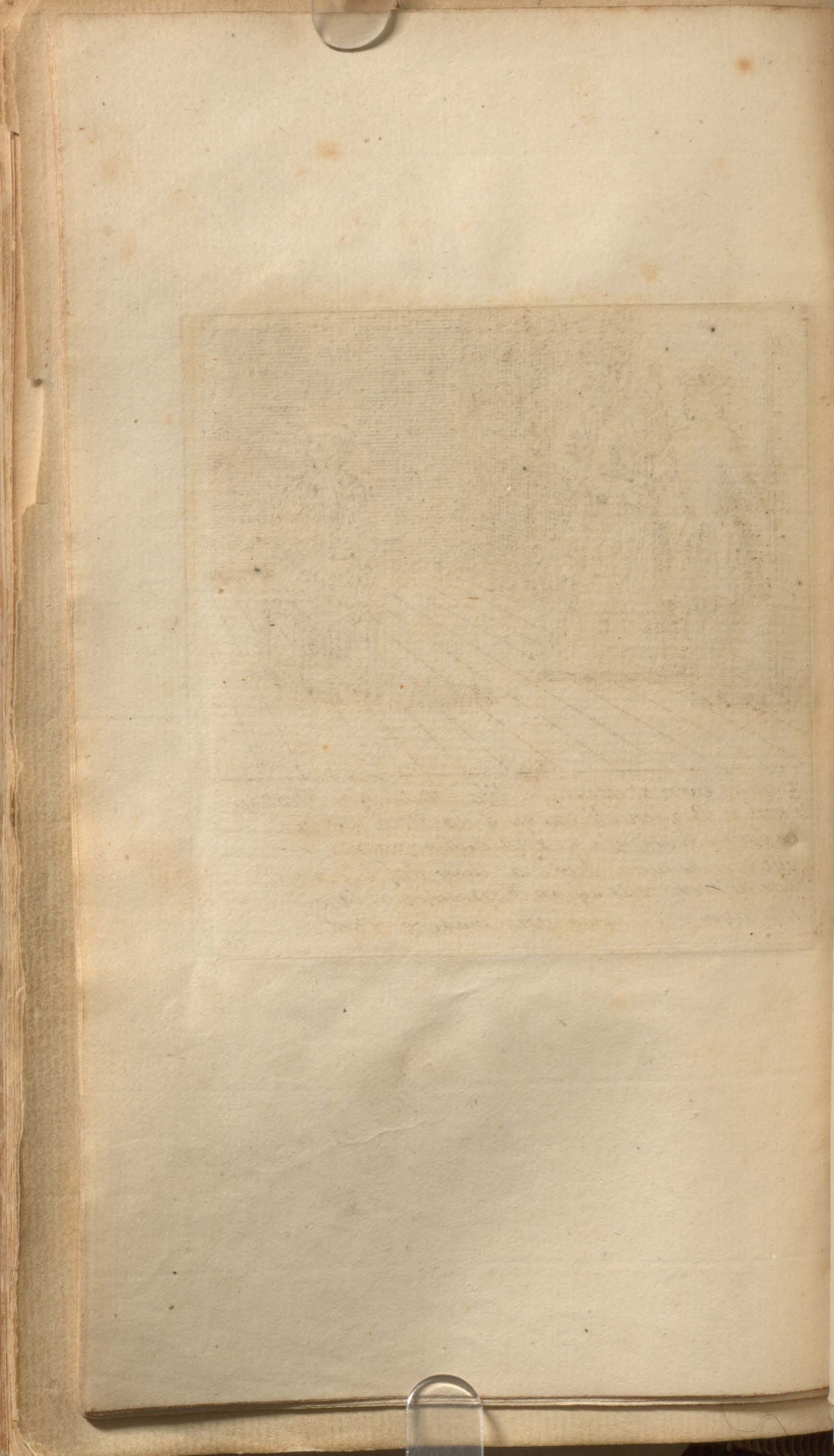


*Now to the Bagnio flock the Town & Court,
I improve their Judgment some, and some for sport,
They're wellcome all to Mary - all that will
May in her Warren for a Rabbit feel.
But I'll take care, they dont y^e Trick discover,
For then thy Merry days will all be over,*





*'Tis an unhappiness to be Lamented,
That people ne'er know when to be Contented;
Had breeding Seventeen Rabbits Satisfied;
Poor Mary Toft the Plot had Still been hid!
But, fond to make the Number up a Score,
The prying World the Secret did explore. 11*





Strange turn of Human life - unhappy Molly!
Is now to Bridenell carry'd to Mill Dolly;
The Coney-Warren's ruin'd, and no more,
Must Ferrits hunt there, as they did before,
Poor Andrew sits upon Repenting Stool,
Curfing his fate, in being made a Fool.

12

Mozart cant for beating Hemp.

culipara

Lam^o.

Cuniculus agros,

o Teop;

b) Balearica fuges

o Tatas:

ristas,

a fuit;

eruloque proposit

us istis,

alca mas.

Jamque

De Muliere, Cuni

Autore, D^o Orsery Burdet.

Vicitur Hispanos vastasse (a)
 Dona que spicifera corripuisse
 Tum quoque Funda minus valuit
 A tam damnoso protegere hostes
 Semine turgentes consumi vidit a
 Hisque arrosa feris insula tota
 Mentem colonus iners cecidit, quae
 Auxiliatrices Caesaris ore manus
 Sic penitus depasta fuit fossoribus
 Perdedit et segetes (c) Notyff.

a cohors iterum, quam femina claustris
scuris anglica, dentes percutit;

Ha specus, crebroque foramine turreas
muros, (d) Batica terra, tuos:

vallo circumdare (e) Calper,

a nostris Gadibus arma mouer;

(f) caveas, Hispanae, lacefere gentem;

nobis fert Leporeus operam.

Plinius, caeterique scriptores narrant
culis fere depopulatam fuisse. I-

s istis perniciosis adeo abundabat,

partus, quin tota, Legio Hispanica,

Luniculus enim a Phoenicibus

(6)

(b) Insula, quae a nobis Minorca vocatur, est una ex Balearibus, cuius Praesidentum Primarium est Datus Maonensis, iam dudum in possessione Anglorum.

(c) Astypalea Insula, nunc Stampalia appellata, in numero Sporadum ponitur, ab aliis in Cyclades collocatur. Tanta in ea fuit Luniculorum copia, ut omnes Terrae punctus peritus desererent, referentes Athenas Dioprosoph. lib. ix.

(d) Baetica, illa pars est Hispaniae, quae provincias hodiernas Andaluzae, Granatae, &c. complectitur.

(e)

(E) Calpe est nomen antiquum montis, quem
vocamus Gibraltar.

(F) Vox Brutigenum, utpote æquivoca,
duplicem significationem habet. Denotare enim
potest Britannorum gentem, quæ a Bruto Tro-
jano fabulosam originem trahit, simulque Lu-
-niculiparam præstigiaticam, quæ commen-
-titio fetus, et supposititio Brutiperio, (sit ver-
-bo venia) Medicis, Chirurgisque turpiter delu-
-sit.

From a M. S. of Ballard, author of
the Learned Ladies, now in possession of
Mr. Tho. Warton; (1770).

Sir

xxii

I have brought the woman
from Guilford to y^e Bagnie
in Leicester fields, where you
may if you please have the
opportunity of seeing her del-
ivered. I am y^r

Your Humble serv^t

J^r Andrie

Wednesday Morning

To Sir Hans Sloan in
Bloomsbury Square.

Sloan MSS. 3316. xxvi. G.

- est homo

entigena

tionem

mg gen

iginem

estigic

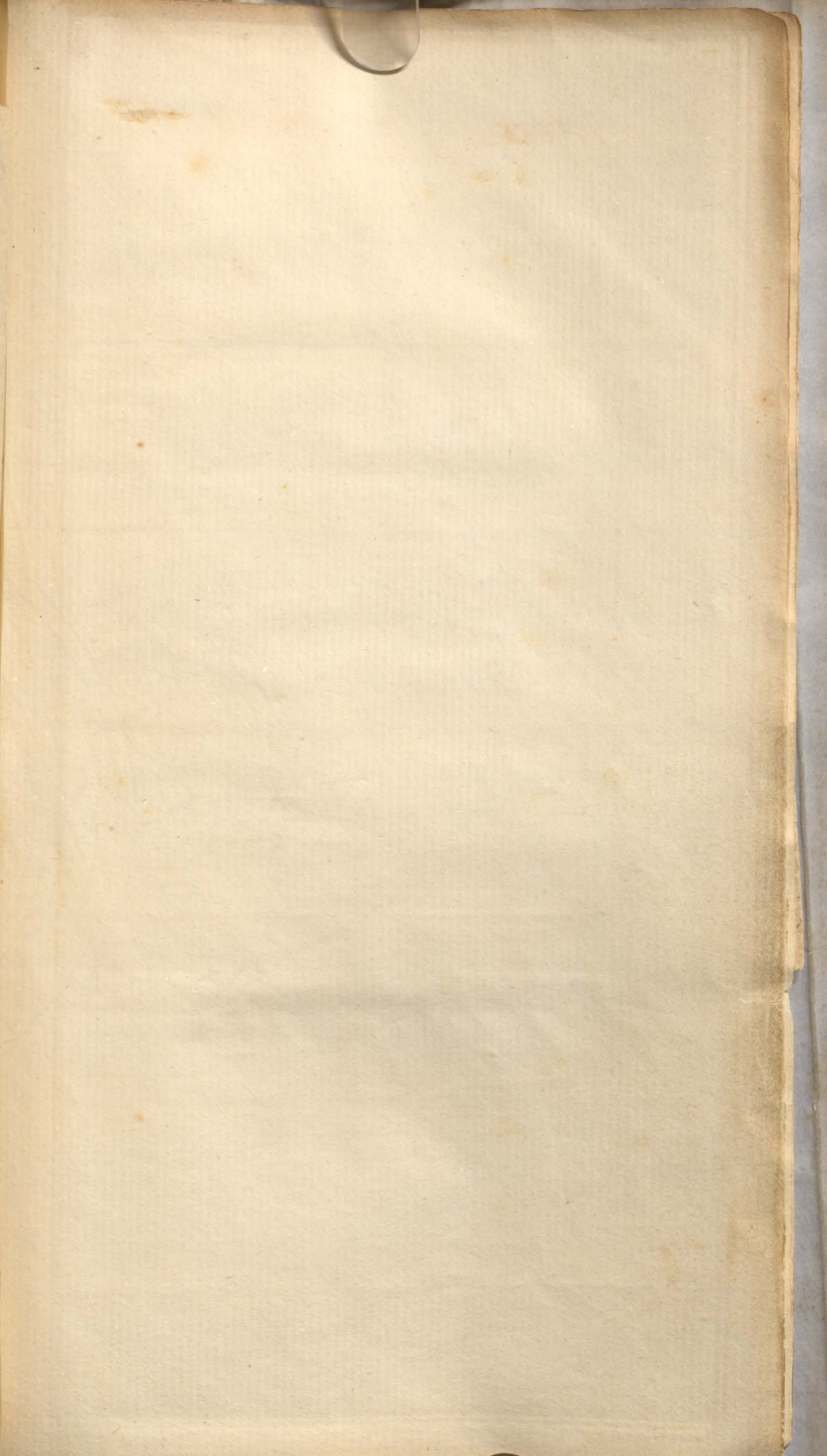
posititi

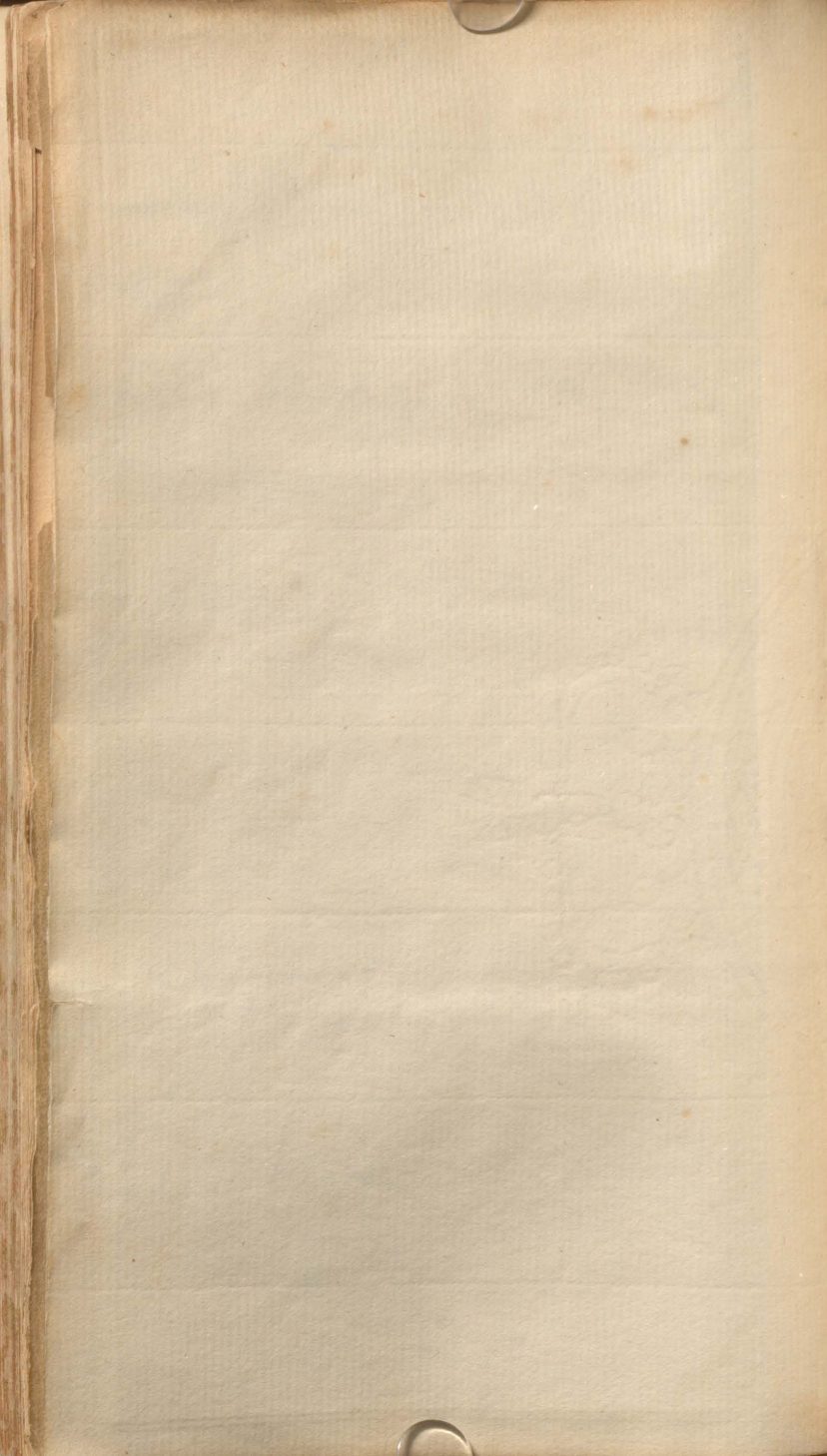
rs, Chu

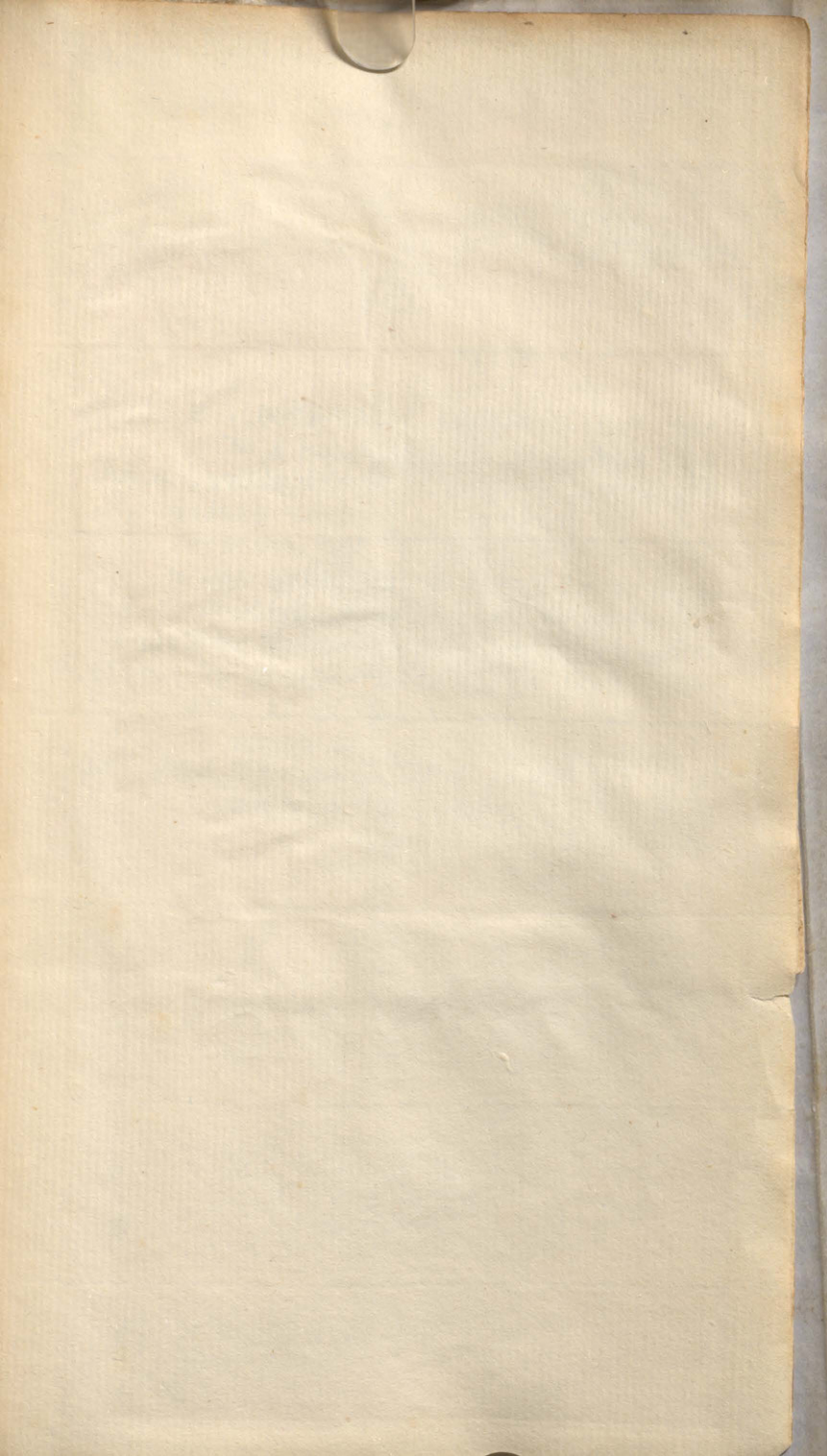
a M.

arned a

Tho. Wason







#7318

John Ker, 3rd Duke (1740-1804). S. 1755.

Head to book N has engagement to the
Eldest d. of Duke of Mechlenburg, ~~but when~~
Geo. III engaged to younger sister.

Both parties evinced the strength of
their attachment by devoting their
after-lives to celibacy; induced in R.
a "reserved melancholy which preferred
retirement to splendid scenes of gayety."
He & Geo. friendly rivals in book-
collecting. Caxtons. He spent £5,000.
Sale, 45 days, 9,350 lots, £23,500, 1812.
Roxb. Club 24 later 40 members.

Gullesford Nov 9th 1726

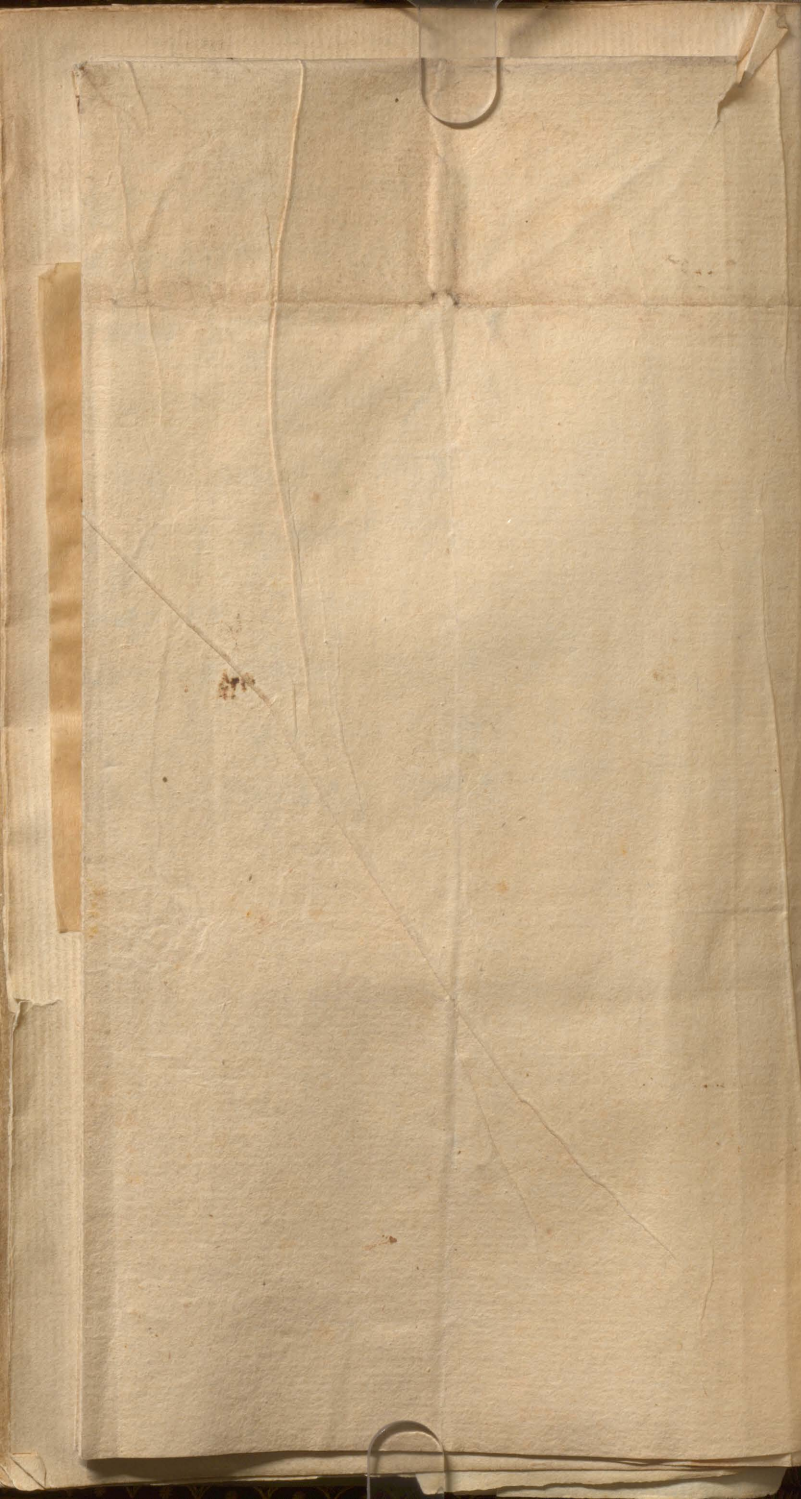
My Lord Duke

The following is true, as it will be testified upon oath by several witnesses one Mary Toft aged 23 has had 3 Children she is the wife of John Toft a poor journeyman Clopper in the parish of Godliman being five weeks gone with Child the 23 of April 1726 was Weeding of wheat near that Town with three other women in up Leys a Rabbit, this deponent and one of the women run after it but could not catch it so they returned to there work again, about a quarter of an hour ^{after} they put up an other Rabbit then this deponent and two of the women run after it a pretty while but it got away, after it was gone this deponent ^{said} if they had not been fools they might a got it one of the women said to this deponent I believe you 'long or has a mind to one of the Rabbits. but she said with Concernment if she did not this run in this deponent head all that day, if she had but caught one of the Rabbits, she could eat it at when a bed she dreamt that the Law abundance of Rabbits, and could not get them out of her head the next morning about six o'clock she got up, and went to the same field in hopes of finding a Rabbit in the place where she put them up, she put a bow as a mark to find the place, with her hat in her hand in hopes of covering the Rabbits but finding none she was very much concern'd all y^e day she could not get them out of her mind one of the Rabbit was gray and y^e other blackish with black one was usal in her thoughts she dreamt of them for a quarter of a year the 27 of Sept^r last I deliver'd her of a Black rabbit full grown the lungs and hart grown without the Body joining to the lower part of the Neck, it had three Cats feet and one Rabbit foot, Cats guts, and out of one of the guts

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.]

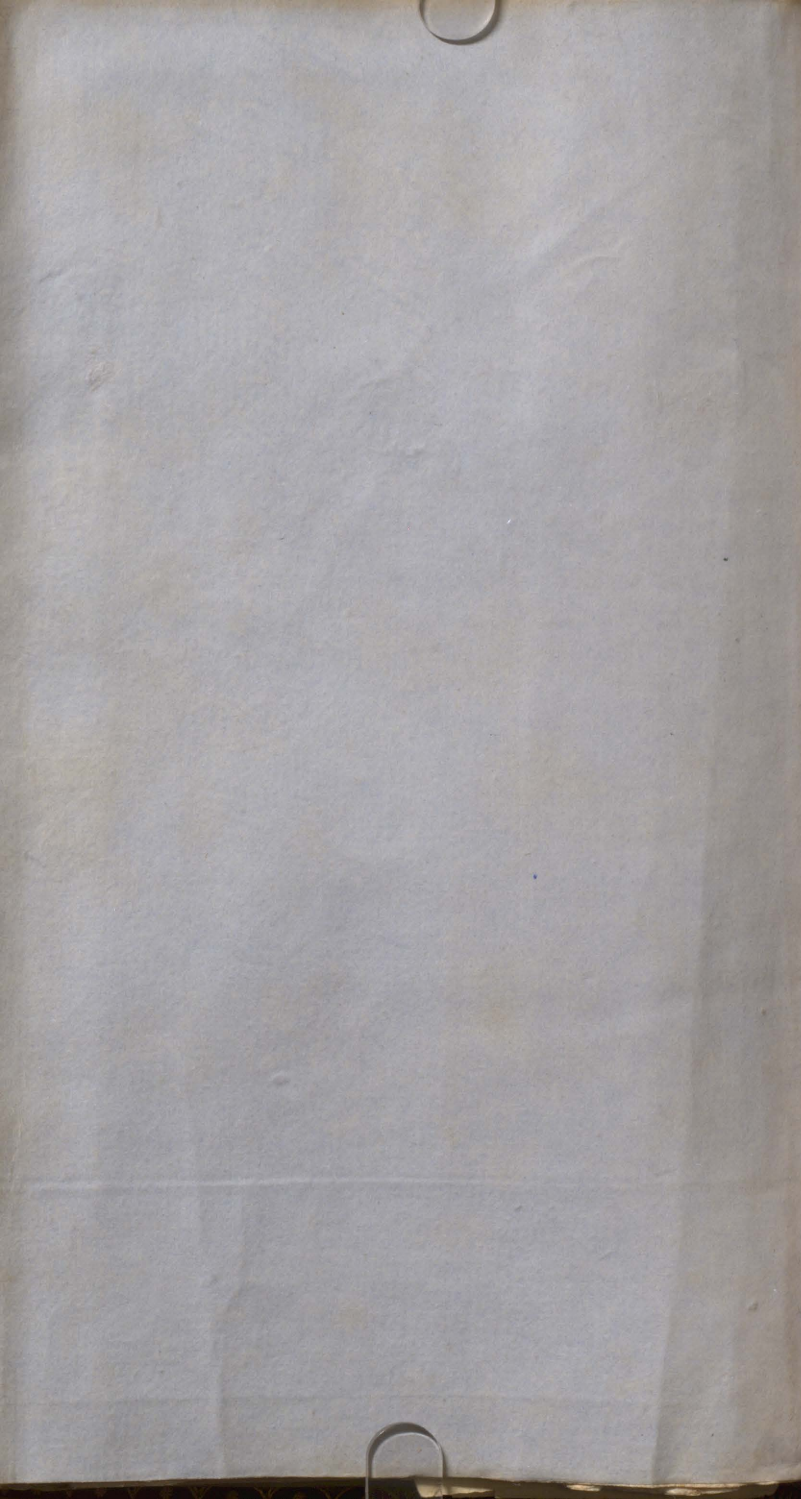
Just out three Vertebres of an Est, I have since
Deliver'd this woman of ten Rabbit they were all
alive before they was Deliver'd, the last Capt 23
hours before it died, as soon as one dy'd an other
leaps up, the twelfth Rabbit I believe I shall
take from her about six a'clock, I have Eleven
of them in Spirits when it's over I shall give the
Royal Society a full account. I cannot tell how
long before these rabbit will adone comming
away, if she had been with Child she has but ten
Days to go

Yours Graces
most Humble and
Obedient Serv^t
to Com^d
John Howard





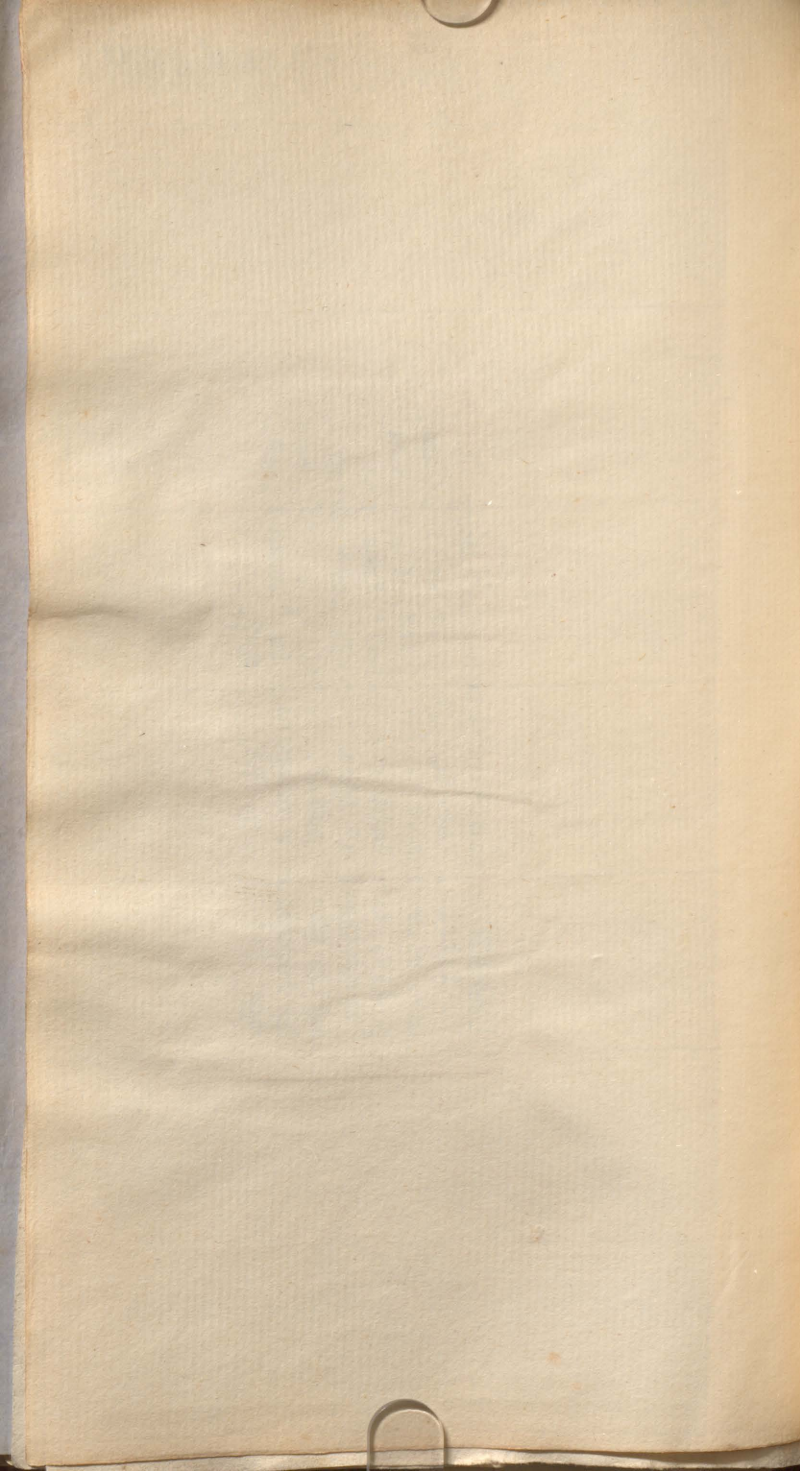
1. M^r. Petit a French Surgeon sent from Paris to Doctor Meagre to take an exact Account from him of y^e Praternatural Delivery of Rabbets 2. The most Profound & Learned Doctor Meagre. 3. Doctor Meagre's Son & Heir to his famous Mercurial Pill. 4. M^r. Diphthong Tutor to the Doctors Son and Bosom Counsellor to y^e Doctor. 5 The Doctor's Study. 6 A most Heroick Incounter at Cudgels wth hapend between the Doctor & a Flower Painter at Slaughter's Coffee house. 7 Another Incounter it Swore between the Doctor & a famous French Gramarian, a long Table standing between the Champions. *Printed by*

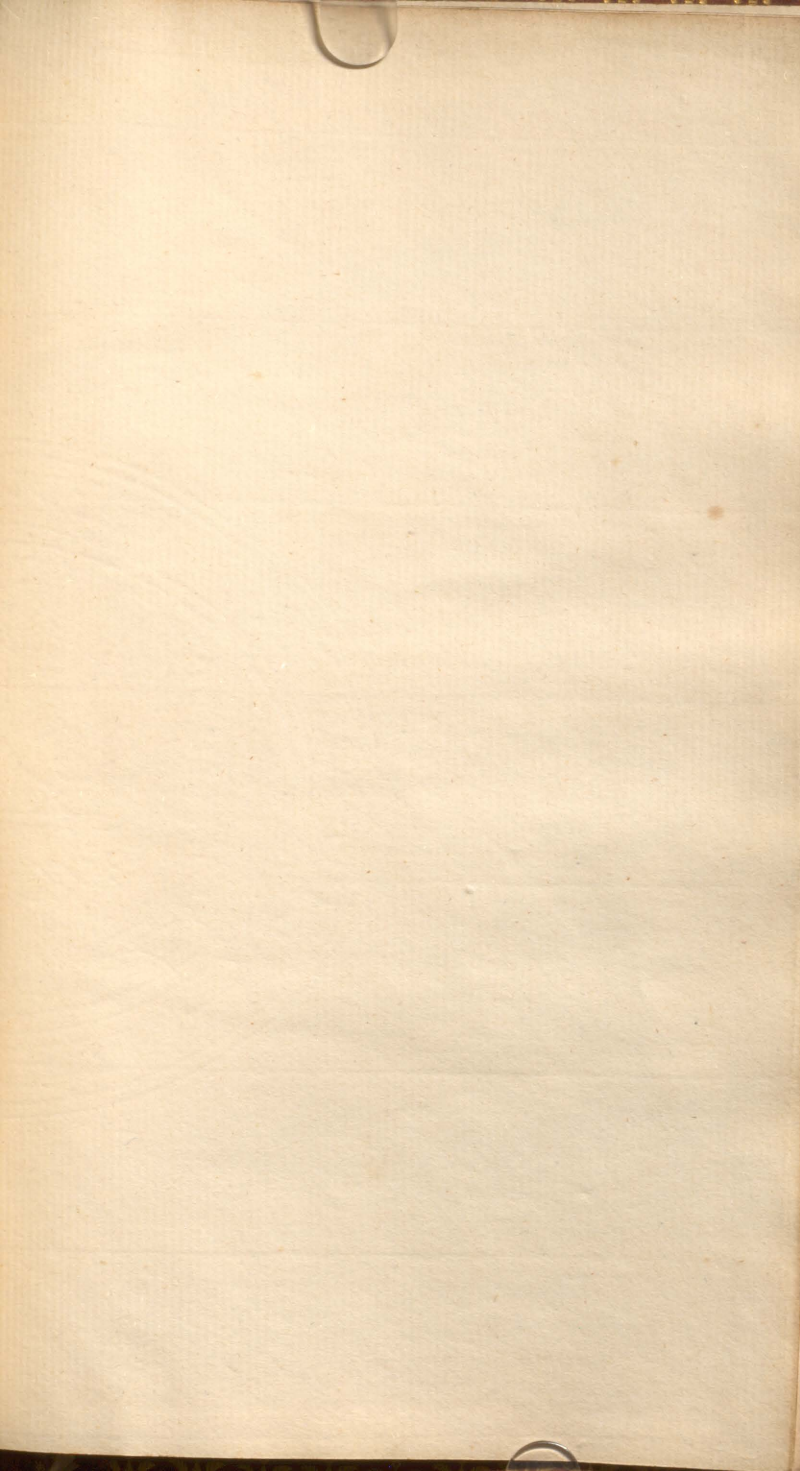


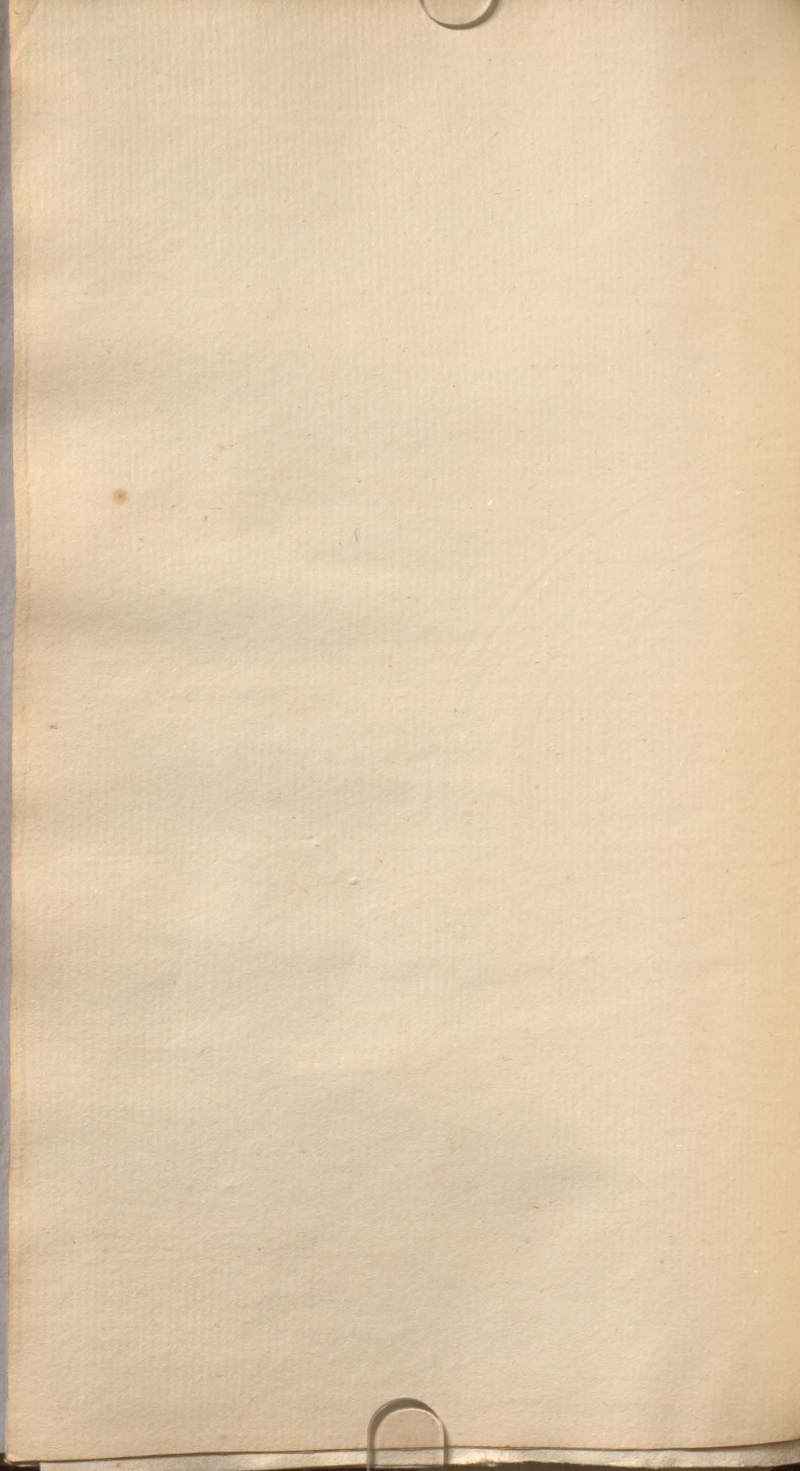


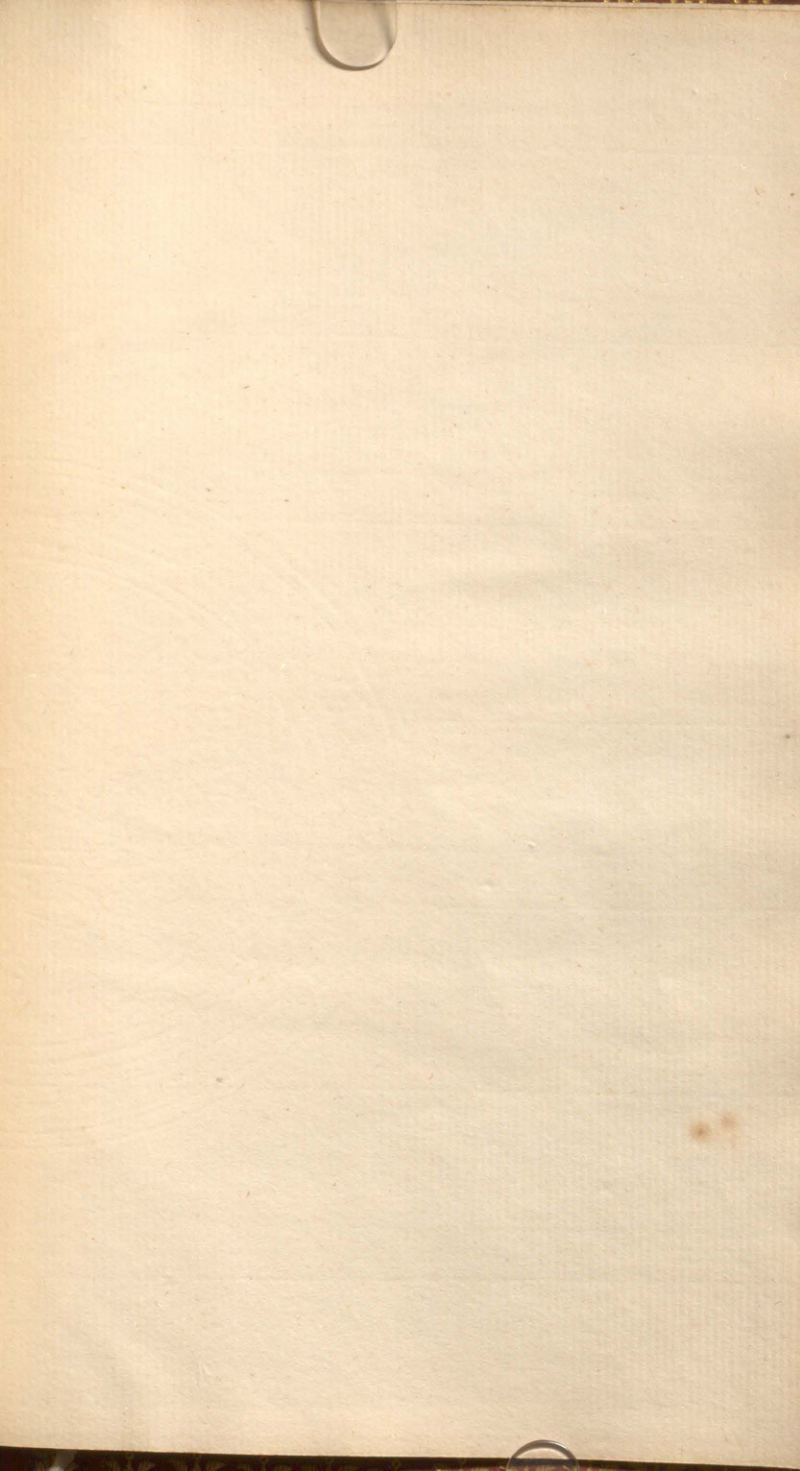
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 between the Doctor & a Flower Painter at Slaughter's Coffee house. 7 Another Incounter at Swords
 between the Doctor & a famous French Gramarian, a long Table standing between the Champions. P^r
 sold by J. Clark Engraver and Printeller in Graup Inn

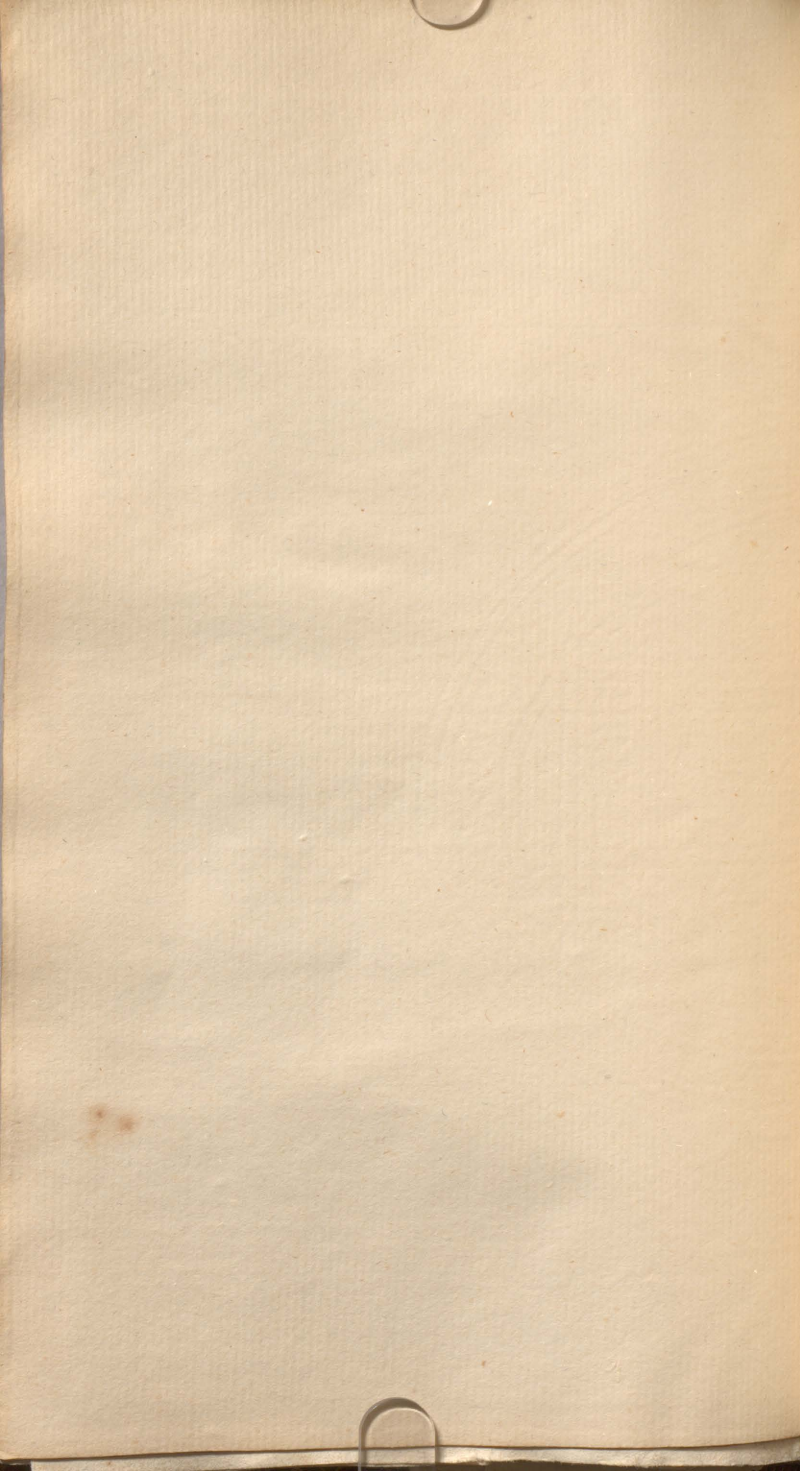
HOGARTH's two caricatures of Mary
in labour, lacking in this collection,
are reproduced in no. 5976, figs. 118
& 119, the latter a detail from the
foreground of this "Credulity" which
is in his "books", 1824, i, p. 87, and
is reproduced complete in "Aesculape",
Nov. 1929, n.s. 19, p. 297.

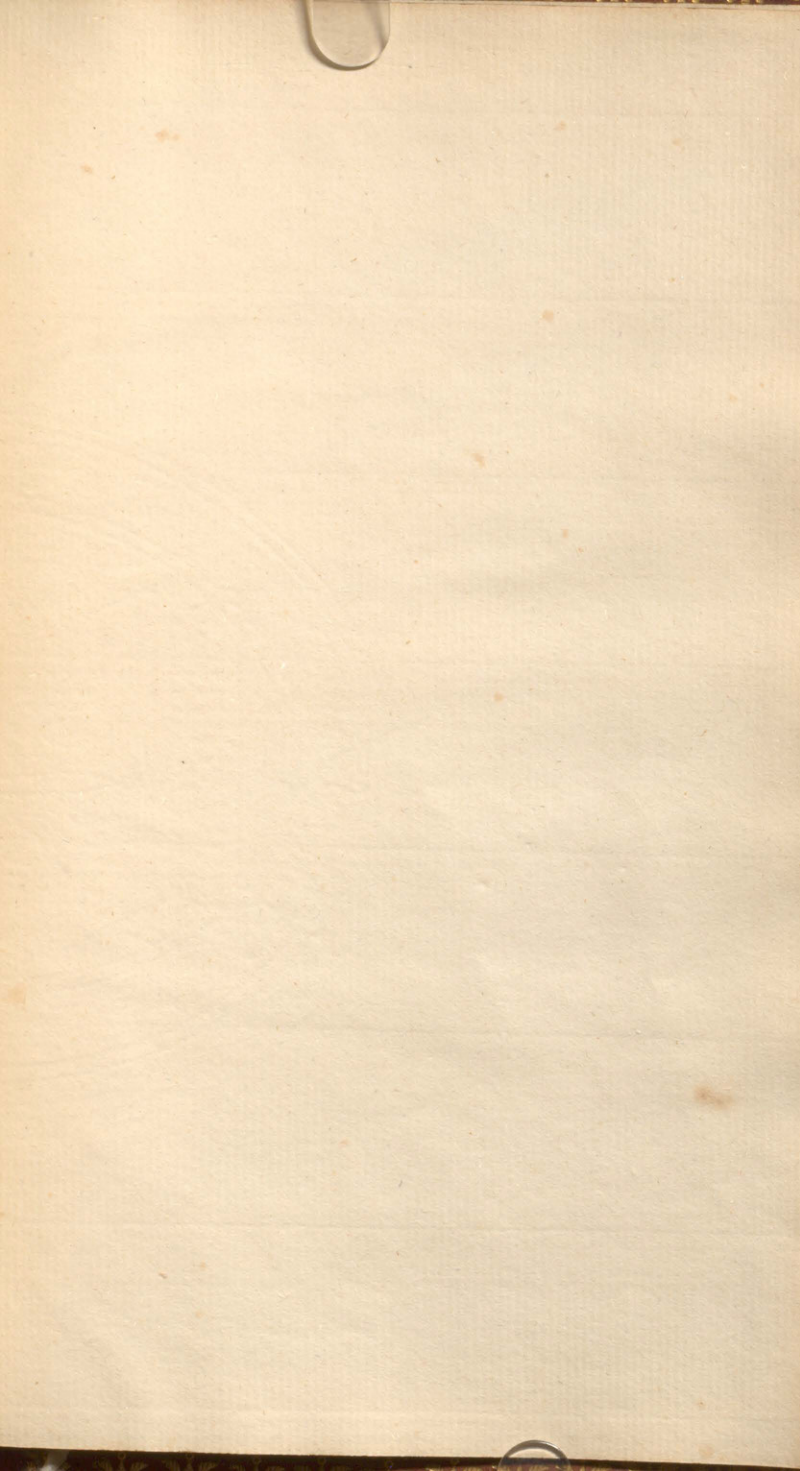


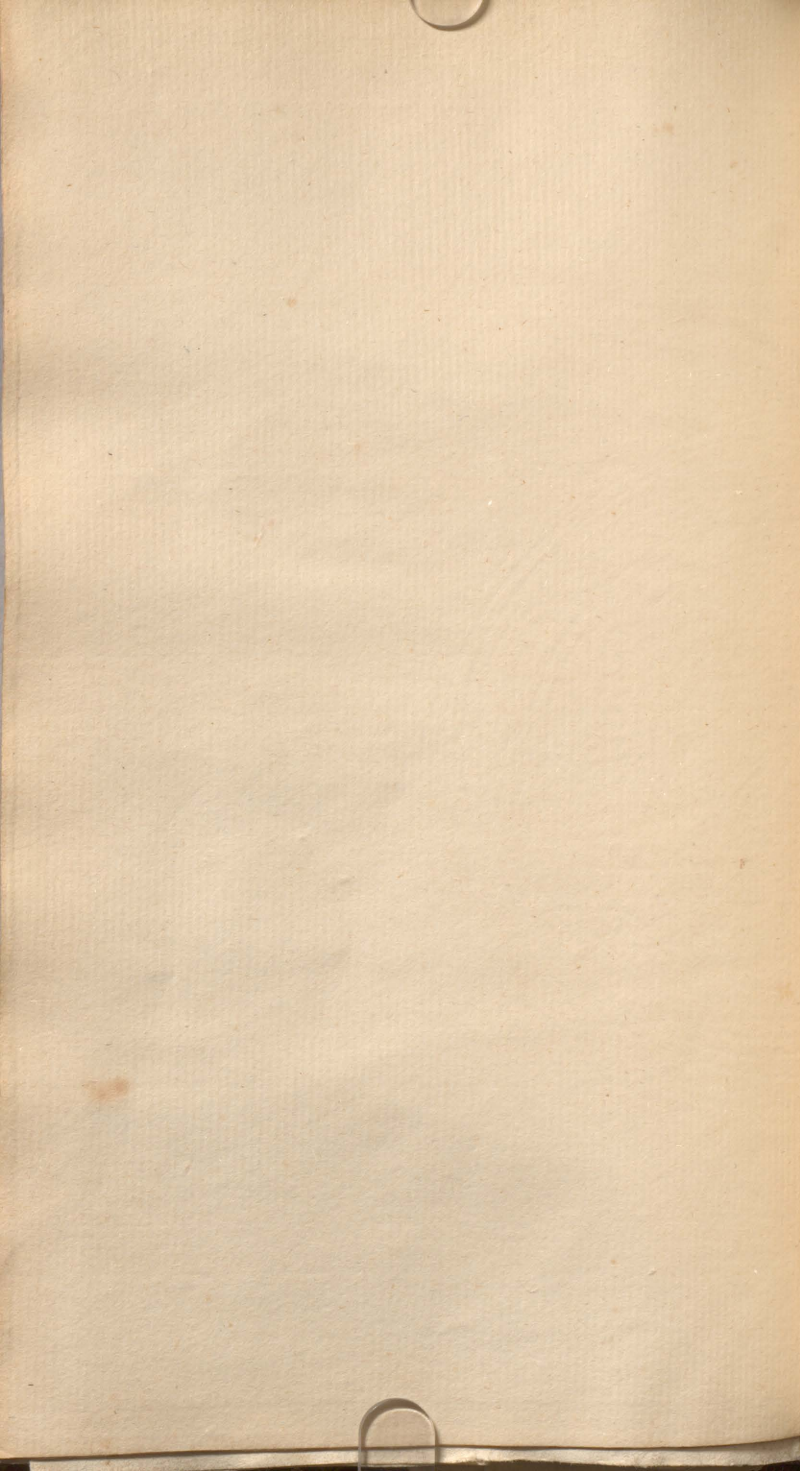


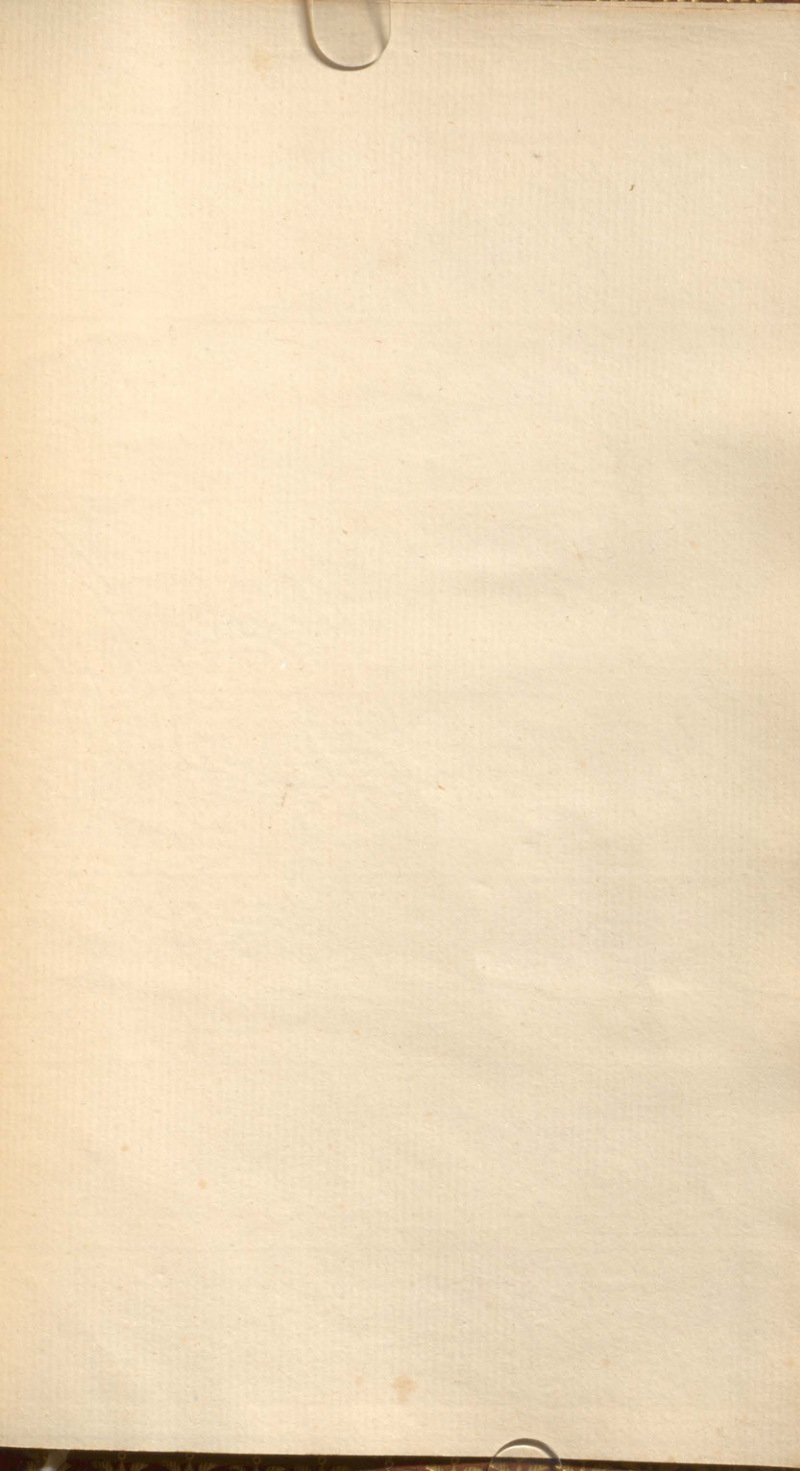


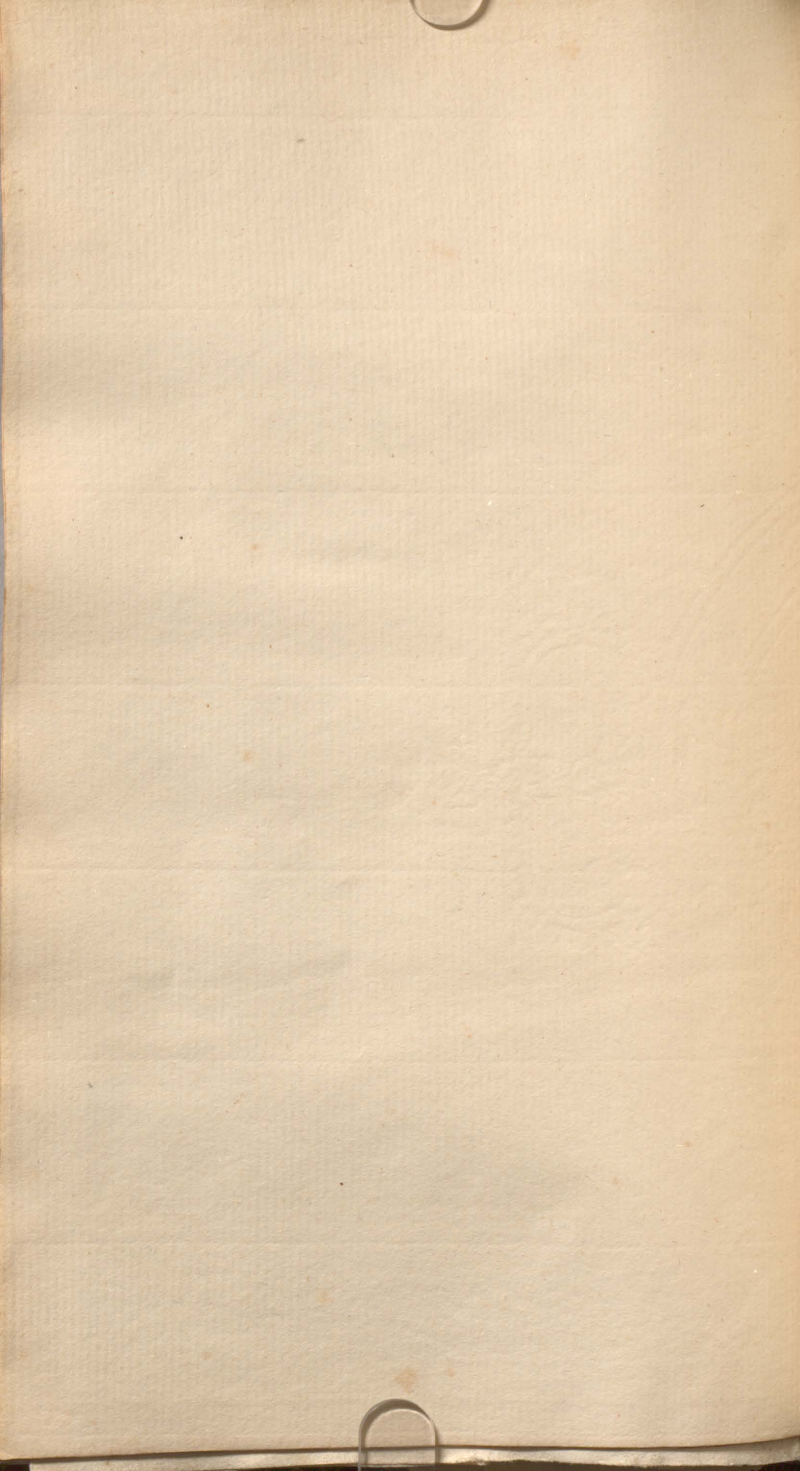


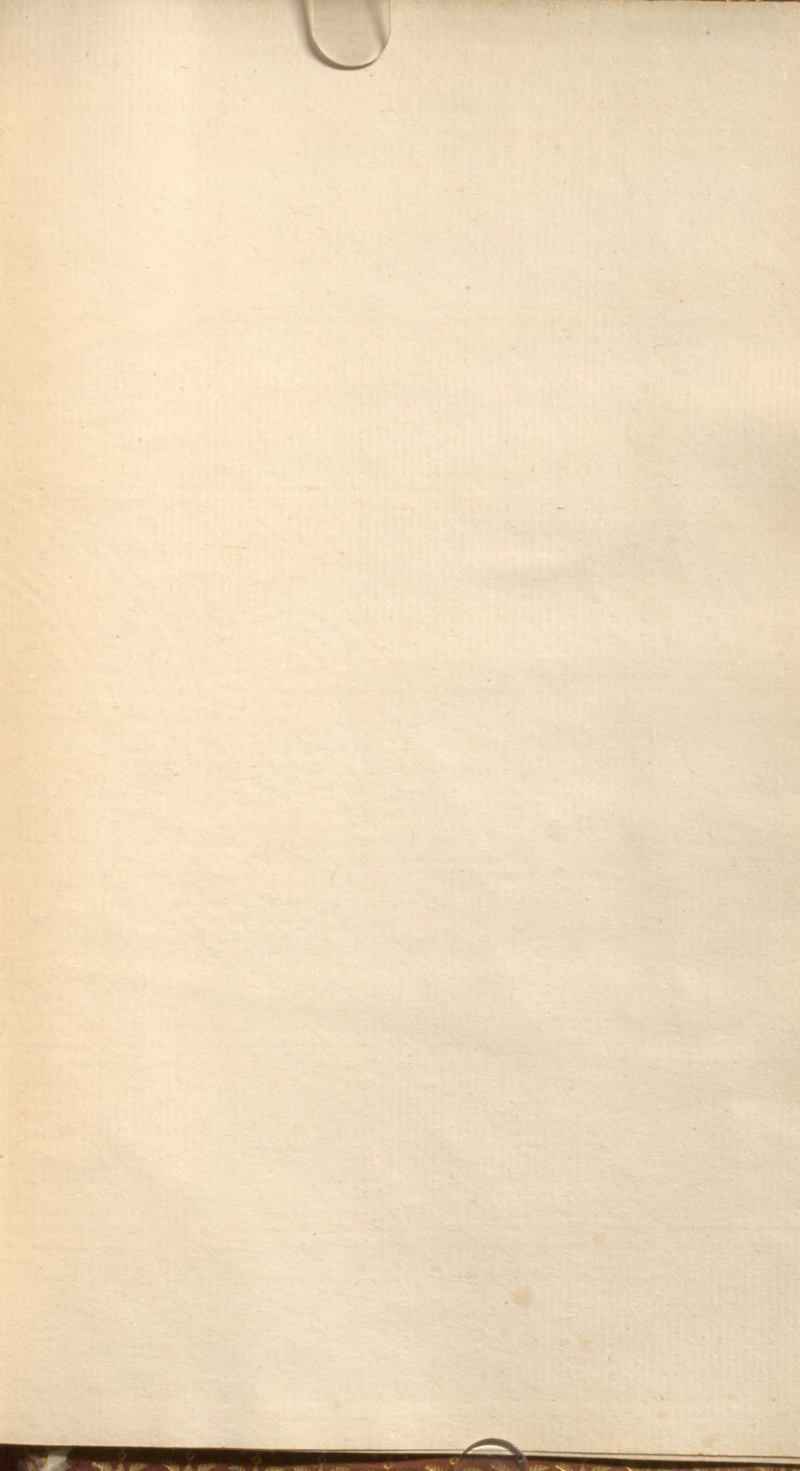


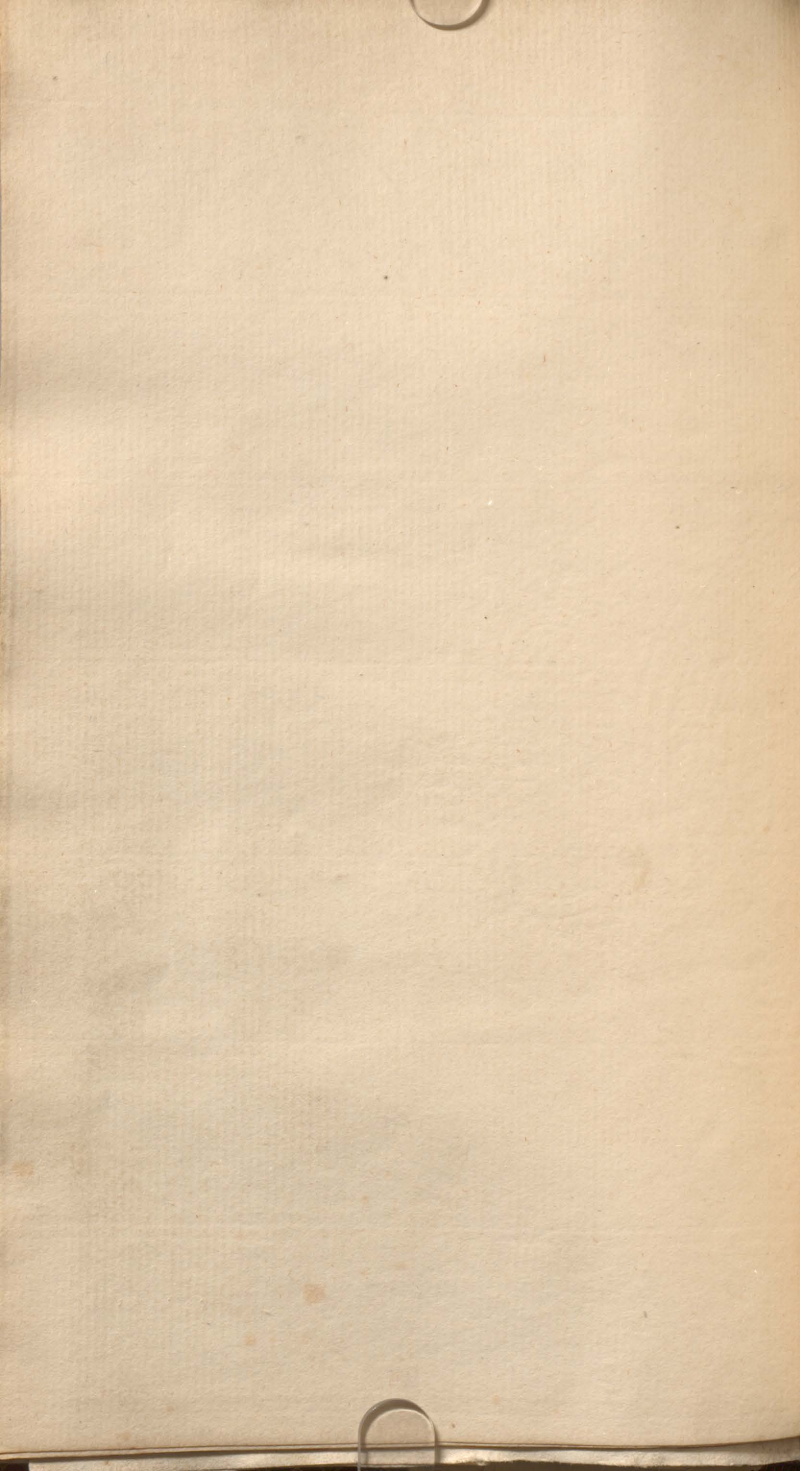


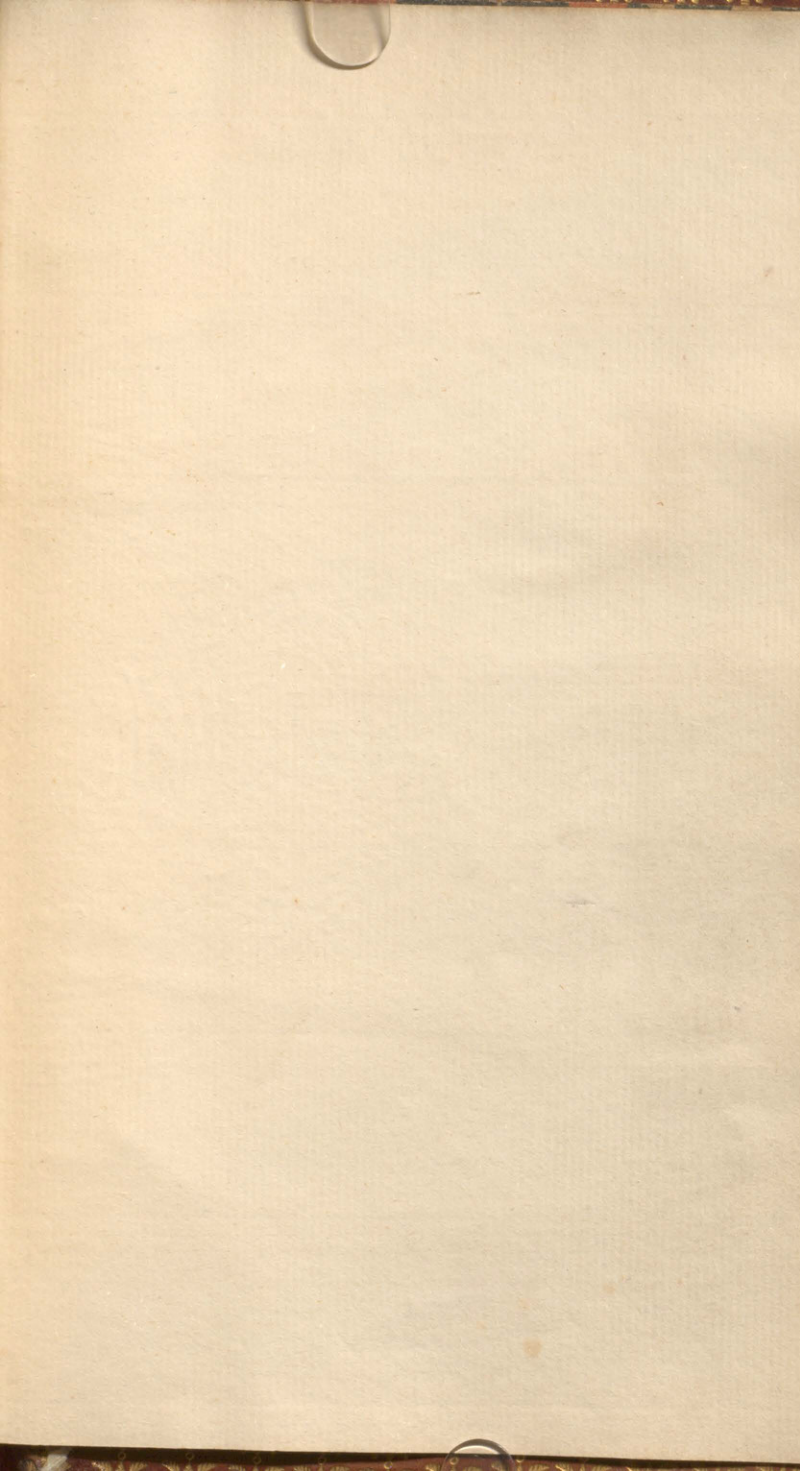


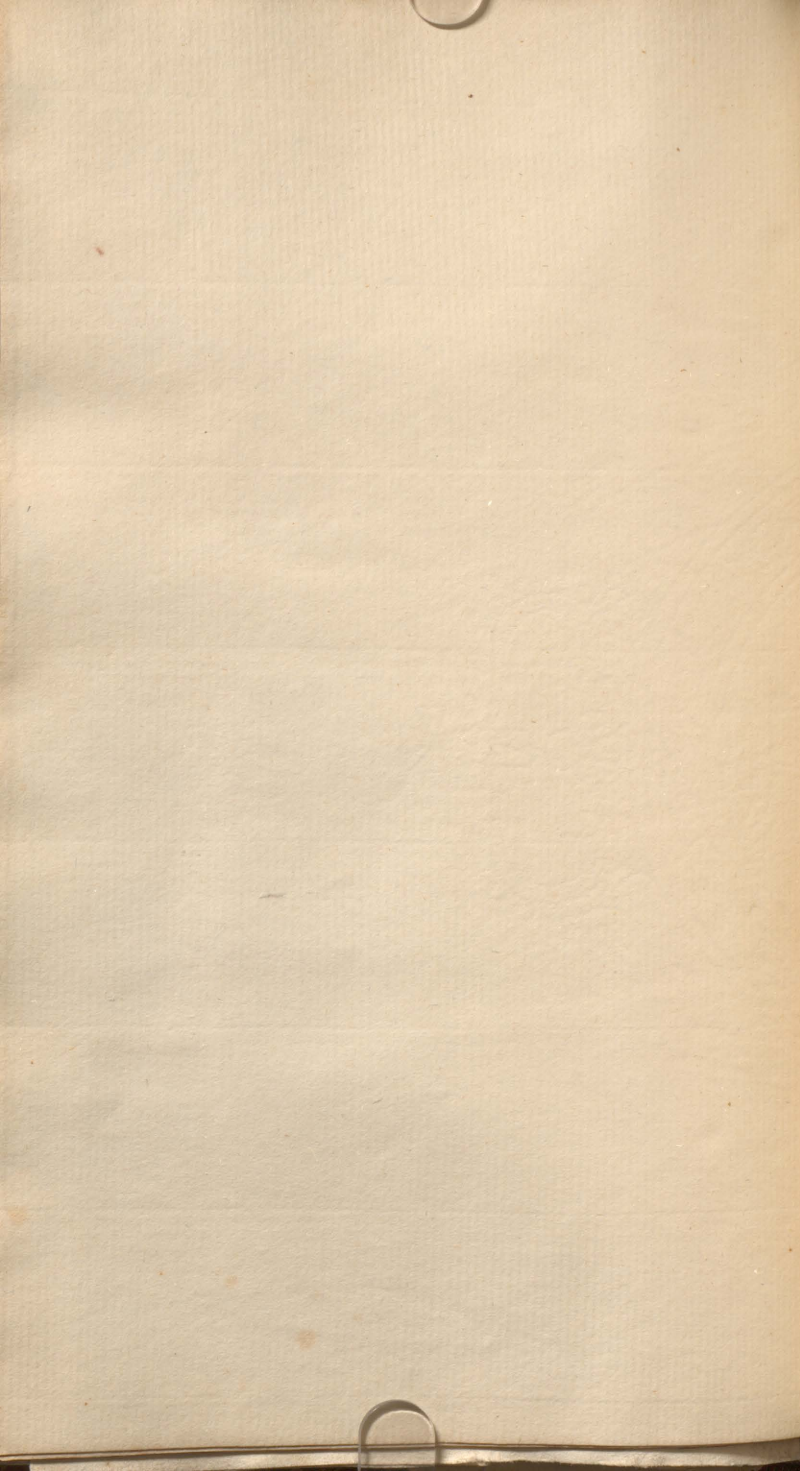


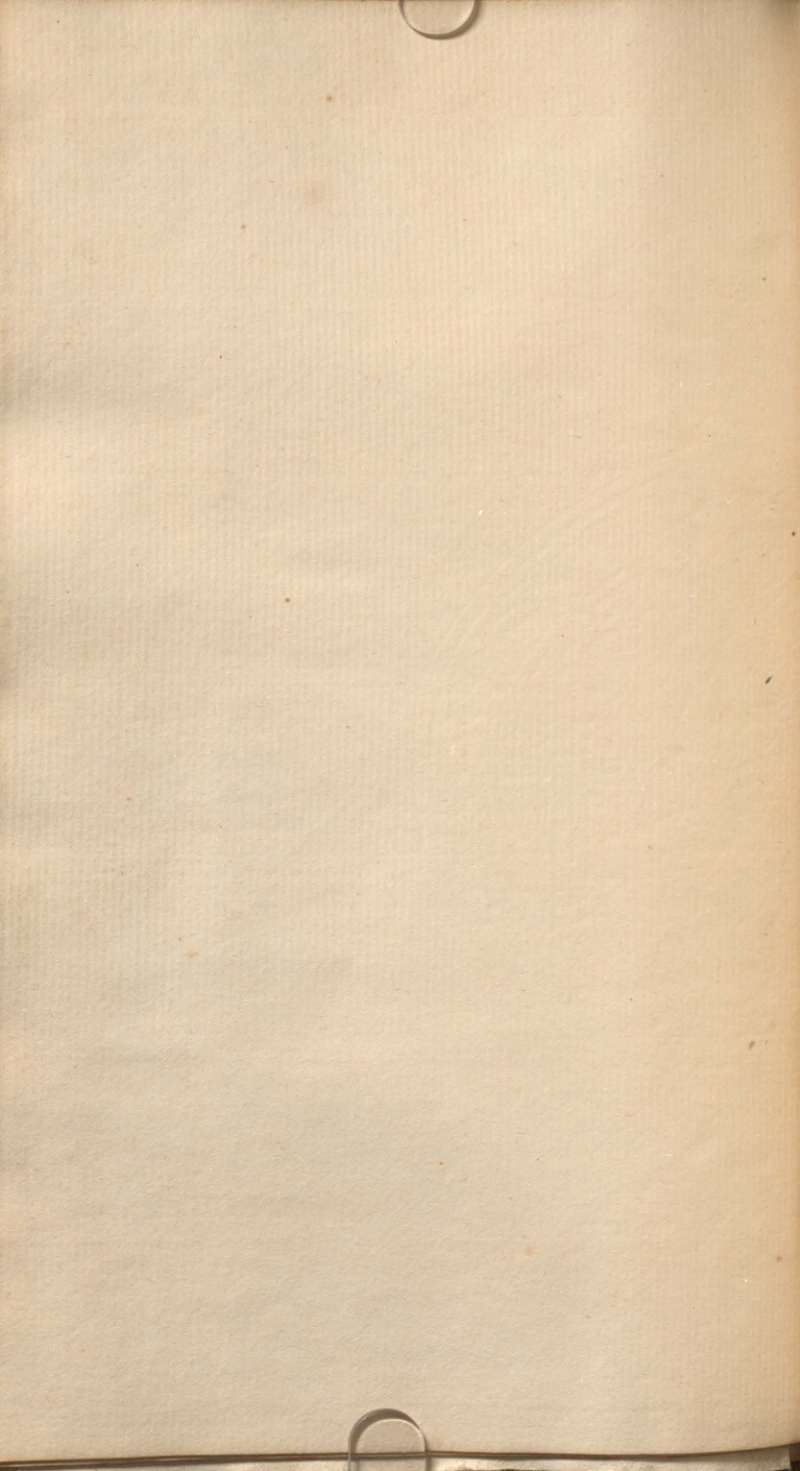












5815
1726-1753



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Mary Hogarth's picture of Mary Tipton
is a detail in the foreground of his
'Credulity, Superstition & Fanaticism',
in 'The Works of J. C. Smith', 1824, vol. 1,
p. 87.

For Hogarth's two pictures of Mary
see Hollander, no. 5976, pp. 203-5.

