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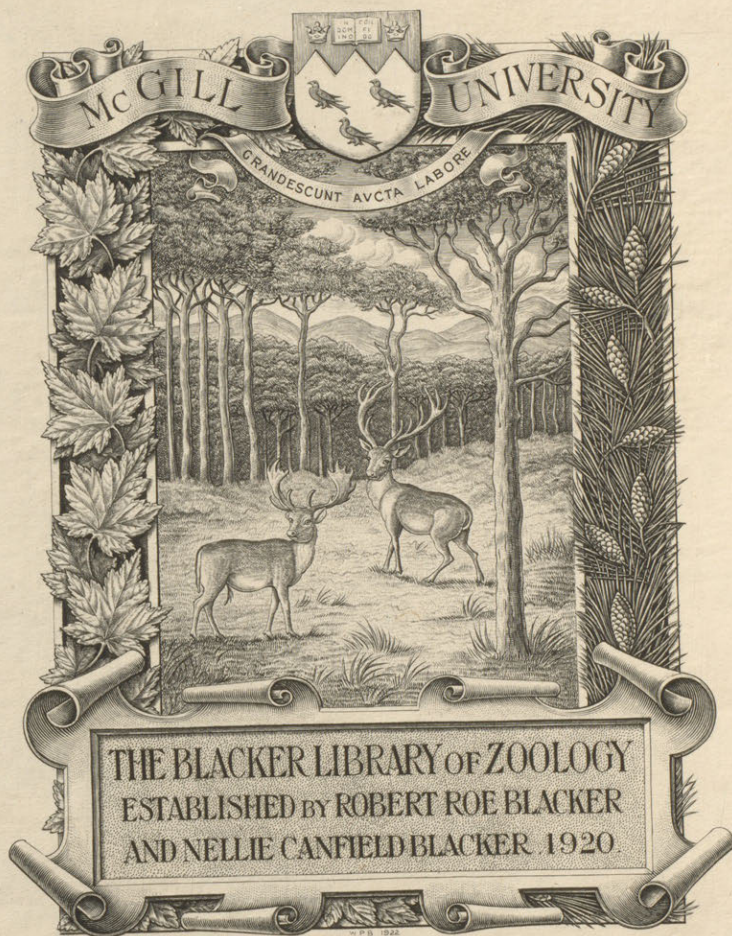
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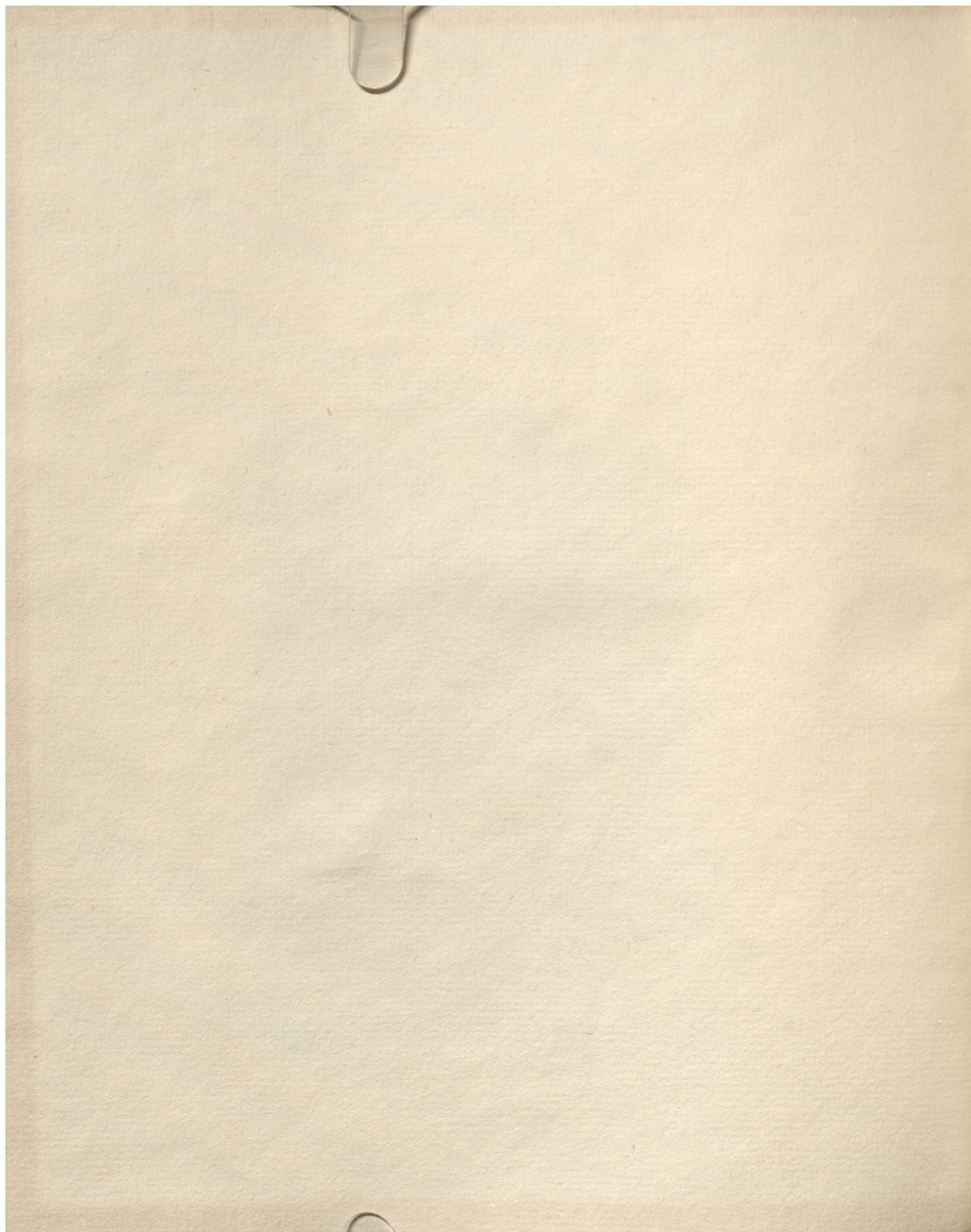
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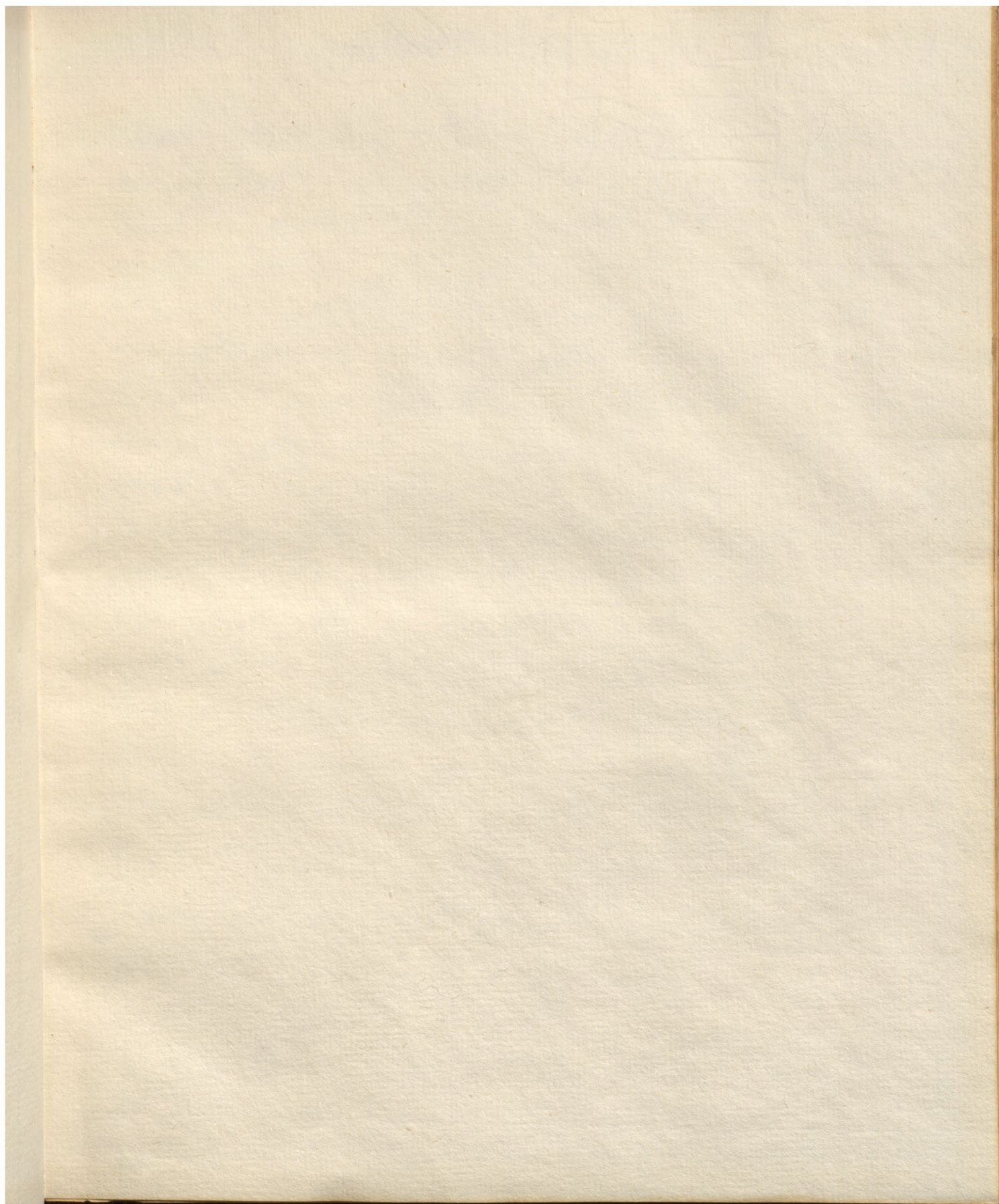


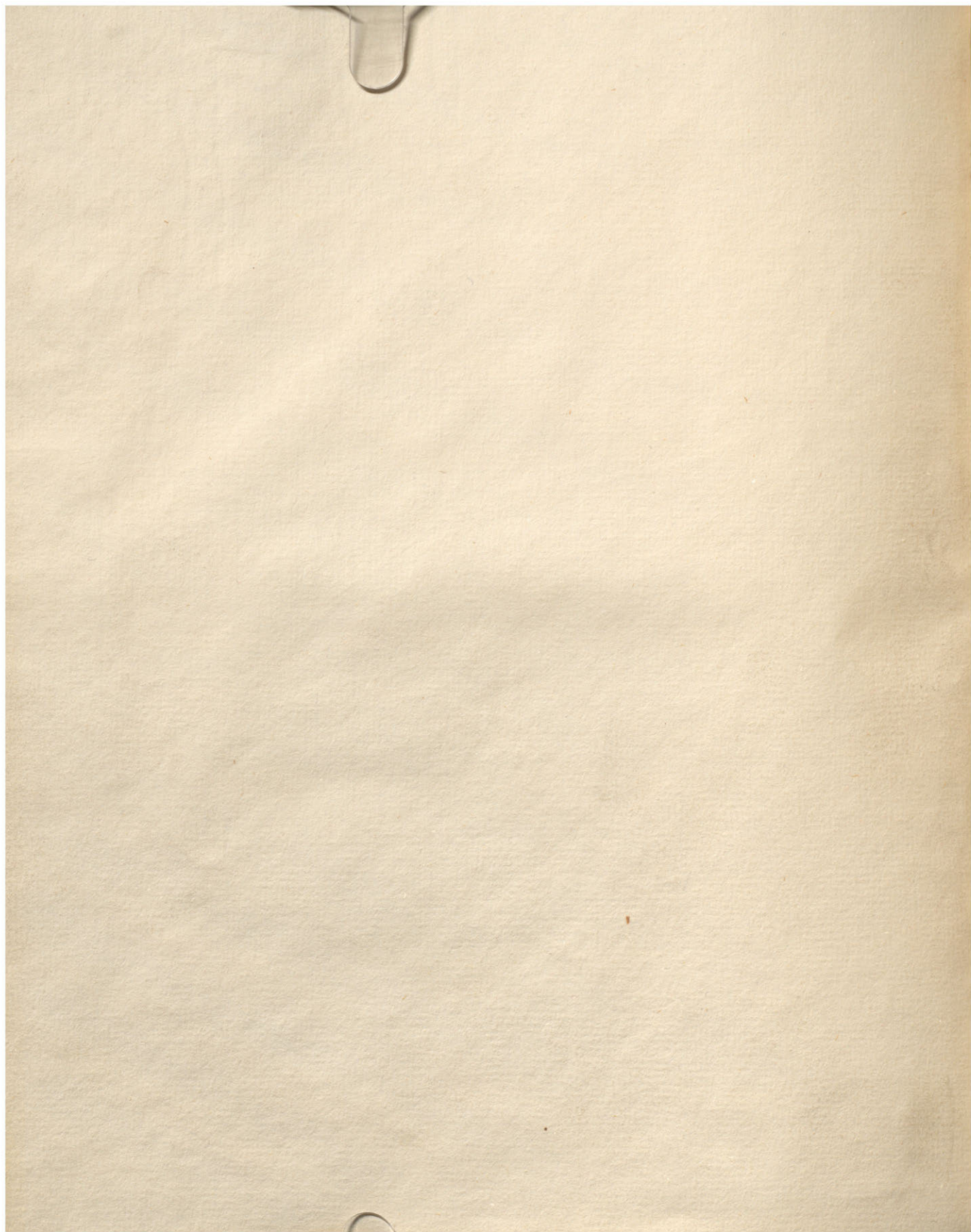
Baker

W. S. W. (Dec. 10/29)

Feb. 10/28







# Introduction

1.8

Soon after my return from my voyage round the world I was solicited by L<sup>d</sup> Sandwich the first Lord of the admiralty to undertake another voyage of the same nature his sollicitation was couched in the following words viz/ if you will go we will send other ships/ so strong a sollicitation ~~agreeing~~ <sup>agreeing</sup> exactly with my own desires was not to be neglected I accordingly answered that I was ready & willing the navy board was then ordered to provide two ships proper for the service this they did & gave me notice when it was done I immediately went on board the principal ship & found her very improper for our purpose instead of having provided a ship in which an extraordinary number of people might be accommodated they had chose one with a low & small cabin & remarkably low between decks this I objected to & was answered that it could not nor should it be remedied

with this answer I went immediately to L<sup>d</sup> Sandwich who having advised with several people ordered the cabin to be raised 3 inches

for our convenience & a Spar Deck to be laid the whole length of the ship for the accommodation of the people this order I suppose hurt the navy board for from that time they never ceased to pursue me with every obstacle they could throw in my way & at last overthrew my designs.

First to the proposed alterations they added a round house for the Captain to be built over all this & all other alterations they made with timber so heavy & strong that the top of the round house was literally thicker than the gundeck of the ship this tho I saw, I could not remedy. the ship was made so crank by it that she could not go to sea some of the oldest sea officers who I believe were jealous that discovery should go out of their line procured an order that the ship might be reduced to her original state in this situation then I was again offered the alternative to go or let it alone with a great deal of coolness however for I now had inadvertently opened to them every



# Introduction

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Idea of discovery which my last voyage had suggested to me & thence they thought themselves able to follow without my assistance now they had once got possession of them as the alterations which they had made rendered it impossible for my people to be lodged or to do their respective duties I resolved to refuse to go & wrote a letter to L<sup>d</sup> Sandwich a copy of which is inserted in the appendix stating my reasons I shall now give a list of the People who I had at my own expence engaged as assistants in this undertaking

Mr Solander new well known in the learned world as my assistant in Nat. Hist.

Mr Loffan Painter of figures & Landscapes

Mr J<sup>r</sup> G<sup>r</sup> Miller

Mr Ja<sup>r</sup> Miller } Draughtsman for Nat. Hist.

Mr Cleveley

Mr Walden

Mr Backstrom } Secretaries

besides 9 servants all practised & taught by myself to collect & preserve such objects

## Introduction

of Natural History as might occur ~~three~~ of whom had already been with me on my last voyage besides this I had had influence enough to prevail upon the board of Longitude to send with us Mess<sup>rs</sup> Bailey & Wales as Astronomers & also with the House of Commons to give 4000 pounds to Enable Dr Lind of Glasgow remarkable for his knowledge in Nat Philosophy & mechanics to accompany us

These gentlemen except only the Astronomers who did not at all belong to me were to a man so well convinced of the impossibility of our going out in the state the ship was now reduced to that they all to a man refused with me & so well were they satisfied with my conduct that they believe every one but Dr Solander were separately tempted with to embark without me not one would at all listen to any proposals which could be offered to them

Upon my refusal to go out the ships were orderd to proceed & in order to do

# Introduction

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as much as possible ever in the branch  
of natural history Mr. Forster a gentleman  
known to the learned world by his translations  
of several books was engaged under the immediate  
protection of the King & soon after Mr  
a young man who had chiefly studied  
architecture was joined to him as landscape  
& figure painter this young man was so  
much in debt that he was obliged to leave  
town without acquainting a single soul of  
where he intended to go & no sooner was it  
known that he was at Plymouth than Bayliff  
were sent down to apprehend him whom he  
escaped by keeping continually on board the  
ship with these gentlemen on board the  
ships Resolution & Adventure sailed from  
Plymouth on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July 1772.

In the mean time I had received several  
overtures from the East India Company who

## Introduction

seem'd inclin'd to send me on the same kind of voyage the next Spring as our Adventurers had, now set out upon

My People all continued faithfull to me even Mr Zoffani tho he was, the moment I refus'd to proceed, sent by the King to Copy some pictures for him in the Florentine Gallery engag'd to leave that business & return to me at a fortnights warning

The rest were all left upon my hands & as they were a considerable running expence I thought it prudent to employ them in some way or other to the advancement of science a voyage of some kind or other I wish'd to undertake & saw <sup>no</sup> ~~no~~ <sup>place</sup> at all within the compass of my time so likely to furnish me with an opportunity as Iceland a country which from its being in some measure

# Introduction

70

the property of a Danish Trading Company has been visited but seldom & never at all by any good naturalist to my knowledge the whole face of the country new to the Botanist & Zoologist as well as the many Volcanoes with which it is said to abound made it very desirable to explore it & tho' the season was far advanced yet something might be done at least hunts might be gathered which might promote the farther examination of it by some other.

Influenced by these reasons I applied to Baron Giedde the Danish Envoy who readily granted me a passport & having added to my people a gardener whose care was to be the preservation of live plants in tubs & beds I engaged a Brig of 190 tons the *Sir Lawrence* Captain Hunter with twelve men to

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proceed according to my directions at  
the Rate of 100 pounds a month for four  
months certain

List of the People who embarked  
with me on board the *S<sup>t</sup> Lawrence* Capt. Hunter

*S<sup>t</sup> Solander*

*S<sup>t</sup> Linds*

*Mr. Trill*

*Mr. Gore*

*Mr. Riddell*

*Mr. J. F. Miller*

*Mr. G. Miller*

*Mr. Clevely*

*Mr. Walden*

*Mr. Backstrom*

*Alex<sup>r</sup>. Scot*

*Peter Briscoe*

*Jam<sup>s</sup>. Roberts*

*Jno. Asquith*

*Peter Sidserf*

*Nich. Young*

*Jno. Marchant*

*Rob. Holbrook*

*Anthony Doney Cook*

*M<sup>r</sup>. Moreland a gardener*

*Alexander a malay who came  
with me from Batavia of these*

*Mr. Trill Mr. Gore & Mr. Riddell  
are independent of my original*

*plan I shall say a word or two of  
them Mr. Trill a young Swedish*

*gentleman who has made the Swedish  
language his study wished to embark*

*with me to make observations upon  
it Mr. Gore Lieut. in the navy who*

*has now 3 times circumnavigated  
the globe out of mere friendship chose*

*to take the trip Mr. Riddell a young  
gentleman intended for the sea*

*still intends to embark with me  
if I set a ship from the Company*

July  
72

from Gravesend

1.

12. at 11 at night sailed down the river from this place with a fair breeze of wind
13. this morn were at an anchor on the warp about 8 got under way, & soon after pass'd the Augusta Gatch with L<sup>d</sup> Sandwich on board who was just returning from his visitation of all the southern dock yards. about noon pass'd by dead it being the day twelvemonth since I landed there from my voyage round the world from hence we proceeded to Dover where I had promised to set Count Lauraguais ashore about 4 made a signal for a shore boat which immediately came off & carried us ashore here we were fortunate enough to meet an acquaintance Mr. Hatsell who was going over to Calais & undertook at my desire to carry on board I had with me Columba coronata Linn. to Calais from which place the Duc de Croij had undertaken to forward it to Mr. de Buffon for whom it was intended in the even walked up to the castle & observed the Great Brass Cannon which lies on the Cliff it is said to have been a present from the states to Queen Elisabeth.

& certainly is the handsomest & I believe the longest gun I have seen

14. The wind last night having blown too fresh for the ship to anchor at Dover I had sent her back to Deal so in the morning we followed her but had the mortification to find that the wind was settled at west so judged it more prudent to remain at anchor in the Downs than to attempt to proceed
15. this morn spent Botanizing about Sandown Castle where we observed nothing remarkable found however *Salix arenaria*? & *Silene caesia* as they are said to grow in Roys Synopsis after dinner a small breeze springing up at East we hurried on board & immediately set sail before however we could get the length of Beachy head the wind came to west & blew so fresh as to make me very sick
19. the wind has been in our teeth ever since the 15<sup>th</sup> & myself too sick to write now for the first time the weather is rather more



July  
1772.

Isle of Wight

3.

moderate & we hope to anchor within the  
Isle of Wight tonight in order to stop to day  
20. late last night we anchored in Cowes road  
& as we had now expended our small  
refreshments as Butter Eggs &c we resolv'd  
to go ashore in the morn accordingly at  
five we set out & landed in Cowes before  
the shops were open as the flood was  
to run till twelve however we had time  
to walk about a good deal.

Cowes is a pleasant town situate on  
the North side of the Isle of Wight its road  
is open but as the distance between the  
Island & the main is very short sufficiently  
well shelter'd tho it has no trade yet many  
ships touch here as their last port & clear  
themselves out also such American ships  
as are oblig'd to take England in their way  
home to dispose of their cargoes in Holland  
or Elsewhere. chuse this as a place likely  
to cause very little delay as they can  
sail from it with any wind

Here is a small port of no kind of

are I believe except its name may fright  
small privateers who ~~would~~ <sup>might</sup> molest the  
inhabitants in war times

on the south side of the town is a pretty  
large salt work where salt is made from  
the sea water which is pumped up into flat  
pens made in the mud 4 or 5 inches deep  
where the sun evaporates a great part of  
the water leaving the brine strong enough  
to be boiled down without any addition of rock  
salt as is usual at the salt springs the  
profits of the work seem however to be very  
small as the greatest quantity of salt  
that has ever been made there did not  
exceed 150 tons in a year & in general  
was under 100

in the course of our walks we observed  
*Rubia anglica* growing plentifully in the hedges  
near the road leading to Newport. *Anthemis*  
*maritima* near the salt works *linum platellan*  
*linum sylv. carul. &c.* Raii Synop. Edit 3 p. 362. N. 4  
which upon examination we were of opinion to

July  
1772

Cowes

5

be a very distinct species on the sea beach about 200 yards to the westward of the Fort a vein of very fine red ochre appeared at the surface of the earth below high water mark in all probability it runs under the hill which is common & might there be got to advantage

at 3 o'clock the tide of Ebb making we got under way & proceeded but the wind being contrary & our people very much tired we agreed to go no farther than Yarmouth at which place we arrived about 6 & as my servants desired almost all Landmen seemed desirous of a landing I resolved to carry every body ashore while the Crew of the Ship slept accordingly we landed with French Horns to the no small surprise of the people who little expected to see such a motley crew issue from so small a vessel

The town is small & ill built the people seem much less humanised than those of Cowes much less used I suppose to see Strangers the children followed us about the streets begging for halfpence

the town is very small & ill built yet here  
is a little fort which from the sea makes  
rather a formidable tho' an old fashioned  
appearance

near the town is a small salt work  
near which we gathered *Frankenia levis* in  
the meadows was plenty of *Linum glabellum*  
& here & there a little of the *Agrostis pallida*  
by the sea shore to the Eastward about a mile from  
the town were many flat plates of stone a  
little impregnated with Iron in which were  
many fine casts of shells

21. At 3 O'clock this morn we were called up  
to see the needle by which we passed & admired  
the small perpendicular rock resembling  
indeed a needle from which they probably  
had their name that very stone would certainly  
be an excellent station for observations to be  
made to prove whether or not the theory of  
the seas decrease is founded upon facts at  
present our pilot told me that at low water  
there was not more than three feet water  
between it & the larger rock which lies near

July  
1772

Plymouth

173

it is so & this paper should be read a thousand  
years hence that will probably be united ~~if~~  
if our present philosophers build upon good  
grounds

23 After a variety of winds & a total dearth  
of adventures we this day at noon arriv'd  
at Plymouth where to my great disappointment  
I learn'd that Mr. Arnold had carried my time  
keeper to London with him whether to evade  
a trial or through thoughtlessness I cannot  
say however to complain was needless so we  
spent our evening at the Long rooms which  
are neat & well situated for a beautifull  
prospect tho' I believe but ill frequented  
here is however every convenience to make  
tea bathing convenient Baths either hot  
or cold & a machine for fine weather in  
which you may bathe at any time of tide

24 this morn we set out for mount Edgcumb  
which is certainly a fine thing tho' I  
cannot help calling it even now a place  
of great capabilities was its noble owner

Mount Edgecumbe

a man of refined taste for saying ungrudgingly  
it certainly might be made a most elegant  
place at present nature is vast but  
absolutely naked. was the view it commands  
of the immense ocean with all its inhab-  
itants Plymouth sound the regions of  
vast ships lying there the dock the  
town & a fine country was this I say  
relieved by some internal beauties were  
there some vales where the mind might  
be relieved by bounded prospects how fine  
would it be but at present nature magni-  
ficent as she certainly is fatigues the mind  
with that very magnificence & where so ever  
she roves she can find no relief but is  
almost persecuted by repeated views of  
the sound of the dock of the town of  
the ships all which she at first compre-  
hended in one magnificent piece of scenery  
that fawns & sweetens voluptuously  
in speaking of first divided the good ones

July  
1772

Mount Edgcumb

9

into two classes those which were good with  
sauce he called Fish of merit those on the  
other hand which were good without sauce  
were Fish of Personal merit if the same  
distinction was to be applied to places Mount  
Edgcumb would certainly be a place of merit  
for it deserves I may say all the merit from  
the sauce that is the accompaniments with  
which nature not art has furnished it

from Mount Edgcumb we proceeded  
to the dock which is truly magnificent certainly  
the first in England of course the first in Europe  
the intended improvements which were  
planned by Sr Tho! Stede are not yet half  
executed they prosecute them however with  
great spirit the row walks which are now  
finished are six rows each twelve hundred  
feet in length the prettiest examples of  
Perspective that certainly can be seen  
at eleven at night we came on board &  
departed from this place with very little

10. off the Eddystone

- 25 wind but before morning got the wind at west which blew very fresh & not only prevented our proceeding but made me sicker than I have been since we sailed
- 26 this morn we were very little to windward of Plymouth sound quite calm we fished but caught nothing except 4 dogfish (Squalus beant?) or whose fins were however a new species of *Oniscus* the wind very soon breezed up a foul air & we spent the day advancing very little
27. this morn we were about 2 leagues from the headmen abreast of a town called Marazion in the Channel draught; seeing many fishing boats along shore we hoisted our colours on which a legion of small boats put off all however intended to buy of us any smuggling commodity we might have so our treaty ended not much to any of our satisfactions at twelve got the wind fair & with a fresh breeze proceeded along shore some Gannets or Solan geese were about the



July  
1772.

Lands End

11

31. Ship probably bred on some rock in this neighbourhood as those whose nests are once disturbed (as is probably the case with most of those which breed on the coast of Scotland) are said not to fly till the month of September.

About noon we got round the Lizard & met a large sea from the south westward which very soon incapacitated me from writing by making me more sick than I had been during my whole excursion.

28. This morn saw the fleet of Observation ten sail in all returning they seem'd to stand into Plymouth but we were too far off to attempt speaking to them at night we were near the Lands End & in the night got round it soon after got the wind at south which determin'd us to sail up the Irish channel.

29. Hazy weather & strong breeze at 1<sup>st</sup> we had steer'd from Cape Cornwall NNE for a short time & then NE which by our draughts should have carried us 5 leagues without the small rocks lying off St Davids Head.

## Irish Channel

at dinner time however we were surprised by the sight of breakers ahead no more than two miles off on which we hauld our wind & stood W. by which course we soon cleared them whether this was caused by the false position of these rocks in our charts those of Capt. J Collins & Mons<sup>r</sup> Japtes de Manvillette or by the indraught of the Bristol Channel I cannot with certainty affirm but suppose rather the latter to have been the occasion of it in the evening the weather cleared up & we steerd again NNE the wind still blowing strong on the Southern board in the morn we were abreast of Dublin & saw plainly the head of Hoath & Irelands Eye the weather fine & wind SW a fresh breeze many birds about the ship young & old Solan Geese puffins Guillemots & one large flock of Gulls at noon the high land of Dundrum in sight soon after we had a sight of man

July  
1772

Mul of Cantire

Page

13.

31. this morn we were off the mul of Cantire the  
tide set so strong against us that instead of  
gaining we lost ground very considerably  
from the shore of Scotland which we were very  
near to gives us wild an idea as any that  
can easily be conceived bare rock & heath constitute  
the greatest part yet here & there a miserable  
hut with a small enclosure seldom more than  
1/4 of an acre seems to tell you that the neighbour  
country is not better else a rational being  
would never fix upon so wretched a spot to  
continue his existence if a better could be found  
which he might get possession of  
In the bay towards Carnelstown the country  
indeed wears a more agreeable appearance pasture  
mixed with corn is to be seen on the face of some  
of the hills but we were at too great a distance  
to see any thing distinctly  
about noon the tide bore us strong into  
the mouth of Blyde that we were able to tack

stand over to the Coast of Ireland which here  
 cannot be above 8 Leagues from Scotland tho the  
 wind was very slight yet we soon ran over &  
 saw on that side a much better looking country  
 than on the scotch the Cultivations were larger  
 & the houses surrounded by an uncommon quantity  
 of outhouses so that each farm seem'd a little  
 village <sup>in the Evening</sup> at night it fell calm & I sent out a  
 party to shoot who shot Lemus & mus the  
 Common Gull & Alca arctica the Duffin Inlay  
 was new seen plain but we had no here sep  
 arriving there straight on account of the want  
 of wind at sunset a Seal was seen swimming  
 on the water

1. at day break this morn we anchored in Loch-  
 indale & went ashore immediately the town  
 of Bormore we found to consist of but few  
 houses among them however were two publick  
 ones these could supply us with victuals  
 but by no means with Lodging or even a  
 room to Eat in so it became necessary

Aug<sup>th</sup>  
1772.

Flay

15

to pitch our tents which was finished about 4 o'clock in the midst of an immense <sup>crowd</sup> of people who had been brought together on account of preparation for the Sacrament which is here administered only once a year & seems to be received with much more respect & much more generally than in England

The Evening proved rainy so we were obliged to amuse ourselves with a plentiful Highland dinner composed of various legs of mutton & puddings which shew'd the plentifulness of the Country & that Luxury had yet made few advances in it. Some Gentlemen of the Country dined with us & after dinner introduced us to some of the Ladies who gave us tea & thus we at once commenced an acquaintance in this Country

2. Being Sunday an immense concourse of people came to receive the Sacrament so many that the three Clergymen officiated by turns the Communicants pass'd & repass'd till after six o'clock this whole day it rained immoderately <sup>to</sup> from which circumstance chiefly we owe

the preservation of our characters for had we done any kind of work even walked out Boston on a day held so sacred in this country the black cal would have been irreversibly set upon us

3. tho it still rained our patience was so far worn out that we began set out this morn & scarcely had we proceeded a mile toward a hill where we met a subject that attracted our attention a right hand house so miserably constructed that it tempted us to have drawings made of every particular in it was built of stones so loosely laid together that wind & rain could scarcely be stopt in their course by them there were two doorways one of which served at all times for a window for the house was furnished with only one door or rather substitute for one a faggot of sticks not more closely tied up than faggots in general are which was occasionally placed in one or the other doorway as the family found it most convenient

in the middle of the house was the fire over which hung a hot stick not in the chimney

Aug<sup>th</sup>  
1772.

Ila

19.

but under that hole which was made in the roof as an expedient to let out a part of the smoke which it did but not till after the house was full so that none seemd to be lookd upon as superfluous but the more overflowings. round this upon miserable benches sat the family consisting of a weaver his wife her mother a stranger woman & six children there had two beds to accomodate them the rest of the furniture consisted of a table & a camp

Few as these conveniences were to be allotted to the use of ten people yet they all appeared chearfull & content rather more so than common & the man in particular answerd all our questions with that becoming ease that total absence of mauvais honte that the whole scotch nation are blest with in a degree so superior to the English to which chiefly I am much inclin'd to attribute the great success that their adventurers meet with in our capital

from hence we proceeded to Skellan a small town at the head of the bay the residence of Mr Campbell of Shafeld the principal proprietor of

Jha

the Island a very bad house is the best in the Island but as he very seldom resides here it is very sufficient

in the Town of Kullam is the remains of a religious foundation in the neighbourhood are several tombstones said to have been brought from Lough Finlagan where M<sup>r</sup> Sobell King of the Isles had his residence of them I ordered my draughtsmen to copy several & then proceeded to some lead mines about four miles in the Country the stratum in which the lead lies is found to be limestone exactly similar to that of the peak of Derbyshire & like it having shale for the stratum above it these strata I was told lay in one lump in the middle of the Island & do not reach the sea in any direction the mines at present bear a promising appearance they have been originally worked open cast by the Danes as the people say this gives a great advantage to a speculative miner for the tops of the veins being laid bare it is easy to judge by their directions where they



August  
1772.

Gla

19.

will meet at present the Lince Mr. Greenbairn  
is working on with spirit & will soon arrive at  
a place where five of them probably run together  
in one point so that probably they may turn  
out very rich at present his far feet carries  
4 inches of ore

4. Weather again so rainy that it was impossible  
to see any thing with pleasure we went however  
to see a Cave near Laggan of which we had heard  
a very pompous account but found it a dirty  
nasty hollow in a rock about 100 feet in depth  
from whence we received no satisfaction but from  
the following experiment

having when we came to the cave no fire  
we attempted to light one by firing gunpowder  
just within the mouth of the cave when we  
had lighted our candles we were surpris'd  
to find that the smoke had penetrated to  
the very bottom of the cave & was there so  
thick that we could scarce see our way

5 the weather still continued rainy the the  
Barometer stood at  $29 \frac{98}{100}$  however we resolv'd

to remove from a place where in reality we could see nothing at all we resolved to remove to the other side of the Island & no sooner had we signified that intention than the Gentlemen of the Island sent us above 20 horses to induce us to travel by Land we accepted their invitation & ordered the ship to come round with all expedition to the Sound of Jla our journey was about 12 miles over a Countrey in which cultivation has yet made but a small progress the Soil of the whole Island is a kind of Turf under which lies marl of different kinds which being got up & only thrown upon the surface of the Land under which it lies immediately destroys the turf & brings the Land to a fine turf which will yield very good crops of Corn as experience has shewn particularly in the farm of Mr. Graham who improves his farm with great spirit & as great success the first principle of improvement is however in this Island totally neglected I mean that of dividing the Lands in Whole Island is scarcely

August  
1772

Jla

21.

a hedge or a wall this at once prevents them from having any wood, winter corn, or hay in the Island for in wintertime the black cattle of which they rear great numbers run all over the Island without the least check feeding upon whatever they can find & tho' there are many valleys in the Island full of British wood oak ash birch &c they are never allowed to rise above man height

at in the evening we arrived at Mr Freebaums house on the sound of Jla where we were entertained the house is situated in a very romantic spot under an almost overhanging cliff close by the sea side here not above an English mile in breadth ~~but~~ on one side a small brook tumbles down from the hill in a pretty cascade in front is the Island of Jurah barrow indeed but rising into two hills higher than any in that neighbour hood near his house is a very good air furnace at which he smelts the lead produced by his mines

6. The weather in the morning being tolerably fine I resolved not to lose that opportunity of going upon the <sup>of Jura</sup> high hills on the Island of that name

lying opposite & about 8 miles from the place where we were accordingly we set out carrying a barometer with us in order to measure the height of the hill about half way up the hill we met a covey of Ptarmigan & I was fortunate enough to shoot two they are clearly the same bird as the white Partridges of the Northern countries but differ from them in that they never come down to the low country but keep always upon the highest hills so at least the gentlemen who were with us universally asserted we found them in a place covered with large stones so thick that not the least vegetable was to be seen the country people went so far as to assert that they were found in no other places & that they verily believed the birds to feed upon nothing but stones as they had never found any other thing in their crops which is not difficult to account for as people cannot be supposed to arrive very early at the places they frequent & towards the middle of the day the food of the morning being digested leaves nothing in their maws

August  
1772.

Jura

23

but the stones of which these birds use a large quantity

About 12 we arrived at the top of the southermost of the hills & immediately set up our barometer & observed every four quarters of an hour the medium height we found about  $27 \frac{7}{10}$  <sup>inch</sup> the mist was now thick upon the hill & the thermometer about  $56^{\circ}$ . we observed that the columns of mist which passed quick over as sometimes thicker & at others of a thinner substance altered the height of the mercury very fast the dense ones lowering the mercury & the thinner ones on the contrary raising it indeed it seldom remained many minutes of the same height these variations however were but small never arising to  $\frac{1}{20}$  of an inch in all

The hill itself does not raise high enough to produce alpine plants we found not one species of Saxifraga nor indeed any one plant that inhabits the regions near perpetual snow many of which are found upon Snowden Cader Idris & even the Van in Caermarthenshire the sides near the top & for  $\frac{1}{3}$  down are frequently covered <sup>for</sup> with large tracts with vast stones of

all kinds of dimensions the sides & angles of which were perfectly sharp so that they must have been laid there since any great Power of water has acted so high by what operation of nature I cannot guess possibly by fire but no remaining signs of that Element which generally leaves conspicuous enough traces of its operations occur to me the fog indeed being thick upon the hill prevented our seeing 100 yards before us in any direction so we might omit to observe things which may be very palpable to those who come after us

Having finished our Observations we did & then erected a heap of Stones about 7 feet high on which we erected an upright one as a token of the place we had chose we meant then to have proceeded to the middlemost of the peaks but having no one in Company who had been there & the mist being too thick to allow us at all to see the road we thought it more prudent to desist from the attempt accordingly we set out on our descent in the course of

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Juras

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which we again saw the Ptarmigan's & when we got so near the foot of the hill as to be out of the mist a few Moor fowl about 7 we arrived at Mr. Frebairns when on comparing the Barometer which we had left with him with ours we found it had stood at about  $30^{\circ} \frac{2}{10} \frac{34}{500}$  the difference between the two observations after the usual corrections gives about 2359 feet which I suppose to be near about the height of the mountain.

7. This morn the ship came round to us the weather being fine & clear & land got ashore the Equatorial in order to fix the Latitude of Freeport the place we were at which he found to be  $55^{\circ} 52' 32''$  in the mean time I set the Draughtsman to work more to incuse them to drawing than from any thing curious which I had to propose. we then dined with Maj<sup>r</sup> Donald Campbell from whom we had received many civilities & at night proceeded to the ship in order to go to sea in the morn.
8. the wind coming so critically foul that we could not break loose the ship I resolv'd to take this

opportunity of visiting Oransay an Island in  
the neighbourhood where I had been told were  
some considerable remains of an ancient  
Monastery Accordingly we set out in the boat &  
tho it blew very fresh & rained arrived there in  
about 2 hours dripping wet as we were  
we immediately made towards the only good  
house in the Island the Master Mr. Macneil  
was not at home but a relation of his Capt.  
Macdonnell received us immediately with all  
the marks of hospitality which tho not to be met  
with in England are yet so common in these  
unpolished countries every kind of refreshment  
was produced in a moment & every assistance  
to enable us with greater ease to examine  
& take drawings of such things as we might  
think worth our attention we did not indeed  
find much the church & buildings about  
it were all in a very ruinous state we made  
draughts however of every thing remarkable  
in one of the Chapels was a singular



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Oransay

27.

instance of superstition it was the burying  
place of the Macduffies or M'Fee as they are  
called in one corner of this was a wand about  
18 feet long supported by a stone through which a  
hole had been made for that purpose this we  
were told was the flag staff of a M'fee who  
had been buried above 200 years on this the  
people here believe the fate of the M'fee family  
to depend they are to last sayd there as long  
as this staff but will be extinct as soon as it  
is taken away or destroyed we behaved to it with  
the utmost respect tho we could not help  
jazzying that this Macfee had renewed it  
several times since the death of their great  
Predecessor.

at night we returned to the ship & the  
next morning the wind being fair took leave  
of the Sounds of Fla famous for having been choise  
as an anchoring place by Theodor when he visited  
Scotland during the last war

He anchored at the N.W. mouth of the  
Sound in a place where it was not usual for Ships  
to lie the inhabitants went off to him & told him

so but he in return told them that he knew  
 its conveniences far better than they did which  
 in reality was true. He was in such a position  
 that was he pursued by a superior force by taking  
 the advantage of the tides which he was perfectly  
 acquainted with he could run out either at one  
 or the other passage so avoid his enemy and  
 whether or not his orders were to enquire  
 if any remains of the spirit of rebellion was still  
 to be found among these people he certainly took  
 every means in his power to please them they now  
 speak of him with the utmost regret among the  
 instances of his lenity I will relate some

While he lay at anchor in the Sound  
 there were several sail of West Indiamen in  
 Lochindale a few leagues only from them instead of  
 making them a prize he sent round to them to  
 advise them to go to sea for said he should any  
 bad weather oblige me to come into Lochindale I  
 shall be obliged to take them all

Some of the soldiers that he had on board  
 having been landed for refreshment began with  
 their bayonets to dig up the potatoes thinking

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Gla

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them fair plunders in an enemies country he seeing this from the ship sent word ashore that if they did not desist even from that small mischief he would instantly fire upon them from the ship.

He had while he lay here furnished himself with all kinds of refreshments which the people willingly supplied him with to prevent his people from plundering among other things he had met a vessel loaded with meal intended for one of our garrisons in the highlands for all these things he was preparing to pay at the market price when his officers remonstrated saying that it was wrong to pay an enemy for what was fair plunder he persisted & called a council of war in which his opinion was overruled on this say the blunders he produced an order signed by the king of France sign manual that no kind of damage should be done to the Scotch in any shape or kind this done he paid for every thing at the prizes set upon them & to the meal vessel he gave as well as the price of this meal the freight & profit which he would have made had he continued his voyage

having heard much from all kinds of people of a whirlpool between the Islands of Jura & Scarba which they represented almost if not quite as remarkable as the famous Maelstrom of Norway I thought it incumbent upon me to see it tho' the tides being at present very low gave me little hopes of seeing any thing very extraordinary accordingly I order'd the ship round to Scarba where we were told it might be seen with the greatest conveniency & about 12 landed with provisions & a little tent this we pitched both having waited with impatience the whole tide saw nothing at all remarkable there was it is true a strong current & a few whirlpools made I believe by the meeting of two tides but not enough to have endangered the smallest wherry that ever swam

Mr Macneil the principal gentleman in the Island was polite enough to walk over a very rough road to the uncultivated place which (it being Sunday) we had purposely chose to avoid he asked us home to his house which we readily accepted as it gave us an opportunity of asking questions from a man who living upon the spot must have a perfect knowledge of the Whirlpool

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Scarba

31.

it is called in the Galick Cory Urehan & much feared by navigators in general who tell wonderfull stories of force & violence & of the ships that have at different times been destroyed sunk in by its violence only in passing by the mouth of it

Mr Macneal told us that indeed at spring tides & especially with a NW wind there was a very great rippling & dashing together of the waves yet he who had lived there many years never knew of more than one boat lost in it & that a small one carrying only two men he had known however of several that had been in it during the time of its raging which tho' supposed to have been in great danger had escaped

at night we went on board the wonder of Cory Urehan being much sunk in the opinions of every one of us I can say no more of it however than just advise any traveler who may come after us to chuse a spring tide & NW wind when he shall go to see it or expect very little amusement

10. from hence I was desirous of proceeding to  
 of Columb Hill the only thing in this part of  
 the highlands that I knew of & wish'd to see I  
 therefore attempted to persuade the pilot to go  
 straight to it he refus'd & insisted on going  
 through the sound of Mull this the tedious I  
 was oblig'd to submit to & accordingly weigh'd with  
 the first of the flood & proceeded towards them  
 before noon we pass'd the Slate Isles two  
 small rocks neither of them more than a  
 mile in circumference many shags are  
 however every year load'd from them a little  
 after noon we arriv'd at Lough Don where we  
 were to stay till morn for the tide

as I had no other occupation to attract  
 my attention & the shore was almost without  
 either houses or cultivation I employ'd the even  
 in a manner of fishing quite new to me  
 we had rods about ten feet long to which  
 were fasten'd hair lines a little longer than  
 the rods the hooks which were of the size  
 commonly us'd for trout were baited with  
 a small white feather when we fish'd we

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Sound of Mull

33.

row'd our boat very gently through the water & immer'd the points of our rods about 3 feet under the water behind her by this uncommon method of fishing we caught a tolerable plenty of Fish call'd here Grey fish (*Gadus carbonarius* Lin.) call'd on the York shire coast Coal fish. These were a little larger than a herring & I found took our feather bait supposing it to be young herrings of which we saw innumerable shoals about 2 inches long

11. This morn while the ship waited for the tide I went out with my gun & among the numbers of Gulls which I kill'd as all our gentlemen think their excellent meat was an Arctick Gull *Larus parasiticus* Lin. the first I ever saw a bird I believe scarce in this country as some of the country gentlemen who were on board did not know it with the tide of flood we proceeded & soon came in sight of Castle Daart upon Mull the last of the line of forts intended in case of rebellion to cut off the highlands from the lowlands a more miserable remains of an ancient fort I never saw it appear'd scarce wind tight & water

light it looked picturesque however & had it been  
 the Garrison I was told consisted of sixteen private  
 & an Ensign the greatest part of whom I saw lying  
 upon a hillside just by their door sunning  
 themselves

Mull was now on our left hand & Morocco  
 on our right the former shew'd but a barren  
 appearance the latter look'd much more fertile  
 here & there were pretty banks of wood particularly  
 in the neighbourhood of a small ruinous Castle  
 call'd Artaurinis h a most elegant one through  
 which two pretty considerable brooks come  
 foaming down to the sea

Morocco the Land of Heroes, the seat of  
 the exploits of Gengis <sup>the</sup> mother of the  
 romantick scenery of Africa I could not even  
 sail past it without a touch of Enthusiasm  
 sweet affection of the mind which can gather  
 pleasures from the Empty Elements & realise  
 substantial pleasure which three fourths of  
 mankind are ignorant of I lamented the busy  
 bustle of the ship & had I daerd to venture  
 the censure of my companions would certainly



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Morven

35.

have brought her to an anchor to have read ten pages of Opiar under the shades of those woods would have been luxury above the reach of kings

We soon after passed by the mouth of a beautiful little inlet tho the tide was not half spent I ventured to propose a wish to go in there but the Council pilot declared that it was a bar harbour into which we could not go but at high water

Evening came on & the tide became unfavourable we anchored as fate directed in as ugly a spot as we could have chose along the whole coast sufficiently so I think to have destroyed the Enthusiasm of even an Opiar the Master of a pretty little house however came off to us & as we wished to see the burning of Kelp an operation which was then going on along the coast offered to accompany us

The Kelpers were at work by the sea side they had got together many little heaps of sea weed piled up like small haycocks withered pretty much by the sun yet by no means thoroughly dry this material they continually heaped

upon a fire made in a frame of stones about 20 feet long 4 feet broad & three deep. Mr Morrison our host informed us that this crop of sea weed was regularly cut from the rocks on which it grows above low water mark once in three years & that it does not grow to perfection in a less time. The people are very careful to have fine & fair weather for this business for rain falling during the time that the weeds are exposed vastly lessens the produce of salts. The kiln also said he should be built so that one of its longest sides fronts the wind which most generally blows as when the wind blows in that direction it burns much faster & more even when every thing said he succeeds well. The kelp is a valuable part of our estates two men can burn above a ton in a day which brings in £4=10. or £5 in hard money.

During the course of this conversation the kiln was ready for laying what they call a floor the people then ceased to heap on fresh sea weed & in a short time the kiln was

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Morven

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thoroughly ignited the bottom was then covered with red hot ashes above 18 inches deep this said our host would be mere ashes worth little did not the operation they are now going to perform render it a solid body & by that means marketable the men in the mean time took each a pole of about 8 feet long headed with an iron crooked like a hough with this they briskly stirred the ashes to & fro till by degrees they came to a mass half vitrified & very much resembling soft dough this they beat & poked about with their poles for about half an hour then they let it settle it soon was covered with a hard crust almost resembling Lava which in another half hour was ready for another bed of ashes accordingly they began anew to burn the sea weed & we left them myself at least totally unable to account for the vitrification of the matter so suddenly being produced by merely stirring the mass about

12 Last night being very fine we moved in the night & towards morning the tide being spent

Came to an anchor on the Morvenside opposite  
 a small gentlemen's house call'd <sup>Drammen</sup> ~~Drammen~~  
 the Master of it Mr McLean having found out  
 who we were very cordially ask'd us ashore we  
 accepted his invitation & arriv'd at his house  
 where we met an english gentleman Mr. Leach  
 who no sooner saw us than he told us that  
 about 9 leagues from us was an Island which  
 he believ'd no one even in the highlands had seen  
 on which were pillars like those of the Giants  
 Causeway. This was a great object to me who  
 had wish'd to have seen the Causeway itself w<sup>h</sup>  
 time have allow'd I therefore resolv'd to proceed  
 directly especially as it was <sup>just</sup> directly in the  
 way to y<sup>e</sup> Columb Hill accordingly having  
 put up two days provision & my little tent  
 we put off in the boat about 7 o'clock for  
 our intended voyage having order'd the ship  
 to wait for us in Tobir more a very fine  
 harbour on the Mull side

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Staffa

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at 9 O'clock after a tedious passage having had  
not a breath of wind we arrived under the direction  
of Mr. McLean son & Mr. Leach it was too dark  
to see any thing so we carried our tent & baggage  
near the only house upon the Island & began  
to cook our suppers in order to be prepared for  
the earliest dawn to enjoy that which from  
the conversation of the Gentlemen we had now  
rais'd the highest expectations of

our tent was small it weigh'd altogether only  
27 lb we were 9 in number we might sleep  
in it but not without crowding it was therefore  
resolv'd that some might sleep among the  
children in the house & 4 volunteers with Dr  
Solander at their head undertook the business  
the house was smoky having no kind of vent  
for the smoke but the door this was judg'd a  
trifling inconvenience Lice was the only bear 10  
an enquiry was enter'd into the women as to  
the Gentlemen that no such vermin harboured there  
on the strength of that assurance our Gentlemen

having eat their suppers betook themselves to rest

13. the impatience which every body felt to see the wonders we had heard so largely described prevented our morning's rest every one was up & in motion before the break of day & with the first light arriv'd at the SW part of the Island the sight of the most remarkable pillars where we no sooner arriv'd than we were struck with a scene of magnificence which exceeded our expectations the form as we thought upon the most sanguine foundations the whole of that End of the Island was supported by ranges of natural pillars the most of which were above 50 feet high standing in natural Colonades according as the bays or points of Land form themselves: upon a firm basis of solid uniform rock Above these the stratum which reaches to the soil or surface of the Island varied in thickness as the Island itself ~~was~~ form'd into hills or vallies each hill which hung over the Columns below forming an

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ample pediment some of <sup>them</sup> ~~which~~ were above  
60 feet in thickness from the base to the point  
found by the sloping of the hill on each side  
almost into the shape of those used in architecture

Compared to this what are the Cathedrals or  
the palaces built by man mere models or  
play things imitations as diminutive as <sup>his</sup> the works  
of man will always be when compared to those of  
nature where is now the boast of the architect  
regularity the only part in which he fancied  
himself to exceed his mistress nature is here  
found in her possession & here it has been for  
ages uncounted. is not this the school where the  
art was originally studied & what had been added  
to this by the whole grecian school a Capital to  
ornament the Column which nature had given them  
of which they could execute only a model & that  
for that very capital they were obliged to a bush  
of acanthus

how amply does nature repay those who study  
her wonderfull works

with our minds full of such reflections we  
proceeded along the shore treading upon another

Giants Causeway Every stone being regularly  
 joined into a certain number of sides & angles  
 till in a short time we arrived at the mouth of a  
 Cave the most magnificent I suppose that has  
 ever been described by travelers its depth from  
 the pitch of the arch to the bottom 250 feet its  
 height at the entrance 117-6 at the bottom 70 feet  
 the whole supported by regular pillars ranging  
 on each side the bottom was water shoaling  
 gradually from three fathoms to 9 feet its breadth  
 at the pitch of the arch 53-7. at the farther end  
 20 feet

the mind can hardly form an Idea more  
 magnificent than such a space supported on  
 each side by ranges of Columns & roofed by  
 the bottoms of those which have been broke off  
 in order to form it between the angles of which  
 a yellow stalagmitick matter has exuded <sup>twice</sup> which  
 so define the angles precisely & at the same  
 time vary the colour with a great deal of  
 elegance & to render it still more agreeable the  
 whole is lighted from without so that the  
 farthest extremity is very plainly seen from



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Staffa

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without & the air within being agitated by the  
flux & reflux of the tides is perfectly dry &  
wholesome free intirely from the damp vapours  
with which natural cavern in general abound

We asked the name of it. Oura Eehn  
said our guide the Cave of Fuirin what is  
Fuirin said we Fuirin Mac Coal whom the  
translator of Ossians works has called Fingal how  
fortunate that in this cave we should meet  
with the remembrance of that chief whose existence  
as well as that of the whole Epic poem is almost  
doubted in England

Enough for the beauties of Staffa I shall now  
proceed to describe it & its productions more  
Philosophically

The little Island of Staffa lies on the West  
Coast of Mull about 3 leagues N E from Jona or  
St Columbs Hill its greatest length is about an English  
mile & its breadth about half a one on the west  
side of the Island is a small bay where boats  
generally land a little to the southward of which  
the first appearance of pillars are to be observed  
they are small & instead of being placed upright  
lie down on their sides each forming a segment

of a circle from thence you pass a small Cave above which the pillars now grown a little larger are inclining in all directions in one place in particular a small map of them very much resemble the ribs of a ship. From hence having passed the Cave which if it is not low water you must do in a boat you come to the first ranges of pillars which are still not above half as large as a little beyond over against this place is a small Island called in Cree Booshe la separated from the main by a channel not many fathoms wide this whole island is composed of Pillars without any stratum above them they are still small but by much the neatest formed of any about the place the first division of the Island for at high water it is divided into two makes a kind of a cone the Pillars converging together towards the Centre on the other they are in general laid down flat & in the front next the main you see how beautifully they are pecked together their ends come out square with the Bank which they form all these have their transverse sections exact which is by no means the case with the larger ones

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Stafia

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& in general they are smooth on all their surfaces when on the other hand the large ones are eroded in all directions I much question however if any one in the whole Island is two feet in diameter

The main Island opposite Boosha la & farther towards the NW is supported by ranges of pillars pretty erect & tho not tall as they are not uncovered to the base of large diameters at their feet is an irregular pavement made by the upper sides of such as have been broken off which reaches as far under water as the Eye can reach here the forms of the Pillars are apparent these are of three four five six & seven sides but the numbers of five & six are by much the most prevalent the largest I measured was of seven it was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft in diameters I shall give the measurement of its sides & those of some other forms which I met with

N <sup>o</sup> 1. 4 sides diam. $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft	N <sup>o</sup> 2. 5 sides diam. 2.10
Side 1: $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft	1: 1. 10.
2: 1. 1.	2: 2. 10.
3: 1. 6	3: 1. 5
4: 1. 1.	4: 1. $7\frac{1}{2}$
	5: 1. 8.

N<sup>o</sup> 3. 6 sides diam. 3:6: N<sup>o</sup> 4. 7 sides diam 4.5.

1: 0. 10.

1: 2. 10

2: 2. 2.

2: 2. 4

3: 2. 2

3: 1. 10

4: 1. 11.

4: 2. 0

5: 2. 2.

5: 1. 1.

6: 2. 9

6: 1. 6.

7: 1. 3.

The surfaces of these large pillars in general is rough & uneven full of cracks in all directions the transverse fissures in the upright ones are by no means regular but the perpendicular ones never fail to run in their true directions the surfaces upon which we walked were often flat having neither concavity nor convexity the larger number however were concave tho some were very evidently convex in some places the interstices <sup>within</sup> between the perpendicular fissures were filled up with a yellow spar in one place a vein passed in among the mass of pillars carrying here & there small threads of Spar these tho they were broken & cracked through & through in all directions yet their Perpendicular fissures might easily be traced from whence it is easy to infer

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Staffa

47.

That whatever the accident might have been that  
caused the dislocation it happened after the formation  
of the pillars

From hence proceeding along shore you soon  
arrive at Fingals Cave its dimensions tho I have  
before given I shall here again repeat in the form  
of a table

	ft	inch
Depth of the Cave from the rock without	371	6
from the pitch of the Arch	250	0
Breadth of it: at the mouth	53	7
at the farther end	20	0
Height of the Arch at the mouth	107	6
at the end	70	0
Height of an outside pillar	39	6
of one at the NW. Corner	54	0
Depth of water at the mouth	18	0
at the bottom	9	0

the Cave runs into the rock in the direction of  
NE by E by the Compass  
Proceeding farther to the NW you meet with  
the highest ranges of pillars the magnificent  
appearance of which exceeds all description  
here they are all bare to their very basis &

the Stratum below them is also visible in a short  
 time it rises many feet above the water & gives  
 an opportunity of Examining its quality its surface  
 rough & uneven has often large lumps of Stone  
 sticking in it as if half immersed itself when  
 broken is composed of a thousand heterogeneous parts  
 which together have very much the appearance  
 of the surface of a lava & the more so as many of  
 the lumps in it appear to be of the very same  
 Stone of which the Pillars are formed this whole  
 Stratum lies in an inclined Position dipping gradually  
 down towards the S.E. as herabouts is the situation of  
 the highest pillars I shall mention my measurements  
 of them & the different Strata in this place premising  
 that the measurements were made with a line held  
 in the hand of a person who stood at the top of the  
 Cliff & reaching to the bottom to the lower end of which  
 was tied a white mark which was observed by one  
 who staid below for the purpose when this mark  
 was set off from the water the Person below noted  
 it down & made a signal to him above who made  
 there a mark in his rope when ever this mark

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passed a notable place the same signal was made,  
& the name of the place noted down as before the line  
being all hauled up the distances between the marks  
made upon it measured & noted gave when compar'd  
with the book kept below the distances required as  
for instance in the Cave No. 1 in the book below was  
called from the water to the foot of the first pillar  
in the book above no 1. gave 36. feet 8 inches the  
height of that ascent which was composed of Broken  
Pillars

No. 1. Pillar at the West Corner of Fingals Cave

1. from the water to the foot of the Pillar. 12. 10.
2. height of the Pillar . . . . . 37. 3.
3. Stratum above the Pillar . . . . . 66. 9.

No. 2. Fingals Cave

1. From the water to the foot of the Pillar. 36. 8.
2. height of the pillar . . . . . 39. 6.
3. from the top of the pillar to the top of the Arch 31. 4
4. thickness of the Stratum above . . . . . 34. 4

by adding together the three first measurements we  
get the height of the Arch from the water 107. 6

N<sup>o</sup> 3. Corner Pillar to the westward of Fingals Cave

Stratum below the pillar of Lava like matter. N. 0

Height of Pillar . . . . . 54.0

Stratum above the Pillar . . . . . 61.6.

N<sup>o</sup> 4. another pillar to the westward

Stratum below the Pillar . . . . . 17.1.

Height of the Pillar . . . . . 50.0.

Stratum above . . . . . 51.1.

N<sup>o</sup> 5. another pillar farther to the westward

Stratum below the Pillar . . . . . 19.8.

Height of Pillar . . . . . 55.1.

Stratum above . . . . . 54.7.

The Stratum above the pillars which is here mentioned is uniformly the same consisting of numberless small pillars bending & inclining in all directions sometimes so irregularly that the stones can only be said to have an inclination to form into a rough shape in Mass more regular but never breaking into or disturbing the Stratum of large pillars whose tops every where keep a uniform & regular line



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Proceeding <sup>now</sup> along shore round the North end of the Island you arrive at Oua na Scarve or the Cormorants Cove here the stratum under the Pillars is lifted up very high the Pillars above it are considerably less than those at the West end of the Island but still very considerable Beyond is a bay which cuts deep into the Island rendering it in that place not more than a quarter of a mile over on the sides of this bay especially beyond a little valley which almost cuts the Island into two are two stages of Pillars but small however having a stratum between them exactly the same as that above them formed of innumerable little pillars shaken out of their places & leaning in all directions Having passed this bay the pillars still please the rock is of a dark brown stone & no signs of regularity occur till you have passed round the SE end of the Island a space almost as large as that occupied by the Pillars which you meet again on the West side beginning to form themselves irregularly as if the stratum had an inclination to that form & soon arrive at the Bending pillars

where I began

The Stone of which the Pillars is formed is a coarse kind of Basalt very much resembling that of the Giants Causeway in Ireland the none of them are near so neat as the specimens of the latter which I have seen at the British museum owing chiefly to the Colour which in ours is a dirty brown in the Irish a fine black indeed the whole production seems very much to resemble the Giants Causeway with which I should willingly compare it had I any account of the former before me

about 4 O'clock our drawings & measurements of the Pillars were finished & having resolved to proceed to y Columbkille that night we hasted to the tent in order to get our dinner the Gentlemen who slept in the house last night had during the morning become sensible that they were attended by some Guest whose Company they did not much approve they therefore complained to the owner of the house with some petulance the man who overheard answered in Erse with a great deal of Slang & void lie indeed if they leave any lie

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Staffa. J. M. D. V.

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they certainly brought them here for I am sure  
there were none upon the Island when they came  
pleas'd at his presence of mind we took leave having  
satisfie'd him for the Potatoes fish & milk which  
notwithstanding his poverty he has supplied us  
with during our stay with the utmost hospitality  
& which with the wild Pigeons & Rabbits we had had  
supply'd us with the greatest part of our diet  
at 5 we embark'd & before 8 arriv'd at Inna  
or of Columb Kill famous for its religious foundation  
suppos'd to be the source from whence Christianity has  
flow'd over the Island of Great Britain  
we were receiv'd here by a number of people  
who told us that they they had heard of our coming &  
propos'd us every convenience the town could afford  
but we soon found the difference between these & the  
simple people we had had to do with before few  
strangers as these people had seen those few had  
corrupted the hospitality of their country one of  
the first questions ask'd us after we had agreed to  
accept their offers was how much we would give  
a question which had not been put to us since we  
came into the highlands till this time

as it is a much easier matter to deal with people for a favour before it is received than after we repaid that they had not arrived at the next step of civilization that of Bestowing and after the receipt requiring an enormous recompence our bargain was soon made we were furnished with an empty house plenty of clean straw & some curds & cream & a good fire which we could well have dispensed with as money could not purchase a chimney to let out the smoke we therefore put it out & having eat our courd suppe retired to rest

14. Tho we were up very early this morn the rain which fell in plenty would not allow us to pursue our enquiries it was matter of rejicing however that yesterday had been fine about five it grew more moderate & we proceeded to the ruins of a manney which stood near our lodgings there was little worth observing every thing being in an absolute state of desolation the very chapel turned into a cow house in which no one monument was to be seen but one which had lately been dug by Mr. Penant from under above 3 feet of

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St Columb Kil

55.

Law dung ~~which~~ <sup>on this</sup> was inscribed the name of a priorep  
on one end of the stone was the figure of the lady  
on the other that of the virgin & child the virgin having  
on her head an episcopal mitre

from hence we proceeded to the great  
church which like the other is an absolute ruin  
inhabited however by Cornish Choughs Ruyton  
Crows & Jackdaws it is built in the form of  
a Crose pretty large & is on every side surrounded  
by chapels ~~sc.~~ both adjoining to & detached from  
it the Church yard is totally overgrown with  
the largest plants of Petesites I have seen which  
renders it impossible to search after inscriptions  
in the summer time there is however a handsome  
Crose dedicated to St Martin & a broken one to St  
John.

Our guides who boasted that he was descended  
both by Father & Mother from those who came over  
with St Columba carried us under the ample shade  
of the Petesites stopping us every here & there to  
inform us of the places where Kings & nobles  
had been interred here said he is a King of France  
here one of Sweeden here 4 of England here

of Norway & here 40 of Scotland <sup>the trust of</sup> for all these things however we were obliged to confide in his knowledge derived as he told us from his grandmother as neither stone nor inscription gave us the least light

Powerful Columba to have things so much revere his foundation as to bury in the open ground while saints & abbots only enjoyed the cover of the church

in a short time we arrived at the Chapel of Oran a fellow saint or as our guide told us a brother of Columba who to forward the great work undertook in obedience to a vision of Columba to be buried alive in this place & was accordingly interred the next day he was dug up & found alive no sooner was he uncovered than he began to blaspheme crying out You are all deceived hell is a trifle & the Devil a mere illusion invented to deceive you Columba hearing this with great presence of mind cry'd out Earth upon the head of Oran he was instantly obey'd & poor Oran buried again never more to arise till the last trumpet shall awake him

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1772.

St Columbk Hill

57.

this story is told in almost the same words  
in Macphersons dissertation on the origin &c of the  
Caledonians p. 375. but as the tradition is singular &  
I had it from the mans own mouth I could not  
avoid repeating it

In Orans Chapel it was easy to observe  
that tho in the Early times Shrovs buried in  
the churchyard lateraly Laymen of less dignity  
got places in the church here were knights  
in abundance but none very old on the North  
side under an arch above the pitch of which  
is the remains of a Crucifix a singular  
inscription may be seen upon a stone exactly  
resembling those laid over the dead called here  
Lay stones we read it thus

Hic est crux Sacclenni meic Fingone  
Et ejus filii Johannis abbatis de H4  
facta anno Domini MCCCC LXXXIX

Possibly the Father was interred here tho the stone  
does not declare it as for John the abbot he lies  
under a pompous tomb of black marble in the  
Church itself

in passing through the churchyard we  
were very frequently shewn the crossing place

of Particular families as M'neals M'Donalds  
 &c. who we were told bury there to this day  
 among the superstitions existing yet which  
 seem to derive their origin from the most ancient  
 times we observed two singular ones

In the way from Orans chapel to the great  
 church were 6 stones form'd conically as if  
 intended to beat or bruise corn or any thing which  
 might be laid under them these rested on a  
 flat plate of stone our guide desired us to turn  
 each of them round when every one of us had  
 severately fulfill'd his directions he told us that  
 Columba had placed those stones there & order'd  
 that every stranger who came should turn them  
 once round & at the same time predicted that  
 whenever the stone on which they stood was worn  
 through by this operation the world would beat  
 an end at present the stone is a good deal  
 hollowed & one end quite worn through but some  
 wise man willing to give the world a reprieve  
 has moved the stones quite over to the other by  
 which manœuvre the age of the world is likely



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of Columb Hill

59.

to be prolonged 1500 or 2000 more than ever Columbus intended. The other is the rubbing stone as it is called; a stone like a tomb stone a little hollowed out which lies near the west door of the great church this is one of 4 one of which is said to be placed at each end of the Island the use of them is that any mariner wanting a particular wind shall come here & clear the stone which has the wind he wants in its power by which means he will certainly obtain it our stone had the power over the north wind & had been palpably cleared a very small time before we saw it as that wind however did not suit us we covered it up nicely with the dirt which had probably been more nicely taken off

Having thus attempted to invalidate the power of the north wind & seen all that our guide could shew us we proceeded towards our boat in the way we met many wild Pigeons & shot some the rocks of which the Island is composed we saw also they are of granate red & ~~black~~ <sup>black</sup> & seem to have been the chief material in the buildings

by 12 we set sail intending in our voyage home to have visited Carnburgh & Bladda two Islands lying near Staffa whose appearance promised a similar construction of rocks but the wind not coming fair prevented us we passed however pretty near them but could not with our glasses perceive any pillars on the sides next us

at 9 we arrived at the ship having had a very bad passage for want of wind we found her lying in Tobermore a prodigious fine harbour on the Inul side capable of containing in safety a large fleet

15. our friend Mr. Millean having offered to shew us sport in hunting Roebucks called here he if we would stay we set out with him this morn to a small Island of his called Oransay situate in the mouth of Loch Sunart as the Deer were to be drove by hand & horn in order to be forced by papers where we were to be stationed we took a crowd of all kind of knives French Horns Chinese Gong &c &c. so we literally made the woods ring but without success some Deer indeed were seen

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1772.

Account of Islands

61.

but not one shot so at night we returned supped  
with our polite Landlord & afterwards returning  
on board resolved for see immediately as we now  
had nothing to see between this place & St. Kilda  
at least that we knew of

As some things which I observed among  
these Islands relative to the people as well as  
other things were omitted in their proper places I  
shall take this opportunity of saying a little that  
they may not be forgot

The Soil of the Islands in general is very  
rough & craggy many of them are scarcely worth  
improvement except in the valleys which are  
very small The is by far the best the whole being  
as I before mentriond situate upon a bed of marl  
Mr. Campbells estate there is certainly most precisely  
the whole Island except a few Acres belongs to him  
he has within himself a good & safe harbour &  
several anchoring places trade might flourish  
as several ships touch there even monthly  
his ruins are in a flourishing condition & promise  
much better than at present what might not  
a man make who could set down to improve  
such an Island

which literally wants nothing but fencing to make it of ten times its present value

A singular circumstance occurs in the mines of that country which I do not remember to have met with any where else but I am told that it exists over the greatest part of the north of Scotland among the regular strata every now & then one intervenes exactly standing upon its edge these are of that hard kind of stone with which the streets of London are now paved called here Whayne these strata proceed through a whole country in a S & N direction cutting through every species of stone which lies in their road one of them of 9 feet thick passes through Mr. Freebairns lead mine cutting the vein in two which is found again beyond it exactly as before they are in general from 6 feet to 6 yards in breadth & from their extraordinary hardness often appear aboveground in the form of a wall especially where they break into the sea this has caused the people to call them Whayne dykes

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Account of the Islands

63.

very few of the Islanders make any winter provision for their cattle or sheep these animals have in these Islands an resource which hunger would I should think scarcely drive cows to make use of sea weed of different kinds which they eat plentifully & grow fat as I have been assured *Arundo arvensis* or sea reed grass which grows upon the sand hills near the shore is a favourite food of their cattle in winter & they reckon the lands that produce it of great value for wintering their black cattle

Black cattle & sheep are the chief produce from which they draw their returns Corn they grow not sufficient for their own consumption they give as a reason for ~~it~~ that their harvests are generally wet the true one I take to be the want of Fences which totally prevents their growing winter Corn

the better sort of people which we met with live much in the stile of Farmers of 100 or more pounds a year rent their houses are hardly

so good nor have they such a variety to offer in general they are so few having away more than leases of 19 years in general paying not a tenth part of the real or 100<sup>th</sup> of the improvable value

they received us every where with hospitality we were so much aware of it that we did not bring a letter of recommendation nor had we ever occasion for one having more than once walked up to a strange house with as much freedom as we would do to a publick house in England & met in it as cordial a reception as if a bill was to have been brought in

Notwithstanding this we found it very difficult to procure any thing at all out of their way which we might want they willingly gave whatever they had but did not wish to put themselves or their people out of their way to procure any thing for instance we never could or did get specimens of the fish of the country

in general you meet with a number of people of one name in the same instance there are

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1772.

Account of the Islands

65

very few of any other name than Campbell in this  
Case it is usual in speaking to any one not to  
Call him Mr. Campbell but to name only his place  
as Laggan, Bannore, Killara &c.

in few houses is bread to be met with not  
one in a hundred instead of it the people eat dry  
Oat cakes like those used in Wales or thin Barley  
Cakes like pancakes which latter I confess I myself  
prefer'd they brew no ale but use spirit instead  
of it every man of any condition has in his house  
a still with which he distils Malt spirits chiefly  
from barley but sometimes from oats this being all  
done with a turf fire acquires a strong Gout  
palatable enough to a Highlander but odious to any  
other palate my usual drink was milk which  
in this Country is very excellent better I think far  
than that of the Guernsey cattle themselves drink  
a good deal of it

The inferior people live but very poorly their  
Huts are poor to admiration I have seen few  
Indians live in so uncomfortable dwellings nor  
could I have thought that any thing but flies

## Account of the Islands

could induce men to live in houses without chimneys which many houses are without chimneys indeed properly speaking are a rare commodity in general the remedy they apply to smok is no more than a hole in the top of their roofs

Among all their pevertes they seem however contented they have still a Clannish attachment to their superiors & if they or any one who they look upon as above them undertakes to deride they obey with much more implicit obedience than englishmen will do shewing at the same time a decent respect which the rather humble does not produce any false shame every man comes with an ease & freedom which an english man has little Idea of <sup>whether</sup> this I believe proceeds from nature or Education It is difficult to say but I firmly believe that it is the basis of that superiority which the Dutch in general enjoy over our nation

Education is here paid the strictest attention



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account of the Islands

67.

to even where a publick hardly exists, a man of an income of fifty pounds a year who did not keep a private tutor in the house for his children would be thought very ill of to this again they owe a great deal as Education under the eye of a parent must always excell that which can be bought of a master who feels no affection for the child he instructs.

I should wish to be able to say a little about the Language of this country, but profess myself utterly unable; all I could learn is, that it is called by them Galeick: the name Orse, by which it is commonly known; they do not allow to have any signification in it. It is precisely the same as the Irish, or radically no doubt the same as the Welsh: but now differing as a dialect so far, that the languages could not be mutually understood without some study; tho a little would probably suffice.

16. Having spent a great deal more time in these Islands than we originally intended & being yet desirous of possible of seeing St Kilda we resolv'd to lose no time so the weather being moderate got up our anchors

## Among the Islands.

we put to sea very early in the morn. at night we had many Islands in sight Egg, Anna, Rum, Fire ey, Col, Skie &c &c. about sunset saw the peaks of Jura which by the draughts appeared to be 24 Lg. distant they were 8° above the Horizon or land who worked the distance by a very ingenious proposition of his own founded on knowing the height of that which we had measured made the distance 54 sea miles who was right I do not venture to determine

17. Wind west sailing between Skie & the outer Islands with a good deal of sea saw upon the water a very large shark probably the Basking shark of Pennant I saw it however so ill that I can found no opinion in the world upon my experience

18. We were now off the But of Lewis the question to be determined was whether or no we should beat for St Kilda it was determined in the negative the weather being dirty a great swell & foul wind so we turned our heads towards Iceland in a short

August to Iceland.

1772.

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time sea sickness reigned among us as much as ever those who had been the most at sea were hardly, excepted in short the motion of our small vessel was so quick & jerking that the experience we had got in larger ships seem'd of little service to us

19. dirty rough weather every body sick

20. Moderate & soon after calm not very agreeable as all were now impatient to arrive at our next land in order to take some advantage however the boat was hoisted out tho' many gulls & other birds had been seen in the morning few new appear'd; the least auk (*Alca picadina*) was shot it seem'd to be a young bird & varied from Linnaeus's & Pennant's descriptions a little chiefly in having no white bar across the wings. three individuals of (*Phylloporce veleva*) call'd by our seamen by the wind sailers or Saltee men were taken very large I suppose them to have been driven from their proper stations which are about the tropicks by winds as I never remember to have heard or read of their having before been seen to the northward of the

- mediterranean & our Latitude was now  $59^{\circ}44'$
21. Got an Easterly wind which put every one into spirits some Gulls still were seen which is not wonderfull as Ferro was distant by account only 30 leagues: many Shearwaters / *Procellaria puffinus* & *glacialis* / some Terns
22. Wind fair but so strong that sickness again got footing among us Birds exactly as yesterday
23. Weather Birds &c. as yesterday I never saw Gulls or Terns in the South Sea follow a ship so far or rather never saw them so far from the land as we have been possibly the shoals of herrings &c. with which these seas abound teach them longer flights than their southern congeners have any occasion for. at night an alarm of land was given which proved false
24. Got the wind at N. to our no small discontent many birds Shearwaters Gulls & Terns. one of the Gulls came on board & settled on the deck a water wagtail who had attended the ship for two days became so tired that he settled upon

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to Iceland

71.

the deck & ran about in search of food among  
the people. in the Evening several flights of  
large dark brown birds passed the ship flying  
in ranks as ducks & generally do in every other  
particular they resembled Shags

25. Our circumstances much as yesterday till afternoon  
when land was seen the Thermometer stood at  
44. a degree which felt rather colder than we  
should have choce

26 the wind still blowing exactly off the land in  
the morn we were about three leagues from the  
westernmost of the Quer-fugl-Skir or Penguin Rocks  
called by the Translator of Horrebaw vulture rocks by  
some strange mistake. we saw three the outermost  
6 or 7 leagues from the land appears most remarkable  
being a square column standing by itself in the  
water about as high as a ships main mast in  
appearance at this distance  
in the evening a large white cloud which had  
been seen all day was shewn to us as something  
remarkable we immediately knew it to be the  
snowy top of some high mountain the uncovered  
part of which was still by its distance depressed

below our horizon this our charts shew plainly to be the western Jocal the distant 25 Leagues at least.

27. Wind blowing directly off the Land we stood on toward the snowy mountain weather cold & raw  
Therm. 42

28. This morn we were very near the Land so that we plainly saw the shore which was flat & had many houses scattered near the beach round each of them for a small space the ground look'd green & pleasant but every where else exceedingly black & barren behind many hills rose of a middling height consisting chiefly of long ridges

Many boats were fishing all round us, we doubted not that on shewing our colours some would come on board but notwithstanding that & all the signals we could make they seem'd rather to avoid us this oblig'd us to hoist out a boat in order to speak to some of them which they no sooner saw than they began to row away with all their strength our boat pursued & soon

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Off the Coast of Iceland

73.

Overtook them they were three who all seem'd to be much afraid but were very civil & follow'd our boat to the ship

Their dress attracted our attention each had on a garment of a kind of Parchment serving for both boots & breeches & a Jacket of Sheep skin these however were only coverings over their proper dress & they took them off before they would come up into the ship notwithstanding which when they came in they smelt so fishy & rank that it was disagreeable to come near them & were (particularly one of them) Lousy to admiration they trembled very visibly nor did a large glass of Brandy which each of them drank quite remove their apprehensions. Dr Solander who had been in Norwaege found that the Danish spoke there was so like their language that he could readily converse with them he brought them down into the Cabin where having eat plentifully & drank in proportion their fears began partly to subside they answer'd our questions & propos'd several to us among which

## Off the Coast of Iceland.

5771

after having thoroughly understood that we were from England <sup>there was</sup> whether or no we were Christians our answering this in the affirmative seemed to give them much satisfaction & so much confidence that one of them agreed to stay with us voluntarily as our Pilot to conduct us to Hafrefjord the harbor where we intended to dye upon condition however that we would send many presents to his wife for whose terrors upon his account he alone seemed to be anxious <sup>and now to tell their</sup> this being settled & the presents delivered consisting of a silk handkerchief & some ribbands his companions took leave not without tears & left him to our mercy we stood on according to his directions & went to windward very fast at night fall we saw many large flocks of Solan Geese & other birds

29. by 8 this morn we were brought to an anchor about 3 miles to the Southward of Bepested the Residence of the Stipsamtman of Governor in a place quite destitute of Shelter where



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off Bekested

75

we were told we were to bye till the Stfsamptman  
should give leave for us to be brought into a  
safer place & Solander went in the boat to  
wait upon him & carried with him our passport  
about 12 he returned having met with a most polite  
reception & assurances that we should have every  
assistance that was in his power to give. during his  
absence a multitude of Icelanders came on board none  
of whom were so stinking & filthy as those we saw  
yesterday in general they were clean & tidy well  
look'd people of them we bought muscles & fishing  
over the side caught great plenty of fine flounders

As soon as the Dr returned the Pilot of the  
place who had been with him having now got his  
orders proceeded with us to the Harbour & by dinner  
time we were at an anchor in the Birthe where  
we were to stay while upon the Island it is call'd  
Hafnafirid it is situated in the S<sup>w</sup> corner of the Island  
at the bottom of a Bay call'd Fassa Fiordur to all appearance  
an indifferent harbour as it is open to the N<sup>w</sup> wind but  
all the people concurred in saying that that wind never  
prebails here

the instant we had dined we landed eager to see

the country & resolved to make our first excursion  
a visit to the Stifsampman who lived about 3 miles  
from where we lay

by 4 we landed upon a country rougher &  
more ragged than imagination can easily conceive  
the rocks which were exceedingly hard rose up into  
peaks 8 or 10 yards perpendicular & sank again  
into small vallies or rather holes of a like depth  
near the sea & bore a tolerable proportion of sweet  
but short grass was to be found but when we had  
advanced a quarter of a mile into the country nothing  
was to be seen but Dryas & a few mountain plants  
thinly scattered among the stones

This singular appearance of the Rocks so  
different from any what any of us had before seen was  
evidently occasioned by the operations of fire the hardness  
of the stone its irregularity & above all the many holes  
formed in it by its unequal hardning after its fusion  
evidently proved it & we rejoiced in our situation  
fortunately chose in a place where we might  
have an opportunity of Examining carefully one  
effect at least of a volcano

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Hafnefjord

77.

Our Guide tho a sensible man on being asked how this part of the Island became so burnt answered that he had heard that when the Norwegians first came to settle Iceland they found it preoccupied by certain Irishmen whom it was impossible to dislodge by any other means than by burning the whole surface of this part of the Island which was accordingly done absurd as this story was it additionally proof that this singular disposition of Rocks was the effect of fire as such we received it with pleasure

In our way we met the Syffelman an officer one of whom presides over each division or district whose power is similar to but rather greater than that of an English Justice of the Peace he saluted us & said he was heartily glad to find that we were peaceable people

At last we arrived at the Stipsamtman who received us with all possible politeness with him was the amtman or Deputy governor who with the Stipsamtman in shewing us every mark of civility there was no house they told us where we could nobly live but that in which the Danish

merchants resided during their stay that was  
 locked up but could be gain'd by the concurrence of  
 the Sybelsman with these which they did not doubt  
 so that on Monday morn we might take  
 possession

in the mean time as the people here are very  
 much inclin'd to the strictest principles of religion  
 he advis'd us not to take any step towards settling  
 ourselves in the morning which was said ay but to  
 wait with patience till Monday when we should have  
 the doors of the merchants house open'd to us

Every thing was now settle'd amicably in the  
 highest degree so we ventur'd to ask questions about  
 the opinion of the People concerning us to this the  
 Ladies answer'd very freely that they had been much  
 alarm'd at first they thought that we were come  
 with a hostile intention being well acquainted with  
 the disputes now in agitation between Denmark & England  
 they thought that we were the Pretenses of an  
 English fleet sent to take possession of the Island  
 that our being so well mann'd had given a great  
 sanction to that opinion. some indeed said they  
 were of opinion that we were come in search

of some people who might have fled from Denmark in these troublesome times were supposed to have concealed themselves in Iceland these rumours being said we began to ask concerning the state of the Island we were sorry to hear that no volcanoes were now burning but proportionally glad to hear that we might examine the effects of former ones in almost every corner of the place which was destined for our residence after this we took leave of the pilot who had attended us here a sensible man whom we all liked was ordered to attend us during our stay

30. It being Sunday we resolved to go to church in order to give the people a good impression in favour of us strangers so we went all dressed in our best apparel the church was small but well filled candles were lighted upon the altar a great deal of time was spent in singing the whole congregation joining in concert most harmoniously the bells were hung in the middle there being no steeple during the time of the Clergyman (who was a dean) praying at the altar he dressed himself in an embroidered drep exactly like the vestments of the Catholics he often sung by

himself which as he happened to have no voice or not  
 the least idea of music excited most ridiculous  
 ideas in us bystanders we behaved with all moderation  
 & decency & during the whole day not the least sign  
 of either work or amusement was seen among our  
 people which as there were above 30 just landed  
 on a new country was rather extraordinary

after church we went to the stiffsamtman  
 according to yesterday's invitation he entertained  
 us gently after the Danish manner after dinner  
 he walked us through his grounds & showed us his garden  
 which was partly sunk under ground & partly  
 surrounded by immensely high walls of sods &  
 stone here grew Cabbage of many kinds Turnips  
 & several other sorts of garden stuff in perfection  
 besides this he had a kind of conservatory made  
 with deals which according to the weather were  
 lifted off or laid on as a shelter its utmost produce  
 however was only Cabbage &c. a little better than the  
 garden could give below his house was his  
 farm of about an acre of land in which

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Hafnefjord

81.

~~were~~ wheat & Rye & Barley in all appearance  
growing very well. He told us that he did not  
here for a crop of ripe corn for that either wind  
or frost always destroyd it about the time of  
its coming to perfection

31. as I had heard last night that the Syffelmen made  
some little difficulties about opening the Houses I had little  
expectation of getting possession today so took my fishing  
rod & went to a place near the ship where a small  
brook ran into the bay & I had seen many Trout I  
soon caught a large Dish & upon leaving off was  
agreeably surpriz'd by the Syffelmen who came down  
in order to give us possession of the Houses which  
he did with some ceremony. The furniture tho'  
scarcely worth twenty shillings we took an accurate  
schedule of & giving him a copy took possession  
of the Keys we had now 4 room in three houses  
a dining room in which some of us slept a drawing  
room proper in which the Draughtsmen drew a bed  
a kitchen & a Coft where the servants lived the rest  
of the Houses were lodgements of goods now full  
which were seal'd up with much ceremony but little

was

thus much for the day at night we went on board well satisfied with its transactions

1. The most of this day was employ'd in getting our furniture & bedding on shore we received a handsome present of fish from the amptman's lady as we were very particularly acquainted we found that the Stifs amptman had given very handsome orders in our favour we were to be supplied with every thing at the Company's price. in the evening we bought a sheep for one Rixdollar or 4/6 also some turf for our cooking which was but indifferent after this we went out to botanise a little in order to find what our future prospect was to be
2. Slept ashore last night our lodgings were not much less crowded than those on board but the convenience of not being oblig'd to spend time in packing to & from the ship made them very usefull many people came in the morning bringing milk butter & berries of *Empetrum nigrum* & *vaccinium uliginosum* all which we bought to encourage trade gave every one who came a small present 2 yards of ribband for a little tobacco



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Hafnefjard

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to do them justice no people could be more civil than they were or more thankful for the small presents they received

3. Hauled the seine & caught above 50 prodigious fine Grouse at the mouth of the River in the Salt water & myself with Dr Solander botanizing we found but few plants from the later part of the season many no doubt were gone out of blossom in general those that we found were such as grow upon high lands in England as may be seen from the list in the appendix
- Dr Lind whose medical abilities had been discovered the very first day of his arrival, had a great sevy he dispensed many & various medicines & after he had done treated the whole of his patients with an electrical shock which seemed much to surprize them but did not produce any of those humorous effects which all of us expected on receiving the shock Every one looked as a fool who had received an unexpected slap on the face nothing lively appeared no good prognostick of bright parts in our new friends

4. The sein hauled today in the same place as yesterday produced no fish we botanized again but scarce caught found a plant which we had not seen yesterday in the Evening we received vis its form

the ship's amputee, amputee & Sybelman, all of whom came to ask if our ~~advice~~ <sup>advice</sup> were quite convenient & ourselves quite satisfied. To both the questions we had the greatest reason to answer in the affirmative.

5. Mr. Trill & myself wandering today beyond a place called in the Chart Whalvise fell accidentally upon an old stream of Lava which seemed to be of immense extent as it occupied the whole country as far as the eye could reach filling every valley in its course that occurred either on one side or the other. From its edges about half a mile towards its center the whole was composed of small bullocks the surface of which were pretty smooth in general but wrinkled exactly as metal after fusion when the scoria began to harden upon it these wrinkles being thrown into a thousand various appearances I suppose as the wind or other cause had affected the melted substance within this was a scene more easily to be conceived than described the stream of the Lava had here been strong & by breaking continually flakes of its surface as soon as it became hard & carrying them along often upon their edges had accumulated upon its

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1772.

Hafnefjord

85.

surface Hills composed chiefly of Plates of Stone often of large dimensions standing upon their Edges intolerable to walk upon & rougher to the Eye than any thing I have seen before. This lasted near 2 miles beyond was a flat country covered with smooth Lava such as before described as far as the Eye could reach probably as far as the Edges of the next mountains about 10 miles off below was the sea into which this immense mass of fire had discharged itself.

On our return home raving over the rough tract of country we on which our houses were situated the analogy between the two completely convinced us that it also was a bed of Lava but of a much older date than that we had seen it seemed probable also that it had been torn to pieces by earthquakes attending maybe that later eruption.

On enquiring among the most sensible of the Icelanders they gave us the following account  
" our traditions inform us that soon after the coming  
" of the Norwegians to this Island all the south west  
" part of it was on fire this place particularly & all  
" Galbrange Syssel before that time we are told the

" Geer Jogle Schier Rocks which lay off Reikanes  
 " were joined with the continent but then the  
 " intermediate land fell in so deep that ships  
 " may safely pass between them these rocks  
 " which stand out of the water perpendicular higher than  
 " any ships mast are we know composed of the  
 " very same material as these runs of Lava which  
 " we here call Straens & that these are runs of Lava  
 " is clear from comparing them with such as have  
 " hapned in our times the two you have seen are the nearest  
 " to this place but all over the country we speak of  
 " every valley is filled up with the same material  
 " for an extent of Country <sup>for above</sup> 20 Danish 120 English  
 " miles in length. The source of these streams of fire  
 " we cannot with certainty ascertain but suppose it to  
 " be in a hill called Hellers Heide a hill of no great height  
 " distant from Reikanes about 100 miles the time of this  
 " Eruption must have been in the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> Century but  
 " it is not mentioned in our old Histories we are not  
 " certain about it

How far this legendary story may be true I  
 will not venture to say as to the whole having been  
 done at one eruption I confess I doubt but the

Sept<sup>r</sup>  
1772

Hafnefjord

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fact of that whole tract of country being overflowed as it were with Lava is undoubted in I have learn'd it from the concurrent testimony of many who are well acquainted with the country I incline however to believe that this Lava owes its origin to many different eruptions & possibly still a greater number of Craters all of these must have been however in situations not very elevated as there is no high hill in the whole neighbourhood

6. This day, being Sunday of course we abstain'd from business of all kinds the Stepsamptman & Amptman with their families came to visit us & dine the Gentlemen wore Danish Dresses but the Ladies all Daelandick the Chief singularity of which consists in the ornament of the head which is a Cone of white Cloth about 18 inches high & bending a little forward round the bottom of which a silk handkerchief is tied which compleatly covers all their hair for the rest it consisted of divers Jackets & petticoats differing indeed from ours but not very strikingly except in the ornaments which were of silver & gold Gillacree & were worth from 50 to 80 pounds a

each dress they consisted of chains round the neck from one of which hung a medal plates of fillagree on the breasts small bobs in rows below the sleeves bopes on the apron strings & a girdle which was generally of Gold upon the whole the dress tho' certainly not very pleasing to an European eye had some merit only that the hair being tied gave a nakedness to their faces very unbecoming

they seemed to admire our dinner which being served up in courses appeared very different from any Danish entertainment that they had seen the variety of wines also surprized them but most of all the French horns which played to them at their desire they having explained to us that music was a laudable occupation even on a Sunday. they staid with us till it was dark & then mounting their little horses both men & women galloped away over the rough beds of snow along their narrow paths with a nimbleness & fearlessness to us quite astonishing for as English horses could not we were confident have stood 3 steps upon such woad English men would certainly have been much alarmed to have been hurried over it with such velocity.

Appendix

Copy of the Passport

given by the Danish Ambassador.

Passport

Donné par le Baron Dieck de Turstenstein,  
L'Envoyé Extr. de la Majesté Danoise à la Cour  
Britannique à une Association de Savans  
qui vont faire un tour aux Isles d'Islande  
& de Ferroe, pour y faire des Observations

Astronomiques, Botaniques, & autres

relatives à L'Histoire naturelle

Le 2 Juillet 1772.

Guilhelmus Christophorus Diede, Sauri Romi:  
 Imperii liber Baro in Fürstentheim, Ordinis  
 Dannebrogii Eques auratus, unus & subicularius  
 primi Ordinis REGIS DANICÆ & NORWÆ-  
 GICÆ, & jam dictæ Sacratissimæ Majestatis  
 nunc temporis ad Aulam Britannicam Ab-  
 legatus Extraordinarius, Omnibus & Singulis,  
 hæc meas Litteras inspecturis notum  
 testaturque facio, me, vi. Delegati mihi  
 in hac Aula Ministerii, clarissimos viros,  
 Josephum Banks, Armigerum Anglum,  
 et in reverby. Dominum & Davidem So-  
 landrum, Suecum, Med. ut & Legum Doc-  
 torem novissima versus Polum Antarcticum  
 Navigatione jam ubique, præsertim in Re-  
 publica literaria, celebratissimos, nunc <sup>autem</sup> e-  
 tiam versus Artium vela facere, & inter  
 alia littora, Islandia, montis Hecla, con-  
 spiciendi gratia, ut & Ferroensium Insularum,  
 visitare meditantibus, salvo conductu & com-  
 mendatione meis munisse. Proinde ab  
 omnibus et Singulis, cujuscunque Gentis,  
 præsertim Danicæ, Classium, Navium,



Portuum & Fortalitiorum Praefectis, Ditionum  
 & Oppidorum Magistratibus, nec non reverendis  
 ecclesiasticis munere fungentibus, ea comitate  
 qua eorum quemque, pro status & conditionis  
 ratione, adire par est, id rogo ut ipsis, & por-  
 ro eorum, post haec nominationem enumerandi  
 novis novi itineris sociis, cum duodecim  
 omnium horum itinerantium Famulis et  
 cum sarcinis, non solum terra marique, tu-  
 tum iter, moram, Transitum, Peditumque,  
 concedant, sed et eos omni favore, et ubi  
 opus fuerit, auxilio, quam amississime pro-  
 sequantur. Paribus Humanitatis et amicitiae  
 officii me vivissimè vis praesto fore, qui  
 ab eisdem praefectis et magistratibus simili-  
 ter commendati, mihi obvii fuerint, hinc  
 litteris spondeo, quas in horum omnium  
 fidem, manu mea propria subscriptas,  
 simul sigillo meo gentilitio firmari jussi.  
 Dabantur Londini, Die 2.<sup>a</sup> Julii 1772.

Guilhelmus Christophorus Diede

in Fürstenstein.

Sigill.

De =

## Designatis.

omnium Comitum generosi Josephi Banks, Ar-  
migeri, cuius sumptibus Navis, Laurentius Dic-  
ta, & per Navarham Johannem Hunter ve-  
henda, instructa est.

Daniel Solander medicina, itemque Legum  
Doctor, et membrum Societatum eruditaram  
Upsaliensis, Londinensis & Silesiensis.

Johannes Gore armiger.

Johannes Riddel armiger.

Jacobus Lind, medicinae Doctor, Edinburgensis.

Unno de Troil, Doctor Philosophiae.

Fridericus Hermannus Walden

Sigismundus Bairstrom

ab Epistolis  
Klingmann.

Johannes Fridericus Miller

Jacobus Miller.

Johannes Clevelij.

Delineatores.

Fridericus

Jacobus May, astronomus.

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omnium supradictorum Famuli varii  
generis.

APPENDIX

Alexander Scott } vestimentorum custodes.  
Petrus Briscoe }  
Lommum x tinnun

Jacobus Roberts, —  
Johannes Asquith, —  
Petrus Sidserf, —  
Alexander Samarang, —  
Nicolaus Young, —  
Johannes Marchant, —  
Robert Holbrook, —  
Johannes Taylor, —

assecta qui sunt  
a pedibus.  
Luyurjan.

Jacobus Donaldson. Olitor. Uoln grand =  
Inueng.

Antonius Douver, Coquus. Lokku.

Guilhelmus Christophorus  
Diede in Fürstensein.

Sigill:

Alexander Gottfried ...  
Peters ...

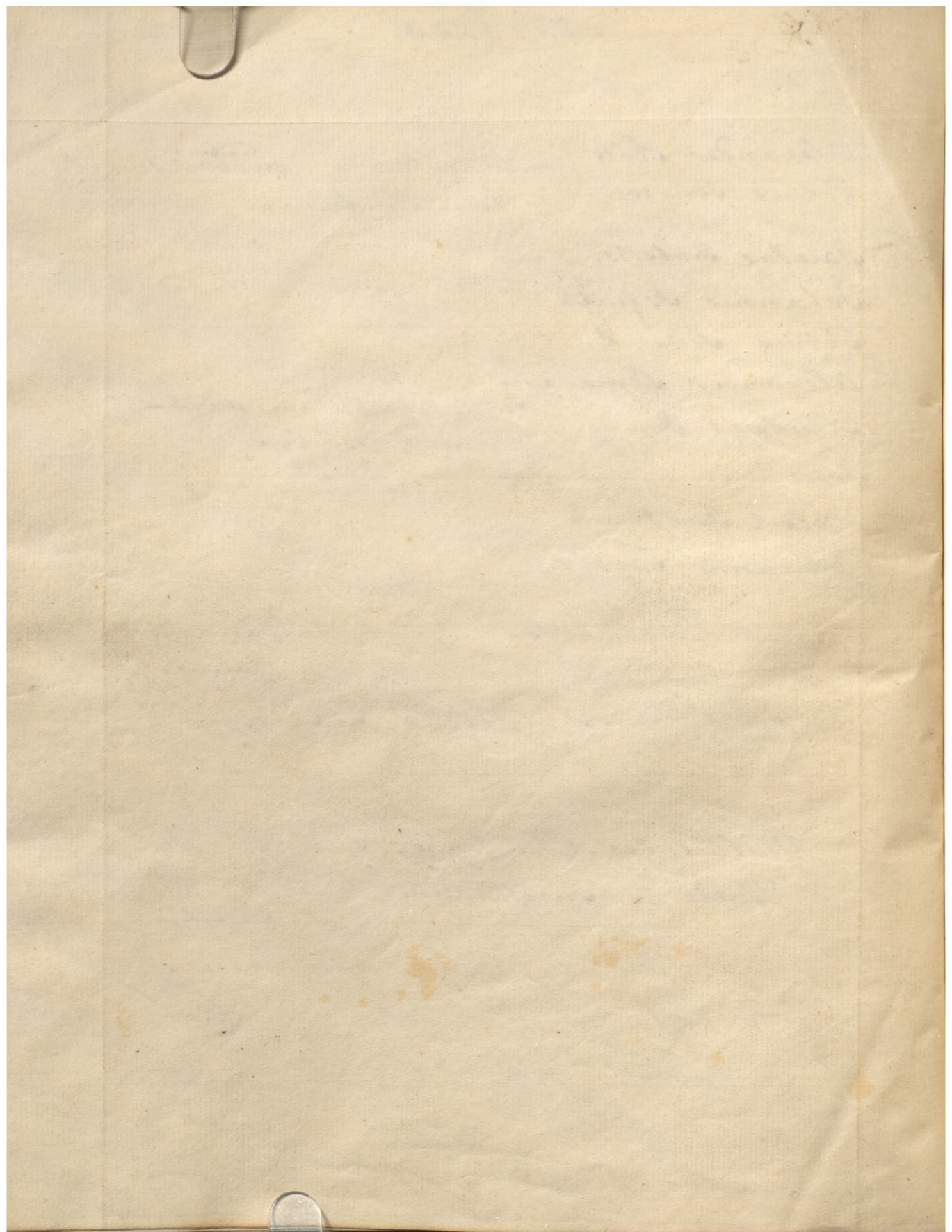
} Specta per ... a ... L...	Jacobus ...
	Johannes ...
	Peter ...
	Alexander ...
	Nicolaus ...
	Johannes ...
	Robert ...
	Johannes ...

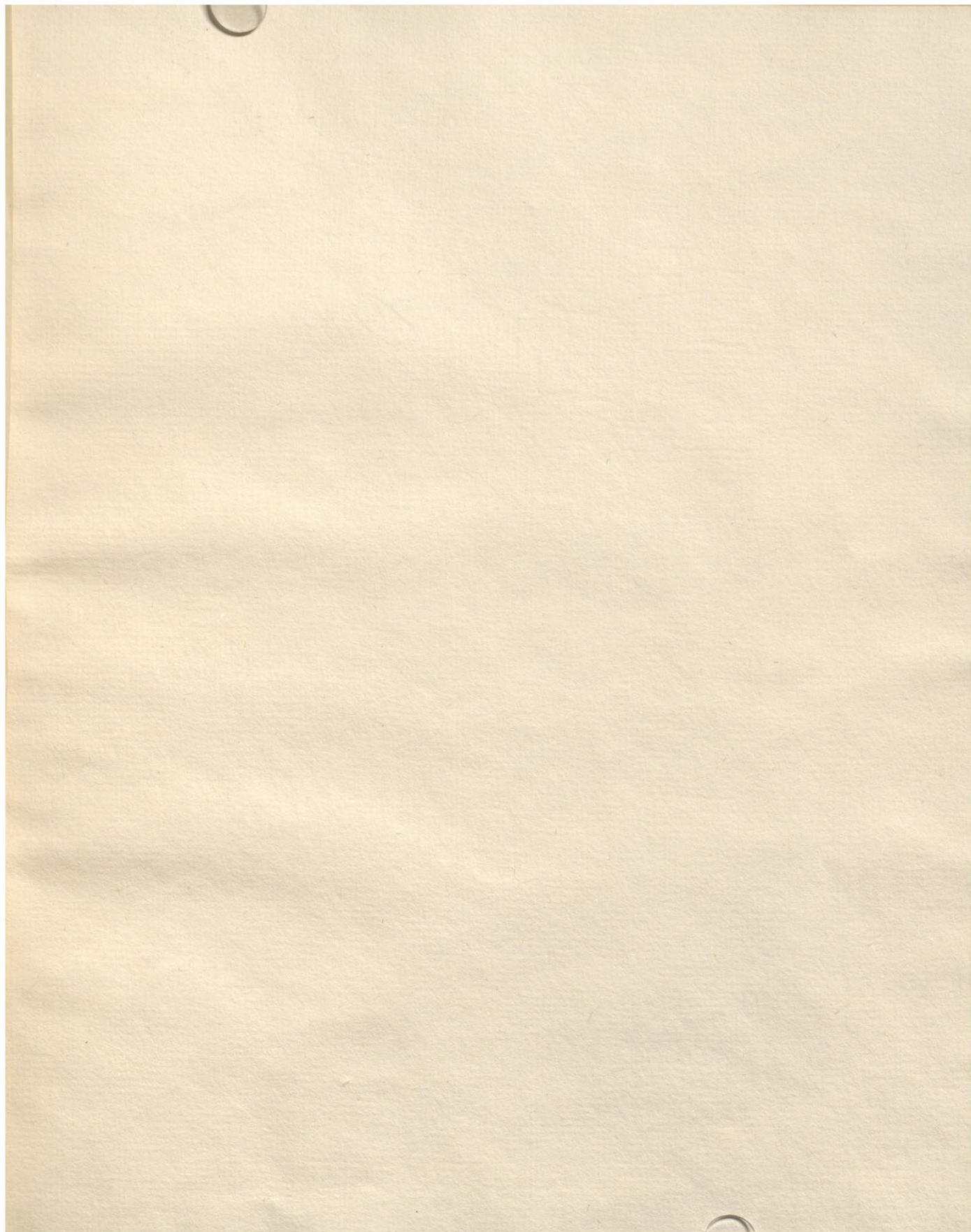
Jacobus ...  
C...

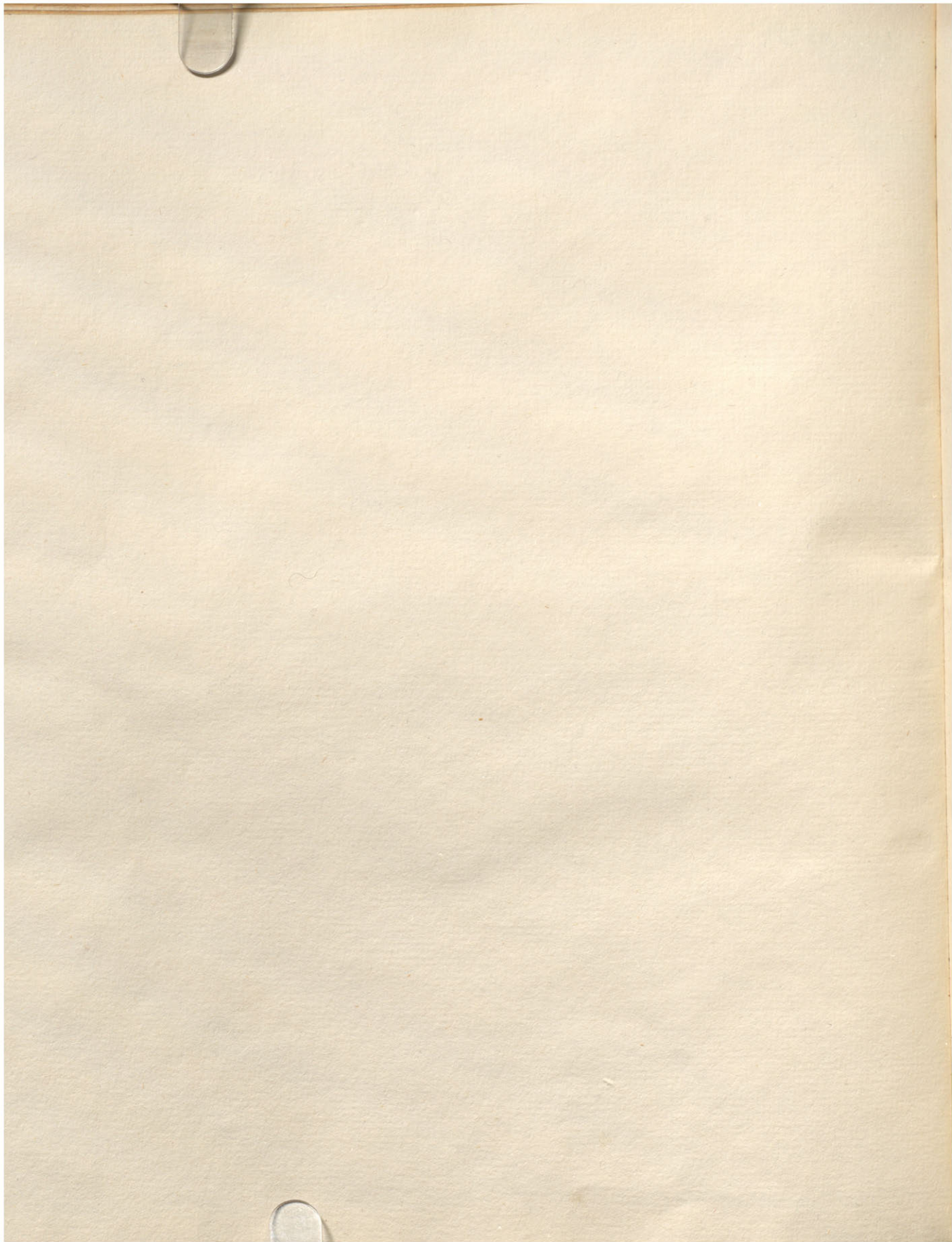
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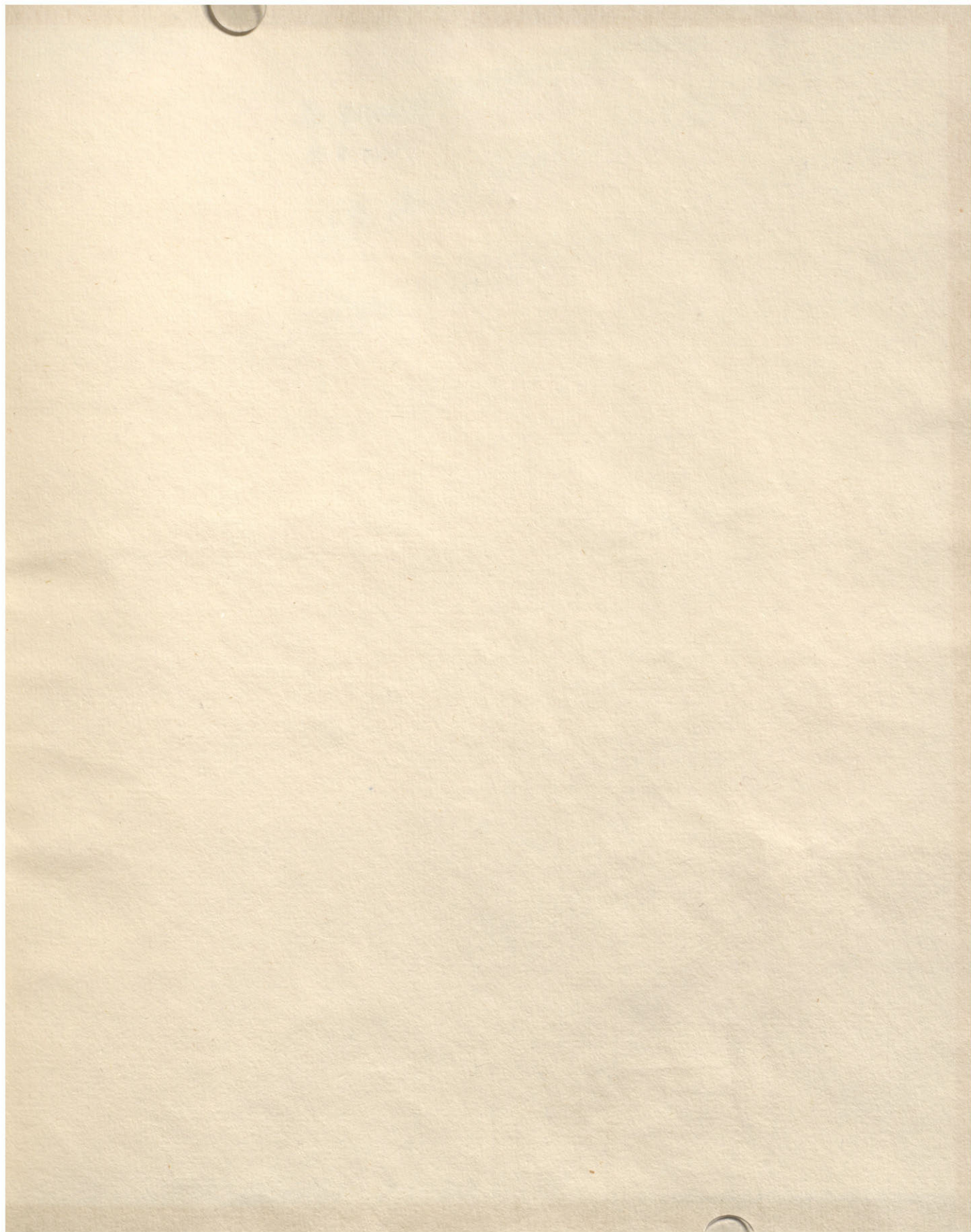


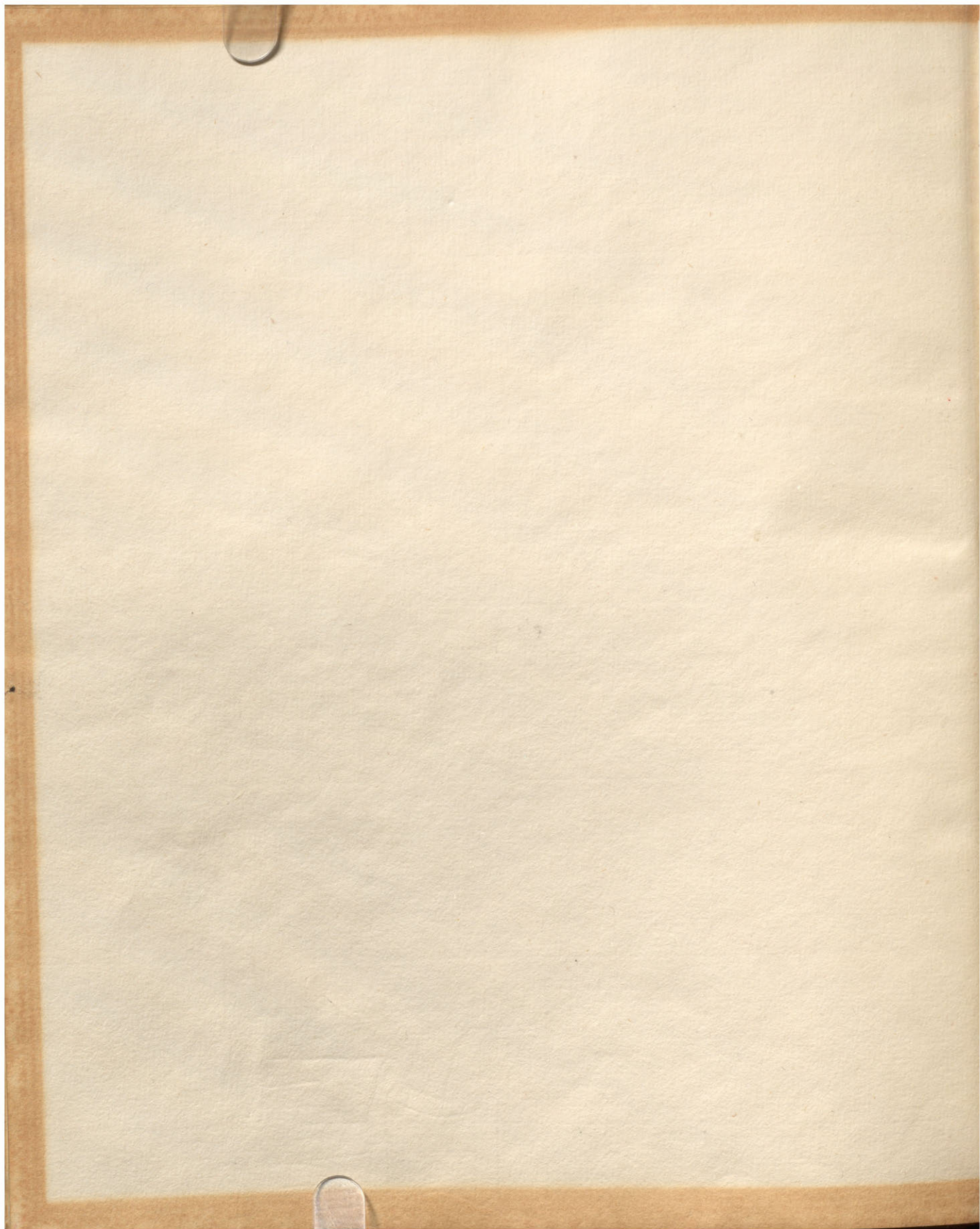












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