

To the number of the Letter of the *Alphabet* the word begins with, add 7.

Example. *Fear* is the word for *October*, and *F* the sixth Letter: Wherefore the Sun enters into the 8th Sign, to wit, *Scorpio*, on the 13th of *October*.

An Account of some Books.

I. PETRI LAMBECHII LIB. PRIMUS PRODROMI
HISTORIÆ LITERARIÆ, &c. —

THE Author of this Book is now the *Historiographer* and *Library-keeper* to the Emperour. He publish'd this Volume some few years ago at *Hamburg*, the place of his Birth, (whence an Exemplar was but lately sent to the *Publisher*.) He was excited to this Work by the complaint made by the illustrious Lord *Verulam*, (*Lib. 2. cap. 4. de Augm. Scientiarum*) of the want of a compleat *History of Learning*, that might give a *satisfactory* Account of the Rise, Progreſs, Transmigrations, Interruptions, Declinations, and Restaurations of all kind of Learning, Sciences, Arts, and Inventions; together with the *occasion* of Inventions through all Arts; the *method* of teaching, and the *manner* of improving and advancing them: Adding the various *Seſts*, and the most famous *Controversies* among the Learned; the *Encouragements* they received; the chief *Writings* they composed; their *Schools*, *Academies*, *Societies*, *Colledges*, *Succeſſions*, *Orders*, and whatever belongs to the *state* of Learning.

This grand *Deſideratum* our Author undertakes to supply the World with, and in order thereunto, hath given us the *first Book* of the *Prodromus* of this History, and with it the *four first Chapters* of the *Second Book*, together with an *Appendix*, containing a *Summary* of the chief *Persons* and *Things* he intends more fully and accurately to treat of in the remaining 32 Chapters, designed for the same *second Book*: To which, he subjoins two *Tables of Universal Chronography*, in the first whereof he exhibits the *ſucceſſion* of all Ages from the Creation of the World to the beginning of the common *Chriſtian* Account; in the *other*, a Continuation of them from the beginning of the ſaid Account unto this present Age: In which *Tables* he gives a general *Idea* of the Connexion of all Ages, as they are computed in respect of the

Vulgar *Christian* account, either by ascending to the Creation of the World, or by descending to our Age: He also for the sake of this Work acquaints the Reader, that he betook himself to the Explication and Castigation of the *Bibliotheca Chronologica Classificorum Authorum* JOHANNIS JACOBI FRISII *Tigurini*; substituting, as he affirms, a true Calculation in the place of the false one; reducing the Authors, there enumerated, to the true time of their Age, distinguishing what is supposititious from genuine, and adding many things that were unhappily omitted. Which done, he saith, he proceeded from this Account of the Succession of the illustrious Writers, to the History of the *Origin, Increase, Nature, and Constitution* of all Professions, Sciences, and Arts, chusing the *Eight Books* of POLYDORE VIRGIL *de rerum Inventoribus*; and DIOGENES LAERTIUS, *De Vitis, & Dogmatibus veteris Græciæ Philosophorum*; as also, the *Eight Books* of JOHANNES MIDDENDORPIUS *De Celebribus Universi Orbis ACADEMIIS*.

He excuseth himself for having made no further progress in this desirable Work, alledging the difficulty and trouble of the Undertaking, the unavoidable interruptions he hath met with, and the narrowness of a private Man's fortune to carry on so chargeable an Attempt, requiring a Royal encouragement and assistance.

II. THOMÆ CORNELII *Consentini* PROGYMNASMATA PHYSICA.

This Author, a Friend to the *Cartesian* Philosophy; entertains the Curious in this Book with seven *Exercitationes*, viz.

1. *De Ratione Philosophandi*: Where in the genuine Students of Natural Philosophy he first requires the study of *Mathematicks*, to accustom their Minds to a fixed Attention, and to strict Reasoning; and next directs them to study Nature it self, and to labour after a true History of Nature: recommending lastly and particularly the use of *Chymistry*, as an excellent key to open her Treasures, and the study of *Mechanical* Principles, as nearly allied to those of Nature.

2. *De Rerum Naturalium Initiis*: Where he mentions the several *Hypotheses* and Principles of Philosophers, and approves of the *Cartesian*, esteeming, that none ever looked so like truth, as those; though he thinks them defective in this, that how well soever they shew the production of things out of *Matter* variously modified, yet they seem not to have sufficiently accounted for the efficient power thereof.

3. *De Universitate*: Where he seems to be in a Maze, and thinks, That the *Structure* of the *Universe* hath not been understood hitherto, nor will easily be hereafter.

4. *De Sole*: Which *Luminary* he is inclin'd to believe to be a kind of flaming Fire, appearing in a *Telescope*, like a Caldron full of boiling Metal; where also he discourses of the nature of *Light*, *Heat*, and *Flame*; and affirms *Light* (as other *sensible Qualities*) to be not in the *Object* but the *Sentient*; as *Pain* is not in the *Sword*, but in the *Animal* wounded by the *Sword*.

5. *De Generatione Hominis*: Where, distinguishing between *Genitura* and *Semen*, and making the *former* to be that substance, which either Sex furnishes to the *Fetus*, and the *latter*, the Concrete of both Parents, He is of opinion, that that which he calls *Genitura*, consists of two things. *Vid.* a *Crasse liquor*, manifest to sense; and of a very subtil and refined substance, containing all the virtue of Generation, and lodged in the formes as its receptacle: Which having establish'd, he affirms, that grosser part of the *Geniture* not to be Blood elaborated, but a Juice, secreted from the Blood, and being strained through the *Corpus varicosum* or *plexus pampiniformis* (wherein the seminal *Arteries* are by innumerable *Anastomoses* so combined and interwoven with *Veins*, that very hardly any naked eye can discern a Vein from an Artery) it passeth into peculiar fit Vessels, and is of a colour like that of the White of an Egg. As to the *Formation* of the *Fetus*, he esteems That, before the appearance of any Blood, or the framing of any Member, there are form'd all the Lineaments of the Animal to come, though indiscernibly; which he endeavours to make out very particularly, interweaving some Animadversions on Authors of differing sentiments, and mentioning several not unphilosophical Hints.

6. *De Nutricatione*: Here the *Author* observes some things in
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the *structure* of the *Stomach*, which he thinks highly considerable for the understanding of the action and use of this *Viscus*, and hitherto not taken notice of by others that he knows. Then he teacheth, that the Food is not digested in the *Stomach* by *Heat*, nor by *acid* dissolving *Juices* only, but that many Causes concurring to that digestion, the Aliment is there fermented both by the warmth of the *Stomach* it self, and of the neighbouring parts, but especially by the acrimonious steams that pass through the *Gastrick* and *Splenick* Arteries into the *Stomach*, which advances also its Concoction by its compressing and relaxing motions, and is assisted by an apt Liquor, bedewing, dissolving, and diluting the Meat, and so converting it into a Pulse or Cream-like substance. Next, he teacheth, that the *Chyle* passeth not through the milky Veins (so called by *Asellius*) to the *Liver*, nor all of it through the Channel of *Pecquet* to the *Heart*, but a great part of it through the common Veins of the *Stomach* and the *Mesentery*, to the *Liver*. Nor will he admit, that the *Sanguification* is performed in any one part of the Animal, as the peculiar Shop or Elaboratory of it, whether *Liver*, *Heart*, *Spleen*, &c. Nor that the parts are increased and nourished by the red part of the Blood; but that, as to the former action, it is done by the means of a Liquor, and by hot steams, giving the red colour to the *Chyle*, as *Chymists* use to change *white* Juices into *red*, by the affusion of *Oyl* of *sulphur*, or the like Liquors; that redness being much advanced by the motion and agitation of the blood in the Veins and Arteries. But as to the latter, *vid.* the *Nutrition*, it is performed by that whitish Juice, which is mixed with the Blood, and separated from it by the straining Glandules of the Body.

To these particulars he adds several not unconsiderable remarks touching the *Gall*, *Spleen*, *Lymphatick Vessels*, &c. Observing also, that the whole kind of *Birds* is destitute of *milky* Vessels; and occasionally taking notice, that *worms* are bred in almost all the parts of Animal Bodies; of which he alledges very odd Observations and Histories.

7. *De Vita*: This he affirms to consist in the continued motion of the Blood, depending from that of the *Heart*; yet so, that this latter proceeds not from the *heat* of the Blood (as *Des*

Cartes would have it) but the moist steams and expirations of the Heart.

As for *Respiration*, he thinks it a vain opinion, that *thereby* the heat of the Blood is temper'd and allay'd; but affirms, that it is therefore necessary, because that the Blood, which out of the *right* Ventricle of the Heart is propelled into the Lungs, in such Animals, as are furnish'd with them, cannot pass into the *left*, unless the Air, breathed in, do swell and distend the small branches of the Windpipe; it being from thence, that the ramifications of the *Arterial Vein*, through which the blood must pass, are compress'd, and the blood therein inclosed is protruded into the branches of the *venal Artery*: For the proof of which, he alledges divers Observations. Adding withall, that since Animals, whilst they are in the Womb, respire not, there being peculiar *ductus's*, by which the blood passeth into the *Aorta*, without passing through the Lungs, as it always doth in Animals destitute of Lungs; he doubts not, but that with art and care those Channels may be preserved unabolisht, and made to grow and to be perfected with the other parts of the Animal, so that grown men may be brought to live the life of *Amphibious* Creatures. Nor doth he think this very difficult, in regard, that if their mouths and noses were from their very infancy often stopt every day, and their breath so long intercepted, whilst the blood passeth through those *Ductus's* into the left Ventricle of the Heart and the great Artery, the said passages would never be dried up: To confirm the possibility whereof, he alledges Examples of *divers*, who from their Childhood being given to swimming and diving and so to the holding of their breath, did thereby so preserve those Channels from being dried up, that upon occasion they could stay a great while under water, as *Amphibiums* use to do.

LES ESSAYS PHYSIQUES du Sieur DE LAUNAY,
Liv. premier.

THIS Learned Man having proposed to himself to go through the whole Body of *Natural Philosophy*, by the way of *Essays*, divides that *System* into three Parts; whereof

The *First* being *General*, is to treat of what is common to all Bodies,

Bodies, both *Superiour* and *Inferiour*; and is divided again into six Books, whereof the *first* considers the *Universe* in general; the *second* is to discourse of *Place*, *Vacuum*, and *Time*, things as general as the *World*; the *third*, of the material *Principles* of all Bodies; the *fourth*, of their *efficient Cause*; the *fifth*, of their natural *Qualities*; and the *sixth*, of *Motion*, *Generation*, and *Corruption* of Bodies inanimate and animate.

The *second* part is to examine the *Celestial Bodies*. The *third* shall treat of the *Terrestrial*, viz. the Elements, Meteors, Minerals, Plants, Brutes, Men.

Of this Work is now printed the *first* Book of the *first* Part, consisting of five Dissertations.

The *first* is about the preliminary Questions of *Physiology*. The *second* inquireth whether the *Universe* is compounded of many Worlds. The *third* is of the System of the World, its *Magnitude*, and *Figure*. The *fourth* examines, whether the World be animated? The *fifth*, whether it hath been or could be from Eternity? The *sixth* is concerning the End of the World.

IV. FRANCISCI DU LAURENS SPECIMINA MATHEMATICA, duobus Libris comprehensa.

Horum Prior, SYNTHETICUS, agit de Genuinis Matheleos Principiis in genere; in specie autem de Veris Geometriæ Elementis hucusque nondum traditis.

Posterior, ANALYTICUS, de Methodo Compositionis atque Resolutionis fusè disserit; & multa nova complectitur, quæ subtilissimam Analyseos Artem mirum in modum promovent.

ERRATA, forgot to be corrected sooner.

IN N° 28. Pag. 521. lin. 22, 23. r. She took dog (even before the wound was heal'd up) was with puppy. p. 525. l. 8. r. Answers that shall. ibid. l. 20. r. Mineral Queries. p. 532. l. 18. dele viz. p. 535. l. 2. r. impelled at the Nose. ibid. l. 15. r. Grand poisson.

In N° 29. p. 541. l. 18. r. An intimation. p. 544. l. 5. r. from the Indexes. ibid. l. 22. dele and us. p. 545. l. 21. r. breath out. p. 548. l. 18. r. with wind or.

In the SAVOY,

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