ELEMENTS
OF
NATURAL
PHILOSOPHY.

BY

JOHN LOCKE, Esq;

To which is added,

SOME THOUGHTS
CONCERNING
READING AND STUDY
FOR A
GENTLEMAN,

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

WHITEHAVEN:
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An account of the following tracts by MONSIEUR DES MAIZEAUX, being part of a dedication prefixed to these and some other pieces of MR. LOCKE's, when they were first published in the year 1720.

THESE *Elements of Natural Philosophy*, Mr. Locke had composed, or rather dictated for the use of a young gentleman, whose education he had very much at heart. It is an abstract or summary of whatever is most material in natural philosophy; which Mr. Locke did afterwards explain more at large to that young gentleman. The same is practised in the universities, where, you know, it is customary for the professors to dictate such abridgements, to serve for the subject and rule of their lectures. And therefore this small tract is far from being what Mr. Locke would have made it, had he written upon that matter professedly, and designed to make it a compleat work.

HOWEVER, as the generality of men expect every thing ſhould be perfect that proceed from ſuch a writer as Mr. Locke, and do not enter into the occaſions or deſigns which he propoſed to himſelf in writing; I own that ſome perſons, very good judges, whom I have taken the liberty to conſult about the impreſſion of ſome pieces in this collection, were of opinion that this little treatiſe had better been left out, for fear every reader ſhould not make the proper allowances, and leaſt the memory of Mr. Locke ſhould ſuffer by it. I yielded to their opinion; and was reſolved to lay that piece aſide. But being informed that there were ſeveral other copies of it abroad, which it was impoſſible to ſuppreſs, or hinder from falling, one time or other, into the hands of the printers, maimed and disfigured, as is too often the caſe on ſuch occaſions, I was obliged to take other meaſures: and

I the more eaſily determined to publiſh it, becauſe I could give it more complete, more correct, and in better order, than can poſſibly be pretended to by the copies above-mentioned.

AFTER all, I may take upon me to ſay that, in its kind, this piece is no way to be deſpiſed. We wanted ſuch a work in Engliſh: and it would not have been an eaſy matter to find any other perſon who could have comprehended ſo many things in ſo few words, and in ſo clear and diſtinct a manner. Great uſe may be made of it in the inſtruction of young gentlemen, as it was originally deſigned by Mr. Locke. And perſons even of riper years may improve by it: either by recalling ideas that had ſlipt out of their memory; or by informing themſelves of ſeveral things, which were unknown to them.

TO this treatiſe are ſubjoined,

ſome thoughts concerning reading and ſtudy for a gentleman. Mr. Locke having one day in converſation diſcourſed upon the method that a young gentleman ſhould take in his reading and ſtudy; one of the company was ſo well pleaſed with it, that he deſired him to dictate to him the ſubſtance of what he had been ſpeaking: which Mr. Locke immediately did. This is one of the uſual converſations of Mr. Locke, reduced into writing: from whence you may judge, Sir, how agreeable and advantageous it was, to converſe with that great man.

Mr. Locke not only points out the ſciences that a gentleman ought to ſtudy, whether as a private man, or one in a public capacity; but likewiſe directs to ſuch books as treat of thoſe ſciences, and which in his opinion are the propereſt for that end. As you have acquired, Sir, in Italy, the moſt refined taſte for the poli-

ter arts, and have added that ſtudy to thoſe Mr. Locke here recommends to a gentleman; you will perhaps wonder that he ſays nothing of painting, ſculpture, architecture, and other arts of this kind, which make an accompliſh'd gentleman. But I deſire you would conſider, that there are but few perſons in poſſeſſion of the means neceſſary for attaining this ſort of knowledge; and that Mr. Locke is ſpeaking here of what may ſuit the circumſtances of the generality of people. Beſides, he was very far from imagining that an extemporary advice, which he was giving by his fire-ſide, would ever be expoſed to common view. However, I preſume to think, that after you have peruſed it, you will be of opinion it was not unworthy to be made public.

ELEMENTS OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

CHAP. I.

OF MATTER AND MOTION.

MATTER is an extended ſolid ſubſtance; which being comprehended under diſtinct ſurfaces, makes ſo many particular diſtinct bodies.

MOTION is ſo well known by the ſight and touch, that to uſe words to give a clearer idea of it, would be in vain.

MATTER, or body, is indifferent to motion or reſt.

THERE is as much force required to put a body, which is in motion, at reſt; as there is to ſet a body, which is at reſt, into motion.

NO parcel of matter can give it ſelf either motion or reſt; and therefore a body at reſt will remain ſo

eternally, except ſome external cauſe puts it in motion; and a body in motion will move eternally, unleſs ſome external cauſe ſtops it.

A Body in motion will always move on in a ſtrait line, unleſs it be turn'd out of it by ſome external cauſe; becauſe a body can no more alter the determination of its motion than it can begin it, alter or ſtop its motion it ſelf.

The ſwiftneſs of motion, is meaſured by diſtance of place, and length of time wherein it is performed. For inſtance, if A and B, bodies of equal or different bigneſs, move each of them an inch in the ſame time; their motions are equally ſwift: but if A moves two inches, in the time whilſt B is moving one inch; the motion of A is twice as ſwift as that of B.

The quantity of motion, is meaſured by the ſwiftneſs of the motion, and the quantity of the matter moved, taken together. For inſtance, if A, a body equal to B, moves as ſwift

as B; then it hath an equal quantity of motion. If A hath twice as much matter as B, and moves equally as ſwift; it hath double the quantity of motion; and ſo in proportion.

It appears, as far as human obſervation reaches, to be a ſettled law of nature, that "all bodies have a "tendency, attraction, or gravitati-"on towards one another."

The ſame force applied to two different bodies, produces always the ſame quantity of motion in each of them. For inſtance, let a boat, which with its loading is one tun, be tied at a diſtance, to another veſſel, which with its lading is twenty-ſix tuns; if the rope that ties them together be pulled, either in the leſs or bigger of theſe veſſels, the leſs of the two, in their approach one to another, will move twenty-ſix foot, while the other moves but one foot.

Wherefore the quantity of matter in the earth being twenty-ſix times more, than in the moon; the motion in the moon towards the

earth, by the common force of attraction, by which they are impelled towards one another, will be twenty-six times as fast as in the earth; that is, the moon will move twenty six-miles towards the earth, for every mile the earth moves towards the moon.

HENCE it is, that in this natural tendency of bodies towards one another, that in the lesser is consider'd as gravitation; and that in the bigger as attraction; because the motion of the lesser body (by reason of its much greater swiftness) is alone taken notice of.

THIS attraction is the strongest, the nearer the attracting bodies are to each other; and in different distances of the same bodies, is reciprocally in the duplicate proportion of those distances. For instance, if two bodies, at a given distance, attract each other with a certain force, at half the distance, they will attract each other with four times that force; at one third of the distance,

with nine times that force; and ſo on.

Two bodies, at a diſtance, will put one another into motion by the force of attraction; which is unexplicable by us, tho' made evident to us by experience, and ſo to be taken as a principle in natural philoſophy.

SUPPOSING then the earth the ſole body in the univerſe, and at reſt; if God ſhould create the moon, at the ſame diſtance that it is now from the earth; the earth, and the moon would preſently begin to move one towards another in a ſtrait line by this motion of attraction or gravitation.

IF a body, that by the attraction of another would move in a ſtrait line towards it, receives a new motion any ways oblique to the firſt; it will no longer move in a ſtrait line according to either of thoſe directions; but in a curve, that will partake of both: and this curve will differ, according to the nature and

quantity of the forces that concurr'd to produce it; as, for inſtance, in many caſes it will be ſuch a curve as ends where it begun, or recurs into it ſelf; that is makes up a circle, or an ellipſis, or oval very little differing from a circle.

CHAP II.

OF THE UNIVERSE.

TO any one, who looks about him in the world, there are obvious ſeveral diſtinct maſſes of matter, ſeperate from one another; ſome whereof have diſcernable motions. Theſe are the ſun, the fixt ſtars, the comets, and the planets, amongſt which this earth, which we inhabit, is one. All theſe are viſible to our naked eyes.

BESIDES theſe, teleſcopes have diſcovered ſeveral fixt ſtars, inviſible to the naked eye; and ſeveral other bodies moving about ſome of the planets; all which were inviſible and unknown, before the uſe of proſpective glaſſes were found.

THE vaſt diſtances between theſe great bodies, are call'd intermundane ſpaces; in which tho' there may be ſome fluid matter, yet it is ſo thin and ſubtile; and there is ſo little of tha in reſpect of the great maſſes that move in thoſe ſpaces, that it is as much as nothing.

THESE maſſes of matter are, either luminous, or opaque, or dark.

LUMINOUS bodies, are ſuch as give light of themſelves; and ſuch are the ſun, and the fixt ſtars.

DARK or opaque bodies, are ſuch as emit no light of themſelves, though they are capable of reflecting of it, when it is caſt upon them from other bodies; and ſuch are the planets.

THERE are ſome opaque bodies, as for inſtance the comets, which beſides the light, that they may have from the ſun, ſeem to ſhine with a light that is nothing elſe but an accenſion, which they receive from the ſun, in their near approaches to it, in their reſpective revolutions.

THE fixt ſtars are call'd fixt, be-

cauſe they always keep the ſame diſtance one from another.

THE ſun, at the ſame diſtance from us that the fixt ſtars are, would have the appearance of one of the fixt ſtars.

CHAP III.

OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM.

OUR ſolar ſyſtem conſiſts of the ſun; and the planets, and comets moving about it.

THE planets are bodies, which appear to us like ſtars; not that they are luminous bodies, that is, have light in themſelves; but they ſhine by reflecting the light of the ſun.

THEY are call'd planets from a Greek word, which ſignifies wandering; becauſe they change their places, and do not always keep the ſame diſtance with one another, nor with the fixt ſtars, as the fixt ſtars do.

THE planets are either primary, or ſecondary.

THERE are ſix primary planets,

viz. Mercury, Venus, the Earth, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn.

ALL theſe move round the ſun, which is, as it were, the center of their motions.

THE ſecondary planets move round about other planets. Beſides the moon, which moves about the earth; four moons move about Jupiter, and five about Saturn, which are call'd their ſatellites.

THE middle diſtances of the primary planets from the ſun, are as follows:

Mercury	is diſtant	32,000,000	ſtatute miles
Venus	from the	59,000,000	each 528
The Earth	Sun's	81,000,000	Engliſh,
Mars	center	123,000,000	and 4943
Jupiter	about	424,000,000	French feet.
Saturn		777,000,000	

THE orbits of the planets, and their reſpective diſtances from the ſun, and from one another, together with the orbit of a comet, may be ſeen in the figure of the ſolar ſyſtem hereunto annexed.

THE periodical times of each planet's revolution about the ſun, are as follows:

Mercury	Revolves a-	0	88	0	0
Venus	about the	0	225	0	0
The Earth	Sun in	0	365	5	49
Mars	the ſpace	1	322	0	0
Jupiter	of	11	319	0	0
Saturn		29	138	0	0

THE planets move round about the ſun from weſt to eaſt in the zodiac: or, to ſpeak plainer, are always found amongſt ſome of the ſtars of thoſe conſtellations, which make the twelve ſigns of the zodiac.

THE motion of the planets about the ſun, is not perfectly circular, but rather elliptical.

THE reaſon of their motions in curve lines, is the attraction of the ſun, or their gravitations towards the ſun, (call it which you pleaſe); and an oblique or ſide-long impulſe or motion.

THESE two motions or tendencies the one always endeavouring to carry them in a ſtrait line from the circle they move in, and the other endeavouring to draw them in a ſtrait line to the ſun, makes that curve line they revolve in.

THE motion of the comets about the ſun, is in a very long ſlender oval: whereof one of the focus's is the center of the ſun, and the other very much beyond the ſphere of Saturn.

THE moon moves about the earth, as the earth doth about the ſun. So that it hath the center of its motion in the earth; as the earth hath the center of its revolution in the ſun, about which it moves.

THE moon makes its ſynodical motion about the earth, in 29 days, 12 hours, and about 44 minutes.

IT is full moon, when the earth being between the ſun and the moon we ſee all the enlightened part of the moon: new moon, when the moon being between us and the ſun, its enlighten'd part is turned from us: and half moon, when the moon being in the quadratures, as the aſtronomers call it, we ſee but half the enlighten'd part.

AN eclipſe of the moon is, when the earth, being between the ſun and

the moon, hinders the light of the ſun from falling upon and being reflected by the moon. If the light of the ſun is kept off from the whole body of the moon, it is a total eclipſe; if from a part only, it is a partial one.

An eclipſe of the ſun is, when the moon, being between the ſun and the earth, hinders the light of the ſun from coming to us. If the moon hides from us the whole body of the ſun, it is a total eclipſe; if not, a partial one.

Our ſolar ſyſtem is diſtant from the fixt ſtars 20,000,000,000 ſemidiameters of the earth: or, as Mr. Huygens expreſſes this diſtance, in his coſmotheoros (1); the fixt ſtars are ſo remote from the earth, that, if a bullet ſhould come from one of the fixt ſtars with as ſwift a motion as it hath when it is ſhot out of the mouth of a cannon; it would be

(1) Chriſtiani Hugenii KOΣMOΘEΩPOΣ, ſive de terris cœleſtibus earumque ornatu, conjecturæ, &c. p. m. 137.

700,000 years in coming to the earth.

This vaſt diſtance ſo much abates the attraction of thoſe remote bodies that its operation upon thoſe of our ſyſtem, is not at all ſenſible, nor would draw away or hinder the return of any of our ſolar comets; tho' ſome of them ſhould go ſo far from the ſun, as not to make the revolution about it in leſs than 1000 years.

It is more ſuitable to the wiſdom, power and greatneſs of God, to think that the fixt ſtars are all of them ſuns, with ſyſtems of inhabitable planets moving about them, to whoſe inhabitants he diſplays the marks of his goodneſs as well as to us; rather than to imagine that thoſe very remote bodies ſo little uſeful to us, were made only for our ſake.

CHAP IV.

OF THE EARTH, CONSIDER'D AS A PLANET.

THE earth by its revolution about the ſun in 365 days,

5 hours, 49 minutes, makes that ſpace of time we call a year.

THE line, which the center of the earth deſcribes in its annual revolution about the ſun, is call'd the ecliptic.

THE annual motion of the earth about the ſun, is in the order of the ſigns of the zodiac; that is, ſpeaking vulgarly, from weſt to eaſt.

BESIDES this annual revolution of the earth about the ſun, in the ecliptic; the earth turns round upon its own axis in 24 hours.

THE turning of the earth upon its own axis every 24 hours, whilſt it moves round the ſun in a year, we may conceive by the running of a bowl on a bowling-green; in which not only the center of the bowl hath a progreſſive motion on the green; but the bowl in its going forward, from one part of the green to another, turns round about its own axis.

THE turning of the earth on its own axis, makes the difference of

day and night; it being day in thoſe parts of the earth, which are turn'd towards the ſun; and night, in thoſe parts which are in the ſhade, or turned from the ſun.

The annual revolution of the earth in the ecliptic, is the cauſe of the different ſeaſons, and of the ſeveral lengths of days and nights, in every part of the world, in the courſe of the year.

The reaſon of it, is the earth's going round its own axis in the ecliptic, but at the ſame time keeping every where its axis equally inclined to the plane of the ecliptic, and parallel to it ſelf. For the plane of the ecliptic inclining to the plane of the equator, 23 degrees and an half, makes that the earth, moving round in the ecliptic, hath ſometimes one of its poles, and ſometimes the other nearer the ſun.

If the diameter of the ſun be to the diameter of the earth, as 48 to 1, as by ſome it is accounted; then the diſk of the ſun, ſpeaking *numero*

rotundo, is above 2000 times bigger than the disk of the earth; and the globe of the sun above 100,000 times bigger than the globe of the earth.

The distance of the earth's orbit from the sun, is above 20,000 semidiameters of the earth.

If a cannon bullet should come from the sun, with the same velocity it hath, when it is shot out of the mouth of a cannon, it would be 25 years in coming to the earth.

CHAP V.

OF THE AIR AND ATMOSPHERE.

We have already consider'd the earth as a planet, or one of the great masses of matter moving about the sun; we shall now consider it as it is made up of its several parts, abstracting from its diurnal and annual motions.

The exterior part of this our habitable world is the air or atmosphere; a light, thin, fluid, or springy body, that incompasses the solid earth on all sides.

THE height of the atmoſphere above the ſurface of the ſolid earth, is not certainly known; but that it doth reach but to a very ſmall part of the diſtance betwixt the earth and the moon, may be concluded from the refraction of the rays coming from the ſun, moon, and other luminous bodies.

THOUGH conſidering that the air we are in, being near 1000 times lighter than water; and that the higher it is, the leſs it is compreſs'd by the ſuperior incumbent air, and ſo conſequently being a ſpringy body, the thinner it is; and conſidering alſo that a pillar of air of any diameter is equal in weight to a pillar of quickſilver of the ſame diameter of between 29 and 30 inches height; we may infer that the top of the atmoſphere is not very near the ſurface of the ſolid earth.

IT may be concluded, that the utmoſt extent of the atmoſphere reaches upwards from the ſurface of the ſolid earth that we walk on, to

a good distance above us; first, if we consider that a column of air of any given diameter is equiponderant to a column of quicksilver of between 29 and 30 inches height. Now quicksilver being near 14 times heavier than water, if air was as heavy as water, the atmosphere would be about 14 times higher than the column of quicksilver *i. e.* about 34 foot.

SECONDLY, if we consider, that air is 1000 times lighter than water, then a pillar of air equal in weight to a pillar of quicksilver of 30 inches high will be 6800 foot; whereby we come to know that the air or atmosphere is 6800, *i. e.* near seven miles high.

THIRDLY, if we consider that the air is a springy body, and that which is nearest the earth is compressed by the weight of all the atmosphere that is above it, and rests perpendicularly upon it; we shall find that the air here, near the surface of the earth, is much denser and thicker than it is in the upper

parts. For example, if upon a fleece of wool you lay another, the under one will be a little compreſſed by the weight of that which lies upon it; and ſo both of them by a third, and ſo on; ſo that if 10,000 were pil'd one upon another, the under one would, by the weight of all the reſt, be very much compreſs'd and all the parts of it be brought abundantly cloſer together, than when there was no other upon it; and the next to that a little leſs compreſſed, the third a little leſs than the ſecond, and ſo on till it came to the uppermoſt, which would be in its full expanſion and not compreſſed at all. Juſt ſo it is in the air; the higher you go in it, the leſs it is compreſſed, and conſequently the leſs denſe it is; and ſo the upper part being exceedingly thinner than the lower part, which we breathe in; (which is that that is 1000 times lighter than water); the top of the atmoſphere is probably much higher than the diſtance above aſſign'd.

THAT the air near the ſurface of the earth will mightily expand itſelf when the preſſure of the incumbent atmoſphere is taken off, may be abundantly ſeen in the experiments made by Mr. Boyle in his pneumatic engine. In his phyſico-mechanical experiments concerning the air, he declares (1) it probable that the atmoſphere may be ſeveral hundred miles high; which is eaſy to be admitted, when we conſider what he proves in another part of the ſame treatiſe, *viz.* that the air here about the ſurface of the earth, when the preſſure is taken from it, will dilate itſelf above 152 times.

THE atmoſphere is the ſcene of the meteors; and therein is collected the matter of rain, hail, ſnow, thunder, and lightning; and a great many other things obſervable in the air.

(1) New experiments phyſico-mechanical, touching the ſpring of the air, and its effects; (made for the moſt part in a new pneumatical engine) written . . . . by the honourable ROBERT BOYLE, Eſq; Experiment xxxvi. p. 155. Oxford, 1662, in 4to.

CHAP VI.

OF METEORS IN GENERAL.

BEſides the ſpringy particles of pure air, the atmoſphere is made up of ſeveral ſteams or minute particles of ſeveral ſorts, riſing from the earth and the waters, and floating in the air, which is a fluid body, and though much finer and thinner may be conſider'd in reſpect of its fluidity to be like water, and ſo capable, like other liquors, of having heterogeneous particles floating in it.

THE moſt remarkable of them are firſt, the particles of water raiſed into the atmoſphere, chiefly by the heat of the ſun, out of the ſea and other waters, and the ſurface of the earth; from whence it falls in dew, rain, hail and ſnow.

OUT of the vapours riſing from moiſture, the clouds are principally made.

CLOUDS do not conſiſt wholly of watry parts; for beſides the aqueous

vapours that are raiſed into the air, there are alſo ſulphureous and ſaline particles, that are raiſed up, and in the clouds mixed with the aqueous particles, the effects whereof are ſometimes very ſenſible; as particularly in lightning, and thunder when the ſulphureous and nitrous particles firing, break out with that violence of light and noiſe, which is obſervable in thunder, and very much reſembles gun-powder.

THAT there are nitrous particles raiſed into the air, is evident from the nouriſhment which rain gives to vegetables more than any other water; and alſo by the collection of niter or ſalt-peter in heaps of earth, out of which it has been extracted, if they be expoſed to the air, ſo as to be kept from rain; not to mention other efforts wherein the nitrous ſpirit in the air ſhews it ſelf.

CLOUDS are the greateſt and moſt conſiderable of all the meteors, as furniſhing matter and plenty to the earth. They conſiſt of very ſmall

drops of water; and are elevated a good distance above the surface of the earth; for a cloud is nothing but a mist flying high in the air, as a mist is nothing but a cloud here below.

How vapours are raised into the air in invisible steams by the heat of the sun out of the sea, and moist parts of the earth, is easily understood; and there is a visible instance of it in ordinary distillations. But how these steams are collected into drops, which bring back the water again, is not so easy to determine.

To those, that will carefully observe, perhaps it will appear probable, that it is by that, which the chymists call precipitation; to which it answers in all its parts.

The air may be look'd on as a clear and pellucid menstruum, in which the insensible particles of dissolved matter float up and down, without being discerned, or troubling the pellucidity of the air; when on a sudden, as if it were by a precipi-

tation, they gather into the very ſmall, but viſible miſty drops that make clouds.

THIS may be obſerved ſometimes in a very clear ſky; when, there not appearing any cloud, or any thing opaque, in the whole horizon, one may ſee on a ſudden clouds gather and all the hemiſphere overcaſt; which cannot be from the riſing of new aqueous vapours at that time; but from the precipitation of the moiſture that inviſible particles floated in the air into very ſmall, but very viſible drops, which by a like cauſe being united into greater drops, they become too heavy to be ſuſtained in the air; and ſo fall down in rain.

HAIL, ſeems to be the drops of rain frozen in the falling.

SNOW, is the ſmall particles of water frozen before they unite into drops.

THE regular figures, which branch out in flakes of ſnow, ſeem to ſhew that there are ſome particles of ſalt

mixed with the water, which makes them unite in certain angles.

THE rain-bow, is reckon'd one of the moſt remarkable meteors, though really it be no meteor at all; but the reflection of the ſun-beams from the ſmalleſt drops of a cloud or miſt, which are placed in a certain angle made by the concurrence of two lines, the one drawn from the ſun, and the other from the eye to theſe little drops in the cloud, which reflect the ſun-beams; ſo that two people looking upon a rain-bow at the ſame time, do not ſee exactly the ſame rain-bow.

CHAP. VII.

OF SPRINGS, RIVERS, AND THE SEA.

PART of the water, that falls down from the clouds, runs away upon the ſurface of the earth into channels, which convey it to the ſea; and part of it is imbib'd in the ſpungy ſhell of the earth, from whence ſinking lower by degrees, it falls down into ſubterranean chan-

nels, and ſo under ground paſſes into the ſea; or elſe meeting with beds of rock or clay, it is hindred from ſinking lower, and ſo breaks out in ſprings, which are moſt commonly in the ſides, or at the bottom of hilly ground.

Springs make little rivulets; thoſe uniting make brooks; and thoſe coming together make rivers, which empty themſelves into the ſea.

The ſea is a great collection of waters in the deep valleys of the earth. If the earth were all plain, and had not thoſe deep hollows, the earth would be all cover'd with water; becauſe the water, being lighter than the earth, would be above the earth, as the air is above the water.

The moſt remarkable thing in the ſea, is that motion of the water call'd tides. It is a riſing and falling of the water of the ſea. The cauſe of this is the attraction of the moon, whereby the part of the water in the great ocean which is nearеſt the moon, being moſt ſtrongly

attracted, is raised higher than the rest; and the part opposite to it, on the contrary side, being least attracted, is also higher than the rest. And these two opposite rises of the surface of the water in the great ocean, following the motion of the moon from east to west, and striking against the large coasts of the continents that lie in its way; from thence rebounds back again, and so makes floods and ebbs in narrow seas, and rivers remote from the great ocean. Herein we also see the reason of the times of the tides, and why they so constantly follow the course of the moon.

CHAP. VIII.

OF SEVERAL SORTS OF EARTH, STONES, METALS, MINERALS, AND OTHER FOSSILS.

THIS solid globe we live upon is call'd the earth, tho' it contains in it a great variety of bodies, several whereof are not properly earth; which word taken in a more

limited ſenſe, ſignifies ſuch parts of this globe, as are capable, being expoſed to the air, to give rooting and nouriſhment to plants, ſo that they may ſtand and grow in it. With ſuch earth as this, the greateſt part of the ſurface of this globe is covered; and it is as it were the ſtorehouſe from whence all the living creatures of our world, have originally their proviſions; for from thence all the plants have their ſuſtenance, and ſome few animals, and from theſe all the other animals.

Of earth, taken in this ſenſe, there are ſeveral ſorts, v. g. common mould or garden-earth, clay of ſeveral kinds, ſandy ſoils.

Besides theſe there is medicinal earth; as that which is called Terra Lemnia, Bolus Armena, and divers others.

After the ſeveral earths, we may conſider the parts of the ſurface of this globe, which is barren; and ſuch for the moſt part are ſand, gravel, chalk, and rocks, which produce no-

thing, where they have no earth mixt among them. Barren ſands are of divers kinds; and conſiſt of ſeveral little irregular ſtones without any earth, and of ſuch there are great deſarts to be ſeen in ſeveral parts of the world.

Besides theſe, which are moſt remarkable on the ſurface of the earth, there are found deeper in this globe many other bodies, which becauſe we diſcover by digging into the bowels of the earth, are call'd by one common name Foſſils; under which are comprehended metals, minerals or half metals, ſtones of divers kinds, and ſundry bodies that have the texture between earth and ſtone.

To begin with thoſe foſſils which come neareſt the earth; under this head we may reckon the ſeveral ſorts of oker, chalk, that which they call black lead, and other bodies of this kind, which are harder than earth, but have not the conſiſtency and hardneſs of perfect ſtone.

NEXT to these may be consider'd stones of all sorts; whereof there is almost an infinite variety. Some of the most remarkable, either for beauty or use, are these: marble of all kinds, porphyry, granit, free-stone, &c. flints, agats, cornelians, pebbles, under which kind come the precious stones, which are but pebbles of an excessive hardness, and when they are cut and polish'd, they have an extraordinary lustre. The most noted and esteemed are, diamonds, rubies, amethists, emeralds, topazes, opats.

BESIDES these, we must not omit those, which tho' of not so much beauty, yet are of greater use, viz. loadstones, whetstones of all kinds, limestones, calamint or lapis calaminaris; and abundance of others.

BESIDES these, there are found in the earth several sorts of salts, as eating or common salt, vitriol, salt gemma, and others.

THE minerals, or semi-metals, that are dug out of the bowels of

the earth, are antimony, cinnaber, zink, &c. to which may be added brimstone.

But the bodies of most use, that are sought for out of the depths of the earth, are the metals; which are distinguished from other bodies by their weight, fusibility, and malleableness, of which there are these sorts, gold, silver, copper, tin, lead, and, the most valuable of them all, iron; to which one may join that anomulous body, quicksilver or mercury.

He, that desires to be more particularly inform'd concerning the qualities and properties of these subterraneous bodies, may consult natural historians and chymists.

What lies deeper towards the center of the earth we know not, but a very little beneath the surface of this globe; and whatever we fetch from under ground is only what is lodg'd in the shell of the earth.

All stones, metals, and minerals, are real vegetables; that is, grow

organically from proper ſeeds, as well as plants.

CHAP. IX.

OF VEGETABLES OR PLANTS.

NEXT to the earth it ſelf, we may conſider thoſe that are maintain'd on its ſurface; which tho' they are faſtned to it, yet are very diſtinct from it: and thoſe are the whole tribe of vegetables or plants. Theſe may be divided into three ſorts, herbs, ſhrubs, and trees.

HERBS are thoſe plants, whoſe ſtalks are ſoft, and have nothing woody in them, as graſs, ſowthiſtle, and hemlock. Shrubs and trees have all wood in them: but with this difference, that ſhrubs grow not to the height of trees, and uſually ſpread into branches near the ſurface of the earth; whereas trees generally ſhoot up in one great ſtem or body, and then, at a good diſtance from the earth, ſpread into branches: thus, gooſeberries, and currants, are ſhrubs; oaks, and cherries, are trees.

In plants the moſt conſiderable parts are theſe, the root, the ſtalk, the leaves, the flower, and the ſeed. There are very few of them that have not all theſe parts, tho' ſome few there are that have no ſtalk; others that have no leaves; and others, that have no flowers; but without ſeed or root I think there are none.

In vegetables, there are two things chiefly to be conſider'd, their nouriſhment, and propagation.

Their nouriſhment is thus: the ſmall and tender fibres of the roots, being ſpread under ground, imbibe from the moiſt earth juice fit for their nouriſhment: this is convey'd by the ſtalk up into the branches, and leaves, through little, and in ſome plants, imperceptible tubes, and from thence by the bark returns again to the root: ſo that there is in vegetables, as well as in animals, a circulation of the vital liquor. By what impulſe it is moved, is ſomewhat hard to diſcover.

It ſeems to be from the difference of day and night, and other changes in the heat of the air: for the heat dilating, and the cold contracting thoſe little tubes; ſuppoſing there be valves in them, it is eaſy to be conceived how the circulation is performed in plants, where it is not required to be ſo rapid and quick as in animals.

NATURE has provided for the propagation of the ſpecies of plants ſeveral ways. The firſt and general is by ſeed. Beſides this, ſome plants are raiſed from any part of the root ſet in the ground: others by new roots, that are propagated from the old ones, as in tulips: others by off-ſets; and in others, the branches ſet in the ground, will take root and grow: and laſt of all, grafting and inoculation, in certain ſorts, are known ways of propagation. All theſe ways of encreaſing plants, make one good part of the ſkill of gardening; and from the books of gardeners may be beſt learnt.

CHAP. X.

OF ANIMALS.

THERE is another ſort of creatures belonging to this our earth, rather as inhabitants than parts of it. They differ in this from plants, that they are not fixed to any one place, but have a freedom of motion up and down, and beſides have ſenſe to guide them in their motions.

MAN, and brute, divide all the animals of this our globe.

BRUTES may be conſider'd as either aerial, terreſtrial, aquatic, or amphibious. I call thoſe aerial, which have wings, wherewith they can ſupport themſelves in the air. Terreſtrial, are thoſe whoſe only place of reſt is upon the earth. Aquatic, are thoſe whoſe conſtant abode is upon the water. Thoſe are called amphibious, which live freely in the air upon the earth; and yet are obſerved to live long upon the water, as if they were natural in-

habitants of that element: tho' it be worth the examination to know, whether any of thoſe creatures that live at their eaſe, and by choice, a good while, or at any time upon the earth, can live a long time together perfectly under water.

AERIAL animals may be ſubdivided into birds, and flies.

FISHES, which are the chief part of aquatic animals, may be divided into ſhell-fiſhes, ſcaly-fiſhes, and thoſe that have neither apparent ſcales nor ſhells.

AND the terreſtrial animals may be divided into quadrupeds or beaſts, reptiles, which have many feet, and ſerpents, which have no feet at all.

INSECTS, which in their ſeveral changes, belong to ſeveral of the before mentioned diviſions, may be conſidered together as one great tribe of animals. They are called inſects, from a ſeparation in the middle of their bodies, whereby they are, as it were, cut into two parts, which are joined together by

a ſmall ligature: as we ſee in waſps, common flies, and the like.

Besides all theſe, there are ſome animals that are not perfectly of theſe kinds, but placed, as it were, in the middle betwixt two of them, by ſomething of both; as bats, which have ſomething of beaſts, and birds in them.

Some reptiles of the earth, and ſome of the aquatics, want one or more of the ſenſes, which are in perfecter animals; as worms, oyſters, cockles, &c.

Animals are nouriſhed by food, taken in at the mouth, digeſted in the ſtomach, and thence, by fit veſſels, diſtributed over the whole body, as is deſcribed in books of anatomy.

The greateſt part of animals have five ſenſes, viz. ſeeing, hearing, ſmelling, taſting, and feeling. Theſe, and the way of nouriſhment of animals, we ſhall more particularly conſider; becauſe they are common to man with beaſts.

THE way of nouriſhment of animals, particularly of man, is by food taken in at the mouth, which being chewed there, is broken and mixed with the ſaliva, and thereby prepared for an eaſier and better digeſtion in the ſtomach.

WHEN the ſtomach has performed its office upon the food, it protrudes it into the guts, by whoſe periſtaltic motion it is gently conveyed along through the guts; and as it paſſes, the chyle, which is the nutritive part, is ſeparated from the excrementitious by the lacteal veins; and from thence conveyed into the blood, with which it circulates till it ſelf be concocted into blood. The blood being by the vena cava brought into the right ventricle of the heart, by the contraction of that muſcle, is driven thro' the arteria pulmonaris into the lungs; where the conſtantly-inſpired air mixing with it, enlivens it; and from thence being conveyed by the vena pulmonaris into the

left ventricle of the heart, the contraction of the heart forces it out, and by the arteries distributes it into all parts of the body; from whence it returns by the veins into the right ventricle of the heart to take the same course again. This is called the circulation of the blood; by which life and heat are communicated to every part of the body.

In the circulation of the blood, a good part of it goes up into the head, and by the brains are separated from it, or made out of it the animal spirits, which, by the nerves, impart sense and motion to all parts of the body.

The instruments of motion are the muscles, the fibres whereof contracting themselves, move the several parts of the body.

This contraction of the muscles is in some of them by the direction of the mind, and in some of them without it; which is the difference between voluntary, and involuntary motions, in the body.

CHAP. XI.

OF THE FIVE SENSES.

OF SEEING.

THE organ of seeing is the eye; consisting of variety of parts wonderfully contrived, for the admitting and refracting the rays of light; so that those that come from the same point of the object, and fall upon different parts of the pupil, are brought to meet again at the bottom of the eye, whereby the whole object is painted on the retina that is spread there.

THAT, which immediately affects the sight, and produces in us that sensation, which we call seeing, is light.

LIGHT may be considered either, first, as it radiates from luminous bodies directly to our eyes; and thus we see luminous bodies themselves, as the sun, or a flame, &c. or, secondly, as it is reflected from other bodies; and thus we see a

man, or a picture by the rays of light reflected from them to our eyes.

Bodies, in respect of light, may be divided into three sorts: first, those that emit rays of light, as the sun and fixt stars; secondly, those that transmit the rays of light, as the air; thirdly, those that reflect the rays of light, as iron, earth, &c. the first are called luminous; the second pellucid; and the third opaque.

The rays of light themselves are not seen: but by them, the bodies, from which they originally come; as the sun, or a fixt star: or the bodies, from which they are reflected; as a horse or a tulip. When the moon shines, we do not see the rays which come from the sun to the moon; but by them we see the moon from whence they are reflected.

If the eye be placed in the medium through which the rays pass to it, the medium is not seen at all:

for inſtance, we do not ſee the air thro' which the rays come to our eyes. But if a pellucid body, thro' which the light comes, be at a diſtance from our eye, we ſee that body, as well as the bodies from whence the rays come, that paſs through them to come to our eyes. For inſtance, we do not only ſee bodies through a pair of ſpectacles, but we ſee the glaſs itſelf. The reaſon whereof is, that pellucid bodies, being bodies, the ſurface of which reflect ſome rays of light from their ſolid parts; theſe ſurfaces, placed at a convenient diſtance from the eye, may be ſeen by thoſe reflected rays: as, at the ſame time, other bodies beyond thoſe pellucid ones may be ſeen by the tranſmitted rays.

OPAQUE bodies are of two ſorts, ſpecular, or not ſpecular. Specular bodies, or mirrors, are ſuch opaque bodies whoſe ſurfaces are poliſhed; whereby they reflecting the rays in the ſame order as they come from other bodies, ſhew us their images.

THE rays that are reflected from opaque bodies, always bring with them to the eye the idea of colour; and this colour is nothing else in the bodies, but a disposition to reflect to the eye more copiously one sort of rays, than another. For particular rays are originally endowed with particular colours: some are red, others blue, others yellow, and others green, &c.

EVERY ray of light, as it comes from the sun, seems a bundle of all these several sorts of rays: and as some of them are more refrangible than others; that is, are more turned out of their course, in passing from one medium to another; it follows, that after such refraction they will be separated, and their distinct colour observed. Of these, the most refrangible are violet, and the least red; and the intermediate ones, in order, are indigo, blue, green, yellow, and orange. This separation is very entertaining, and will be observed with pleasure in

holding a prism in the beams of the sun.

As all these rays differ in refrangibility, so they do in reflexibility, that is, in the property of being more easily reflected from certain bodies, than from others: and hence arise, as hath been said, all the colours of bodies, which are in a manner infinite, as an infinite number of compositions, and proportions of the original colours, may be imagined.

The whiteness of the sun's light, is compounded of all the original colours mixed in a due proportion.

Whiteness, in bodies, is but a disposition to reflect all colours of light, nearly in the proportion they are mixt in the original rays: as, on the contrary, blackness, is only a disposition to absorb or stifle, without reflection, most of the rays of every sort that fall on the bodies.

Light is successively propagated, with an almost inconceivable swiftness: for it comes from the sun to

this our earth in about seven or eight minutes of time, which distance is about 70,000,000 English miles.

BESIDES colour, we are supposed to see figure; but in truth, that which we perceive when we see figure, as perceivable by sight, is nothing but the termination of colour.

OF HEARING.

NEXT to seeing, hearing is the most extensive of our senses. The ear is the organ of hearing, whose curious structure is to be learnt from anatomy.

THAT, which is conveyed into the brain by the ear, is called sound; tho' in truth, till it come to reach and affect the perceptive part, it be nothing but motion.

THE motion, which produces in us the perception of sound, is a vibration of the air, caused by an exceeding short, but quick, tremulous motion of the body, from which it is propagated; and therefore we

conſider and denominate them as bodies ſounding.

That ſound is the effect of ſuch a ſhort, briſk, vibrating motion of bodies, from which it is propagated; may be known from what is obſerved and felt in the ſtrings of inſtruments, and the trembling of bells, as long as we perceive any ſound come from them; for as ſoon as that vibration is ſtopt, or ceaſes in them, the perception ceaſes alſo.

The propagation of ſound is very quick, but not approaching that of light. Sounds move about 1140 Engliſh feet, in a ſecond minute of time; and in ſeven or eight minutes of time, they move about one hundred Engliſh miles.

OF SMELLING.

SMELLING, is another ſenſe, that ſeems to be wrought on by bodies at a diſtance; tho' that which immediately affects the organ, and produces in us the ſenſation of any ſmell, are effluvia's, or inviſible par-

ticles, that, coming from bodies at a diſtance, immediately affect the olfactory nerves.

SMELLING bodies ſeem perpetually to ſend forth effluvia's or ſteams, without ſenſibly waſting at all. Thus a grain of muſk will ſend forth oderiferous particles for ſcores of years together, without its being ſpent: whereby one would conclude that theſe particles are very ſmall; and yet it is plain, that they are much groſſer than the rays of light, which have a free paſſage thro' glaſs; and groſſer alſo than the magnetick effluvia's, which paſs freely thro' all bodies, when thoſe that produce ſmell, will not paſs the thin membranes of a bladder, and many of them ſcarce ordinary white paper.

THERE is a great variety of ſmells, tho' we have but a few names for them; ſweet, ſtinking, ſower, rank, and muſty, are almoſt all the denominations we have for odours; tho' the ſmell of a violet, and of muſk, both called ſweet, are as diſtinct as any two ſmells whatſoever.

OF TASTE.

TASTE, is the next ſenſe to be conſidered.

THE organ of taſte, is the tongue and palate.

BODIES that emit light, ſounds, and ſmells, are ſeen, heard, and ſmelt at a diſtance: but bodies are not taſted, but by immediate application to the organ; for till our meat touch our tongues or palates, we taſte it not, how near ſoever it be.

IT may be obſerved of taſte, that tho' there be a great variety of them, yet, as in ſmells, they have only ſome few general names, as ſweet, bitter, ſower, harſh, rank, and ſome few others.

OF TOUCH.

THE fifth and laſt of our ſenſes is touch; a ſenſe ſpread over the whole body, tho' it be moſt eminently placed in the ends of the fingers.

BY this ſenſe the tangible qualities of bodies are diſcerned; as hard,

ſoft, ſmooth, rough, dry, wet, clammy, and the like.

But the moſt conſiderable of the qualities, that are perceived by this ſenſe, are heat and cold.

The due temperament of thoſe two oppoſite qualities, is the great inſtrument of nature, that ſhe makes uſe of, in moſt, if not all, her productions.

Heat, is a very briſk agitation of the inſenſible parts of the object, which produces in us that ſenſation, from whence we denominate the object hot: ſo what in our ſenſation is heat; in the object is nothing but motion. This appears by the way whereby heat is produced, for we ſee that the rubbing of a braſs-nail upon a board, will make it very hot; and the axle-trees of carts or coaches are often hot, and ſometimes to a degree, that it ſets them on fire, by the rubbing of the wheel upon it.

On the other ſide, the utmoſt degree of cold is the ceſſation of that

motion of the insensible particles, which to our touch is heat.

Bodies are denominated hot and cold in proportion to the present temperament of that part of our body, to which they are applied; so, that feels hot to one, which seems cold to another; nay, the same body felt by the two hands of the same man, may at the same time appear hot to the one, and cold to the other; because the motion of the insensible particles of it, may be more brisk than that of the particles of the other.

Besides the objects before-mentioned, which are peculiar to each of our senses, as light, and colour of the sight; sound of hearing; odours of smelling; savours of tasting; and tangible qualities of the touch; there are two others that are common to all the senses; and those are pleasure and pain, which they may receive by and with their peculiar objects. Thus too much light offends the eye; some sounds

delight, and others grate the ear; heat in a certain degree is very pleaſant, which may be augmented to the greateſt torment: and ſo the reſt.

THESE five ſenſes are common to beaſts with men; nay in ſome of them, ſome brutes exceed mankind. But men are endowed with other faculties, which far excel any thing that is to be found in the other animals, in this our globe.

MEMORY alſo, brutes may be ſuppoſed to have, as well as men.

CHAP. XII.

OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF MAN.

THE underſtanding of man does ſo ſurpaſs that of brutes, that ſome are of opinion, brutes are mere machines, without any manner of perception at all. But letting this opinion alone, as ill grounded, we will proceed to the conſideration of human underſtanding, and the diſtinct operations thereof.

THE loweſt degree of it conſiſts in perception, which we have before in part taken notice of, in our diſcourſe of the ſenſes. Concerning which it may be convenient farther to obſerve, that to conceive a right notion of perception, we muſt conſider the diſtinct objects of it, which are ſimple ideas; v. g. ſuch as are thoſe ſignified by theſe words, ſcarlet, blue, ſweet, bitter, heat, cold, &c. From the other objects of our ſenſes; to which we may add the internal operations of our own minds, as the objects of our own reflection, ſuch as are thinking, willing, &c.

OUT of theſe ſimple ideas are made, by putting them together, ſeveral compounded, or complex ideas; as thoſe ſignified by the word pebble, marygold, horſe.

THE next thing the underſtanding doth in its progreſs to knowledge, is to abſtract its ideas, by which abſtraction they are made general.

A GENERAL idea, is an idea in the mind, conſidered there as ſeparated from time and place; and ſo capable to repreſent any particular being that is conformable to it. Knowledge, which is the higheſt degree of the ſpeculative faculties, conſiſts in the perception of the truth of affirmative, or negative propoſitions.

THIS perception is either immediate, or mediate. Immediate perception of the agreement or diſagreement of two ideas, is when by comparing them together in our minds, we ſee, or as it were behold, their agreement or diſagreement. This therefore is called intuitive knowledge. Thus we ſee that red is not green; that the whole is bigger than a part; that two and two are equal to four.

THE truth of theſe, and the like propoſitions, we know by a bare ſimple intuition of the ideas themſelves, without any more ado: and ſuch propoſitions are called ſelf-evident.

THE mediate perception of the agreement or diſagreement of two ideas, is when, by the intervention of one or more other ideas, their agreement or diſagreement is ſhewn. This is call'd demonſtration, or rational knowledge. For inſtance, the inequality of the breadth of two windows, or two rivers, or any two bodies that cannot be put together, may be known by the intervention of the ſame meaſure, applied to them both; and ſo it is in our general ideas, whoſe agreement or diſagreement may be often ſhewn by the intervention of ſome other ideas, ſo as to produce demonſtrative knowledge; where the ideas in queſtion cannot be brought together, and immediately compared, ſo as to produce intuitive knowledge.

THE underſtanding doth not know only certain truth; but alſo judges of probability, which conſiſts in the likely agreement or diſagreement of ideas.

THE aſſenting to any propoſition as probable, is called opinion, or belief.

WE have hitherto conſidered the great and viſible parts of the univerſe, and thoſe great maſſes of matter, the ſtars, planets, and particularly this our earth, together with the inanimate parts, and animate inhabitants of it; it may be now fit to conſider what theſe ſenſible bodies are made of, and that is, of unconceivable ſmall bodies, or atoms, out of whoſe various combinations bigger molleculæ are made; and ſo by a greater and greater compoſition bigger bodies; and out of theſe the whole material world is conſtituted.

BY the figure, bulk, texture, and motion, of theſe ſmall and inſenſible corpuſcles, all the phænomena of bodies may be explained.

FINIS.

SOME THOUGHTS CONCERNING READING AND STUDY FOR A GENTLEMAN.

READING is for the improvement of the understanding.

The improvement of the understanding, is for two ends: first, for our own increase of knowledge; secondly, to enable us to deliver and make out that knowledge to others.

The latter of these, if it be not the chief end of study in a gentleman; yet it is at least equal to the other, since the greatest part of his business and usefulness in the world. is by the influence of what he says, or writes to others.

The extent of our knowledge, cannot exceed the extent of our ideas. Therefore he, who would be universally knowing, must ac-

quaint himſelf with the objects of all ſciences. But this is not neceſſary to a gentleman whoſe proper calling is the ſervice of his country; and ſo is moſt properly concern'd in moral and political knowledge: and thus the ſtudies which more immediately belong to his calling, are thoſe which treat of virtues and vices, of civil ſociety, and the arts of government; and will take in alſo law and hiſtory.

It is enough for a gentleman to be furniſhed with the ideas belonging to his calling, which he will find in the books that treat of the matters above mentioned.

But the next ſtep towards the improvement of his underſtanding, muſt be, to obſerve the connection of theſe ideas in the propoſitions, which theſe books hold forth, and pretend to teach as truths; which till a man can judge, whether they be truths or no, his underſtanding is but little improved; and he doth but think and talk af-

ter the books that he hath read, without having any knowledge thereby. And thus, men of much reading, are greatly learned; but may be little knowing.

THE third and laſt ſtep therefore, in improving the underſtanding, is to find out upon what foundation any propoſition, advanced, bottoms; and to obſerve the connection of the intermediate ideas by which it is joined to that foundation, upon which it is erected, or that principle from which it is derived. This, in ſhort, is right reaſoning; and by this way alone, true knowledge is to be got by reading, and ſtudying.

WHEN a man, by uſe, hath got this faculty of obſerving and judging of the reaſoning and coherence of what he reads, and how it proves what it pretends to teach; he is then, and not till then, in the right way of improving his underſtanding, and enlarging his knowledge by reading.

BUT that, as I have ſaid, being not all that a gentleman ſhould aim at in reading, he ſhould farther take care, to improve himſelf in the art alſo of ſpeaking; that ſo he may be able to make the beſt uſe of what he knows.

THE art of ſpeaking well, conſiſts chiefly in two things, viz. perſpicuity, and right reaſoning.

PERSPICUITY, conſiſts in the uſing of proper terms for the ideas or thoughts, which he would have paſs from his own mind into that of another man's. It is this, that gives them an eaſy entrance; and it is with delight, that men hearken to thoſe whom they eaſily underſtand: whereas, what is obſcurely ſaid, dying as it is ſpoken, is uſually not only loſt, but creates a prejudice in the hearer, as if he that ſpoke knew not what he ſaid, or was afraid to have it underſtood.

THE way to obtain this, is to read ſuch books as are allowed to be writ with the greateſt clearneſs

and propriety, in the language that a man uſes. An author excellent in this faculty, as well as ſeveral others, is Dr. Tillotſon, late archbiſhop of Canterbury, in all that is publiſhed of his. I have choſe rather to propoſe this pattern, for the attainment of the art of ſpeaking clearly, than thoſe who give rules about it; ſince we are more apt to learn by example, than by direction. But if any one hath a mind to conſult the maſters in the art of ſpeaking and writing, he may find in Tully De oratore, and another treatiſe of his called, Orator; and in Quintilian's Inſtitutions; and Boileau's Traitè du ſublime *; inſtructions concerning this, and the other parts of ſpeaking well.

Besides perſpicuity, there muſt be alſo right reaſoning; without which perſpicuity ſerves but to expoſe the ſpeaker: and for the attaining of this, I ſhould propoſe the conſtant reading of Chillingworth,

* That treatiſe is a tranſlation from Longinus.

who by his example will teach both perſpicuity, and the way of right reaſoning, better than any book that I know; and therefore will deſerve to be read upon that account over and over again; not to ſay any thing of his argument.

Besides theſe books in Engliſh, Tully, Terence, Virgil, Livy, and Cæſar's Commentaries, may be read to form one's mind to a reliſh of a right way of ſpeaking, and writing.

The books I have hitherto mentioned, have been in order only to writing, and ſpeaking well; not but that they will deſerve to be read upon other accounts.

The ſtudy of morality, I have above mentioned as that, that becomes a gentleman; not barely as a man, but in order to his buſineſs as a gentleman. Of this there are books enough writ both by ancient and modern philoſophers: but the morality of the Goſpel doth ſo exceed them all, that to give a man a full knowledge of true morality, I

ſhould ſend him to no other book, but the New Teſtament. But if he hath a mind to ſee how far the heathen world carried that ſcience, and whereon they bottomed their ethics, he will be delightfully and profitably entertain'd in Tully's treatiſes De officiis.

Politics, contains two parts, very different the one from the other. The one, containing the original of ſocieties, and the riſe and extent of political power; the other, the art of governing men in ſociety.

The firſt of theſe hath been ſo bandied amongſt us, for theſe ſixty years backward, that one can hardly miſs books of this kind. Thoſe which I think are moſt talked of in Engliſh, are the firſt book of Mr. Hooker's Eccleſiaſtical Polity, and Mr. Algernon Sydney's Diſcourſes concerning government, printed in 1690 *: and a treatiſe of civil

* Theſe two treatiſes are written by Mr. Locke himſelf.

polity, printed in 1703 (1). To these one may add, Puffendorf De officio hominis et civis; and, De jure naturali et gentium: which last is the best book of that kind.

As to the other part of politics, which concerns the art of government; that, I think, is best to be learned by experience and history, especially that of a man's own country. And therefore, I think an English gentleman should be well versed in the history of England, taking his rise as far back as there are any records of it; joining with it the laws that were made in the several ages, as he goes along in his history; that he may observe from thence the several turns of state, and how they have been produced. In Mr. Tyrrel's history of England, he will find all along those several authors, which have treated of our affairs, and which he may have re-

(1) Civil polity, A treatise concerning the nature of government, &c. London 1703, in 8vo. written by Peter Paxton, M. D.

courſe to, concerning any point which either his curioſity or judgment ſhall lead him to enquire into.

WITH the hiſtory, he may alſo do well to read the antient lawyers; ſuch as Bracton, Fleta, Henningham, Mirrour of juſtice, my Lord Cook's ſecond inſtitutes, and the Modus tenendi parliamentum; and others of that kind, which he may find quoted in the late controverſies, between Mr. Petit, Mr. Tyrrel, Mr. Atwood, &c. with Dr. Brady; as alſo, I ſuppoſe, in Sedler's treatiſe of rights of the kingdom, and cuſtoms of our anceſtors, whereof the firſt edition is the beſt; wherein he will find the antient conſtitution of the government of England.

THERE are two volumes of ſtate tracts, printed ſince the revolution, in which there are many things relating to the government of England *.

* We have now two collections of ſtate tracts; one, in two volumes in folio, printed

As for general hiſtory, Sir Walter Rawleigh, and Dr. Howel, are books to be had. He, who hath a mind to launch farther into that ocean, may conſult Whear's Methodus legendi hiſtorias, of the laſt edition; which will direct him to the authors he is to read, and the method wherein he is to read them.

To the reading of hiſtory; chronology, and geography are abſolutely neceſſary.

In geography, we have two general ones in Engliſh, Heylyn and Moll: which is the beſt of them, I know not; having not been much converſant in either of them. But the laſt, I ſhould think to be of

in 1689 and 1692, contains ſeveral treatiſes relating to the government, from the year 1660 to 1689: and the other, in three volumes in folio, printed in 1705, 1706, and 1707, is a collection of tracts, publiſhed on occaſion of the late revolution in 1688, and during the reign of K. William III. Theſe collections might have been made more complete and more convenient; eſpecially the firſt, which is extremely defective and uncorrect.

moſt uſe; becauſe of the new diſcoveries that are made every day, tending to the perfection of that ſcience. Tho', I believe, that the countries which Heylyn mentions, are better treated of by him, bating what new diſcoveries ſince his time have been added.

These two books contain geography in general: but whether an Engliſh gentleman would think it worth his time to beſtow much pains upon that; tho' without it he cannot well underſtand a gazette; it is certain he cannot well be without Cambden's Britannia, which is much enlarged in the laſt Engliſh edition. A good collection of maps is alſo neceſſary.

To geography, books of travels may be added. In that kind, the collections made by our countrymen Hakluyt, and Purchas, are very good. There is alſo a very good collection made by Thevenot in folio, in French; and by Ramuzio, in Italian; whether tranſlated into

Engliſh or no, I know not. There are alſo ſeveral good books of travels of Engliſh-men publiſhed, as Sandys, Roe, Brown, Gage, and Dampier.

THERE are alſo ſeveral voyages in French, which are very good, as Pyrard *, Bergeron †, Sagard ‖, Bernier ‡, &c. whether all of them are tranſlated into Engliſh, I know not.

THERE is at preſent a very good collection of voyages and travels, never before in Engliſh, and ſuch

* Voyage de Francois Pyrard de Laval. contenant ſa navigation aux Indas Orientales, Maldives, Moluques, Breſil. Paris 1619, 8vo. 3d edit.

† Relation des voyages en Tartarie, &c. le tout recueilli par Pierre Bergeron. Paris 1634, 8vo.

‖ Le grand voyage des Hurons, ſitués en l' Amerique, &c. par F. Gab. Sagard Theodat. Paris 1632, 8vo.

‡ Memoirs de l' Empire du Grand Mogol, &c, par Francois Bernier. Paris 1670, & 1671, 3 vol. in 12.

as are out of print; now printing by Mr. Churchill*.

THERE are beſides theſe, a vaſt number of other travels; a ſort of books that have a very good mixture of delight and uſefulneſs. To ſet them down all, would take up too much time and room. Thoſe I have mentioned are enough to begin with.

AS to chronology, I think Helvicus the beſt for common uſe; which is not a book to be read, but to lye by, and be conſulted upon occaſion. He, that hath a mind to look farther into chronology, may get Talent's Tables, and Strauchius's Breviarium Temporum: and may to thoſe add Scaliger De Emendatione Temporum, and petavius; if he hath a mind to engage deeper in that ſtudy.

THOSE who are accounted to have writ beſt particular parts of our Engliſh hiſtory, are Bacon, of

* That collection of voyages and travels was publiſhed anno 1704, in 4 vol. in folio.

Henry VII; and Herbert, of Henry VIII. Daniel alſo is commended; and Burnet's hiſtory of the reformation.

MARIANA's hiſtory of Spain, and Thuanus his hiſtory of his own time, and Philip de Comines; are of great and deſerved reputation.

THERE are alſo ſeveral French and Engliſh memoirs and collections, ſuch as La Rochefaucault, Melvil, Ruſhworth, &c. which give a great light to thoſe, who have a mind to look into what hath paſt in Europe this laſt age.

To fit a gentleman for the conduct of himſelf, whether as a private man, or as intereſted in the government of his country, nothing can be more neceſſary than the knowledge of men: which, tho' it be to be had chiefly from experience, and next to that, from a judicious reading of hiſtory; yet there are books that of purpoſe treat of human nature, which help to give an inſight into it. Such are

thoſe treating of the paſſions, and how they are moved; whereof Ariſtotle in his ſecond book of rhetoric hath admirably diſcourſed, and that in a little compaſs. I think this rhetoric is tranſlated into Engliſh: if not, it may be had in Greek and Latin together.

La Bruyere's characters are alſo an admirable piece of painting: I think it is alſo tranſlated out of French into Engliſh.

Satyrical writings alſo, ſuch as Juvenal, and Perſius, and above all Horace; tho' they paint the deformities of men, yet thereby they teach us to know them.

There is another uſe of reading, which is for diverſion and delight. Such are poetical writings, eſpecially dramatic, if they be free from prophaneſs, obſcenity, and what corrupts good manners: for ſuch pitch ſhould not be handled.

Of all books of fiction, I know none that equals Cervantes's hiſtory of Don Quixote in uſefulneſs, plea-

ſantry, and a conſtant decorum. And indeed no writings can be pleaſant which have not nature at the bottom, and are not drawn after her copy.

THERE is another ſort of books, which I had almoſt forgot, with which a gentleman's ſtudy ought to be well furniſhed, viz. Dictionaries of all kinds. For the Latin tongue, Littleton, Cooper, Calepin, and Robert Stephen's Theſaurus Linguæ Latinæ, and Voſſii Etymologicum Linguæ Latinæ. Skinner's Lexicon Etymologicum is an excellent one of that kind, for the Engliſh tongue. Cowel's Interpreter, is uſeful for the law terms. Spelman's Gloſſary, is a very uſeful and learned book. And Seldon's Titles of Honour, a gentleman ſhould not be without. Baudrand hath a very good Geographical Dictionary. And there are ſeveral hiſtorical ones, which are of uſe; as Lloyd's, Hoffman's, Moreri's. And Bayle's incomparable Dictionary is ſomething of the ſame kind. He

that hath occaſion to look into books written in Latin ſince the decay of the Roman empire, and the purity of the Latin tongue, cannot be well without Du Cange's Gloſſarium Mediæ & Infimæ Latinitatis.

AMONG the books above ſet down, I mentioned Voſſius's Etymologicum Linguæ Latinæ: all his works are lately printed in Holland in ſix tomes. They are very fit books for a gentleman's Library, as containing very learned diſcourſes concerning all the Sciences.

FINIS.