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Robert Turner 1799

1 December 1799

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THE  
General Contents  
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*BRITISH MUSEUM.*

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T H E  
General Contents  
O F T H E  
*BRITISH MUSEUM:*

With R E M A R K S. K

Serving as a  
D I R E C T O R Y  
In viewing that  
Noble C A B I N E T.

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*Castor gaudet equis; ovo prognatus eodem,  
Pugnis: quot capitum vivunt, totidem studiorum  
Millia.*



L O N D O N,

Printed for R. and J. DODSLEY, in *Pall-mall*,  
MDCCLXI.



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# P R E F A C E.

**A**S I am quite sensible that something will be expected by way of Preface to the following Sheets, I will not, by omitting it, disappoint any of my Readers.

Curiosity almost universally prevails: Many therefore will, in all Probability, want to know my Reasons for this Publication; why I have not been more full in my Descriptions, and more systematical in my Manner. Of these, as well as many other Particulars, the Reader shall be informed; but I must first bespeak his Patience, till something is said of the Museum itself.

It is difficult to determine, whether this Excellent Foundation reflects more Honour on his late Majesty, who was pleased to bestow on it a large and valuable Library, collected by his Royal Predecessors; on Sir *Hans Sloane*, who with great Knowledge, Expence, and Trouble, procured the most curious Part of what is here deposited; or on the *British* Parliament, who made it a lasting Monument of Glory to the Nation. Certain it is, the Public is greatly indebted to them all, as well as to the Right Honourable and Honourable the Trustees, and the Officers of the House, by whose Superintendance

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tendance it is conducted under such wise Regulations, that it is as great in Perfection as it was in Design. The Officers are remarked for being a sensible and learned Set of Men, all equal to the Employment, being well versed in the Business of their several Departments, and at all Times willing to gratify the Curiosity of the Inquisitive, with any Information that can be required of them.

I am not without Hopes that the time may soon come, when every public-spirited Collector of rare Medals, Minerals, Animals, Plants, Insects, or Stones, and, in fine, of every thing that either Nature or Art produces worthy the Observation of the Curious, will deposit the Produce of his Labour in this most valuable Cabinet. If he is of ample Fortune, the Public will accept of them as a Present, and convey his Name to the latest Posterity; if, on the contrary, he is poor, though ingenious, such is the Generosity of this happy Nation, that I dare venture to say they will, on all such Occasions, according to the Merit of the Person, remove that great Obstacle to Science, besides affording him a proper Share of Honour.

Learning was for many Ages in a manner buried in Oblivion; a dark Ignorance spread itself over the Face of the whole Earth; and, what was still worse, did any noble Spirit endeavour to rouse himself and others from the general Lethargy, he was presently charged with publishing new Opinions, and perhaps branded

branded with Infamy, under a Pretence of his attaching himself to the study of the Magick Art. Indeed, numberless were the Obstacles to the Resurrection of Learning; a dark Ignorance, a blind Infatuation, an obstinate Prejudice: Yet so hard a Matter is it to fetter the human Mind, that it rose superior to all Difficulties. Litterature is once more recovered from its long Swoon, and now shines in its pristine Lustre: Nay, there are in these our happy Times many Things generally known, of which the Ancients had not the least Notion; and many others by them only guessed at, or known in Theory, which we have reduced to a mathematical Certainty.

Nothing can conduce more to preserve the Learning which this latter Age abounds with, than having Repositories in every Nation to contain its Antiquities, such as is the Museum of *Britain*: But, in order more effectually to prevent our falling back again into a State of Ignorance and Barbarism, it were to be wished that the Plan of it were enlarged, that the Buildings were more extensive, and that a Fund were established, sufficient to answer the Purpose of encouraging ingenious Men in every useful Art, in every Science; and I know of nothing that can be done that will tend more to the Honour of our Country, when it shall please God to give us the Blessing of Peace, than to have such a large Fund appropriated for the Encouragement of Ingenuity and

Learning. When we read over the List of the Names that compose the Royal Society, the Trustees of this Museum, and that numerous Train of *Britons*, who wish so much to encourage every Art, Science and Manufacture, can we possibly be at a loss for Trustees to manage with Impartiality and Propriety a more general Establishment? I could mention several, every way qualified, who would have too much public Spirit to refuse undertaking it, if invited by their Country to the Trust. From the united Labours of such a Society, what might we not hope for? Modest Merit would once more raise its drooping Head, assured of a did Hearing from such able Judges; every Manufacture would soon be brought to the greatest Perfection, Agriculture be held in proper Esteem, and the Sciences more than flourish; for it would even be unfashionable to be illiterate. But this is a Point of too great Importance to be brought to bear without the Interposition of Parliament; it is sincerely to be wished they may at a proper Time take it under their Consideration; no Age is so likely as the present, in which so much Encouragement is given, in most Things that are worthy of Praise: Yet, though they are encouraged, a regular Establishment for the Purpose is certainly much wanted.

Should the Hints I have here given be of any Use to the Community, my Pleasure would be compleat; and, were I called upon, I could  
submit

submit a Plan, that would not, I flatter myself, be totally imperfect. But I have dwelt long enough on this Subject for the present, and now proceed to gratify the Curiosity of my Readers, by saying something of the following Pages.

The Purchasers of this little Work must not expect too much, it not being meant to give a particular Account of all the Contents of this noble Cabinet: That is reserved for other Pens, being, as I am informed, to be published by the Officers of the House at a proper Time, and will consist of many Volumes in Folio. What I here present to the Public, are only a few Remarks on the general Contents, without enlarging too much on any Thing. A Regularity of Method is observed; for my Reader will find himself accompanied through all the Rooms in the same Order they are shewn: The general Heads are given; and he is directed in his Choice of a few Objects most worthy Remark under each Title: So that, upon the whole, I can offer it as a kind of Directory to those who are inclined to see the Museum; it will likewise serve to give a tolerable Idea of the Contents to those who have no Opportunity of seeing it, and to refresh the Memory, where perhaps it hath been viewed in a cursory Manner.

Among the Numbers whom Curiosity prompted to get a Sight of this Collection, I was of course one; but the Time allowed to  
view

view it was so short, and the Rooms so numerous, that it was impossible, without some kind of Directory, to form a proper Idea of the Particulars : And though I was far from being unacquainted with most of the Contents before they became the Property of the Public, must confess myself to have been at some loss in this Respect : The Officers, indeed, were always extremely attentive ; but it was still impossible for them to gratify every particular Person's Curiosity. Upon mentioning this to some of my intimate Friends, I found that the Complaint was general, and was solicited to write something that might be of Use to remove these Difficulties. I rather declined the Undertaking ; urging that it would come with more Propriety from the Officers of the House : But this Objection, I was told, had little Weight, as it was impossible for them to do it, because whatever came from that Quarter must be full and perfect ; that a full and perfect Account would be bulky, and of course dear ; but that the Public wanted something concise and cheap. Convinced thus by Truth, I submitted to the Task ; and the more readily, as I have always had a particular Bent to the Study of Natural History, and consequently did not look upon myself as totally unqualified.

I must take this Opportunity of acknowledging what I owe to several Gentlemen, who gave me Notes they had taken on viewing it, which enabled me to pursue a more regular  
Plan,



Plan, than otherwise I could have done : But particularly, my Thanks are due to one, who greatly assisted me ; which he was the more qualified to do, as having been intimately acquainted with Sir *Hans Sloane*, to whom he gave many of the curious Matters contained in the Museum, collected by himself in his Travels.

I must not forget a Lady who gave me some curious Remarks on the recent Shells ; and am sorry, from the Nature of the Work, it was impossible for me to make much Use of them, as they would have taken up too much Room.

I know it is impossible to please every body, consequently have no doubt but much Fault will be found with this little Performance : Some will think I have passed too slightly over the Fresco Paintings ; or that I might have said more of the Portraits, than just giving their Names. Many will imagine I have not been attentive enough to the Manuscripts or Medals ; and others, perhaps, would have wished me to have filled twenty Pages, with a Description of the Mole Cricket. Thus every one would have been most pleased I should have enlarged on that Subject which best suited his particular Taste. I have taken the mean way, having said something of every thing, much of nothing. It was not at all necessary to be more particular in the Account of the several Articles comprised under the general Titles : I mean only so far to lead my Reader, that he may with Ease find

find the Matter treated of in viewing the Collection, and there make his own Observations on the Nature and Properties of it; and if he has not that Opportunity, by consulting the Writers on Natural History, his Curiosity will perhaps in part be satisfied. Had I not been strongly urged to the Undertaking, and was I not fully sensible that something of the kind is much wanting, this Trifle had never been published: If it is useful, I am satisfied: It is a Vanity for any one to think of meeting with universal Approbation. The judicious Reader will observe, that I have endeavoured to be as intelligible as possible; making use of very few Words but what are generally understood: I therefore flatter myself, that my Readers among the Ladies will be very numerous; many of them having, in my Company, lamented the want of something of this kind, to direct their Observations, and give them a general Idea of the Contents of this wonderful Collection.

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# REMARKS, &c.

## SECTION I.

**C**ONSCIOUS of the Uprightness of my Intentions, meaning only to oblige the Public, I shall attempt to conduct the curious Observer through the several Departments of the *British Museum*, which are three in Number; the Department of Manuscripts, Medals, and Coins; that of Natural and Artificial Productions; and the Department of printed Books; besides many Articles in the Hall, in the first Room above Stairs, and other Places, which are not comprehended in any particular Department.

It is not necessary, in this small Work, to say much of *Montagu-House*, in which this choice and valuable Collection is deposited; it was well known before the Death of the late Noble Owner of it, and is fit for the Purpose for which it is made use of: I shall therefore omit any particular Description, and content myself with only taking a slight Notice of the Fresco Paintings in their proper Places.

To begin my Remarks with the Contents of the Hall, I shall, in honour of our own Islands, first take Notice of seven Blocks of very hard Marble of an hexangular Form: They were brought from an amazing Production of Nature, as some Antiquaries

tiquaries are of opinion, though others call it a Work of Art, near *Coleraine* in *Ireland*, where there are many Thousands of such Pillars angular and contiguous, but not joined. The common People of the Country call them the Giants Causeway, from an old Tradition that they were placed in that Order by the ancient Inhabitants of the Island, who were of a gigantic Stature. They project a great way into the Sea, and the Stones are of the Nature of those called Basaltes, or the Touchstone.

The *Romans*, as they excelled all other Nations in the Magnificence of their public Buildings, so did they likewise in the Roads they from time to time made, which were for the most part paved very regularly with square Stones, and often extended for a great Number of Miles. We have the Remains of several in *England*, where they are called Streets, as *Ickenild-street*, *Ermin-street*, *Watlin-street*, and others. They are in many Places visible, and appear like a Causeway.

There is in this Hall to be seen a Stone that was brought from the (*Via Appia*) *Appian* Road, which led from *Rome* to *Brundisium*. *Appius* had the Honour of making it for the Use of the People of *Rome*.

You also see here two Fragments of Granite Columns, (a hard kind of Marble which does not take a good Polish; many other Stones have the same Quality) some curious Pebbles, and two antique Heads called *Termini*, being used by the *Romans* as Landmarks.

A large Piece of serpentine Stone is next to be noticed: It was called *Ophites*, from its Resemblance to a Serpent's Skin. This Specimen has a blackish Ground streaked with green and pale yellow. There

are several kinds of this Stone, which differ much one from the other in Colour: They are ranked among the Jaspers.

The Country round Mount *Vesuvius* abounds with a kind of Stone, which in its Eruptions issues from it in great Abundance in form of a burning Rivulet, destroying every thing in its way: When the Eruption ceases, this Substance as it cools hardens, and is called *Lava*: it is a very hard Stone, takes a fine Polish, and is fit for many Uses, being frequently manufactured into Boxes, Tables, &c. It is so plentiful, that in *Naples* the Inhabitants very commonly make use of it for paving the Streets. There is a fine large cubic Piece of this *Lava* preserved in the Hall.

In another Part is a painted genealogical Tree of a Noble *Venetian* Family; and, besides all I have mentioned, there are a great Number of Epitaphs and Inscriptions (on the original Stones, by Accident found) in *Latin*, *Greek*, and other Languages.

The Staircase and some of the Cielings are ornamented with good Fresco Paintings, of which I shall enter into no long Description. On the Side of the Staircase, *Cæsar* and his military Retinue are seen, with the Chiefs of the Provinces he had in part subdued attending on him, and others on their Knees, imploring his Protection or Assistance.

In a Compartment are the *Bacchanalia*, or Feasts and Sacrifices of *Bacchus*.

In another the Rivers *Nile* and *Tiber* are represented by gigantic Figures emblematically ornamented: and there are Views of beautiful Landscapes at a Distance, and several fine Pieces of Architecture.

On the Ceiling the Story of *Phaeton* presents itself: The Gods are assembled, and the Youth appears asking *Phæbus* to permit him to drive his Chariot for a Day; he consents, and in another Part is seen conducting him to the Chariot: *Diana* is near them, and *Juno* is attended by *Iris*.

Farther on, *Phaeton*, with all the Ardour of Youth, is driving the Sun's Chariot, accompanied by the Hours in the Form of Women. Time is represented by *Saturn*, with a Scythe and an Hour Glass; and Eternity by a Woman holding a Serpent, with the Tail in its Mouth. *Cybele*, or the Goddess of the Earth, appears also, with all her proper Symbols and Ornaments.

As you go up Stairs, the Busto of Sir *Hans Sloane*, on a Pedestal, presents itself immediately to your View.

In the first Room, the Story of *Phaeton* is completed on the Dome. The Gods are assembled, and whilst *Jupiter* is casting his Thunderbolts at *Phaeton* falling from the Chariot, you see *Saturn*, *Apollo*, *Mars*, *Neptune*, *Juno*, *Diana*, *Venus*, *Cupid*, *Mercury*, *Minerva*, and *Bacchus*, in various Attitudes, and agitated by different Passions, as they were severally interested in the great Event.

The Histories are said to be painted by *La Fosse*; the Flowers, and some of the ornamental Parts, by *Battiste*; and the Architecture and Landscapes by *Roussseau*, whose Portrait is seen in this Room.

I cannot take a better Opportunity to mention, that there are many Portraits of illustrious Personages, hung up in the several Departments of this *Museum*; they are all Presents, and continually increasing in Number: I choose to give my Reader the Names of the chief of them in this Place, that my

my future Remarks may not be interrupted. They are as follows.

*Edward* the Third.

*Henry* the Fifth.

*Henry* the Sixth.

*Henry* the Eighth.

*Charles* the First.

*Charles* the Second.

*William* the Third.

*George* the First.

Queen *Elizabeth*.

*Mary* Queen of Scots.

Queen *Henrietta Maria*.

*Peter* the Great Czar of *Muscovy*.

*Cosmo de Medicis*, and *Bartolo Concini*.

*Oliver Cromwell*.

The Countess of *Richmond*.

The Duke of *Marlborough*.

The Duke of *Monmouth*.

*Robert* Earl of *Salisbury*.

Lord Treasurer *Burleigh*.

Archbishop *Usher*.

Dr. *Turner* Bishop of *Ely*.

Cardinal *Sforza*.

Mr. *Locke*.

Dr. *Wallis*.

*Richard Baxter*.

Sir *Robert Cotton*.

Sir *John Cotton*.

Mr. *Speed*.

*Cambden*.

Judge *Dodderidge*.

Sir *William Dugdale*.

Sir *Anthony More*.

Sir *Henry Vane*.

Sir *Henry Spelman*.

*Ben. Johnson.*

*Shakespeare.*

*Lord Chancellor Bacon.*

*Ludowick Muggleton.*

*Sir Francis Draper.*

*Dr. John Ward.*

*Anna Maria Shurman.*

*Captain Willis.*

*Dampier.*

*Voltaire.*

*Andreas Vossalius.*

*Ulysses Aldrovandus.*

There are Busts of

*Homer.*

*Sir Thomas More.*

*Dr. Samuel Clarke.*

This Room is set apart for the immediate Reception of Presents, and contains several very curious Articles given by Colonel *Lethullier*, his Brothers, and other Benefactors.

I shall first mention an *Egyptian Mummy*, which is deposited in a Glass Case in one Corner of the Room, as its Coffin is in the other.

The *Egyptians* believed the Existence of the human Soul after its quitting the Body; which may fairly be concluded from its being the general received Opinion among them, that the Spirit which animated the Body whilst alive, continually hovered around it after the Disunion; they thought it affected by the Injuries the inanimate Corpse might receive, or by its Corruption; it was therefore with the greatest Care they endeavoured to preserve the material Man from Decay, that the immaterial Soul which had so long been its Companion, might thereby be inspired with a kind of pleasing Idea of its former Union.



To accomplish this End, they had a Set of Men in their Nation whose peculiar Business it was to embalm the Dead; which was performed three several Ways: The first was for the common People, and consisted only of salting the viscerated Body after a particular Manner, having first cleansed it from all Impurities, drying it either by a natural or artificial Heat, and finally placing it in a plain Sycamore Coffin. It is to be noted, that the Coffins they used on these Occasions were never made of any other Wood, that being esteemed most durable and least subject to Decay; but it was a Species of Sycamore differing from any we have growing in *Europe*.

The next Method, which was for those of a higher Rank, was embalming them with a kind of resinous or bitumenous Substance, properly mixed with cheap and ordinary Drugs. Some say that on this Occasion they used much of the Asphaltus, a pitchy Substance which is found swimming on the Surface of the dead Sea in *Judea*. These were put in a better kind of Sycamore Coffins, painted with various Colours; and some of them ornamented with a Number of curious Hieroglyphics, on which their Superstition prompted them to have great Reliance, imagining that they helped to preserve the Body from Corruption. The Mummy here preserved is of this kind.

The last and most expensive Method by which the *Egyptians* preserved the dead Bodies of their Friends from Decay, was reserved for those of a very eminent Station. They too were deposited in Coffins of Sycamore Wood, but ornamented with Gold, and Hieroglyphics of the most noble Kind.

The most probable Account of this last Method that can be collected from the Writers who have treated of the Subject, is, that when the Soul was departed, the Brains were first extracted, and the Corpse viscerated in a very curious Manner, without injuring the outward Surface of the Body, which was thoroughly well cleaned. They next proceeded to fill all the Cavities with bitumenous and aromatic Substances properly prepared and mixed: On this Occasion particularly the most precious and costly Gums were used; a Liquid having been in the mean time prepared, in which a great Quantity of the above Substances had been dissolved, they next boiled the Body therein, that the most remote Part of every Muscle might be strongly impregnated with the embalming Quality. Nothing now remained but to dry the Body, (the Method of doing which is not with Certainty known) and wrap it round with Bandages of Linen Cloth, and the Bark Papyrus, filling up the hollow Parts, and sometimes the Cavity of the Belly, with small earthen Figures, in the Form of Mummies, but with the Head of *Ofris* or *Isis*, and impressed with various Hieroglyphics, or having on them the Figures of Beetles, which they superstitiously thought were Protectors of the Dead (*Prophylacteria*). Having thus finished their Work, they deposited it in the Coffin, which had before been excavated in the Form of the Mummy to receive it.

The Face of the Mummy here preserved is covered with a gilded Mask; near its Feet is a Skull, and several Bones, *viz.* Feet and Hands, taken from a broken Mummy, which shews the State in which these embalmed Bodies are preserved from Decay. Over its Head are some of those small earthen Idols, which are already mentioned to be  
put

put by the Embalmers into the Cavities of the Body: Great Numbers of them are dug out of the Ground on the East Side of the River *Nile*, near *Cairo* in *Egypt*, being the Spot where the Mummies were deposited.

On the Breast of the Coffin (it being of the Shape of a Mummy) is a Figure representing the Goddess *Isis*, the Flowers of the Water-lilly (*Lotus*) round its Neck; and over the whole Foreside is a very great Variety of Hieroglyphics, Figures, and *Egyptian* Characters, only understood by their Priests and learned Men, but which the Antiquaries of these later Times can noways explain. On the Back of the Coffin, (which may be turned at Pleasure) is another Figure of *Isis*, having an Ibis on her Head. The Ibis was a Bird of Prey, held in great Veneration by the *Egyptians*, because it destroyed the Vermin that were yearly produced by the overflowing of the *Nile*: When it died, they deposited it in an Urn, and cemented a Cover on it. Over the Coffin is a square Case, in which they placed some Utensils belonging to the Deceased, and deposited it near the Body; as also two Models of a Mummy, one of which they put near the Coffin at the Head, the other at the Feet.

There is an Urn of the Ibis, and several *Egyptian* Idols in Bronze over the Mummy: I shall first mention *Osiris*. It is the Figure of a Man, the Body in the Shape of a Mummy, with a three-corner'd Cap on its Head, a Whip in one Hand, and a Lituus (a Staff not unlike a Crozier) in the other. *Isis* is figured by a Woman, with the Infant *Orus* in her Lap: They represented her variously, but for the most part with a large Veil on her Head. *Orus*, or *Harpocrates*, their Son, is the Figure of a young Man holding the Fore-finger of his Left-hand

hand on his Lips, to enforce Silence as the greatest Mark of Prudence, and a reverential Awe for the Divinity.

*Osiris*, who was one of the first Kings of *Egypt*, and *Isis*, his Wife, by their superior Talents, as well by Example as Precept, civilized *Egypt*, and all the neighbouring Nations. Their Fame was spread far and near, insomuch that when they died, Gratitude, joined to the Ignorance of the Times, prompted their Subjects to pay them Divine Honours, and worship them as Deities, and their supreme Benefactors; imagining that they, who in Knowledge and Goodness so much surpassed the rest of Mankind, could not possibly be of the same Nature with them.

Many have been the Suggestions with respect to the Symbols they bear, but they are all arbitrary, and may be variously interpreted.

*Osiris*, *Isis*, and *Orus*, or *Harpocrates*, held the first Rank among the Gods of the *Egyptians*, but *Isis* was in the greatest Esteem; for the Worship they paid her was much more frequent, and her Feasts more solemn than those of the others. The *Greeks* and *Romans*, it is imagined, sacrificed to the same Gods, under different Names.

The *Egyptians* had the greatest Veneration imaginable for Cats, insomuch that they inflicted most severe Punishments on those who were unfortunate enough to kill one of them, whether on Purpose, or by Accident. They often represented *Ailurus*, one of their Gods, under the Figure of a Cat.

There are also in this Room some natural Productions; as several large Corals, a Substance produced in the Sea, but in what Manner is not yet determined by the Naturalists. It was long thought

to be a Species of Vegetable, but is now generally conjectured to be the Cells of some Sea Insects.

*Keratophyta*, a Species of Coral: The Specimen here preserved is vulgarly called a Sea Fan.

*Sertularia*, another Species: This is commonly called a Sea Feather.

*Madrepora*, a kind of Coral, with small stellated or radiated Perforations.

*Millepora*, the same, with round Perforations.

In one of the Repositories is a curious large Brainstone, which is of the Nature of Coral, and supposed to be the Nest of the Insects above-mentioned. It is not necessary to say more of the Corals in this Place, as there will be occasion to mention them again, when we come to the Departments.

There is a very fine Wasp's Nest preserved in one of the Cabinets, well worth observing with Attention, being a most curious Structure.

In Spirits you see a Vultur's Head, some Serpents, Birds, Spiders, Lizards, and other Articles; but what must attract particular Notice, is a fine young Flamingo stuffed. This Bird is very frequent in the *West Indies*, and has a remarkable long Neck and Legs, which enables it to reach its Prey, which is Fish, in deep Water. It is of a gregarious Nature, and generally appears in large Numbers; they range themselves sometimes on the Sea Shore in such regular Order, as (being of a reddish Colour) to have at a Distance a great Resemblance to a Brick Wall. After having told my Reader that there is also the Back-bone of an Elephant petrified, I shall quit this, and lead him to the next Room.

The Saloon is finely ornamented with Fresco Paintings, consisting of Architecture, Stair-cases, Flowers, Statues, and other Things properly arranged.

The Dome is supported by several Atlantes, and on it is represented a Council of the Heathen Gods: *Minerva* appears most conspicuous; the others with their Attendants seem variously employed.

In the different Compartments,  
The Giants are turned out of Heaven.

*Mercury* is seen ready to receive his Orders, as Messenger of the Gods.

In another appears *Ceres* and *Neptune*, *Pan* and *Amphitrite*.

*Phaeton* is represented driving the Chariot of *Phæbus*, preceded by *Aurora*, and properly attended by the Hours.

In this Room on a Table is a fine Model of *Laocoon* and his two Sons, encircled with Serpents, as described by *Virgil*: It is an excellent Copy of a favourite Piece of Sculpture at *Belvidere* in *Rome*.

This Saloon is appropriated for the Reception of Company that happen to come before the Hour mentioned in their Tickets; who, after having viewed the Articles contained in the Hall and first Room already mentioned, and the Paintings, cannot spend their Time disagreeably here; as from the Windows you have not only an agreeable View of the Gardens belonging to the House, which are far from being inelegant, but a delightful Prospect of the Hills and high Grounds of *Hampstead*, *Highgate*, and the circumjacent Places.

We now enter upon the Departments; the first of which consists of a Collection of Manuscripts, Medals, and Coins.

The first Room contains two several Collections of Manuscripts.

## BIBLIOTHECA REGIA MSS.

These Manuscripts are in Number upwards of two thousand Volumes, and were, till lately, kept in the King's Library, being a Part of the Present his late Majesty made to the Museum.

There are in this Collection some very ancient Copies of the holy Scriptures, and Translations of them into many different oriental and other Languages. These are scarce, and valuable, consequently well worthy the Attention of the learned Antiquary.

Some old and curious Manuscripts, treating on the Subject of Religion, and of the different Confessions of Faith, in various Languages, claim our Notice.

I must next just mention some large Volumes of History, finely wrote, and ornamented in a most elegant Manner with Paintings, as was the Custom before Printing was invented.

There are also a great Number of Manuscripts relating to the History and Government of the Church, and other curious Subjects; but it is unnecessary to be more particular, as a Catalogue of them was published in 1734, by *Casley*.

## BIBLIOTHECA COTTONIANA MSS.

The *Cottonian* Collection of Manuscripts is also contained in this Room; it is ancient and noble, consisting of original Charters, Deeds, and Evidences of Facts, and some Accounts of remarkable Transactions previous to the settling of our present Civil Rights, and long before the Reformation of Religion.

There

There are many ancient Copies of several Parts of the Bible, and Originals of some Works that were formerly held in great Esteem among the Ecclesiastics.

But what is more particularly to be admired, is an Original of that great Bulwark of our Liberties, the *Magna Charta*; and if so, how can we sufficiently lament its having been greatly injured by an accidental Fire that damaged the whole Collection. As a Catalogue has also been published of these Manuscripts, I need not any longer detain my Reader in this Room, but proceed to the next, which contains,

## BIBLIOTHECA HARLEIANA MSS.

These are a Part of the *Harleian* Manuscripts, which are a Collection on which we cannot easily set too high a Value. The Room we are now treating of, contains many curious Copies of the Bible, and the different Parts of it, in a Variety of Languages.

Some original Manuscripts, treating of Divinity and Ecclesiastical Matters, such as Paraphrases, Homilies, Commentaries, Rituals, &c. written at different Periods of Time, and describing the several Sects of Christianity dispersed in all Parts of the World where it has been established.

Alcorans, and other *Turkish* Books, with some historical Accounts of the Rise of *Mahometanism*.

A *Thorah*, the five Books of *Moses*, finely wrote in *Hebrew* on a Vellum Roll, such as the *Jews* used to have in every Synagogue, when it was found very correct. It was not usual for them to produce it but on certain solemn Occasions.



In this Room is a Series of *English* Medals, beginning with *William Rufus*, and reaching down to the present Times.

## BIBLIOTHECA HARLEIANA. II.

This Room contains another Part of the *Harleian* Manuscripts, treating chiefly of philosophical, historical and philological Subjects, in a Variety of Languages, and by many different Authors. The Public has been gratified with a Catalogue of this Collection, to which, without enlarging any more on the Subject, I refer them, if they should be curious to know the particular Contents.

## HARLEIANA. III. CHARTÆ et ROTULI.

This fourth Room of the Department contains the *Harleian* Collection of original (or very ancient and authentic Copies of) Charters, Acts of Parliament, Deeds, Warrants, Rolls, and other Instruments in Writing, relative to a great Variety of public Transactions at home and abroad. These are esteemed very valuable, and are carefully deposited in Cabinets, and locked up; but there is a large Manuscript Catalogue referring the Curious to the Particulars.

In this Room is a Series of *French* Medals, beginning with those of *Pharamond*. It is to be noted, that the Medals may, by turning a Button, be viewed both in Front and Reverse.

In the fifth Room is carefully preserved in several small Cabinets, Sir *Hans Sloane's* Collection of Medals. Their Number, as I have been credibly informed, is upwards of twenty thousand; but, as they

they are not yet properly aranged, the Public is not gratified with the Sight of them.

I cannot take a better Opportunity of informing the unlearned Reader, that Medals and Coins are generally small round Pieces of some of the more valuable kind of Metals: On one Side is, for the most part, the Head of some Emperor, King, or other great Man, whose Memory is meant to be perpetuated; round the Rim is a Legend giving the Name of the Hero, and sometimes on the same Side is a Motto (*exergum*) added: On the Reverse is generally the Representation or a Symbol of some remarkable Fact or Quality, or else it has other Inscriptions on it.

A Medal to be valuable should be scarce; should point out some extraordinary Event; or have a great Singularity in the Reverse; but above all, it must be an Original, which very often is not the Case with some that are in high Estimation. Medals and Coins are of two Kinds, ancient and modern: The ancient Medals are again subdivided, into those of the higher and those of the lower Antiquity: The ancient of the higher Antiquity comprehend all those that were struck before the Beginning of the fourth Century; those of the lower Antiquity are what were struck from that Period of Time to the Beginning of the tenth Century. All that have been struck since are esteemed modern.

Every Collector of Medals is ambitious to get those that are most valuable, scarce, and rarest to be met with; consequently the *Punic*, *Hebrew*, *Gothic* and *Arabic* are universally sought, very few of them being preserved.

The *Greek* Medals are the most ancient, as well as the most beautiful, the Figures of them being remarkably neat, and constantly admired, far exceeding

Feeding in Workmanship any that are to be met with.

Those of *Rome* are of three Periods; first, what were struck in the time the City was governed by Consuls; therefore called Consular; next, the Imperial; or those struck after *Julius Cæsar* during the Reigns of the several Emperors that succeeded him; and lastly, the Pontifical, which have been in late Times struck by Order of the Popes. In the first Ages they were of little Value.

Medallions, called by the *Romans Missilia*, partake of the Nature of Medals, except that they are larger and thicker. They were generally intended either to ascertain the Æra of some memorable Event; or to be given, as a Token of Honour, to some Person, who had deserved well of the Public.

## BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA MSS.

The sixth Room contains Sir *Hans Sloane's* Manuscripts. They are a valuable Collection, though not so ancient as those I have already mentioned. Their Subjects are comprehensive, and consequently may be esteemed of general Use. There are many original Treatises on Philosophy, Physic, Natural History, and, in fine, almost the whole Circle of Sciences. The curious Reader may here find various and good Accounts of the Manners, Customs, Languages, Civil Government, Trade, Diseases, natural Productions, Antiquities, &c. &c. of many different Nations. Great Numbers of them are wrote in a very masterly Manner; therefore, as they were never printed, it would be a very meritorious Work, should some Person properly qualified select those that are most worthy of Notice, and publish them, for the Satisfaction of the learned World.

In this Room is to be seen a Table of the Pontifical Medals, beginning with *Martin* the Fifth, (who was the first of the Popes that struck them good) and carried on in a chronological Series to the present Times.

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## S E C T I O N II.

**H**AVING accompanied my Reader, I hope in some sort to his Satisfaction, through the first Department, and given a short Account of the Contents of the several Rooms it consists of, I shall now enter upon the second in Course, that is, the Department of natural and artificial Productions, in which is to be seen, perhaps, the largest and most curious Collection that the World has to boast of; at least, it may be said, that never was a Museum of such Consequence formed by any Person under the Degree of a Sovereign Prince before. There is scarcely a Country, though ever so distant, that has not greatly contributed to enrich this Department. We may here see the Progress of Art in the different Ages of the World, exemplified in a Variety of Utensils that each Nation in each Century has produced. Natural History may in this Place be studied from Nature herself, so great is the Variety here contained of the most curious Productions of the Earth, Air, and Water.

In going through the almost infinite Number of Curiosities which the Department contains, I shall, for the greater Ease of my Readers, observe a Method somewhat regular; first giving the Inscriptions on the several Repositories, and afterwards explain-

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ing the Nature of the principal Contents of them. So copious is the Subject, that my chief Endeavour must be, to give such an Account, as may be satisfactory, and answer the End proposed, without exceeding the Bounds I have set myself. It is some Degree of Merit to mean well: I shall, therefore, without farther Apology, proceed:

## COLLECTIO SLOANIANA.

There are many Pieces of Antiquity in this Room, consisting of a great Number of Urns, Vessels, &c. used of old by different Nations, which after having been long buried in the Ruins of the Temples, and other public and private Buildings, and for many Ages, when by Accident found, esteemed of no worth, are now preserved with the utmost Care in the several Museums, as Objects of Value, and worthy the greatest Attention of the Learned. Many dark Passages in the ancient Historians are explained by them; and we are by their means made acquainted with some important Matters relative to the Histories of the respective Nations where they were used, which their Writers have omitted to mention. Many Things deemed of small Value by a vulgar Observer, when viewed by the Learned, are found to be of abundant Use to Science. It is on this Account that the World cannot boast of so many Antiquities as it could otherwise have done; for though Time is a great Destroyer of human Productions, the Iron Hand of Ignorance and Superstition has often done Learning more-real Injury in one Year, than Time in many Centuries. What Lengths will not Ignorance run, when animated by a false Zeal?

The Collection in this Room does not entirely consist of Pieces of Antiquity; for we here find many modern Articles brought from distant Nations, particularly from the several Parts of the new World of *America*, which serve to discover the Industry, Genius, and Manners of the Inhabitants. Happy for them were they now content with the little that once satisfied them; but the polite *Europeans*, since the Discovery of those Parts, have, by encreasing their Wants, deprived them of their Ease, convincing them that they have many Things to wish for.

## ANTIQUITATES ÆGYPTIACÆ.

In the Repositories bearing this Title, are a great Number of *Egyptian* Antiquities; and first several Bronze Figures, some representing *Isis* with the Infant *Orus* on her Lap; in others she is standing with a Variety of Symbols. For a farther Account of this Goddess, the Reader is referred back to Page 9. where she is treated of pretty much at large.

There are also some Figures of *Osiris*, represented by a Man with a large Beard. See what is said of him, Page 9. and *Harpocrates*.

*Jupiter Serapis*: A figure of an old bearded Man, with a kind of Basket (*Modius*) over his Head.

*Sistrum*: A musical Instrument of Metal in Form of Racket traversed by several moveable Bars; it was constantly used in *Egypt* by the Priests of *Isis* in their religious Ceremonies and Sacrifices.

An Urn, with a Cover cemented to it, containing an Ibis; its Form is that of an inverted Cone. See Page 9. A

A Basso Relievo in Marble, representing an Idol of *Mendes* in *Egypt*, where they formerly worshipped a Goat; from whence it is supposed the *Greeks* borrowed their God *Pan*.

*Canopus*. An Alabaster Urn, with a Cover made in Form of a Hawk's Head, and marked with several Hieroglyphics. When the *Canopus* was filled with the Water of the *Nile*, it was held sacred, and kept with great Veneration and Care, being worshiped as a God. The *Canopus* was not always made in the same Form, being sometimes like the Body of a Man on the Back of a Griffin, or other mixed Monster.

There are a great Number and Variety of small earthen Figures, shaped like Mummies, with the Head of *Isis*, or *Osiris*, some adorned with Hieroglyphics, others plain. They were intended to be Guardians of the Mummies, and are more particularly described Page 9. to which I must refer the Reader.

Several Bustos, and Groups of Figures in earthen Ware, supposed to be the Household Gods of the meaner Sort of People.

There is preserved here a Vessel of white porous Earth, which is said to have a particular Quality; for if you fill it with Water, and lay Seeds of small Sallet in the Furrows on the Outside, they will grow, and be fit for use in a few Days.

At the upper End of the Table are several more Figures in Metal of *Osiris*, *Isis*, *Harpocrates*, *Egyptian Priests*, &c.

*Apis*. An *Egyptian* God represented by the Figure of a Bull. The *Egyptians* held in great Veneration a Bull of a certain particular Colour, with a Knot under its Tongue; he was kept and fed in a magnificent Temple, and with great Ceremony

attended by a select Number of Priests expressly devoted to his Service. When the old one died, it was usual for them to substitute another of the same Colour in his Place. Various have been the Conjectures on the Veneration in which the *Egyptians* held this Animal; but it is needless at this Time to mention them.

There are several small Amulets with Loops to them, which in *Egypt* the blind Superstition of the Inhabitants prompted them to wear about their Persons, as Charms, or Preservatives against bad Fortune, unforeseen Accidents, Sicknefs, &c. They left them also with the Dead, as Guardians of the Manes (Spirits); some of them are of Metal, others of vitrified Earth, and in Figure resemble *Isis*, with the Head of a Bird, a Dog, or a Bull. Some of the Specimens are so small, that they are fixed on little Cushions, to prevent their being lost.

The Head of *Anubis*, or *Cynocephalus*, a Dog which in *Egypt* they worshiped, prompted thereto, as it is supposed, on account of his having been a constant Attendant of the Goddess *Isis*.

Figures of (*Ailurus*) a Cat, a Monkey, &c. Scarabs, Beetles of various Sizes, made of Marble, Agate, *Cornelian*, &c. They were held sacred in the Opinion of the superstitious *Egyptians*, on some particular Account; but why, it is at present very difficult to form any probable Conjecture.

*Periapta*. These are small oblong Pieces of enamelled Earth, notched, as it is in general conjectured, to mark the rising and falling of the Water of the *Nile*. The best Authors that have wrote on the Subject of the *Egyptian* Antiquities, call these Pieces of Earth *Nilometri*, or *Niloscopia*.

There is also a Cylinder, and some Pebbles curiously marked with Hieroglyphics and Figures; but



but their Use is not easily determined at this Distance of Time.

The next to be noticed are some *Phœnician* Seals, worth Attention on account of their Antiquity.

## ANTIQUITATES HETRUSCÆ.

The four Repositories under this Title, contain *Hetruscan* Antiquities. They were a Nation that formerly flourished in that Part of *Italy* now called *Tuscany*. It is to be noted, that they were the first People that cultivated the politer Arts in *Europe*, from whence they spread even to *Rome*, which acknowledged itself much indebted to the Inhabitants of that Part of *Italy* on many Accounts.

First to be remarked are some Bronzes; as a Figure of *Mars*, the God of War; a *Deus Averruncus*, the God who presided over the Common Sewers; a Head of *Proserpine*, &c.

There are a great Number of Vessels of different Forms, made of a kind of fine pale red Earth; some of them are plain, but elegantly varnished; others painted with Figures, Letters, and various Ornaments. They are of a better Shape and much handsomer than either the *Egyptian*, or those first made of the *Roman Terra Cotta*, or Pot Earth, and were greatly esteemed and valued by the *Romans* after they had subdued the ancient *Hetruscans*. These Vessels consist of *Amphoras*, or Vases with two Handles, and Covers to them very curiously painted and ornamented. The Use of them was to hold the different Kinds of Wine, Oyl, &c. When full of Wine, the *Romans* used generally to bury them in the Ground for some Years, in order to give it a higher Flavour; and they were very curious and superstitious in their Manner of doing it.

We next come to some Bottles of a larger Size than the Amphoras, but for the same Use.

There are also some much smaller, used for Libations, or perhaps as Lacrymatories, to receive the Tears of the Mourners at Funerals.

Jars with triangular Mouths, intended to pour Water on the Hands of the Priests, or for Libations in their Sacrifices.

Many Pateras, Dishes, of various Shapes and Sizes: Some of them have Pedestals; they have Handles, which are either horizontal or vertical; and were used for Perfumes, for burning Incense, for keeping Fire, or carrying it from Place to Place.

Cups for containing the great Variety of precious Ointments that were formerly in use.

Some Pateras very large, and ornamented with Figures and *Hetruscan* Letters.

There are also some Urns of plain Alabaster, and some others very large, and ornamented with the same Kind of Figures and Inscriptions as the large Pateras just above mentioned. The Letters do not agree with any Alphabet now in use, or known; for which Reason our Antiquaries are at great Loss to understand the Purport and Meaning of them.

## ANTIQUITATES ROMANÆ.

The next six Partitions are filled with *Roman* Antiquities, and consist of several ancient Figures, Bustos and Basso Relievos of various Kinds, and other curious Articles.

I shall first mention the Copy of an antique Piece of Sculpture, made to perpetuate the Memory of a  
Slave

Slave that discovered a dangerous Conspiracy whilst grinding his Knife.

Some Wrestlers in Stucco.

*Lucina* the Goddess of Childbirth, *Æsculapius* the God of Physic, some Vestals and sacrificing Vessels in Marble, and many Marble Heads, particularly of the Emperor *Adrian*, *Hercules*, *Plato* the Philosopher, *Juno*, and others, some of which are not easily distinguished, and the rest it is not necessary to particularize.

There are next to be observed several Bronze Figures, as of *Venus*, *Cupid*, *Hercules*, *Mars*, *Roman Soldiers*, *Dea Fascinatrix* the Goddess of Spells and Charms; Vestals, *Castor*, *Priapus*, *Terminus* the God who presided over Land-marks; *Griphon*, and others.

In Bronze there are also the Heads of *Juno*, *Diána*, *Apollo*, *Mercury*, *Minotaurus*, *Faunus*, &c.

What come next in course, are some uncommon Masks, various Votaries or Oblations, Models of Circuses, the Places where they exhibited their public Games, and several Pieces of Stones, Bricks, and earthen Pipes, dug out of the Ruins of the ancient *Roman Buildings*, *Aqueducts*, &c. By these we are in some Sort made acquainted with the Nature of those Materials that could cause their Buildings to last so many Ages, some of them remaining tolerably perfect even to this Time.

In *England*, as well as in many other Parts of *Europe*, there have been frequently found buried in the Earth, several Kinds of Axes, Chiffels, Wedges both with and without Loops to them, and Heads of Spears, all made of Brass. It is far from being determined by the Antiquaries of the present Age, for what Use these several Articles were originally intended; their Conjectures on the Subject are various,

rious, some imagining they were used for killing the Victims in their Sacrifices, others asserting they were merely ornamental, and not a few now imagine that the Ancients had a secret Art of hardening Brass, so as to make it proper for forming Edge-tools, or Instruments of War; which Quality, say they, the Brass may have long since lost by laying in the Earth; but after all, the most probable Opinion is, that they were the Tops of the *Roman* Lictors Fasces. They are often called by the general Name of Celtes, and many of them are here to be seen.

#### SACRIFICING INSTRUMENTS.

Under this Head are a Variety of odd-fancied Metal Lamps: Their Shape differs greatly; some being like Animals, others such Monsters as have not their Likeness in Nature: but the Reader will form a much better Idea of them by Inspection than he possibly can by any Description. They were chiefly used in the Temples.

A sacrificing Knife, Simpulums, Chalice, Laddles, and other Instruments of Brass used by the Priests in their Sacrifices.

We next come to a great Number of *Roman* Pateras, Dishes, various in Form and Size, according to the Uses for which they were intended; many of them were for receiving the Blood of the Victims in their Sacrifices; the rest were appropriated to other Purposes, but chiefly the Service of the Priests in the Temples.

## LACRYMATORIES.

These were small Glass or earthen Bottles chiefly in the Form of Phials. At the *Roman* Funerals, the Friends of the deceased, or the (*Præficæ*) Women hired for that Purpose, used to fill them with their Tears; and deposite them very carefully with the Ashes, in Testimony of their sincere Sorrow; imagining the Manes of the departed were thereby greatly comforted. There are many Specimens of them preserved in the Cabinets of the Curious, and here in particular.

What now claim our Regard, are many earthen sepulchral Lamps of various Forms; they are usually met with in the old Monuments near the Urns, and in the Catacombs at *Rome*, in *Naples* and *Sicily*.

It has been sometimes asserted, that these Lamps have been found burning after having been buried for many Ages; but it cannot be supposed that they were really burning from the Time they were there deposited till they were found, as it is well known that Fire is soon extinguished by the want of Air; and if it has Air, the Fuel that supplies it must waste and decrease in Quantity, let it be of what Nature it will: the most reasonable Conjecture, therefore, is, that the Rush, Cotton, or Wick of these Lamps was impregnated with a kind of Phosphorus that would take fire as soon as the Air had Liberty to operate on it. Some, who maintain they were constantly burning, conjecture, that the Wick was made of the Filaments of Asbestos, which Fire would not consume; and that the Oyl or Matter which supplied it was of  
such

such a Nature, as that a trifling Quantity of it would last an Age.

There are several (*Ossuaria*) square Urns, with Covers, and Inscriptions on them.

And others of a more ordinary Kind of *Roman* and *British* Urns, wherein the Ancients, after having burnt the Bodies of the deceased, deposited their Ashes, and then buried them with the Lamps, Lacrymatories, &c. already described.

## ANTIQUITATES VARIÆ.

T. HOLLIS' Arm<sup>r</sup>. *Dono Dedit.*

Under this Title are preserved a Collection of Antiquities of various Kinds, which *T. Hollis* Esq. gave to the Museum.

I shall, in giving a short Account of them, first take Notice of an Alabaster round Urn with a Cover, and another of the same kind, but square: these were for the Purpose of depositing Ashes.

Here are several Bronze Figures of *Egyptian* Idols, Priests, &c. but, as I have already sufficiently enlarged on the Subject of them, I need not here be more particular.

A *Typhon*, *Hercules*, *Mercury*, *Silenus*, &c. attract our Notice, and some more *Hetruscan* Vessels of the same kind as those I have described, Page 23.

Several Figures of *Roman* Gods, Heroes, Generals and Soldiers.

Some Marble Bustos of *Janus Bifrons*, *Hercules Balbinus*, *Lucina* and *Diana*.

Here are also some Votaries, or Oblations. It was usual among the Heathens of old, when in any imminent Danger, to make a Vow to some favourite

rite God, to do some particular Act, if they escaped from it, as to build a Temple, or perhaps a Thing of less Consequence; and in Commemoration of their Deliverance they hung up the *Votiva Tabula*, with a proper Inscription. They sometimes also dedicated a Tablet to the Gods in Thanksgiving of some fortunate Event, though they had made no Vow to do it.

We next proceed to Lacrymatories, Lamps, and Urns; but, as I have already given my Reader a general Idea of them, I shall forbear to say any more on the Subject.

There are some large earthen Jars (*Gutti*) which the Antients used for Filtration of Liquids, particularly the Water they drank at their Meals.

#### AMERICAN IDOLS.

These are the chief Contents of the remaining Repositories. The Idols are made of Earth, and either burnt or hardened in the Sun; some of them were worshiped in *Peru*, others in *Mexico*, when the *Europeans* discovered that Part of the World: They were placed in the High-ways, to be ready for the Adoration of Passengers.

The *Indians* worshiped two supreme Gods; one of which they esteemed the most powerful, and looked upon as the Author of all Good; the other of all Evil: The first they worshiped through Love, and thanked him for the Effects of his Goodness; the other through Fear, imploring him not to do them or theirs any Injury.

One of these earthen Idols, that I have mentioned above to have been worshiped in *America*, bears a very great Resemblance to some of those preserved among the Antiquities of *Egypt* already described; which

which makes it not improbable that *South America* was first peopled from thence; at least, it has been so conjectured by several of the Learned; imagining they might, in some of their long Voyages, have been driven on that Coast, without being able to return to their own Country, which is not at all suprising, if we reflect how destitute they were of all those Helps to Navigation which we are so abundantly supplied with.

Next to be observed is a *Japonese* Pagod, a Model of a Temple with an Idol in it. The People of *Japan* usually keep one of them in their Houses, in the same manner the *Romans* did their Household Gods.

There are Stone or Earthen Bottles inclosed in Cases of Wicker-work made of Cane or Rushes, contrived in such a Manner, that they may be swung with Violence in the Hand. They are used in the warmer Eastern Climates of *Asia*, particularly in *Persia*, where the Inhabitants imagine that by swinging their Liquor in these Bottles, they make it much more pleasant and agreeable to the Palate. The *English* call them *Hubble Bubbles*, the *French*, with much more Propriety, *Gargoulettes*.

I need but just mention that several kinds of *Indian* Pots are next in course, and a Variety of other Articles by them applied to domestic Uses, but which are not of Consequence enough to take up more of our Time.

The Reader will next observe a Nest of Baskets made of the Bark of a Tree, and edged with Porcupines Quills dyed of various Colours; and some large Basons and Ewers, made of a pale green Jasper with black Spots.

On the Sides of the Room are hung up in Frames several Pieces of Stucco Ceilings, &c. some of them brought



brought from *Nero's Bath* at *Rome*, others from *Pompeii*.

A *Bacchus* of Alabaſter, and two earthen Diſhes of *Raphael's* painting, which are ſuppoſed to be the firſt that were ever enamelled or glazed in that Manner.

Near the Articles juſt above mentioned is the Sword of State of *Hugh Lupus*, firſt Earl of *Cheſter*; and ſome Baſtinadoes, which are Inſtruments of Punishment uſed by the *Turks* to beat the Soles of the Feet of Offenders.

I ſhall now go to one of the Repositories near the Windows, in which are ſome Calumets of Peace, large Tobacco Pipes, which the *Indians* of *North America* uſe as a Token of Friendſhip.

Some Whiſks made of an *Indian* Cow's Tail, and Bruſhes of fibrous Roots and Feathers.

A Variety of muſical Inſtruments from the *East* and *West Indies* next claim our Attention, ſome of which are Wind Inſtruments, others have Strings; and there are likewiſe Drums of ſeveral kinds from *China* and *America*, but more particularly ſome from *Lapland*, of the ſame Sort as thoſe uſed by their Enchanters, by the Help of which, as many Authors have aſſerted, they were enabled to raiſe mighty Tempeſts, and do other Things not leſs wonderful.

In the other Repository near the Windows are a great Number and Variety of ancient mathematical Inſtruments, by which the learned Obſerver may be enabled to judge how much that particular Branch of Science is improved.

My Reader will now accompany me to the Table where there are more Pieces of *Roman* Antiquity preſerved; ſome of which moſt worthy Remark I ſhall mention.

Among

Among them are several Heads and Bustos; of which the Head of *Mercury*, with a Chain fixed to it, deserves Notice; it is supposed to have been worn by some *Roman* as a Charm, to secure him good Fortune; and preserve him from Thieves; and another of *Calistus*, a Freedman of *Claudius Cæsar*, who grew so wealthy, that he was generally esteemed the richest and most fortunate Man among the *Romans* of the Age he lived in.

There are here preserved some Pieces of Bricks and Tiles with Figures and Letters stamped on them, by which we may be enabled to judge how near the *Romans* approached to a Discovery of the noble Art of Printing.

I shall pass over diverse other Heads, some Figures of Animals, and Heads of Canes or Sticks; and proceed to some Specimens of the *Roman Fibulas*, which were a kind of Buckle or Clasp, used by them to fasten their upper Garments, and of which we could not have formed any perfect Idea were it not for the Specimens preserved in the several Collections of the curious.

There are here also a Variety of Keys of different Sorts, particularly the Ring Key, which for greater Security they wore on their Fingers; and some Bracelets and other Ornaments, &c. of Metal.

We must next attend to the Stylus, which is a Steel Instrument used by the *Romans* to write on their Tablets of Wax.

Some *Roman* Weights, and some Pebbles with Figures and Inscriptions on them.

Several Kinds of Measures for Oyl, Pulse, &c. *Tessellæ*, and Parts of ancient Pavements and *Mosaic* Work; the Dice here preserved are found in great Quantities in different Parts of the World, and by some supposed to have been dropped by the  
Soldiers

Soldiers of the *Roman* Armies in their March from one Station to another.

Some Corn brought from the Ruins of *Herculaneum*.

There is a Leaf of Silver, or Amalgama, preserved here, on which are plainly perceivable the Lines and Letters that have been impressed or stamped on it.

We next see some *Turkish* Talismans, or Charms, with *Arabic* Inscriptions, being generally a Sentence of the Alcoran. In these the Superstitious among the *Mahometans* have great Faith, and rely much on their Power, imagining there are no Misfortunes, from which they may not be delivered by them, and particularly that whoever wears them is free from all Danger of being assaulted by evil Genii, or Spirits, which they believe are continually hovering about the World, watching Occasions to injure Mankind.

Some Tahbabs or Seals, (inscribed with *Arabic* Words) which the *Turks* use instead of signing their Names.

Further on are some Talismans and Abraxas, a Kind of Spells or Charms with which some superstitious or artful People in the first Ages of Christianity pretended they could cure all Diseases, the Parties afflicted wearing them about their Persons: it was likewise imagined they were a Protection from Witchcraft and Enchantments. Some of them are marked with the Constellations; others have the Figures of Angels, &c. on them; but these Cabalists especially attributed on all Occasions a particular Power and Virtue in the Word *Abracadabra*, the Letters of it being properly arranged.

My Reader is next to observe a Snuff-box made of the Lava of Mount *Vesuvius*, concerning which some Account has been given Page 3.

A Ring set with a transparent Agate.

Two Pieces of serpentine Stone for the Lid and Bottom of a Snuff-box, and some Pieces of metallic Crystal from Mount *Ætna*.

Among some Bronze Figures brought hither with the *Cotton Library* is one particularly worthy of Remark on account of its Singularity, the naked Body being covered with a rough Substance, and upon the whole bears a great Resemblance to the Porcupine Man who some Years ago shewed himself to the Royal Society, and afterwards to the Public in general: he is, I believe, yet alive, and has a Son of the same wonderful Appearance.

T. HOLLIS, Arm<sup>r</sup>. *Dono Dedit.*

We now come to some Articles given by *T. Hollis, Esq.* particularly Thread, Corn, Hinges, and other Matters, brought from the Ruins of *Herculaneum*.

More Brass Axes, Heads of Spears, Wedges, &c. for an Account of which the Reader is referred to Page 25. and some Keys, Bracelets, &c.

There are here some Articles of which the original Use is not yet with any Degree of Precision known by the Learned of the present Age.

When we attentively view the Matrices wherewith the *Romans* stamped their earthen Ware, Tiles, &c. (of which there are some Specimens here preserved) it seems a Matter of great Surprize that human Invention should in these early Times have gone so far towards discovering the Art of Printing, and that it should yet fail of being compleated till many Ages afterwards.

LETHEULLIER *Dono Dedit.*

Here are some *Egyptian* Idols of a smaller Size than those already described in a former Part of these Sheets; among them is a Figure of *Harpocrates* adorned with all the Symbols he is ever represented with. The others it is unnecessary to particularize, as I have said so much on the Subject, Page 9.

In this Room, over the Repositories, are a great Variety of modern (and some curious ancient) Articles, brought from the several distant Parts of the World. I shall only take notice of a large Calabash (a kind of *American* Vegetable) in the Form of a Globe.

Some *Indian* Shields made of Hides of the Rhinoceros or Elephant; they differ in Size, several of them being large, others of smaller Dimensions.

Many Specimens of Hats of all Sizes, and various Materials; among them are some such as the Bramins, and Mandarins wear, in the Eastern Countries, and *China*.

Fans from *Japan*, *China*, *Tonquin*, and other Places; their Shape, Fashion, and Materials differ, but one of them is of a remarkable large Size, and made of the single Leaf of a Talipot Tree, being used for cooling a Room.

There are some Drums larger than those mentioned Page 31. Targets, and a great Number of Instruments of War both ancient and *Indian*; a Battle-ax, and some Spears, Pikes, Swords, Daggers of various Forms, and Bows and Arrows, Quivers, &c.

I shall conclude what I have to say of this Room by just mentioning a Variety of *American* Household

Utensils made of Vegetables, chiefly Gourds ; and some Snow Shoes and Sledges used in the Northern Nations of *Europe*.

## COLLECTIO SLOANIANA.

The next Room on which I shall attempt to make my cursory Remarks, contains a Collection of Minerals and Fossils.

Silices. Achates. Sardi.

In the Cabinet under these Titles are Specimens of Flints, Agates, and Cornelians.

At the Top are some large Pieces of Crystal brought from the Hartz Forest in *Germany*, and other Mines.

Flints in their natural State are a Kind of semi-transparent Stone, found in almost all Parts of the World ; they strike Fire with Steel, and by intense Heat are melted into Glass : Such of them as are capable of receiving a fine Polish, and are variegated in Colour, (which Variety these as well as all other Stones are supposed to receive from the influence of some neighbouring Mine) are ranked among the lower prized Gems.

Agates are cut and polished Stones of the finest Kind of Flints, generally found in the Eastern and warmer Climates ; they vary much in Colour, and were called *Achates* from a River in *Sicily* of that Name, on the Banks of which they were, as it is supposed, first found.

A particular Kind of Agates, that have by Nature delineated on them lively Representations of Mosses, Shrubs, Trees, Landscapes, or other Figures,

gures, are commonly called *Mocoës*, and deemed of more Value than the others.

Cornelians are another Species of Flint, for the most part of a pale red or yellowish Colour. This kind of Stone is but little transparent, yet takes a fine Colour; it was formerly very much used for making Cups, Boxes, &c. and often for Thumb Rings, being then finely cut and polished: it is now in great Esteem for engraving, Seals, &c. It is said these Stones were called *Sardi* from their having been first applied to Use in the Island of *Sardinia*.

### Iaspides.

Jasper is another of the lower prized precious Stones; it is chiefly opaque, but sometimes in part transparent. It is softer than Agate, but harder than Marble; strikes Fire with Steel, and yields to Calcination. These are its general Qualities. There are several Species of this Stone, of which I shall only mention a few of the most valuable.

*Heliotropium*, the Bloodstone is green spotted with red; it has been supposed to have a particular inherent Virtue, viz. that of immediately stopping Bleedings at the Nose, or elsewhere. There are some fine Specimens of this Stone to be seen here.

*Ophites*, the serpentine Stone; of this some Account is given Page 34.

The Nephritic Stone is of a greenish Colour bordering on the Olive: this kind of Jasper is in great esteem among the *Turks*, who apply it to several curious Uses, particularly they make of it Handles for their Sabres, Knives, Daggers, &c.

A Plate of this Stone was formerly thought to be an immediate Cure for the Nephritic Colic, on being applied to the Reins; and it was also imagi-

ned that wearing it would preserve the Party from the Attack of that Distemper.

There are many Sorts of florid Jaspers, distinguished by a great Variety of Colours; some of them have by the Hand of Nature delineated on them Representations of Rivers, Trees, Landscapes, Ruins of Buildings, &c.

*Egyptian* Pebbles are a particular fine Kind of variegated and figured Stones; those of them that have but one Colour are least valuable.

### Marmoræ. Alabastra.

Under these Titles are preserved a great Variety of Specimens of the several Kinds of Marble and Alabaster.

Marble is an opaque precious Stone, strikes Fire with Steel, and yields easily to Calcination: It is generally found in great Masses under the Ground, and cut out of Quarries, though there are in several Part of the World entire Mountains of Marble; it differs in Colour in almost every Country, but the *Florence* Marble for the most part bears a natural Resemblance to the Ruins of Towns, Rocks, &c.

Alabaster is of the same Nature as Marble, but of one simple Colour, softer, and, when cut into thin Plates, semi-transparent.

### Spata. Selenites.

In this Repository are Spars and Moon-stones. The Spar is a shining Stone, composed of crystalline and earthy Matter; it does not strike Fire with Steel, but yields a whitish Powder on Calcination. These Stones are frequently found in Caves, Grottos, Clefs of Rocks and Mines; they shoot like  
Salts



Salts in Spires and other Figures, and abound in many Parts of *England*.

*Selenites*, (these Stones have been frequently called *Lapides Speculares*) the Moon-stone is of a brighter Colour than the Spar, and is tabulated, or can be separated into thin Plates; they are frequently found in many Parts of the World, in *England*, in the Clay-pits in *Staffordshire*, and particularly many of them in a blueish Clay near *Harborough* in *Oxfordshire*. It has been said that the *Chinese* Moon-stone suffers Increase and Diminution in Sympathy with the Increase and Decrease of the Moon.

*Gypsum* is a Stone of this Kind, but less transparent, and more easily calcined, yielding a fine white Powder, of which is made Plaster of *Paris*, a Commodity well known: it abounds in *Dorsetshire*, and some other Parts of *England*.

### Crytalla.

Crytals are clear transparent colourless Stones, generally found on high Mountains, Rocks, and in Mines; by a chemical Dissolution they yield Chalk and Salt. The Perfection of Crytals consists in its Lustre, Transparency, and Hardness. It is applied to various Uses, being often manufactured into Boxes, Cups, and other Toys. Those that have Straws, Dust, &c. enclosed in them, are most curious and rare, but least fit for Use. Naturalists deem the purest Crytal to be the original Matter of all the precious Stones of the higher Classes, which being in a certain Degree influenced by different mineral and metalline Qualities, thence assume their Variety of Colour and Hardness, and are called by their several distinct Names, as will be

shewn when we come to the precious Stones of Value.

### Apyri. Sulphura.

In this Repository are many Specimens of those Stones that resist Fire, and of the different Kinds of Sulphurs, or inflammable Minerals.

*Apyri* are opaque rough Stones, so called from their resisting an intense Heat, and yielding neither Smoke nor Sparkles in the Fire. I shall mention some of the Kinds: and first—

*Lapis Ollaris.* This is a soft Stone, and may be cut or turned into Vessels of different Forms.

*Mica* is a brittle Stone, on which, when broke, are to be seen small white polished Lamina, as in Talc. The *Mica Aurea* is frequently found in *Arabia, Egypt*, and other Eastern Parts of the World; the *Mica Argentea* in *Silesia* and *Bobemia*, and both of them sometimes in *England*.

*Talc* is a shining Stone, easily separated into thin transparent Scales or Leaves, commonly called *Muscovy Glass*. The *Romans* used it in their Windows; and it now often serves to cover miniature Paintings in Water Colours, or Crayons.

*Amiantus.* This is of the Class of the *Fibrarie*; it is an opaque brownish Stone, composed of short and abrupt Filaments, flexible and elastic, and easily separable into Plates, or other irregular Pieces. There are several Kinds of it; and it is chiefly found in *Germany, France*, and *Egypt*, and one Kind often in *Yorkshire*.

*Asbestos*, the Cotton-stone, is naturally of a white or Silver Colour, and consists of small Fibres, of which may be made fine Threads, brittle, yet somewhat tractable: the Ancients had a Method  
of

of manufacturing it into Cloth or Paper, which would for a considerable Time remain unconsumed in a common Fire: it is found either enclosed in other Stones, or on the Surfaces of them. It has been supposed that this Kind of Cloth was made use of among the *Romans* at their Funerals, to preserve the Ashes of the Deceased unmixed, in order to their being deposited in the Urn. On some late Experiments made, a Napkin of this Cloth has been found to suffer a very sensible Diminution of its Weight every Time it was put into the Fire.

Under the Title *Sulphura* are comprehended all the inflammable Minerals.

Ambers of various Kinds: This is a yellow Substance, more or less transparent, of a gummous Consistence, a resinous Taste, and a Smell like Turpentine; when rubbed so as to be warm, it attracts light Bodies, as Straws, &c. and yields a Kind of Light in the Dark: it serves for many Uses, being often manufactured into Heads of Canes, Toys, Cups, &c. It is found in the greatest Plenty on the *Baltick* Sea along the Coasts of *Prussia*.

Bitumens, Jets, and Coals, smooth pitchy black Stones, must here be noticed; and the Asphaltus, or *Jews Pitch*.

Sulphurs, or Brimstones, an unctious Substance, of various Colours, according to its Purity; when most so, it is easily inflammable and fusible in Fire, and casts a strong suffocating Smell: It is very frequently mixed with Arsenic; and sometimes with metalline Particles, when it is called *Marcasite* and *Pyrites*. The *Pyrites Aureus* is often met with in great Plenty near *Banbury* in *Oxfordshire*; but a finer Sort are found at *Cleydon*, a Village just by. These were formerly used instead of Flints for

for Carbines and Pistols. The *Pyrites Argentens*, or Silver Marcasite, was found in great Plenty on digging a Well at *Dedington* in *Oxfordshire*, and sometimes it is taken out of the Belemnites found in that Neighbourhood. A particular Sort of Marcasite, called by the Inhabitants thereabout Crow Iron, within of a golden, but without of a darkish rusty Colour, is very frequently met with at *Aston Rowant* in *Oxfordshire*, and another Kind at *Henley* upon *Thames*. The Pyrites is also often found in *Staffordshire*.

### Mineralia. Metallica.

Here are to be seen a large Collection of Ores from almost all the known Mines in the World. I shall not detain my Reader long on this Subject, but refer him for farther Satisfaction to the Specimens here preserved.

Those on the upper Shelves on the Left-hand consist of Lead Ore; the next under them are the Silver and Gold Ores, and the Bottom Shelves contain Tin Ores.

On the Shelves on the Right-hand are first the Iron, then the Copper Ores, where the azure Stone, or *Lapis Lazuli*, and the Turcois, are very rare Specimens, and are to be ranked among the precious Stones.

The next Shelf contains Quicksilver and Cinnabar Ores. The others are Antimony, Bismuth, Cobalt, and Calamin, (*Lapis Calaminaris*) called Semimetals; for these yield a very small Regulus, or liquid Metal, which, though it can be melted again, is not by itself ductile, or so far malleable as to be of any Use to Manufacture. The *Lapis Calaminaris* is found in great Plenty on the *Mendippe*

*dippe* Hills in *Somerſetſhire*, lying near the Surface of the Earth.

In one of the Tables near the Windows on the Right-hand are a great Number and Variety of Agates, Onyxes, and Sardonyxes, rough and poliſhed; ſome of them are ſmall like Seeds, which in the Beds where they are found, meeting with proper Particles, by a natural Coalition, and aſſiſted by the Heat of the Sun in thoſe warmer Climates, encrease in Bulk. The *East India* Agats are much finer than thoſe of *Bohemia*, *America*, or any other Part of the World. Among the moſt curious of the Specimens are two Pendants ſet in Form of a Heart, each having by Nature delineated on it a tolerable Representation of an Eclipse, one of the Sun, the other of the Moon: their Drops are Onyxes.

The Onyx is a ſemi-transparent Stone of the Agate kind, (often imitated by the Lapidaries with Agate) it has various coloured Zones, but none red; and is compoſed either of a Number of flat Plates, or of a Series of Coats round a central Nucleus: the Lapidaries ſhew their Ingenuity in contriving to cut them in ſuch a Manner, as to have Figures or Hiſtories on them in Baſſo Relievo with the Ground of a different Colour: theſe Pieces of Sculpture are called *Cameos*. The Onyx is found in ſeveral Parts of the *East Indies*, in *Mexico*, *Italy*, *Bohemia*, and many Places in *Germany*: it is formed of Cryſtal debaſed with a ſmall Admixture of Earth.

The Sardonyx is of the Onyx kind, and is either zoned or tabulated; it is compoſed of the true Matter of the Onyx, but variegated with Zones or Plates of that of the red or yellow Cornelian, whence its Name: it is by the Lapidaries divided into ſeveral

veral distinct Species; and for the most part found in those Parts of the World that produce the Onyx, particularly the warmer and Eastern Climates.

In this Table also are many Specimens of the different Kinds of Jasper, of which some Account has been given Page 37.

And there is a rough *Egyptian* Pebble, which is broke; on each Piece of it is a perfect Resemblance of the Head of *Chaucer*, as he is usually painted: this is quite the Work of Nature, not having been at all assisted by Art.

Some Pieces of *Lapis Lazuli*, or azure Stone, by the Ancients called *Cyaneus* and *Cæruleum*. It is of a blue Colour, veined and spotted with white and yellow: it is not difficult to imitate it by Art; but the genuine good Stone should be able to resist Fire and Smoke, and come forth with new Lustre; of this is made Ultramarine. It is found in Mines of Gold, Silver, and Copper, and more frequently in Pits of Marble, which last is that generally used.

We next come to a great number of Specimens of precious Stones of all Kinds, opaque and transparent, rough and polished, some loose, others set. I shall give my Reader a few Remarks on the Nature of some of them; and begin with the

Opal, supposed to be the *Pyropus* of *Ovid*; this is the softest of all Gems, generally from the Size of a small Pea to a Horse-bean, but sometimes larger than the Bean, and often smaller than the Pea: its Colour is whitish, or rather that of the finest Mother of Pearl, but so transparent that one may see deep into the Stone: it is not easy by Description to give an Idea of it; for, as it is turned about, it shews almost all Colours, as yellow, red, blue, green, purple, and a milky grey. It is produced in *Egypt*, in *Arabia*, several Parts of the  
East

*East Indies*, and sometimes in *Europe*: the Oriental are the finest; but the *Bobemian*, nevertheless, very beautiful. It is often found among the Earth of Mountains, on the Banks of Rivers, and bedded in Jasper.

*Oculus Cati*, the Cat's Eye, by some called *Astoria*, is of the Nature of an Opal, but harder, and shews only two Colours, brown and white, the brown seeming to be the Ground, and the white playing about it in the same Manner the Fire Colour does in the Opal. This Stone takes a fine Polish, but is usually worn in its natural State: its Form is for the most part that of the half of a small bisected Globe, being flattish on one Side, round on the other. It is found in the *East* and *West Indies*, and sometimes in *Europe*, and has been often ranked among the Sapphires.

*Turcois*. This was long thought to be a natural Gem; but it has since been discovered to be in reality the Bone of an Animal by Accident fallen into a Copper Mine, whence it derives its stony and mineral Qualities: it has not that fine blue Colour when first found, requiring some Art to bring it to Perfection, and when done it does not for any length of time continue, but becomes gradually green; which is the Reason of its not being so valuable as it would otherwise be: whilst it holds its Colour it is indeed a most beautiful Stone.

*Oculus Mundi* is of a pale and uniform Colour, a whitish grey, noways varied; it is almost entirely opaque, and does not take a good Polish: when put into Water for a small Space of Time, it becomes considerably transparent, and takes the Colour of the yellow Cornelian, or rather Amber, that is, a very fine bright pale yellow; but it retains this Beauty only whilst in the Water, taking when dry  
its

its natural Appearance. This surprizing Stone is not yet known to be produced in any Country but *China*.

We now proceed to make a few Remarks or Observations on the Nature of the transparent Gems: These are not improbably supposed to take their several Tinges or Colours from the predominant Influence of some neighbouring Mine, communicated in the same Manner, that beautiful blue is to the Turcois in a Copper Mine. These Gems are by the Naturalists, according to their Qualities and Hardness, disposed in the following Order.

*Aqua Marina*, Aque Marine. This is, in all Probability, the Beryl of the Ancients; it took its modern Name from its Colour, which is a fine Sea green inclined to bluish, resembling Sea Water; which it receives from the Influence of Copper and Iron Ore. When this Stone is in Perfection, it approaches to the Hardness of a Grenate or Garnet, but is often much softer: a very small Degree of Heat deprives it of its Colour. It is found in the *East Indies*, particularly in the Island of *Ceylon*, and sometimes in *Europe*, as in *Silesia*, &c. Those from the warmer Eastern Climates are much the hardest and finest.

Hyacinth, or Jacinth, is of a pale Vermilion Colour, or red with a small Admixture of yellow; which Appearance it probably receives from Lead and Iron. This Stone is not near so hard as the Ruby or Sapphire, but much more so than any Sort of Crystal: it takes a fine Polish; and is brought us in the greatest Perfection from the *East Indies*: it is also found in the *West Indies*, and in some Parts of *Europe*, as *Silesia* and *Bohemia*; those from the *East* are by much the hardest.

Granate,



Granate, or Garnet, as it is generally called, is a very beautiful Gem; the Colour is a fine bright full red with a small Tinge of blue: the Influence of Gold, or Iron and Tin Ores may possibly be the Cause of its beautiful Appearance. This Stone is of a middle Degree of Hardness between the Sapphire and common Crystal: the Ladies are well acquainted with it, having of late been much worn by them in a Variety of Ornaments. It is brought from the *East Indies*, where most of the finest of our Gems are produced, and found in *Italy, Hungary, and Bohemia*.

Amethyst is always of a purple Colour, but of many Shades, having sometimes a bluer, at others a redder Cast, and reaching from very near a Rose Colour to a Violet, according as it has been influenced by Gold or Iron and Tin Ores. In the finest Specimens, it is of equal Value and Hardness with the Ruby; but this is not common. When deprived of its Colour by Fire, it wants nothing but Hardness to make it a perfect Imitation of the Diamond, so beautiful is its Lustre.

Topaz. This is the Chrysolite of the Ancients; it is always of a pure yellow or finest Gold Colour, but of different Shades or Degrees, from the deepest Saffron down to the palest Amber or Straw Colour: Lead is supposed to influence it in this respect. The most valuable is equal in Hardness to the Ruby or Sapphire: they are seldom found very large; but the Great Mogul has one that weighs near 160 Carats, which is of very great Value. They are found in the *East and West Indies*, and sometimes in *Europe*.

Emerald is of a fine green Colour, of all the different Shades from the deepest to the palest, occasioned by some neighbouring Iron and Copper  
 2 Mines.

Mines. This Stone loses its Colour in Fire. The most beautiful and valuable are brought from the *East Indies*; but they are also found in *Peru*, and other Parts of *South America*, and sometimes in *Europe*.

Sapphire is a most beautiful Gem of a fine blue Colour of all Shades from the deepest to a pale sky blue: it owes its Colour to Copper, and may by Fire be made to have a near Resemblance to the Diamond: the finest, which comes to us from the *East Indies*, are equal in Hardness to the Ruby; they are now and then found in *Europe*, but not very frequently, or very good.

Ruby is of a very fine red Colour, with a small Admixture of purple, which increases its Beauty: its Colour it receives from Gold and Tin. This Stone is only found genuine in the *East Indies*, and is always before it is polished of a Pebble-like Form: when in a perfect State, it is of great Beauty and Value, inferior to none but the Diamond.

The Diamond is colourless, the hardest and most valuable of all precious Stones: it is brought from the *East Indies*, and some from *Brazil*, but not so fine.

There are in the Table we are now treating of, a great Variety of Pearls, particularly one of a purple Colour, and another in the Form of a Bunch of Grapes; both of which are very rare and valuable Specimens.

In the Table near the other Window, among the Models of Diamonds, is that of *Pitt's* Brilliant, which was sold to the King of *France* for 120,000 *l*. The present King wears it on his Hat instead of a Button; its Weight is  $136 \frac{3}{4}$  Carats.

A Model of a fine Rose Diamond, weighing  $139 \frac{1}{2}$  Carats, being  $2 \frac{3}{4}$  Carats more than *Pitt's* Brilliant just above mentioned; but, not having so  
fine

fine a Lustre, it is not so valuable. This Rose Diamond formerly belonged to *Charles the Bold*, the last Duke of *Burgundy*; and when he was killed and his Army defeated in the Battle of *Nancy*, it fell into the Hands of a common Soldier, who by Accident found it on the Field of Battle; but, being ignorant of its Value, sold it for less than a Crown. One of the Grand Dukes of *Tuscany* afterwards by Purchase became possessed of it, and it was preserved in the Family of *Medicis* for a long time; but at length came into the Hands of the present Emperor of *Germany*, who carried it to *Vienna*.

There are more Models of Diamonds in this Table; but as none of them are near so large as the two already mentioned, it is not at all material to be more particular on the Subject, or to inform the Reader who are the respective Possessors of them.

Among a great Variety of Crystals manufactured into Vases, Cups, Boxes, &c. are some Beads of Crystal, which are not without Probability supposed to have been worn by the ancient Druids in this Island as Ornaments for their Persons.

Some Crystal Balls, which are said to be used in cold Countries for warming the Hands, and (after being sometime kept in a Cellar) for cooling them in hotter Climates; but this is not certain, many imagining they were designed for other Uses.

Marchasites, bright glittering Stones with a Mixture of Sulphur or Arsenic, to which they owe their Lustre. Some Account is given of them Page 41. The *Indians* of *South America* give it the Rank of a precious Stone, and wear it in Ornaments about their Persons. There are some Drops and Rings made of it.

Some Pieces of Coral finely cut in various Shapes.

In this Table is a great deal of Amber manufactured, particularly a fine Cabinet, a curious Crab, some Bells, Beetles, Handles for Instruments, &c. and some Pieces of Amber, in the Substance of which Insects are inclosed.

We must next take Notice of a Pestle, Mortar, and Plate of Egyptian Porphyry: It is to be remarked, that this is the hardest Stone of the opaque Kind that has yet been found.

I shall conclude my Observations on the Contents of this Table, by informing the Reader, that there are a Variety of Utensils of Agat, Jasper, &c. such as Spoons, Necklaces, Pendants, Rings, Boxes, Buttons, &c. These Matters are in very great Esteem and Use among the *Turks, Arabians, Greeks, Persians, Circassians*, and others, Inhabitants of the Eastern Parts of the World.

There remains nothing more to mention in this Room, except the Collection of *Gustavus Brander, Esq.* which he has generously given to the Public. It is very curious; but consists chiefly of such Specimens as are likewise to be seen in the *Sloanian* Collection: I shall, therefore, not enlarge much on the Particulars.

In the Cabinet between the Windows are a great Variety of Specimens of Incrustations and Petrifications, as Shells, Corals, and other Things; in the Petrifications the original Substance is entirely changed to a Stone; in the others it is only compleatly covered with a stony Matter, the Substance still retaining its pristine Qualities. There are many Springs in *England* and elsewhere which incrust whatever is left in them, for any length of time, with a stony Surface; and others have a Power of making an entire Change in the Substance of Wood,  
&c.

Ec. giving it all the Properties of Stone: In some Places the Earth effects the same Thing, on whatever is buried in it.

In the two large Tables are a very curious Collection of fossil Shells, figured Fossils, natural and simple Fossils, and particularly of Minerals: I shall not take up much of the Reader's Time in making any long Remarks on these Articles. With respect to the figured Fossils and fossil Shells, I shall treat of them more at large, when I come to that Part of the *Sloanian* Collection, as the fossil Shells may there be compared with those that are recent; with respect to the Minerals and simple Fossils, they have already been noticed Page 36.

In the first Table I shall begin with a few Remarks on the fossil Shells and figured Fossils with which it is filled.

*Anomia.* These are a Kind of fossil Shell, very frequently found in that State, but seldom recent, and scarcely ever perfect. They resemble a Cockle, but are beaked.

*Ostracites,* petrified Oysters of different Kinds.

*Pectinites.* Under this Title are various fossil scollop Shells.

*Ammonitæ,* Snake-stones, frequently found in *England* and elsewhere, in the petrified State; but the recent is not yet known, some suppose it to be the *Nautilus*.

*Nautiliti,* Petrefactions resembling the *Nautilus*. There is one very curious Specimen in this Collection. These kind of Petrefactions are frequently found in the Mines in *Derbyshire*.

*Belemnites,* commonly called Thunderbolts in the Parts of *England* where they are found.

*Echinites,* Sea Hedgehogs or Sea Eggs, the Cavities of which are entirely filled with Stone.

*Echinorum Radioli*, the Spines of the Sea Hedgehog petrified, generally found near them in the Earth.

*Asteriæ*, Star-stones, are of an angular Figure resembling a Star, having more or less Points or Rays.

*Coralloides*, some Specimens of fossil Coral.

*Fossilia Univalva*, fossil Shells consisting of one Piece or Part.

*Fossilia Bivalva*, Oysters, &c. where the Fish lodges in a Pair of Shells.

*Concbites*, fossil Cockle Shells.

*Cochlites*, fossil Shells of a spiral Form, as Snails, &c.

*Fossilia Multivalva*, Shells where the Fish extends itself into many different Cells.

*Entomolithi*, a Variety of Specimens of petrified Insects.

*Ichtyolithi*, Impressions of Fish on Stone, or petrified Parts of them.

*Zoolithi*, Bones either preserved in the Stone or petrified.

We must now proceed to the other Table, which will not take up much of our Time.

*Phytolithi*, Figures of Leaves and other Parts of Plants very naturally represented on Pebbles, and some Pieces of petrified Wood.

*Concbyl. Gallica*, a Collection of Shells picked up on the South Coast of France; they are of various Kinds.

*Graptolithi*, some Specimens of figured Marble, Slates, &c.

*Concbyl. Hanton*. A Collection of fossil Shells found in Hampshire, where they abound on the Hills.

*Stalactites*, Drop-stones, formed by Incrustation, particularly in the Peak in Derbyshire.

*Gipsa*, several Specimens of the Gypsum, a Kind of Stone of which is made Plaister of *Paris*.

*Spata*, Spars of various Kinds.

*Crystalla*, Crystals.

*Asbesti.* } Under these Titles are deposited the  
*Apyri.* } Asbestos or Cotton-stone, of which was  
 formerly made the incombustible Linen, and other  
 Stones which can, without visible Alteration, bear an  
 intense Heat.

*Marmor.* } Some Specimens of Marble, Jasper, and  
*Iaspid.* } Agate.  
*Achat.* }

*Sal.* } Several Kinds of Salts and Brimstones,  
*Sulphur.* } together with Jet, Kennel Coal, and  
*Bitumen.* } some Ambers.

*Pyrit.* Mundick or Marchasite.

*Semimetalla.* Antimony, Bismuth, Cobalt.

*Mineræ Auri et* } Gold and Silver Ores. Among  
*Argenti.* } them is one Piece of pure Gold in  
 a white Stone or Spar: the others are Silver mixed  
 with Lead.

*Min. Plumbi.* Specimens of Lead Ore without  
 Mixture of Silver.

*Cupri.* Copper Ores, and the *Flores Veneris*.

*Stanni.* Tin Ores, with some Pieces of Block Tin.

*Plumbi.* Lead Ores and *Flores Saturni*.

Brass is made by mixing a certain Quantity of  
 the *Lapis Calimnaris* with Copper in the melting.

## COLLECTIO SLOANIANA.

The Room we are now about to make our Re-  
 marks on contains a fine Collection of fossil Shells,  
 figured Fossils, recent Shells, and some other Ar-  
 ticles. This is not the least curious Part of the  
 Museum; and the recent Shells here preserved par-

ticularly claim the Attention of the Ladies: Many of them are very scarce and valuable, others remarkably beautiful.

To proceed with some Degree of Regularity, I shall first take Notice of the Contents of the Repositories or Cabinets round the Room, beginning with that on which is inscribed

*Stalactites.* These are a Kind of Stones formed by Droppings of Water, which being impregnated with certain stony Particles, by Degrees petrifies, and grows to the Hardness of a Spar, and consists of several Coats. Under this Head are comprehended all the various Kinds of Incrustations, petrified Icicles, Peas-stones, and other Kinds of Spars, that do not shoot from the Substance of the Rock, but insensibly encrease in Bulk, preserving always a smooth and curious Surface. They are for the most part found in subterranean Caverns, in Grottos on the *Appenine* and *Pyrenean* Mountains, in *Derbyshire*, and many other such like Places; some of them resemble Sugar Plumbs, and are called *Confetti di Tivoli*. These are of the Kind of Spars called *Stalagmodiaugia*.

We must here add the *Ludus Helmontii*, or Waxen Veins, as they are often called. This Stone consists of several Pebbles bedded in a Mass of pure Earth which is grown to the Hardness of a Stone. It is to be observed, that the Matter which forms the Bed, and by which the Pebbles are so strongly joined and cemented together, is of a purer Nature than the Pebbles themselves are. This is not unfrequently found in many Parts of *England*, and is of considerable Value.

Under this Title are deposited a human Skull and a Sword, both of which are compleatly covered over and incrusted with the same stony Substance to

a con-



a considerable Thickness, yet without losing their Form. They were found in the *Tyber* at *Rome*.

*Ætites*, Eagles Stones. *Pliny* the Naturalist says, that Eagles cannot hatch their young without having one of these Stones in their Nest; but, it is to be looked upon as a mere idle Fiction, the Experience of many succeeding Ages being far from warranting the Assertion.

Under this Title are classed all the hollow Pebbles; those which particularly bear this Name have another enclosed in the Cavity of them, which may be known by their Rattling. In others is very plainly heard a Liquid, which on opening them is only found to be foul Water; this Kind is called *Enhydros*. When they have an earthy Matter inclining to the Crystalline in them, they take the Name of *Geodes*; and when there are in one Stone two or three Cavities, they have of late been sometimes called *Lithozomi*.

These Stones have had many other Names; as, *Eutocium*, *Ecbites*, *Erodialis*, *Aquileius*, and *Lapis pregnans*. Great Virtue has been by Women ascribed to the Eagle-stone, it being thought by many, that, if it is worn above the Girdle, it prevents Abortion; if about the Knee, it helps Delivery: But this Virtue is ideal, and only a Conjecture formed from its being pregnant, as it were, of another Stone. Credulity and Superstition often produce Fancies, which one is surpris'd to find People of Sense and Reason sometimes give way to; but such is the Frailty of human Nature.

*Helmintholithi*. In this Class *Linnaeus* ranks all the fossil Shells. The Stones under this Title are supposed to have been originally a Kind of Coral, which, by being buried in the Earth for some considerable Space of Time, has at length arrived to a State of Petrification; but the Name imports Earth

Worm Stones, upon a Supposition that these fossil Honeycombs, and all the other Kinds of Stones having regular small Cavities both round and stellated like the submarine Corals, might be formed by Earth Worms, which working many Passages through the Matter whereof the Stone was afterwards formed, occasions those Diversifications in the Structure of them: But this is far from the Truth; for, was it so, all the Perforations would be round, or at least approaching to a circular Figure; whereas many of them are stellated; and there could not be that Regularity in the Position of the Cavities, as is to be observed in these Stones, since it is not to be supposed that Earth Worms make their Passages in the Earth at any fixed Distance one from the other. These Kind of Stones are generally found in the Clay Pits both here and abroad.

Our next Attention is claimed by a great Number of fossil Shells which are preserved in this Room; we must make a few Remarks on those contained under each Title.

Shells, as Fossils, are divided into three Classes.

1st, Those that are found in their natural State without the Addition of any other Matter, or the Change of their Substance.

2dly, Those that are petrified having the Shell still preserved.

3dly, Stones in the Form of Shells, but without any Remains of the Pattern Shell which occasioned their having that Form.

The several Kinds of fossil Shells are as numerous as those that are recent, and are found in the Earth in most Countries of the World, and in many Parts of *England*, particularly in the Mines in *Derbyshire*, in the Rocks at *Beresford* in *Staffordshire*, at *Alstonfield*, in the same County, and in great Abundance in *Lincolnshire*

*Wiltshire* and *Glocestershire*, besides many other Places. They are supposed to have been either left at the universal Deluge, or else that the Sea, which was formerly more extensive than it is now, left those Relicts behind it, on its being confined to narrower Bounds.

The fossil Shells are ranked under the following Titles.

*Cochlites*, Spiral or Snail Shells of various Kinds; some of the Specimens have the Shell entire, whilst others are encrusted with a stony Substance, or quite petrified; and among them are some Casts of Stone formed in the Shell of a large Nautilus which has since perished, no Remains being left.

*Ammonitæ*, *Cornua Ammonis*, the Horns of *Jupiter Ammon*. They are generally called Snake-stones, and are found in most Parts of the Earth, but in *England* finest and most perfect. The Size of them is various, from a Quarter of an Inch to more than two Feet in Diameter, but rarely so large. It is a Matter of Surprize, that so great a Number and Variety of them should be constantly met with in the Strata of the Earth, in Mines and other subterranean Places, when no such Shells are to be found in their recent State; this cannot easily be accounted for, unless it be conjectured, that the Fish which occupies the recent Shell is an Inhabitant of the deepest Parts of the Ocean, and that nothing less than the Agitation occasioned by the universal Deluge could remove it from its favourite Concealment: If that be the Case, it is no Wonder we find not this Shell in its recent State.

*Ostracites*, petrified Sea Shells of the bivalve Kind, being plain and common Oysters of various Sizes; some are found single, or only a Pair of Shells; others in Clusters, being a great Number of Shells firmly united and cemented together. A particular

particular Kind of *Ostracites*, with longitudinal *Striæ*, are found in the Rocks at *Beresford* in *Staffordshire*.

*Anomia*. These fossil Shells resemble those of the Cockle, excepting that they are beaked. No Name has been given to the Fish that inhabits it; for the recent Shells of this Kind are so very rare that there is scarcely one to be found perfect. They are perhaps, as well as that which has given its Form to the *Cornu Ammonis*, Inhabitants of the deepest Parts of the Ocean; consequently it must be some extraordinary Agitation of that great Body of Water that can bring them at all to our Knowledge in their recent State.

Those of the fossil Kind are numerous enough in many Parts of *England*, and are particularly found in great Plenty in some Places in *Glocestershire*. Many of these Shells have the outward Surface smooth, and some of them have Ridges and Furrows, or are otherwise irregular on the Outside.

*Conchites*, some Specimens of bivalve Shells, being fossil Oysters and Muscles with circular Lines on the Outside of the Shell. These Kind of fossil Shells are often found in the Mines in *Derbyshire*, and in the Rocks at *Beresford* in *Staffordshire*.

*Pectinites*, Fossil Shells of the scollop Oyster Kind: they have longitudinal Lines or Furrows on the exterior Surface of the Shell; they are also generally auriculated.

*Echinites*, petrified Sea Urchins or Hedgehogs. There are a great Variety of Specimens of this Kind of fossil Shell; some of them are filled with Spar or Flint formed within the Shell; others have their Cavities taken up by various Kinds of earthy or stony Substances; this is for the most part governed by the Nature of the Place or Bed in which they

they are found. Some of the Specimens have their Surface smooth and even, whilst in others it is covered with a Mixture of Excrescences and Cavities, or diversified with beautiful and regularly disposed Lines: their Size and Form is various, according to their different Kinds. The Spines of these fossil Shells are generally found near them, and of the same Substance: They abound most in Chalk Pits. The *Lapis Judaicus*, found in *Judea*, is of this Class: They are often called Olive Stones, from their bearing in Figure some Resemblance to an Olive; they are very elegantly marked, and the Surface of them with Regularity covered by a great Number of Tubercles.

*Belemnites*, vulgarly called Thunderbolts. They are composed of several Crufts of Stone encircling each other, of a conical Form, and various Sizes. They are supposed to be originally either a Part of some Sea Production, or a Stone formed in the Cavity of some Worm Shell, which being of a tender and brittle Nature, has perished, after giving its Form to the Stone. They are very frequently found in many Parts of *England*; and the common People have a Notion that they are always to be met with after a Thunder Storm. They are often enclosed in, or adhere to other Stones, and are most frequently amongst Gravel, or in Clay; they abound in *Gloestershire*, and are frequently found near *Dedington* in *Oxfordshire*, where they sometimes contain the Silver *Marchasite*.

*Asteriæ*, Star-stones. These are small short angular or sulcated Columns, between one and two Inches long, and seldom above a third of an Inch in Diameter: they are composed of several regular Joints; when separated, each resembles a radiated Star; some have four, others five Rays or Points,  
either

either sharp or rounded. They are, not without Reason, supposed to be a Part of some Sea Production petrified. They are very frequently met with in many Parts of *England*: at *Cleydon* in *Oxfordshire* they are found rather larger than common, but of a softer Substance; for, on being left a small Space of Time in a strong Acid, they may easily be separated at the Joints in small Plates.

: The *Trochites* and *Entrochi* are nearly of the Substance and Size of the *Asteriæ*, but not fulcated; they are composed of a Number of round radiated Joints, resembling in some measure so many small Wheels. They are generally found in Strata of Clay here and abroad.

The *Astroites* when put into Vinegar have a Motion. They are often picked up at *Cutworth* in *Northamptonshire*, at *Shugbury* in *Warwickshire*, and about *Belvoir Castle* in *Lincolnshire*; a small Kind are found near *Lassington* in *Glocestershire*.

*Ichtyolithi*, petrified Parts of Fish. Among the Specimens are Slates of various Colours, with natural and distinct Marks in them representing the Skeleton of some Fish, or the Parts thereof.

In the Mines in *Derbyshire* are found the petrified Bones of many Kinds of Fish; some of them bear an exact Resemblance to the Vertebræ of a Flounder.

Under this Title we take notice of the *Glossopetra*, formerly so called, because it was imagined they were petrified Tongues; but they are in truth the Teeth of Sharks and other Fish, sometimes adhering strongly and partly buried in a stony Substance, at others loose; our more modern Naturalists have very properly called them *Ichtyodontes*.

Here are also deposited the *Bufoinites*, Toadstones. There is nothing in Nature resembles them so much

as a Bone found in the Mouth of the Porcupine Fish.

*Siliquastræ*, many Specimens of the Palates of various Kinds of Fish—Petrified Crabs, found in great Plenty in the Island of *Malta*.

*Zoolithi*, petrified Parts of Land Animals. Among other Specimens are the Grinders of an Elephant, &c. In the Mines in *Derbyshire* are found Petrifications resembling the Feathers of Birds.

*Phytolithi*, petrified Plants. Here are a Number of Pieces of Wood turned into Stone. Though this Kind of Petrification still preserves the Appearance of the original Wood, it so far acquires the Hardness and Consistency of Stone that it may be polished like Jasper.

Under this Title are many Specimens of Slates and Pebbles having on them the perfect Figure of Fern and other Leaves; in some of them the Plant is immersed, but projects from others of the Stones. These Kind of Slates and Pebbles are frequently found at the Top of Coal Mines. Some of the Mines in *Somersetshire* have the Vein covered by a brittle kind of soft Slate, which they call there Wark; It is easily separable into thin Plates, and, when divided, there is found on one of the Plates a protuberant Resemblance of a Fern Leaf.

At *Stamfop* in *Staffordshire* are frequently found Stones in the Form of Vegetables of various Kinds; and some have the exact Figure of different Sorts of Fruit, as Pears, &c. and many of them resemble the Stone of an Almond.

*Graptolithi*, figured Slates. They are a soft Kind of Marble, and have by Nature delineated on them very lively Representations of Shrubs, Trees, Landscapes, Ruins, &c. and are found in great Quantities

in several Parts of *Germany*. It is the Opinion of a great Naturalist, and there is a great Probability of its being the Truth, that these Figures are occasioned by mineral Exhalations, which staining the original soft Matter of which the Slate is afterwards formed, the Traces remain and continue visible after the Slate has attained its stony Consistence, whence that Variety of natural Pictures to be seen in these Specimens.

*Terræ*, Earths. These are of many different Kinds, and are divided into simple and compound. The simple and fine Earth is easily friable, and dissolves in a Liquid. When used in Medicine, the different Kinds have various Names, as *Bolus Armena*, *Armenian Bole*, vulgarly called *Bole Armoniac*; the best is of a palish red, soft and fattish to the Palate, and adheres strongly to the Tongue: It is used as an Astringent and a Vulnerary. *Terra Lemnia*, *Terra Samia*, *Terra Sigillata* — These are all Astringents and Absorbents, but have not the Virtue of the *Bolus Armena* first mentioned. We must now add to these the common vegetable Earth, Boles, Clay, Marle, Ochre, and Tripoli, and they will nearly comprehend all the simple Earths. The compound Sorts are more or less impregnated with saline, sulphurous, or other mineral Qualities, and have sometimes other Mixtures.

*Calculi*, Stones or Balls found in the Stomach or other Parts of the Intestines of Animals. The largest are found in Horses, and some of an oval Shape in the Stomachs of Camels: The Rhinoceros likewise sometimes has them; and hairy Balls are often found in the Maws of Oxen. This is the Case of those that are stalled to fat for the Market; the Beast will sometimes, when almost fit for Slaughter, suddenly pine and lose its Flesh, continually licking its Hide, by which Means the Balls of Hair gather



gather in the Maw. The best Remedy is to turn him loose for some Hours every Day in a good Pasture, by which Means he will soon return to his thriving Condition, and fat apace.

Under this Head are deposited the Bezoars; they are found in the Intestines of an *Indian* Goat, and have been deemed of great Use in Medicine, but are not now so much in Esteem; they are ranked among the Alexipharmics. The oriental Bezoar is most valuable; and of them those are to be preferred that strike a deep green upon a chalked Paper. It is very dear, and should be a chief Ingredient in the *Gascoign's Powder*, to which it gives its Colour; but the expressed Juice of Violets has been often used for that Purpose, instead of the Bezoar. Nay, a certain Professor of Physic told me some Years ago, that the *Gascoign's Powder* has been imitated by only making Balls of Pipe-makers Clay mixed with Animal Gall; and many were by this Means imposed on. When Medicines are so dear, they are very liable to be counterfeited.

The Stone found in the Chamoise, Porcupine and Monkey, are also supposed to have the same Virtues, being deemed a Kind of Bezoar; and moreover, there is attributed to them a much greater medicinal Power by many credulous People; for they have been often worn as Charms, or Preservatives against Diseases.

The largest Stone of this Kind the Author of these Sheets ever saw, or indeed heard of, to have been taken out of the Body of any Animal, is now in the Possession of a Miller who lives at a little Village near *Bures* in *Suffolk*; it was found in the Body of a Mare which died soon after dropping a Foal. The Beast expired in such Agonies, that the Owner had the Curiosity to have her opened,

ed, and by that Means discovered this wonderful Stone. It is nearly of a globular Figure, of a brownish Colour, and would but just lay in the Crown of my Hat; the Weight of it I do not recollect; its Diameter might, at a Medium, be eight or nine Inches: It was not, however, so heavy, as from its Size one would imagine it to be, or as a natural Stone of that Size.

What we have left to take notice of under this Title, are the several Specimens of Stones extracted from human Bodies, the larger from the Urine Bladder, the small from the Gall Bladder, and the others were formed in the Kidneys. There are some which were occasioned by the Party's swallowing the Stones of Cherries and other Fruits, a Crust of stony Matter first gathering on them, they afterwards encrease in Bulk, and cause the most violent Pains, not unfrequently Death itself. Many Remedies have been offered to the Public for this dreadful Disorder, but none of them are to be depended on; some not answering the Purpose intended, others being too rough in their Operation. A proper Stone Dissolvent would be a great Acquisition to Medicine.

We are now come to a Part of the Museum which will, I imagine, particularly attract the Attention of the Ladies; I mean, the recent Shells preserved in this Collection: But it will not be possible in the Compass of this small Work, to make such accurate Remarks on them as is due to the Singularity and Beauty of many that are here deposited. I must recommend to my Reader to attend to the Specimens, which are very numerous, as we shall here only notice a few of the most curious under each Title. The Virtuosi may find almost every Species that is now known among the  
Uni-

Univalves and Bivalves, the Multivalves not being yet exhibited to public View in their order; but the particularly curious may see many specimens of them if they request it of the Officers of the House.

In the Remarks on this Collection of recent Shells, they will be taken in the order in which they are now deposited under their several Titles: A small description of each Kind, and the Names of a few of the most remarkable Shells will be sufficient to answer our present Purpose.

One of the large Tables contains a Part of the Univalves, or Shells consisting of one Piece or Part.

*Echini Marini.* These are sometimes called Centroniæ and Cidares. The Sea Hedge-hog or Urchin, the Sea Egg, or the Sea Cake are the Names of the different Kinds of it in *English*; most of them are of a globular Figure, sometimes with, at other Times without, spines, beset with a great Number of regularly ranged Tubercles, and with Apertures more or less in Number, as far as six or seven. Many of them are of a flat depressed Figure, when they are called Placentæ or Sea Cakes, and they are not unfrequently inclined to an Oval Form, when they bear the Name of Sea Eggs. When the Fish that inhabits this Shell is alive, it is generally armed with a great Number of Spines or Prongs, which are moveable at the Animal's Pleasure, by means of Muscles that communicate with the Spines through the Papillæ of the Shell: The Animal uses these Spines both for its Defence and instead of Legs to enable it to move from Place to Place. When the Fish dies, these Spines are very apt to fall off, which discovers the Papillæ to which they were joined, and a great Number of regularly disposed excrescences on the outward Surface of the Shell, wherever there

was a Spine, one may perceive the Shell perforated.

Among the Specimens of the Echini are the round Sea Eggs with beautiful Ranges of Tubercles; the rounded flattish Sea Eggs, with large Papillæ, each set round with small Tubercles; the oval, flat, radiated, and undulated Sea Eggs without Spines; many flat Placentæ or Sea Cakes; and some few of the Specimens yet retain their Spines, by which may be seen the Manner of their Disposition.

*Echinorum Radioli.* Many Specimens of the Spines of the different Kinds of Echini preserved in their recent State as they drop from the Shell; they differ in Length and Thickness, some of them being very small and sharp, others large and obtuse.

*Patellæ* Limpet Shells; these are of a gibbous Shape, the Apex or Summit of the Shell is sometimes whole, at others perforated; not unfrequently sharp pointed, often obtuse: The Fish adheres very firmly to the Rocks, and is covered by one of these Shells: Some of the Specimens here preserved are very curious; many have circular Ridges, others are radiated, and in some half the Circumference is dentated, not unlike the Wheel of a Watch. They are chiefly found in the warmer Climates, particularly the *East Indies* and *South America*.

*Aures Marinæ* Sea Ears, commonly called the Ear Shell: This is of a broad and flattish Figure inclining to oval, almost spiral at one Extremity, and has an Aperture almost as large as the Shell, round the Edge of which are more or less perforations, and the Marks of others that do not go quite through the Shell; the Fish that inhabits it is a

Limax:

**Limax:** This is no uncommon Shell; it is therefore needless to enlarge on it, the Specimens exhibited will give the Reader a sufficient Idea of it.

*Cochleæ* Sea, Land, and fresh Water Snails; these are a spiral Shell, with a depressed Clavicle, are umbilicated and have a Surface sometimes smooth, but more frequently furrowed or covered with Tubercles; the Mouth of this Kind of Shell is circular. Among the Specimens under this Title are, the Belted Snail, the Ribbon Snail, the Cornu Ammonis Cochlea, some very curious Snails, whose spiral Turns are reversed, and others are dentated; and in a few the spiral Turns of the Shell are in Part covered by the last Volution.

*Neritæ* are a Kind of semicircular mouthed (semilunaris) Cochlea, often dentated; some have exerted Apices, others depressed, and many of them are umbilicated; they generally inhabit Caverns on the Sides of Rocks where the Fish stick fast to the Stone. Of the Specimens some are fasciated, others reticulated, and in Colour various, as white, green, black, and yellow: Among them are many that are called Bead Shells, and others Pea Shells.

*Trochi*, Top Shells, so called from some small Resemblance they bear to a Boy's Top. They are a Kind of Cochlea, somewhat approaching to the Form of a Cone, but the Summit sometimes more depressed, and they are not unfrequently dentated; the Inside of the Shell is of a most beautiful Mother of Pearl Colour; some are rough, others smooth, fasciated, or wavy; of all which there are Specimens, as well as of the prickly Trochus or Spur Shell from the *East Indies*, and many others.

*Buccina*, Trumpet Shells. This Kind of Shell resembles in Form the Trumpet, as it is represented in old Sculptures and Paintings: It is a spiral

Shell with a wide Belly, and a large, broad, and elongated Mouth, of an oval Figure, with a crooked Beak; the spiral Volutions of this Shell differ in Number, being sometimes six, at others ten or twelve, and one Kind has the Volutions reversed.

*Strombi.* These are a Kind of Turbines, the Tower of Babel, the Mitre Shell, the Spindle, and some others are ranked under this Title; but they are seldom by the Naturalists mentioned as a distinct Kind.

*Turbines, Screw Shells:* This kind has a long, wide, and depressed Mouth, often approaching to a circular Form, sometimes dentated, at others not; it grows narrow towards the Base, is auriculated, and terminates in a very long and sharp Point; but the Form of the different Kinds of Turbo differs in some Respects. The most curious Specimens under this Title, and worthy Observation, are the Needle Shell, the Screw Shell particularly so called, the Ribbon Turbo, the narrow spired Turbo, and others that are variegated with Tubercles, and striated Lines of different Colours; but what more especially merits Attention among these Shells, is the Wendel Trap, so named by the *Dutch*, who find it in their Spice Islands; it is often sold for sixteen and twenty Guineas, and sometimes more: In *England* it is called the Royal Stair Case.

*Murices.* The Murex is a sulcated Shell, beset with small Spines and Tubercles, with a rough Clavicle, exerted near the Summit in most Kinds, in others depressed; the Mouth is long and always expanded, sometimes dentated; in many the Lip is digitated, in others elated, folded, or jagged; the Columella is sometimes rough, at others smooth: Under this Title are to be seen the Musick Shell,  
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the ribbed Mufick Shell, the brown Murex with many Spines, the Turban, the Helmet, a Variety of yellow Shells, and many Spider Shells: The Fish that inhabits this Kind of Shell, furnished the ancient Greeks and Romans with that curious Dye, which was in such high Estimation among them. We must now conduct the Reader to the other Table, which contains the Remainder of the Shells.

*Purpuræ.* This Kind of Shell is jagged, and beset all over with Tubercles, Spines, Umbo's or Striæ; the Mouth or Aperture is small, and approaching to a circular Figure; the Tail is short, and the Base usually runs out into a long Beak: This is a very beautiful Species. Among the Specimens are the Woodcock Shell, the thorny or prickly Woodcock, the Endive Shell, the Caltrop Shell, and many others. The Spines of the *Purpuræ* differ, being more or less sharp, and in Number various; both this Kind and the Murex are found in great Plenty in the Gulph of *Tarentum*.

*Dolia*, Tun Shells. These have a globose or round Belly, a lax Aperture, or Mouth sometimes smooth, at others dentated; the Clavicle is either very little umbonated or depressed; the Columella in some Species smooth, in others wrinkled; and the outward Surface is always variously fulcated, therein differing from the *Bulla*. Among the Specimens, those most worthy Notice are the Ethiopian Crown, the several Kinds of harp Shells, the variegated ribbed Tun Shell, some Persian Shells, and many others, which it would take up too much Room particularly to mention.

*Bulla*, Boat Shells. They are a Kind of *Dolia*, but differ from them in that their Surface is smooth, whereas the *Dolia* are always fulcated; the spiral

Volutions of this Shell in some Kinds are not contiguous near the Clavicle, and are not unfrequently armed there with Spines. The Gondola Shells, the Persian Crowns, and many Shells that resemble Figs and other Fruit, are deposited under this Title. The Bulla are not always by the Naturalists ranked as distinct Species of Shells, being not unfrequently confounded with the Dolia.

*Rhombi*, Olive Shells. This Shell is often ranked among the *Volutæ*; but it differs from it, in that the *Voluta* is of a conic Figure, whereas this Kind is nearly of an equal Size at both Ends: It is of an oblong cylindric Figure, an oblong Mouth or Aperture, and the Clavicle is not unfrequently separated from the Body of the Shell by a Circle; the *Columella* in some smooth, in others rough. Some of the Shells of this Kind are called Stammers.

*Volutæ*, *Volutes*. This and the kind last mentioned are often ranked under the same Title. The *Voluta* is of a conic Figure, has an oblong Mouth or Aperture, the Clavicle sometimes erect, often depressed, in some Specimens coronated at the Top. One of the Extremities of this Shell is of a pyramidical Figure, the other formed into high Ribs which constitute a depressed Clavicle, or a dentated Crown; the Head is separated from the Body of the Shell by a high Rib. Among the Specimens, are the Admiral, Vice Admiral, Tyger Shells, Hebrew Letters, the Onyx Shell, many coronated *Volutes*, and several kind of Leopard Shells.

*Porcellanæ*, Porcelain Shells. The *Porcellana* is of a conglogated oblong gibbose or umbonated Form, and has for a Mouth, or Aperture, a long and narrow Slit, dentated on each Side. A few of



the most curious of this Kind are, the Arabian Letter Shell, the Map Shell, the Argus, and False Argus, the Tortoise Porcellain, the Beetle, the *Chinese* and Boat Porcellains. The common Cowries, or Guinea Money, come under this Title.

*Nautili*, Sailor Shells. The *French* call this Kind *Le Voilier*. It has been conjectured that Men first learned the Use of Sails from the little Fish that inhabits it. It often swims on the Surface of the Sea, throwing out a Membrane that serves it instead of a Sail; and it has other Parts which it uses as Oars and a Rudder. It is a spiral Shell, with a large and roundish Aperture; the last Volution is remarkably large in proportion to the rest, otherwise not unlike some Kind of Snails that have depressed Clavicles. The whole Shell is by Partitions divided into several Chambers, which communicate one with the other by Means of a small Pipe in each Partition. Among the Specimens, one of the Shells is cut vertically in such a Manner as to discover the different Concamerations. Worth observing are the small thin Nautilus, the Paper Nautilus from the *Mediterranean*, and some from the *East Indies* in Size various, many in their natural State, others polished. It has been conjectured that the *Cornu Ammonis*, described among the fossil Shells, takes its Shape from some Species of the Nautilus; but this is far from being ascertained.

*Dentalia*, Tooth Shells. This is a shelly Tube resembling the Tusk of an Elephant, or the Horn of some Animal which is a little bent: some of them are smooth, others fricated; the smooth Kind are white, and not unfrequently tipped with red; the others some white, others green. The common Tooth Shell, the Dog Tooth Shell, and others are to be seen among the Specimens.

*Vermicularia*, Worm-shells. These are of a very irregular Shape, and are nothing but a kind of testaceous Covering the Sea Worms inhabit. They are generally found in Clusters, often sticking to the Bottom of Ships after a long Voyage.

We are now come to a Conclusion of our small Remarks on the Univalves, and must in a regular Progression proceed to take Notice of the Bivalves, with which the Remainder of this Table is filled: As to the Multivalves, we shall pass them over, as they are not yet exhibited.

*Ostrea*, Oysters. This Shell consists of two Parts joined together by a Hinge, being a strong Membrane; one of the Parts of the Shell is most frequently flat, the other moderately globular, and have circular Striæ; but their general Form is various, in the several Kinds. There are here preserved a great Variety of the scarcer Sorts; among the rest, the Thorny Oyster, the Prickly Oyster, the Hammer and Saddle Oysters, of which some have the Valves joined in a Manner more particularly resembling a Hinge. There are also some Specimens of transparent round flat Oysters, used in some Part of the *East Indies* instead of Glass.

*Pectines*, Scollop Shells. They are of a flattened Shape, and the Valve shut close in all Parts. They differ from the Oyster in that they are auriculated, and are striated in the Manner of a Comb, longitudinally. The most curious of this Kind are the Mantle Scollops of various Colours, particularly the Ducal Mantle, the Marbled Scollop, the Coral Scollop, and others.

*Cardia*, Heart-shells. Both the Valves of this Shell are convex, and they are not auriculated, often confounded with the *Pectines*. Venus's Heart, the Noah's Ark, the Ox Heart, Human Heart,  
thorny

thorny Hearts and speckled Heart Shells, are the most curious among them.

*Chamae.* This Kind is for the most Part smooth, though in some Places a little rugose; the Valves are equal, elate and convex, and the Mouth gapes, being closed in some Places, not in others; it has longitudinal Furrows, and very deep, sometimes is armed with Spines; it is of a rounder Figure than the Tellina, and thicker. The Concha Veneris, used by the Ancients to form Basso Relievos with different coloured Grounds, in the same Manner our Lapidaries exercise their Ingenuity on Onyxes, was of this Kind. The Roman Mantle, the Arabian Shell, the yellow Chama, the Basket Shell, and the reticulated white Chama, are curious.

*Tellinae.* These are a Kind of beautiful Muscles, common enough in Italy, particularly about Rome; their Form inclines to an Oval, and the Shell thin. For the most part when they are seen in Museums, the outer Coat is taken off, which occasions their having that splendid Appearance; some such are to be seen in this Collection, and others in their natural State. The flat Tellina with white Fasciæ, the broad flat Tellina from the *West Indies*, the narrow Tellina, and others, are worthy to be preserved.

*Musculi,* Muscles of the smaller Sizes. Some of the Specimens have Pearls fixed to the Inside of the Shell, occasioned by its having been by some Means or other accidentally injured.

We have now done with the Tables of Shells; if the Remarks that are made on them are thought too concise, it must be considered that they could not be treated of more at large without swelling these Sheets to a larger Size than the Author intends they shall extend to. Of the many Readers  
which

which he hopes to have, most of them will, no doubt, think that Part of the Collection which particularly suits his Taste and engages his Attention, too slightly treated of. But it is impossible to please every one. Such must with Patience wait till the general Account of the Museum is published at large by the Officers of the House. Their Curiosity will then be fully satisfied; as, the Abilities of the Authors considered, the Catalogue will doubtless be such, as to merit the particular Attention and Encouragement of the Public.

The Reader must now be directed to the first of the small Tables, which contains a Number of Handles for Daggers, Knives and Forks; some Seals, Heads of Canes, or walking Sticks, and the Hilt of a Sword. These are all made either of Agate, Mocoë Stone, Onyx, Cornelian, Jasper, Bloodstone, or Nephritic Stone, &c. There are also some Turkish and Persian Daggers, such as it was formerly customary for them to wear at their Girdles, and some Knives with the Blades inlaid with Gold. This has been by certain credulous People thought to have been changed from the Iron by some Alchymist who possessed the much talked of Secret of the Philosopher's Stone.

In the other small Table in this Room are preserved a great Number and Variety of Cups, Dishes, Boxes, &c. made of Agate, Mocoë Stone, Cornelian, and Jaspers. They differ much one from the other as well in Form as Colour.

There is very little more to be noticed in this Part of the Collection, if we except a Set of Figures representing Mines, in the ordinary Dresses they wear, in *Bohemia*, *Saxony*, and other Parts of *Germany*. With them are to be seen the Tools they use in their Work; and there is also a View of a Mine,

Mine, shewing their Huts, Ladders, &c. The Crucifixes belong to them, as being commonly seen about the Entrance of Mines that are situated in those Places where the *Roman Catholic* Religion prevails. But neither the Crucifixes, the View of the Mine, or the Miners, are so curious as to merit any particular Attention; especially in a Museum where there are such a Number of Articles that are so much more worthy of Remark.

We shall finish what we have to say of this Room, by directing the Reader to the Tusks of an Elephant, one tolerably perfect, the other half perished, and some other Bones of this large Animal. These are all said to have been found in a certain Place near *Gray's Inn Lane*, very deep in the Ground. It is not improbably supposed to have been the Remains of one that was brought over here in the Time that the *Romans* were Masters of *Britain*.

## COLLECTIO SLOANIANA.

The Reader will now prepare himself for the Remarks that are to be made on the Contents of the next Room, which are no less curious and worthy of Notice than those we have already gone through. To begin with the Repositories, or Cabinets, the first we meet with are

### Vegetabilia. Fructus. Ligna.

Under these Titles are comprehended a great Variety of foreign Fruits, different Kinds of aromatic and other curious Woods, many Sorts of Gum, Barks, and a numerous Train of other vegetable Productions. We shall first direct the Reader to the *Scythian Lamb*, otherwise called *Ba-romez*,

romez, Barometz, or Baranetz. It is the Root of a Plant much like Fern that grows in *Muscovy*. It is said that the Nature of it is such, that it will suffer no Plant whatever to thrive near it. Its Root is covered by a sort of Down resembling Wool, and there are Shoots, or Fibres, which serve well enough to represent the Legs and Horns of the vegetable Animal. A very little Help of the Imagination makes it altogether a tolerable Lamb. Many strange Qualities have been given to this Production, and as strange Stories told of it; some having given it a Skin like a real Lamb, but of a much superior Value; others have said that Wolves delighted to feed on it, besides many more Fictions too tedious to take notice of here; insomuch that many were inclined to believe there was no such Thing in Nature.

There are many Specimens of the various Kinds of the Apocynum, or Silk Grass, common in the *East* and *West Indies*, where they apply it to many Uses. The different Kinds of Cotton are here to be seen as it grows in the *Indies*, some of it bursting from the Pod.

A great Number and Variety of Calabashes, of which the *Indians* of *America* make many of their household Utensils; some Sea Cocoons and Sope Berries. These last are the Fruit of a Tree growing in some of the *West India* Islands, and *Africa*, the Pulp of which has all the Qualities of Sope.

*Echino Melocactos*, by *Linnaeus* called *Cactus*, the Turkish Cap, or Thistle Melon. There are many Kinds of this Plant, which is extremely curious; they commonly grow on the steep Sides of Rocks in the warmest Parts of *America*, their Root shooting deep into the Fissures of the Rock, requiring very little Earth to nourish them. Several Sorts of Spices and Drugs, &c. as Cloves, which are the Fruit  
of

of a large Tree, having Leaves like the Laurel; it grows in the *Molucca* Islands: the Oyl extracted from them is often prescribed in Medicine. Pepper, as growing on the Branches; it is brought from *Malabar*, *Sumatra*, *Mocho*, and other Parts of the *East Indies*. The Black Pepper grows upon a weak climbing Plant, with large oval pointed Leaves; that which produces the Long Pepper, is not very different, and grows in the same Places. Pimento, or *Jamaica* Pepper, grows on a Plant not unlike that which produces the Clove, but not so large. Nutmegs grow in the Island of *Banda* in the *East Indies*, and in some few other Places, on a Tree about the Size of a large Standard Apricot, which bear a Fruit not unlike it in Shape and Size: its Leaf is like the Almond, but not serrated; the Nutmeg is contained within the Pulp of the Fruit, and the Mace cleaves close to the Shell of it. Cardamoms are a Seed brought us from *Java*, *Malabar*, and other Parts of the *East Indies*. Tamarinds are brought to us from both the *Indies*, and are the Fruit of a large Tree of the Palm Kind; they make a pleasant Sweatmeat, and very wholesome.

Beans of different Kinds, Colours, and Sizes. The Anacardium, *Oriente* & *Occidentale*; the Malacca Bean, and Cashew Nut; the first comes from the *East Indies*, is enclosed in two Skins, between which is a strong caustic Oyl; the Kernel is pleasant to the Taste. The other is in Shape like a Windsor Bean, with two Skins enclosing the same Kind of Oyl and a Kernel; it is brought from *Jamaica*. Heads and Fruits of Palm Trees.

Here are also some Tea Nuts, Cocoa Nuts, Acacia, Coffee Berries, which last is the Fruit of a kind of Jessamine, with a Leaf like a Chestnut, and a white sweet Flower: It grows in *Arabia* and the  
West

*West Indies.* Some Specimens of Millet, Guinea Corn, and Maize. But we must particularly take Notice of the Bark Lace. The Tree that produces it is called *Logetto*, or the Bark Tree, the inner Bark of which consists of Fibres disposed in a reticular Figure, and bears some Resemblance to Lace. It is often, by curious People, made up into Ruffles, &c. There is preserved here a kind of Shirt or Garment of it, being the entire inner Bark taken off the Body of one of these Trees.

We now come to some Roots, of which there are many Specimens; as Ginseng, which is now in high Estimation in *China* and *Japan*, being deemed an excellent Cephalic, and good for the Spirits and Nerves; it used formerly to be sold for its Weight in Gold in *Europe*, and is yet very dear in the *Indies*, but not much valued here: The *Chinese* do not esteem that which grows in *America*, valuing only their own. Rattle Snake Root, Contrayerva, and others. And there are a great Variety of Gums; as Gum Elemi, Galbanum, Copal, Styrax, &c. and some aromatic and other foreign Woods. Camphor, the Wood from which the Gum or Rosin of this Name is extracted; it grows in *China*, and some other Parts of the *East Indies*. The Benzoin, which also produces a Gum, and many others.

*Spongiæ.* In the Repository under this Title are a great Number of Specimens of the different kinds of Sponge, some very large. They are a Sea Production, and have been long ranked among the Number of Vegetables that the Sea produces, but how properly is not yet by our modern Naturalists absolutely determined.

The Repositories that follow contain the different kinds of Coral under their several Titles. It would take up too much Room to enlarge much  
on



on them; we shall, however, proceed to give the Inscriptions, and a few Words upon each Sort. The first that presents itself is

*Keratophyta.* This Title comprehends the several kinds of black Coral; the Specimens here preserved consist of Sea Fans, Sea Willows, Sea Firs, and others of the like Sort, having their Names given them from a faint Resemblance they bear to those Things.

*Corallia.* All the different kinds of Coral have, till of late, been ranked in the vegetable Kingdom, being thought to be Sea Plants; but Mr. *Ellis* has published a Work, in which he endeavours to prove that they are of the animal Kind: The Matter, however, is not yet quite settled among the Naturalists. Under this general Head are some Specimens of Coral fastened to Pieces of Ships, on Bottles, Pieces of Coin, &c. in the same Manner that Barnacles fasten themselves to a Log of Wood; and also some of the black Coral.

*Madrepora* comprehends all the Corals that have stellated Perforations. The Species of the *Madrepora* are by the Naturalists made very numerous. In this Repository are several Brainstones, Sea Mushrooms, and many other Specimens, some white, and others of a red or pink Colour.

*Millepora.* All the Corals that have Perforations which are neither stellated nor radiated, are ranked in this Class. The Specimens consist of many branched Corals, some large and very curious.

*Eschara.* Under this Title are deposited a Species of Coral, some of which resembles woven Cloth, or the Leaf of a Tree, others Network. They consist of the common retiporous *Eschara*, the foliaceous retiporous *Eschara*, and others, some of them very large.

*Tubularia.* This Species is by *Linnaeus* called *Tubipora*. It is generally of a purple Colour; and is composed of many hollow Tubes or Pipes of Coral issuing from the same Stock. The Specimens of it are curious, varying in Colour.

After having made these short Remarks on the Nature of the several Kinds of Coral, it will not be amiss to mention four Tables of Sea Productions chiefly of the Coral kind, disposed in their several Classes in the Form of Landscapes. They are the Gift of Mr. *Ellis*, who, as the Reader has already been informed, has wrote on the Subject. There being in each of these Tables a short Account of the Contents, it is quite unnecessary to be more particular in this Place.

*Nidi Insectorum*, Nests of Insects. An Enquiry into this Part of Natural History is very amusing and entertaining, so great is the Variety contained in it; for not only every distinct Class of Insects has a Manner peculiar to itself to preserve and continue the Species, but every distinguished Part of each Class varies in this particular, yet all of them follow the invariable Law that God and Nature has taught them; assisted by an Instinct which Man, with all his boasted Reason, cannot with any Propriety account for. For Instance, the Wasps do not all make their Nests alike; some are very large, as a Kind of *American* Wasp, several of which Nests are here deposited; another, which comes from *Newfoundland*, resembles a Rose; and those made by a kind of black Wasp are entirely covered with Clay; yet all these differ from the common Wasp's Nest. There are many other Varieties in the Work of this Insect; but it would take up too much time to enlarge more on the Subject, especially as what has been already said will be sufficient to give the intelligent

intelligent Reader a perfect Idea of the Author's Meaning. The Study of Natural History must always greatly conduce to the Honour of God; it ought, therefore, on all hands to be properly encouraged.

There are a great Variety of Specimens preserved of the Nests of different Insects; too many to take particular Notice of here; it will be sufficient, therefore, to mention a few only to the Reader. Besides the Wasps Nests, there is a large Hornet's Nest, many Nests of Spiders, some Humble Bees Cells, Ants Nests of various Kinds and from different Parts of the World. But what is most worthy of Remark under this Head, is a very curious Spider's Nest brought from the *West Indies*, to which the Insect has with great natural Skill and Ingenuity contrived a Valve or Trap-door to secure the Entrance, thereby defending its Progeny from the Attack of some Enemy of the Species.

*Nidi Avium*, Nests of Birds. This Title affords as great a Variety as the last, and for the same Reasons. It is impossible to attempt noticing all the Nests that are here preserved as Specimens; they are both numerous and curious; it will be sufficient to point out to the Reader a few most deserving Attention, and even of those little must be said. The hanging Nests claim our first Regard; which are made by Birds, Inhabitants of both the *Indies*; they hang by a slender Filament to a small Twig of a Tree, and are by that Means put out of the Reach of any Enemy of the quadruped or reptile Kind. These Nests are chiefly made of a sort of Grass without, disposed in the Form of a Net, and lined with different Kinds of soft Substances within; but there are Birds in *Siberia* that make hanging Nests of a very curious Structure of

Spiders Webs. The Nests of the various Sorts of Humming Birds are pretty, particularly one on which a very beautiful Bird is sitting. The King Fisher's Nest, and that of the Tom Tit, are not unworthy of Remark, especially being the Produce of our own Country. But there is a Nest brought from *Cambodia*, and other Parts of the *East Indies*, about the Size of a Goose's Egg, and in Substance not unlike Isinglass; being dissolved in Water, it makes a fine Soup, whence it is generally called the Soup Nest: It is made by a small *Indian* Swallow of a delicate Taste. These Birds are seen at certain Seasons of the Year in vast Multitudes on the Sea Coasts, where in the Clefs of the Rocks they build their Nests of an hemispherical Form, making them of a spumous Matter which they find on the Sea Shore. There is only one kind of Nest more to be mentioned, and we have done with this Title; it is brought from both the *Indies*, and covered with Leaves, which the Birds are said to sew together with their Beaks; whence they have the Name of Taylor Birds.

Having given this short Account of the Nests of such Kinds of Birds as are generally deemed most curious and meriting Attention, we are naturally brought to the next Repository.

*Ova*, Eggs. These are very numerous: Let it be thought sufficient, therefore, that the Reader be informed, that among others, there are Specimens of the Eggs of the Ostrich, the Cassoware, Owls and Eagles of various Kinds, Penguins, Cormorants, Maccaws, some Parrots Eggs, those of the *China* Pheasant, King Fisher, Miscle Birds, and some remarkable blue Eggs from *Virginia*. There are also, a small Egg contained within another, very curious; some that have irregular furrowed Surfaces,

faces, and an Egg on which is neatly and whimsically rivetted a small Horse Shoe. Besides these Eggs of Birds, are some Specimens of those of Crocodiles, Guanas, Lizards, Turtles, and Tortoises.

*Stella Marinae*, Star Fish. Those of the smaller Kind are called on our Coasts, where they abound, Five Fingers. Some of the Specimens are very large, the Number of their Points or Rays being various. The reticulated Star Fish, called *Medusa's Head*, is very curious; the Fish, when alive and in its natural Element, spreads abroad a great Number of Fibres, which extend to a large Compass, and in Figure bear no distant Resemblance to a Net, being perhaps intended for the same Use, to catch its Prey.

*Crustacea*. Under this Title are deposited a Variety of Crabs of different Kinds, Colours, and Countries; some Lobsters, Sea Locusts, Prawns, Shrimps, the black Crab from *Jamaica*, and others from the *East Indies* finely variegated in Colour; but what really most demands Regard, is an extraordinary large Claw of a Lobster.

*Testacea*, A Number of large Sea Shells, as Helms, Buccina, &c. In the upper Part of this Repository is a Log of Wood with a great Number of Barnacles sticking to it. It was the Opinion of some of our old Naturalists, they were produced on a Tree that grows on the Sea Shore in the North of *Scotland*; that after a certain Time the Shell opened and dropped its Contents into the Sea, and that it there became a Bird called the Barnacle, or Solan Goose, or, as they sometimes named it, the Vegetable Goose: But the Error of their Conjectures has long been discovered; the Barnacle is found to be a Shell Fish, which might fix itself to those Branches of Trees that chanced to be under

Water ; and the Solan Goose is now known to breed like other Water Fowls in the Northern Climates. It was once thought that *Jamaica* produced a Tree which bore Oysters, a Mistake of the like kind with that already mentioned. We should be slow in giving Credit to whatever appears to be out of the natural Course of Things.

Under this Title is to be seen, the Soldier, or Hermit Crab, from *Jamaica*. The Instinct of this little Animal is surprizing ; it is of the Crab kind, but not satisfied with the crustaceous Covering Nature has given it, it seizes the first unoccupied Shell it meets with, proper for its Purpose, (some have said that it will even drive the Fish out of it) and fixing itself firmly in it, drags it about as long as it lives, unless it should find another more to its Mind.

There are in this Room two Specimens of Fern of a very particular Kind ; it is produced in the Island of *St. Helena*, and in some Parts of *South America* ; it grows very frequently to the Size of tolerable large Timber, and is sometimes applied to the Uses for which Timber is valuable.

Over the Repositories are disposed in Order, a great Number of Sea Productions, of the Coral Kind, as Sea Fans, Sea Willows, &c. and some large Shells, as Conchs, *Buccina*, &c. together with a few of that Kind called *Pinna Marina*, which are a very large Species of Muscle, found only in the Sea, chiefly in the *Mediterranean*.

There are three small Tables which we must not pass over in Silence. The first contains some Shells finely polished and carved in embossed Work ; the Figures on them are lively, and they are upon the whole remarkably elegant and beautiful, having greatly the Appearance of Mother of Pearl.

Some

Some Cameos cut in Shells, and many more in Onyxes, Sardonyxes, Crystals, Hyacinths, and other precious Stones.

Some Intaglios in Jaspers, &c.

Several Rings set with Cameos, others with Intaglios of the Stones above mentioned; and many antique Rings and Seals, and some Beads made of carved Fruit Stones.

In the second of the small Tables are preserved several very curious Models, finely executed by *Simons*, the famous Engraver.

A small Half-length of *Sir Thomas Gresham*, neatly carved in Wood in Relievo.

Many Impressions taken in Glass Paste from antique Seals.

A Number of Impressions taken in Sulphur from the Seals, Gems, and carved Stones in the King of *France's* Cabinet. They are a very curious Collection, the Subjects chiefly historical.

The third small Table is entirely filled with the Remainder of the Impressions from the King of *France's* Cabinet.

The Reader must now be conducted to the first of the large Tables, which contains a great Number of Insects of various Kinds; those that first occur, are such as have moveable crustaceous Shields to guard their Wings.

*Scarabæi*, Beetles. But very little will be said on the Subject of the Insects; they are so numerous, that it would too much extend these Sheets: We shall, however, direct the Reader to some of the curious Specimens. Under this Title he will find the Elephant Beetle, the Rhinoceros Beetle, found in the *East* and *West Indies*, the *Cervus Volans*, or Stag Beetle, sometimes seen in some Parts of *England*, the Unicorn Beetle, and many others.

*Dermestes*, Wood Beetles, These are a Kind of Scarabæus, but generally smaller. Among the Specimens are the spotted winged black *Dermestis*, the red legged black, and the hairy *Dermestis*.

*Cassidæ*, A small Species of the Scarabæus, with the Head less prominent and visible than in either of the former. The Tortoise *Cassida*, the several Kinds of black *Cassidæ* with more or less Striæ on the outward Wings, and the green *Cassida* found in Gardens are to be looked for under this Title.

*Coccinellæ*, Specimens of Lady Birds, or Lady Cows, as they are often called, variegated, and properly distinguished.

*Chrysomelæ*, a small Beetle with beaded Antennæ. Some of them are of a blackish Colour variously spotted or striated, others green, yellowish, or entirely brown.

*Curculiones*, A Kind of Beetle with Antennæ projecting from the End of a Trunk, or Proboscis. The common brown, the shining brown, the purple and black *Curculiones* are of this Class.

*Cerambyces*. These are a Beetle with very long slender-jointed Antennæ generally hanging over the Back: They are of various Colours, as grey, black, brown, and some of a very beautiful violet Colour. The Capricorn Beetle is a curious Specimen.

*Lepturæ* are a sort of Beetles bearing no distant Resemblance to the last Kind. They are black, Copper-coloured, red, &c.

*Divisci*, Water Beetles, have setaceous Antennæ, and their Feet formed for swimming. The common Water Beetle, the large black Water Beetle, the brown Water Beetle with prominent Eyes, the small brown Water Beetle, and others, are comprehended under this Title.

*Buprestes*



*Buprestes* partake of the Nature of Cantharides or *Spanish* Flies, are Inhabitants of the Water chiefly, have the Head in part concealed, a very stinking Smell, and sting severely: Of these the most curious is the light green Buprestis with yellowish green striated Wings; and the large black Buprestis, or Tree Beetle, and the small black Buprestis are of this Kind.

*Elatri.* The Elater, if laid on its Back, has a Power of skipping to a considerable Distance. Some of them are black, others of a changeable Brass Colour, &c.

*Staphilini.* These have beaded Antennæ, small Shields or outer Wings, the inner concealed. The brown Staphilinus with blue Wings is a curious Insect; a Number of them are black, but distinguished one from the other, either by their Legs or by the Colour of the interior Wings.

*Blattæ,* Mill Beetles, have long slender Antennæ in continual Motion, and usually two Spines at the Tail: The Males have Wings, and are smaller than the Females. The yellow Blatta, a Native of the Northern Countries, where it feeds on the dried Fish, and a very large Kind from *Jamaica*, are of this Species.

*Grilli,* Crickets, resemble a Locust. In this Class *Linnaeus* ranks the Cicadæ and Mantes. The common House Cricket, the Field Cricket, and the great brown Cricket are all that need be mentioned, if we except the Mole Cricket, found in some Parts of England, which is a remarkable Insect.

*Locustæ,* Locusts are remarkable for their hinder Legs, which are made for leaping; some Kinds have Wings. The large common Locust, the Grasshopper, and the *Spanish* Locust, are of this Species.

*Mantes* are of the same Kind. Among these we must reckon the common preying Locust, the large brown Mantis, the flat-shaped Mantis, and the long-winged Mantis. There are under this Title, besides, some very curious Specimens of what are called in the *Indies* Walking Leaves, or Moving Sticks, from the Resemblance their Wings have to the Leaves of Trees, and their Bodies to a Piece of Stick; these are a very wonderful Kind of Insect, and worthy particular Remark.

*Cicadae*, Balm Crickets, or Harvest Flies. They have four membranaceous, and no outer Wings, have large Heads, and in their whole Form are not unlike that Kind of Fly which is vulgarly called a Drone; they make a Noise like a Cricket, and are very numerous in the Southern Parts of *France* and *Italy*, but we have them not in *England*. The Specimens are of various Colours, and Sizes.

*Cimices*, Bugs. They are of many distinguished Kinds, and of different Colours, as grey and black, not to say any thing of the common House Bug.

*Notonectae*, Boat Flies, a Water Insect. Some Kinds have the Antennæ shorter than the Thorax, others have none; the hinder Legs are formed for swimming, and some Kinds swim on their Backs. It is only necessary to mention here the common Boat Fly, the small Boat Fly, the large black *Notonecta*, a Native of the *East Indies*, and a brown *Notonecta*.

*Nepæ*, Water Scorpions, have four Wings, each of the fore Feet armed with a Forceps, in Shape like a Crab's Claw. There are many Specimens.

*Cocci*, Cochineal, is a small Fly that feeds and breeds on the Leaf of the *Indian Fig*. This Insect, when dried and sent to *Europe*, is of great Use in dying.

dying. *Linnaeus* mentions many other Kinds feeding on various Trees.

We must now in Course proceed to the other great Table, where the Insects are continued.

*Pbryganeæ* are a kind of small Fly not unlike the Gnat; the black Kinds are various, and some are of other Colours. Under this Title is the Ephemeron, whose whole Extent of Life is but a few Hours.

*Libellulæ*, Dragon Flies, or Adder Flies, are a beautiful Insect, with a long various coloured Body, and large reticulated Wings; many of them in Colour incline to green or yellow, and some black or greyish.

*Papiliones*, Butterflies, differ from the Moths in having clavated Antennæ. There are a very great Number of Specimens from different Parts of the World, curious and beautiful; some were caught at home. The most remarkable among them are, a fine green Fly, the Mother of Pearl, the Owl and the Peacock from the *East Indies*, and a remarkable fine purple Fly from the *West Indies*. The Ladies may amuse themselves, with looking at the great Variety here exhibited; but we must not enlarge more on the Subject.

*Phalænæ*, Moths. These have, for the most Part, slender Antennæ gradually diminishing to a Point, are almost as numerous as the Butterflies, some of them filling the Remainder of this Table, the rest being in the Insect Table in the next Room. Many of the Specimens are very large, particularly those from *South America*; and some are called Death's Heads.

## COLLECTIO SLOANIANA.

We now enter upon another Room, where, for the sake of Regularity, I shall proceed to finish my Remarks on the Insects which are contained in the great Table.

*Phalænæ.* Under this Title are the Remainder of the Moths.

*Tentbredines.* This kind of Insect is by the *French* named *Mouche à Scie*, from its having a serrated Weapon, or Sting: In Shape it is like a Bee, but in Colour generally resembles a Wasp: They differ much in Size, some Specimens being very small.

*Ichneumones.* This Fly has two reticulated Wings, slender Antennæ, no Proboscis or Trunk, a long slender Body, and two or three Filaments affixed to its Tail; their Colour is various, as black, yellow, &c. and some Specimens are large.

*Vespæ,* Wasps. This is an Insect well enough known. Under this Title is comprehended the Hornet, and many Specimens variegated in Colour.

*Apes,* Bees. The Specimens are numerous of this useful Insect; some are very small, others hairy, and a few black. Here we must mention the Humble Bees, the Bodies of which are for the most part black, they differing chiefly one from the other in the Colour of their Tails.

*Formicæ,* Ants. Nothing need be said of these, but that the Females and Males have hidden Stings, the Males and Females Wings, the Males none. They are of many Kinds, as the common Ants with Wings, the red Ant, the great *American* red and black Ants, the little black Ant, and the great Wood Ant.

*Tabani,*

*Tabani*, Horse Flies, have but two Wings, and are of various Colours, as black, brown, yellow, &c.

*Æstri*, Gad Flies, or Breeze Flies. The large black and yellow Gad Fly, and the small Breeze Fly are of this Kind.

*Muscæ*, Flies. There are a great many Specimens of Flies, common enough; several white winged Flies, some hairy, and others variegated with black and yellow, or blue and green, and many entirely black or yellow must here be mentioned.

*Culicæ*, Gnats, a troublesome Insect, too well known from its severe stinging. Some of the Specimens here shewn resemble the Mosquito Fly of *Jamaica* and the *West Indies*.

*Araneæ*, (Insects without Wings) Spiders of various Kinds, and among the rest, the *Italian* and *West Indian* Tarantula.

*Onisci*, Wood Lice, or Millepedes, consisting of several Specimens of the different Kinds.

*Scorpiones*, Specimens of Scorpions of different Sorts from various Parts of the World, differing in Size.

*Iuli*, Gally-worms. These are a Kind of Worm with a long Body composed of a great Number of Rings, with many small Feet and beaded Antennæ; they are generally of a ferruginous dusky or blackish Colour, living for the most part under Ground, and when touched will roll themselves in a Ball.

*Scolopendræ*, several Specimens of the Centipes from *America* and elsewhere. The Bite of this Insect is said to be almost as dangerous as that of the Scorpion.

*Aureliæ*, Aurelias, or Chrysalises of several Species of Insects.

*Vermes*, a miscellaneous Collection of Worms.

*Nidi Insectorum*, some Nests of Insects, as Spiders, Beetles, Locusts, &c.

*Nidi Serici*, Cocoons of Silkworms. Under this Title is a Ribbon made of Spiders Web, and some Silk of the same.

*Testudines*, Tortoises and Turtles of the smaller Sizes, finely variegated, and sulcated in their Shells.

*Avium Partes*, Parts of Birds; they consist of Heads, Beaks, Talons, Legs, Quills, &c. Particularly to be noticed are some Heads of the Rhinoceros Bird, the Beak of a Toucan, or Brazil Pye, nearly equal to the whole Body in Magnitude, the Beak of a Spoonbill, and some Quills of the Condor, a Bird of such a prodigious Size and Strength, as to be able to carry a Sheep through the Air in its Talons. Such wonderful Things have been said of the Condor, that it was long doubted whether there was such a Bird in Nature: It is not known in *Europe*, nor is it frequent in any Part of the World, but has been seen in *Peru* and *Chili*, in *South America*.

*Piscium Partes*, Parts of Fish, consist of Jaws, Palates, Teeth, Back-bones, Fins, &c. of various Kinds of Fish.

On the Shelves round this Room are a great Number and Variety of Articles, preserved in Spirits, from the animal and vegetable Kingdoms: They are, like the rest of this noble Collection, curious, and worthy of very particular Observation; yet, lest the Bounds I at first set myself should be too much exceeded, my Remarks on them will be but short. The first Title that presents itself to our View, is

*Quadrupedia*, Quadrupeds. Among these, I shall

I shall only mention a few Specimens; as, the Armadillo, called by the Natives *Tatu*, a little Animal covered over with hard Scales, like a Sort of Armour; in its Head and Snout it resembles a Pig, has the Feet of a Hedgehog, and is a great Destroyer of Sugar Canes in the *Brazils*. The Sloth, called *Haii* by the Natives of *Brazil*; of this Animal many Stories are told, as that it is a whole Day walking a few Yards; that it will grow fat when it has got into a Tree, but having consumed all the Food the Tree afforded, it will be nearly starved before it can get to another; if it is hurt, it makes a Noise like the crying of a Child, and even sheds Tears; his fore Legs are double his hinder in length: It is a very inoffensive and harmless, but not a very handsome Animal. The *Yer-bua*, a Kind of beautiful Field Mouse, with a very long Tail and hinder Legs, on which it generally walks erect. Several Kinds of Monkeys. The flying Squirrel, frequent in *Virginia*, which has a Membrane reaching from the fore to the hinder Legs, of the Nature of a Bat's Wing, and serving for the Use of flying from Tree to Tree, which it will do, though they are at a considerable Distance. Some Bats of various Kinds. A Hedgehog; and the Opossum, an Animal, which, in case of Danger, protects its young in a Cavity under its Belly.

Under this Title are a great Number of Fœtus's of different Animals, and some unnatural Productions, among which is the Cyclops Pig, having only one Eye, and that in the Middle of the Forehead.

*Aves*, Birds. There are here a great Number and Variety of *English* and foreign Birds, brought from all Countries, and preserved in Spirits: I shall refer

refer my Reader to the Specimens, not having room to make any particular Remarks.

Reptilia. Amphibia. Serpentina.

In these three Repositories are many amphibious Animals in Spirits. Among the Reptiles are Frogs, Toads, particularly the Carolina and Bull Frog, and the Surinam Toad, whose young are produced out of its Back; some young Crocodiles, Allegators, Guanas, Cameleons, Salamanders, the flying Lizard, and other Kinds of Lizards.

The Serpents consist of, Snakes, Slow-worms, Vipers, Adders, Rattle-snakes, Asps, Hooded-snakes, Coach-whip-snakes, so called from their extreme Length and Slenderness, and some Amphibænæ, a Kind of Serpent, whose Head can scarcely be distinguished from the Tail, they moving both ways, forward and retrograde; they are brought from *South America*, and here preserved in Spirits.

*Pisces*, Fish of many Kinds in Spirits, and among others the Hippocampus, or Sea Horse; the flying Fish; the Remora, formerly thought able to stop a Ship under Sail; Pearl Oysters, the John Doree, the Sea Polipus, Barnacles, and many others, too numerous to take notice of.

*Insecta*, Insects. Many Kinds of Caterpillars, Beetles, Locusts, Centipes, Scorpions, Spiders, and Worms from human Bodies.

*Vegetabilia*, Vegetables. These consist chiefly of foreign Fruits preserved in Spirits, and some of our own Produce, but of an uncommon Form. There are also under this Title, a Collection of Oyls, Balsams, and other chemical Preparations extracted  
from



from Vegetables chiefly the Growth of the *East Indies*.

In different Parts of this Room on the Wainfcot over the Repositories, &c. are some dried Animals, and stuffed Skins of others, particularly some large Bats, Turtles and Tortoifes; Sharks Jaws, more Heads and Beaks of Birds, a very large stuffed Snake's Skin from *Surinam* in the *East Indies*, the Skin of a scaly Lizard, some Lizards, Guanans, and the Skin of an Ant Bear; a Flamingo, a young wild Boar, a Porcupine, Armadillos, an Oron Onton, or wild Man of the Mountains; the Head of a Sea Horse, Jaws of Fish, and some Crocodiles.

There are a great Variety of Horns of different Animals, particularly the fossil Horns of Mouse Deer found in the Bogs of *Ireland*, very large; Horns of Elks, the Rhinoceros, Rein Deer, Antelope, and Chamoise. Sir *Hans Sloan's* famous horned Owl stuffed. Some Birds stuffed, placed in Glass Frames; particularly, a Bird of Paradise, some Humming Birds, Manakeens, some of the Titmouse kind, a Virginia Nightingale, and a Tropic Bird: And there are some Portraits of several kind of Birds taken from the Life.

In a large Cabinet are deposited a great many dried Fish, brought from various Parts of the World; among other Specimens are a small Saw Fish, the Head of a Sword Fish, some flying Fish, a Dolphin, a Sturgeon, a young Shark, a Porcupine Fish, a Torpedo, or Cramp Fish, &c.

Over this Cabinet is a stuffed Emeu, or Cassowary, a Balearic Crane, or Crown Bird, an Eagle, and a Vultur.

There remains nothing more to be mentioned in this Room, but the Skeleton of a very young Whale, some Horns of the Unicorn Fish, the Head  
and

and Paws of the Walrofs, usually called the Sea Lion, and the Snouts of the Saw and Sword Fish.

We now enter upon the last Room of this Department, which is filled with Productions of Art, disposed in several Cabinets; the Articles are indeed very numerous, and would require a Volume to give a Description of them alone; my Remarks on them will be but few.

In the first Cabinet is a Variety of little Articles manufactured in Glass, of different Shapes, coloured, painted, and spun Glass; some Cups, Dishes, and other Matters, made of Papier Maché, resembling China Ware; and other enameled and curiously manufactured Bagatelles.

In the next we must remark some Articles in great esteem among many *Roman Catholics*, as Relics, Beads, &c. and some Models of sacred Buildings.

We now come to the Utensils and Ornaments of the *Indian* Inhabitants of the great Continent of *North America*, as Feather Crowns, Necklaces, Knives, and some curious Contrivances for Combs, Brushes, &c. Some Wampum, and Cassada Bread.

In another Cabinet are *European* Productions of Art, as, some small Cabinets, Figures in Bronze, and several Ivory anatomical Representations of Skulls, Eyes, Ears, &c. and some fine Work of Turnery and Carving.

We next see some *Japan* Idols very small, many cut out of Almonds, and even Grains of Rice; *East India* Money; some *Chinese* Figures of their Gods, Men, and Beasts, made after their Fancy, and dressed in their Fashions, Part of them in Bronze, the rest chiefly in Rice Paste, called *Congee*.

The Model of a Palanquin, a kind of Chair of State in which the Grandees of the East are carried on Mens Shoulders; Cards, Dice, and other Bagatelles; Forks, Chopsticks, Backscratchers, Steel-yards, Weights, and Beads for casting up their Accompts, called *Schwampam*.

Some *China* Paper, Womens Shoes, Pendants made of Beetles, Inks of all Colours, Rulers, small japaned Vessels, &c.

In the last of the Cabinets that I shall mention particularly, are various Specimens of curious earthen Ware, some Porcelain Cups before they are burnt, in some measure shewing the Nature of the Earth they are made of; some other Cups, which they say the *Chinese* made of *English* Gravel which happened to be carried over in one of our Ships; and several Sorts of plain, painted, and gilt China Ware of various Shapes.

In Glas Cases are some very curious Pieces of Work in Ivory, particularly one made by the late Queen of *Denmark*.

Some Models of *Chinese* Grottos; a Model of Captain *Gilbert*, and the Root of the Tea Plant.

There are also some Pieces of Sculpture, and Paintings at large, in Miniature and Enamel, which we must take notice of; as, a Man that had an Excrecence, or Wen, in Form of a Head growing out of his left Breast.

A Cyclops Pig.

A Woman who had two horny Substances grew out of the back Part of her Head; one of the Horns is kept in some of the Cabinets in this Room. A Picture of the same Woman and another Horn are shewn at *Oxford*.

A black Whale. A Buffalo.

*Thomas Briton*, the musical Small-coal-man.

Insects and Reptiles.

A Plantation of Cochineal, with the People gathering and drying it.

Several Flowers and Plants.

We have now done with our Remarks on this second Department. In our Way to the next, we are led down the Back Stairs, where we must take notice of two Canoes, the one brought from *America*, the other from *Greenland*, differing both in Form and Materials: The first is very ingeniously covered with the Bark of a kind of Birch Tree, which is fixed to small Ribs on the Inside; the whole Boat is remarkably light, insomuch that two Men may easily carry it many Miles from one Lake or River to another, which is very necessary in *America*, on account of the great Falls. The other Canoe is entirely covered over with Seals Skins, at a distance bearing some resemblance to Parchment; the upper part of it is as it were decked with the same Materials, there being only a small Hole left open in the middle for the Man to sit in and manage his Paddle.

On the Wainscot going down these Stairs, is a large Piece of Painting representing several kinds of dead Game.

We now approach the third and last Department, that of printed Books. The Reader's Time will not be much taken up by the Remarks we shall make on this Part of the Museum, as they will be but short.

The first Room we enter, contains some Sea Compasses, improved by Dr. *Knight*, such as are now used in the Royal Navy; and several Magnets and Apparatuses, serving to shew the magnetical Powers in philosophical Uses.

## BIBLIOTHECA REGIA. II.

In this Room is deposited a Part of the Royal Library, which his late Majesty ordered to be here preserved for the Benefit of the Public. It consists of the Books that were collected in the Reigns of *James I. Charles I. and Charles II.*

It is proper to remark, that if any ingenious Person has either a mind to improve himself in the several Sciences or Languages by reading, or is prompted by Curiosity to peruse some of the valuable Books of this Department; by applying to the Trustees, he may have an Order to attend the Reading Room for a Time, where there is a particular Officer appointed to provide such Books as may be wanted. This is an Advantage that is not known to many, who would otherwise be glad of such an Opportunity of consulting some scarce Books.

## BIBLIOTHECA REGIA. I.

Another Part of the Royal Library, collected in the Reigns of *Henry VII. Henry VIII. Edward VI. Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth.* Here are also several other Collections in this Room, as the Libraries of Archbishop *Cranmer,* *More,*  
*Arundel,* and *Lumley.*

Many of the Books are very valuable; among others are the first printed Copies of the Bible, and other sacred and historical Writings; some Books on the Subject of Religion, &c. published before and in the Infancy of the Reformation, when Printing was first invented; and some other Works, treating of the Sciences, History, &c.

In this Room are preserved the first Books printed in *England* and *France*; some are upon Vellum, others on Paper; they bear a great Resemblance to the finest Manuscripts, having, like them, the Titles and initial Letters curiously illuminated.

## BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. VI.

A Part of Sir *Hans Sloane's* Library; which is a very large Collection of Books, brought from all Parts of the World where Printing has ever been in use. It is so extensive, that it fills this and the five next Rooms, as they follow in order. The Subjects are very numerous, comprehending every Branch of Learning, all the Arts, all the Sciences, in almost every known Language.

This Room, particularly, contains Books of Divinity and Law, many of them well worthy the Perusal of the Learned.

## BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. V.

Part of Sir *Hans Sloane's* Collection, being  
 Treatises on the Arts and Sciences,  
 Systems of Philosophy,  
 Ethics,  
 Astronomy,  
 Commerce,  
 Philosophical Transactions.

## BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. IV.

In this Part of Sir *Hans Sloane's* Collection, are Histories of all Nations ancient and modern; some Treatises on Chronology.

Prints,

Prints, Globes, and large Maps of different Countries.

### BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. III.

Here are many Books on philological Subjects.

Grammars.

Lexicons.

Critics.

Treatises on Rhetoric,

Geography.

Some Travels,

Journals, and

Miscellanies.

### BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. II.

Another Part of Sir *Hans Sloane's* Library.

Natural History.

Herbaria. Hortus Siccus.

Many Drawings, perhaps the finest that are to be seen in the World. The Reader must particularly admire a Book containing some Drawings of Monsieur *Robert*, Painter to *Louis* the Fourteenth, King of *France*; they consist of a great Number of Vegetables, curious Animals, Shells, and other natural Productions, very elegantly drawn, and coloured from Nature. Sir *Hans Sloane* paid this great Artist five Guineas for doing each Leaf. We must also notice a great many Drawings elegantly coloured from Nature, by Madame *Marian*: They consist of a great Variety of Plants, with the Insects that feed on them, in their different States, and some other Things. It is to be remarked, that this Lady made a Voyage to the *East Indies*, and resided there

there some Years, to perfect herself in the Study of natural History, and to make Drawings of the Plants, Fruits and Insects, which those warmer Climates produce.

In this Room are also some printed Books in the *Chinese* Language.

## BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. I.

In this Room are preserved the remaining Part of Sir *Hans Sloane's* Library, consisting of

Books of Physic,  
Pharmacy,  
Anatomy,  
Surgery,  
Chemistry, &c.

### Major EDWARDS'S Library.

This is a good Collection of *English, French, and Italian* Books, but chiefly the last, which Major *Edwards* gave by his Will to the Public; with a Generosity worthy of Imitation: It is joined to the *Cotton* Library, and deposited in this Room, as a lasting Monument of his Genius and public Spirit.

The last Room we have to mention, is intended for modern Works of the Press. Part of it is filled with Books sent in by the Stationers Company, and other Presents given to the Museum in the Reign of his late Majesty King *George II.* and the remaining Part of the Presses are prepared for the Reception of those which may be added in the Reign of his present Majesty.

Thus



Thus are our Remarks on the Contents of this grand Cabinet at an End. We shall not detain the Reader any longer than is necessary to bespeak his Candour in judging of the foregoing Sheets; though they are not such as may merit universal Approbation, the Author will be satisfied, if the Contents of them are generally useful; which they may very possibly prove, by being a kind of Directory to those who have not seen the Museum; by reviving the several Parts of this Noble Collection in the Memory of such of his Readers as have viewed it; and, finally, by giving no imperfect Idea of it to many, who have it not in their Power to gratify their Curiosity by a personal Attendance.

F I N I S.



*Presd.*  
8 June 1888.















