

28.9.81

OP

Aa

o

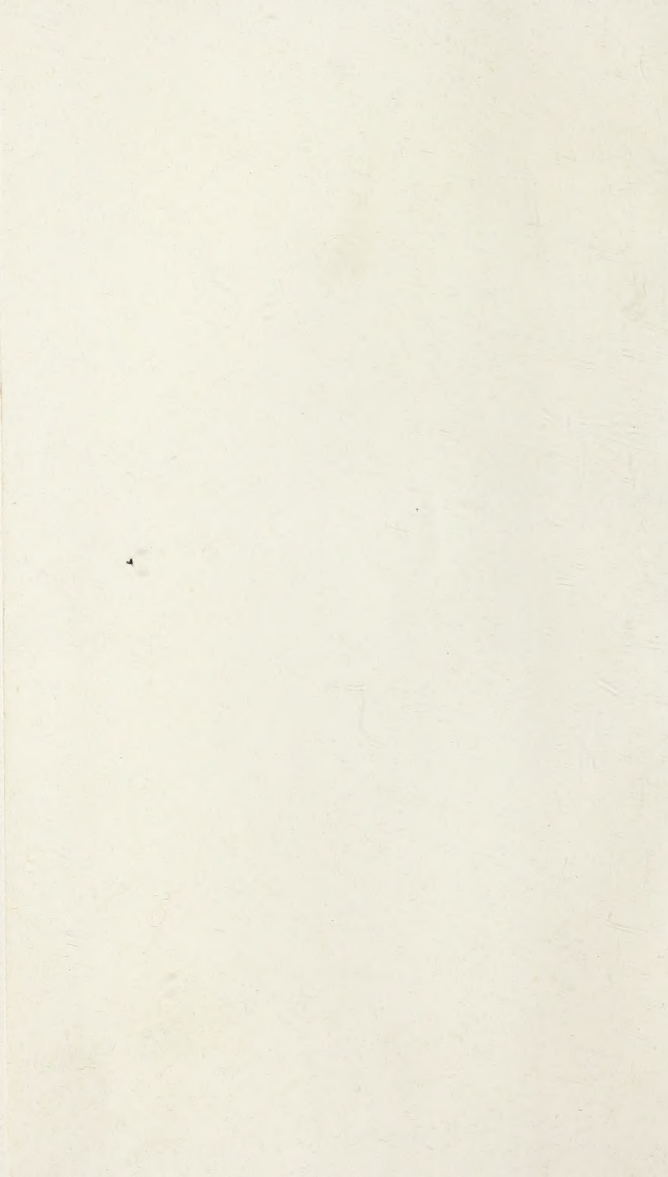
DOD

~~B.M.O~~

Natural History Museum Library



000159401



10 JUN 93



58

THE
General Contents
OF THE
BRITISH MUSEUM.

The SECOND EDITION.

THE
General Contents

18. a.

BRITISH MUSEUM

Second Edition

10 JUN 1855
THE

General Contents

OF THE

BRITISH MUSEUM:

WITH

REMARKS.

Serving as a

DIRECTORY

In Viewing that

Noble CABINET.

THE SECOND EDITION,
With ADDITIONS and IMPROVEMENTS, and a
COMPLETE INDEX.

*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.*

MDCCLXII.

THE

General Contents

OF THE

BRITISH MUSEUM.

BY

W. M. A. R. S.

General

DIRECTORY

OF

Noble & Co. Ltd.

THE SECOND EDITION

WITH ADDITIONAL REVISIONS AND

COMPLETE INDEX

Printed and Published by

J. O. N. D. O. N.

10, Bouverie Street, London, E.C. 4.

LONDON

Printed by R. and J. Doolittle, 10, Bouverie Street, London, E.C. 4.

MDCCLXXII

P R E F A C E.

AS 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 it

is

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.

binet. 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,

nions, and perhaps branded with Infamy, under a Pretence of his attaching himself to the Study of the Magic 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. Literature 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.

ing. 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 candid 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 a Plan, that would not, I flatter myself, be

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

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 it was so short, and the Rooms so numerous, that it was impossible, without some Kind of Directory, to form a proper
Idea

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

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 Opportunitty 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, 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

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

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 pleas'd I should have enlarg'd 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 compris'd under the general Titles: I mean only so far to lead my Reader, that he may with Ease find the Matter treated of in viewing the Collection, and there make his own Observations on the Nature and Properties of it; and
if

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

tions, and give them a general Idea of the Contents of this Collection.

I cannot omit this Opportunity of expressing my Thankfulness for the Candour with which the first Edition of this little Work has been received by the Public ; but I must own myself in a particular Manner obliged to the Officers of the Museum, who, though they had it constantly in their Power to expose any little Inaccuracies, with which a Work of this Nature, published by any body but themselves, must abound, still refrained from doing it : I have even been informed, they allow it some Degree of Merit. The Reader will find this Edition much enlarged and improved in many Particulars, which need not be pointed out, as they will
be

be very obvious on the first Perusal, and it is printed in a Duodecimo, to make it more conveniently portable in the Pocket. That it may still approach nearer to Perfection, the Author has been at the pains of forming a complete Index to it, which must unquestionably be of great Use, as the Reader will thereby be enabled to find out in the Book any Title he pleases, and many curious Specimens, of which he may chuse to see some short Account. Some of the Purchasers of the first Edition complained it was too long to be read in the Time allowed to view the whole Museum; such may be answered, that it was not intended to be read there; the grand Difficulty was to keep it in a small Compass, yet make it in some Measure satisfactory. The
 most

most eligible Method is certainly to read these Sheets with some Attention at Home ; by this Means a tolerable Idea may be formed of the Contents of this valuable Collection, and the Reader is directed to apply his particular Attention to that Part of the Museum that suits his Taste, viewing the rest only in a cursory Manner, by doing this he will have more Satisfaction, and his Curiosity will be much more gratified, than if he wanders from Object to Object, without suffering any Thing to claim his immediate Notice.

Some of my Readers may be ignorant of the Manner of applying to see the Museum ; for their Information I shall add ; that fifteen Persons are allowed to view it in one Company ;
the

the Time allotted is two Hours ; and when any Number not exceeding fifteen are inclined to see it, they must send a List of their Christian and Surnames, Additions, and Places of Abode, to the Porter's Lodge, in order to their being entered in the Book ; in a few Days the respective Tickets will be made out, specifying the Day and Hour in which they are to come, which, on being sent for, are delivered. If by any Accident some of the Parties are prevented from coming, it is proper they send their Ticket back to the Lodge, as no body can be admitted with it but themselves. It is to be remarked, that the fewer Names there are in a List, the sooner they are likely to be admitted to see it.

Part of the ...
... of ...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...

...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...
...

[Signature]

[Signature]

T H E
GENERAL CONTENTS, &c.

S E C T I O N I.

CONSCIOUS 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 *Montague-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 most Antiquaries 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

Way into the Sea, and the Stones are of the Nature of those called Basaltes or Basanus. It may be concluded that the Giants Causeway is entirely the Work of Nature, as many such Pillars or Columns were found by the Ancients in *Æthiopia*, of the same angular Form as those in *Ireland*, and by them called Basaltes; they met with it in Fragments of Columns in the River *Tmolus*, and some other Places, when they gave it the Name of *Lapis Lydius*, not conceiving it to be the same as the Basaltes found in Pillars. We have it frequently in *Spain*, *Germany*, *Russia*, and *Denmark*, and about *Dresden* is much of it in fine Columns. Wherever it is found, on being analysed by Acids, it proves to be composed of an Admixture of Crystal, Spar, and Earth. It is now used for trying Gold, &c. and is called the Touch-stone. The Church of *Ballywellan*, in the Neighbourhood of *Coleraine*, is built of this Kind of Marble, found in the adjacent Hills.

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

Heads called *Termini*, being used by the *Romans* as Landmarks.

A large Piece of serpentine Marble is next to be noticed: It was called *Ophites*, from its Resemblance to a Serpent's Skin. This Specimen has a dusky-brown Ground streaked with green and pale yellow. This is a hard kind of Marble, of an even Structure, and takes a fine Polish. There are several Species of the *Ophites*; the Ancients had the black and the white *Ophites* distinguished by the different Colour of their Spots, whose Ground was green, and the grey *Ophites* distinguished by its Ground Colour, which was pale-grey. We have the greyish-brown *Ophites* with green Spots, sometimes said to be found in *England*, and the pale-grey *Ophites* with green Spots and Veins. The *Ophites* has been celebrated for its Virtues against venomous Bites, and is at this Time worn in some Parts of the World as an Amulet. It is 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 Incriptions (on the original Stones, by Accident found) in *Latin*, *Greek*, and other Languages.

There is a fine Skeleton of a Unicorn Fish; this is a large Fish of the Whale Kind;

Kind; some of the Horns of this Fish are from ten to fifteen Feet in Length, are all white, and furrowed with a spiral Line. These Horns are commonly found in the *Danish* and neighbouring Seas, infomuch that there was a magnificent Throne built of them in that Kingdom.

We must take Notice in this Place of the Head of a very particular Kind of Buffalo; it is covered with long Wool, instead of Hair; the Beast is a Native of *Newfoundland*, and has its Body in the same Manner covered with long Wool, reaching almost to its Feet, infomuch that when alive, it resembles a moving Bundle of Wool, loosely tyed together.

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* represents 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,

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 compleated 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: It will not be improper to give the Reader the Names of the chief of them in this Place, that 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 Burghley.

Archbishop Usher.

Dr. Turner, Bishop of Ely.

Cardinal Sforza.

Mr. Locke.

Dr. Wallis.

Richard Baxter.

Sir Robert Cotton.

Sir John Cotton.

Mr. Speed.

Camden.

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 Skurman.

Captain Willis.

Dampier.

Voltaire.

Andreas Vassalius.

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 *Letbullier*, 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

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

more

more 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, or Jews Pitch, a bitumenous or resinous 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.

tion. 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, perhaps thro' the Nostrils, and the Corpse viscerated in a very curious Manner, without injuring the outward Surface of the Body, which was thoroughly well cleansed. They next proceeded to fill the Cavities with bituminous and aromatic Substances properly prepared and mixed: On this Occasion particularly the most precious and costly Gums, Balsams and Spices, 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

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 *Osiris* 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

some of those small earthen Idols, which are already mentioned to be 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 rudely designed, and *Egyptian* Characters, only understood by their Priests and learned Men, but which the Antiquaries of these later Times can no ways 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

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.

In *Poland* are at this Time found natural Mummies, preserved without the Assistance of Art. They are met with in Caverns, are of a blackish Colour, with the Flesh and Skin shrunk almost close to the Bones : It was, some Centuries ago, common in the Wars, for the weaker Party to retire into such Caves, where they were often suffocated by the Enemy, and are now found in the state abovementioned. Human Bodies, resembling these last, are said to be often met with in the Deserts of *Arabia*.

An Urn of the Ibis, and several *Egyptian* Idols in Bronze, are over the Mummy : I shall first mention *Osiris*. It is the
Figure

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 represent 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 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, infomuch 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;

factors; 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,

Ailurus, one of their Gods, under the Figure of a Cat.

In this Room are also 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 Kind 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,

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 has webbed Feet, the Beak is broad, the upper Chap bent, depressed, and dentated, the lower much thicker and firmer ; its Neck and Body are white, the flight Feathers of the Wing black, the shorter Feathers of a fine bright red. This Bird is sometimes seen in *Europe*, and was well known to the Ancients, among whom the nice Eaters accounted

accounted its Tongue a very great Delicacy. 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 to have, at a Distance, a great Resemblance to a Brick Wall. I must not omit mentioning in this Place a fine Jay, brought from the *East Indies*. After having pointed out to my Reader 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

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

Grounds of *Hampstead*, *Highbgate*, and the adjacent 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
C. of

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 *Tborah*, 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

cal

cal 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 & 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*.

mond. 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 are not yet properly arranged, 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 an 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 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. These last in the first Ages 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.

SECTION II.

HAVING 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 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,

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 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 explaining 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

are found to be of abundant Use to Science. It is on this Account the World cannot boast of so many Antiquities 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; we 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

their Ease, convincing them 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 19. where she is treated of pretty much at large.

Here are also some Figures of *Osiris*, represented by a Man with a large Beard. See what is said of him, Page 18, 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 a Racket, traversed by several moveable Bars; it was constantly used
in

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 19.

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 worshipped 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.

We find here a great Number and Variety of small earthen Figures, shaped like Mummies, with the Head of *Isis*, or
Osiris,

Osiris, some adorned with Hieroglyphics, others plain. They were esteemed to be Guardians of the Mummies, and are more particularly described Page 19.

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

We must notice in this Place 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

mony 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.

Here 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, Sickness, &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

The Head of *Anubis*, or *Cynocephalus*, a Dog which in *Egypt* they worshipped, prompted thereto, as 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 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*.

We find also a Cylinder, and some Pebbles curiously marked with Hieroglyphics and Figures; but their Use is not

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, 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.

A great Number of Vessels of different Forms, made of a Kind of fine pale red Earth;

Earth; some of them plain, but elegantly varnished; others painted with Figures, Letters, and various Ornaments, next attract our Attention. 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 *Roman Amphora* generally contained about seven Gallons *English Wine Measure*, these are not so large. The Use of them was to hold the different Kinds of Wine, Oil, &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. And

And 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.

We must also take particular notice of some Urns of plain Alabaster, and others very large, but ornamented with the same Kind of Figures and Inscriptions as the
large

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 Relievs 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 that discovered a dangerous Conspiracy against *Rome*, 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,

lofopher, *Juno*, and others, fome of which are not eafily diftinguifhed, and the reft it is not neceffary to particularize.

We muft obferve feveral Bronze Figures, as of *Venus*, *Cupid*, *Hercules*, *Mars*, feveral *Roman Soldiers*, *Dea Fascinatrix* the Goddefs of Spells and Charms; *Veftals*, *Castor*, *Priapus*, *Terminus* the God who prefided over Land-marks; *Griphon*, and others.

In Bronze are alfo the Heads of *Juno*, *Diana*, *Apollo*, *Mercury*, *Minotaurus*, *Faunus*, &c.

What come next in courfe, are fome uncommon Masks, various Votaries or Oblations, Models of Circufes, the Places where they exhibited their public Games, and feveral Pieces of Stones, Bricks, and earthen Pipes, dug out of the Ruins of the ancient *Roman Buildings*, *Aqueducts*, &c. By thefe we are in fome Sort made acquainted with the Nature of thofe Materials that could caufe their Buildings to
laft

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, Chissels, 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, some imagining they were used for killing the Victims in their Sacrifices, others asserting they were merely ornamental, and not a few at this time imagine the Antients 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

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, Ladles, and other Instruments of Brass, used by the Priests in their Sacrifices.

We now 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

D

to

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. Many Specimens of them are preserved in the Cabinets of the Curious, and here in particular.

What claim in the next Place our Regard, are a Number of earthen sepulchral Lamps of various Forms, usually met with in the old Monuments near the Urns, and in the Catacombs at *Rome*, in *Naples*, and *Sicily*.

Some have asserted, that these Lamps have been found burning after being buried

buried for many Ages; but it cannot be supposed they were really burning from the Time they were there deposited till they were found, as it is well known 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, be it 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 could not consume; and that the Oil or Matter which supplied it was of such a Nature, as that a trifling Quantity of it would last an Age.

We find here 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, burying them with the Lamps, Lacrymatories, &c. already described.

ANTIQUITATES VARIÆ.

T. HOLLIS, Armr. *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 just mention an Alabaster round Urn with a Cover, and another of the same Kind, but square: These were for the Purpose of depositing Ashes.

We here find several Bronze Figures of *Egyptian* Idols, Priests, &c. but, as I have already sufficiently enlarged on the Subject of them, it is not necessary to be more particular.

A *Typhon*, *Hercules*, *Mercury*, *Silenus*, &c. attract our Notice, and some more *Hetruscan* Vessels of the same Kind as those described, Page 44.

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

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

We must notice also under this Title some Votaries, or Oblations. It was usual among the Heathens of old, when in any imminent Danger, to make a Vow to some favourite 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.

Here are some large earthen Jars (*Gutti*) which the Ancients 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 worshipped in *Peru*, others in *Mexico*, when the *Europeans* discovered that Part of the World: They were placed in High-ways, to be ready for the Adoration of Passengers.

The *Indians* worshipped 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 worshipped through Love, and thanked him for the Effects of his Goodness; the other through Fear, im-
ploring

ploring him not to do them or theirs any Injury.

One of these earthen Idols, I have mentioned above, to have been worshipped in *America*, bears a very great Resemblance to some preserved among the Antiquities of *Egypt* already described; 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 surprizing, 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 *Japonesse* 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.

Here are some Stone or Earthen Bottles inclosed in Cafes of Wicker-work, made of Cane or Rushes, contrived in such a Manner, 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 by swinging their Liquor in these Bottles, to make it more pleasant and agreeable to the Palate. The *French* call them with much 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 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, 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 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 here 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 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.

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) are here preserved.

I shall pass over diverse other Heads, some Figures of Animals, and Heads of Canes or Sticks; and proceed to the Specimens of the *Roman* Fibulas, 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.

Here are also a Variety of Keys of different Sorts, particularly the Ring Key, which for greater Security was worn on the Finger; 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 several Pebbles with Figures and Inscriptions on them.

Various Kinds of Measures for Oil, 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 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

ly

ly 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 *Mabometans* 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 Tahbahs 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

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 to 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*, some Account has been given, Page 6, of the Nature of this Lava.

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 has a Son of the same wonderful Appearance.

T. HOLLIS, Arm^r. *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 Bras Axes, Heads of Spears, Wedges, &c. for an Account of which the Reader is referred to Page 48. and some Keys, Bracelets, &c.

Here we find 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

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.*

We find here preserved 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 19.

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

in Size, several of them being large, others of smaller Dimensions.

Many Specimens of Hats of all Sizes, and various Materials ; among them are 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.

Here are some Drums larger than those mentioned Page 57. 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

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 many 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 semitransparent 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

bouring 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, 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 Polish; 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

Stones were called *Sardi* from their having been first applied to Use in the Island of *Sardinia*.

I A S P I D E S.

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. Here are some fine Specimens of this Stone to be seen.

Ophites, the Serpentine Marble, a Name given by the Ancients to such of the Marbles as had their variegations not in form of Veins, but in Spots so as in
some

some Measure to resemble a Serpent's Skin; they knew three Kinds, the black, the white, and the grey, we know besides these two others, a greyish brown one with green Spots, and a pale grey one with green Spots and Veins.

The Nephritic Stone is of a greenish Colour bordering on the Olive, but sometimes variegated with white, black, or yellow, it has never any red in it, and is harder than most other Jaspers; a Cup made of this Stone, was Sold for 1600 Crowns in the Time of the Emperor *Rudolphus* II. 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 imagined that wearing it would preserve the Party from the Attack of that Distemper.

We

We find here many Sorts of florid Jaspers, distinguished by a great Variety of Colours; some 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; such as have but one Colour are least valuable.

MARMORA. ALABAstra.

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

Marble is a hard opaque precious Stone, does not strike Fire with Steel, yields easily to Calcination, and ferments with, and is soluble in acid menstrua. It is generally found in great Masses under the Ground, and cut out of Quarries, though there are in several Parts of the World entire Mountains of Marble; it differs in Colour in almost every Country, but the

Florence

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, more brittle, softer, and, when cut into thin Plates, semi-transparent.

SPATA. SELENITES.

In this Repository are Spars and Moonstones. 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. When pure it is pellucid and colourless, has the appearance of Crystal but wants its distinguishing Characters; it ferments violently with acids, and is wholly soluble in them. Spars are frequently found in Caves, Grottos, Clefs of Rocks and Mines; they shoot like Salts in Spires and other Figures, and abound in many Parts of *England*.

Selenites, (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; the Selenites do not ferment with acids, but readily calcine in the Fire; they consist of several Species, and are found in many Parts of the World, in *England*, in the Clay-pits in *Staffordshire*, and particularly many of them in a bluish 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 of this Kind, but less transparent, and more easily calcined, yielding a fine white Powder, of which is made Plaister of *Paris*, a Commodity well known. The *Gypsum* has something the appearance of the softer Marbles, bright, glossy, and in a small Degree transparent; it does not give Fire with Steel, nor ferments with or is dissoluble
in

in an acid Menstruum. It abounds in *Dorsetshire*, and some other Parts of *England*.

C R Y S T A L L A.

Crystals are clear transparent colourless Stones, generally found on high Mountains, Rocks, and in Mines; by a chemical Dissolution they yield Chalk and Salt. They are composed of simple not filamentous Plates; not flexile nor elastic, giving Fire with Steel: not fermenting in acid Menstrua and calcining in a strong Fire. The Perfection of Crystal consists in its Lustre, Transparency, and Hardness. It is applied to various Uses, being often manufactured into Boxes, Cups, and other Toys. Such as have Straws, Dust, &c. enclosed in them, are most curious and rare, but least fit for Use. Naturalists deem the purest Crystal to be the original Matter of all the precious Stones of the higher Classes, which being in a certain Degree influenced by different mi-

neral 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.

We find in this Repository many Specimens of 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, the Glimmer, is a brittle Stone, on which, when broke, are to be seen small white polished Lamina, as in Talc. The *Mica Aurea*, the gold glimmer, is frequently found in *Arabia*, *Egypt*, and
other

other Eastern Parts of the World; the *Mica Argentea*, the silver glimmer, in *Silesia* and *Bohemia*, and both of them sometimes in *England*. The Spangles, with which the Mica abounds, have often led People to imagine they had found some Gold or Silver Ore, but in truth it contains neither of those metals, being only a kind of Talc accidentally coloured.

Talc is a shining Stone, easily separated into thin transparent Scales or Leaves, is flexible and elastic, does not give Fire with Steel, nor ferments with acid menstrua. What we call Isinglass, is a kind of Talc; it is distinguished from the Plates of the Selenites by its Elasticity. The *Romans* used it in their Windows; and it now often serves to cover miniature Paintings, in Water-Colours, or Crayons. The Oil of Talc has made a great noise among the Alchymists, on account of the Power it was said to have, of fixing Silver so as to make it of equal Value with Gold, but no such Oil was ever known to be extracted,

that which has been called such, being a mere Imposition.

Amiantus. This is of the Class of the *Fibrariæ*; it is an opaque brownish Stone, composed of short and abrupt Filaments, flexile 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*. These kind of Stones have been often confounded with the several species of the *Asbestos*, in consequence of which, we have lost the Art of spinning and working the *Asbestos* into incombustible Cloth.

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; its Fibres are flexile and elastic, and composed of single and continuous Filaments, therein differing from the *Amiantus*, the Filaments of which are short and abrupt: The Ancients had a
Method

Method 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. Doctor *Hill* with Reason thinks that a Stone of this Kind, which he describes as white, loose and thready, with broad Filaments, never forming themselves into Masses, but always remaining loose, might be manufactured into Cloth of the Kind above-mentioned. It is found near the Surface of the Earth in many parts of *Scotland*.

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*, and some other Parts of *Europe*. Different Substances are often found enclosed in the Masses of Amber, but more particularly Insects; which proves that it was once in a fluid State, but afterwards hardened by the Operation of the Air, &c. on it; the Specimens of Amber, that have any Thing enclosed in them being valuable, has occasioned its being often imitated by Artists, but the Fraud is easily discovered on a proper Inspection.

Bitumens, Jets, and Coals, (smooth pitchy black Stones) must here be noticed:

ticed: and the Asphaltus, or *Jews Pitch*. Jet has a Grain like Wood, is very light, moderately hard, not fusible, but readily inflammable, and burning a long Time with a greenish white Flame. It is found in detached Masses. Cannel Coal is found in *Strata*, is not less hard than many Stones, is inflammable, yet flames but a little while; in all these particulars differing from Jet, with which it has often been confounded.

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 dry, solid, and friable, is indued with an electric Power, and does not dissolve in acids: It is very frequently mixed with Arsenic; and sometimes with metalline Particles, when it is called *Marcasite* and *Pyrites*. The *Pyrites Aureus* is frequently met with in great plenty near *Banbury* in *Oxfordshire*; but a finer Sort is found at *Cleydon*

a Village hard by. These were formerly used instead of Flints for Carbines and Pistols. The *Pyrites Argenteus*, or Silver Marcasite, was met with in great Plenty on digging a Well at *Dodington* in *Oxfordshire*; and sometimes it is taken out of the Belemnites found in that Neighbourhood. A particular Sort of Marcasite, called by the Inhabitants of those Parts Crow Iron, (within of a golden, but without of a darkish rusty Colour) is very frequently seen at *Aston Rowant* in *Oxfordshire*, and another Kind at *Henley* upon *Thames*. The *Pyrites* is also often found in *Staffordshire*.

MINERALIA. METALLICA.

In this Repository is 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

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 Calamine, (*Lapis Calaminariis*) 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. Antimony is never found native in its perfect State, being always mixed with Sulphur and other extraneous Matter; when separated from its Ore it is easily fusible, and greatly promotes the Fusion of other Fossils: It is of great Use in Medicine, Chemistry, and Mechanics,

and is an Ingredient in Pewter, Bell Metal, and the mixt Metal of which Printing Types are made. Bismuth is hard, and less friable than Antimony; it is very rarely found native, more commonly in the State of Ore, occasioned by a large Mixture of Sulphur and Arsenic. Properly prepared it enters into the Composition of Bell Metal, and the Metal of which Printing Types are made, like Antimony, it renders other Metals more easily fusible. It is found in *Germany*, and in many Parts of *England*. Cobalt is a compact heavy Mineral, has a shining Appearance, and much resembles some of the Antimonial Ores: It is found in different Forms and Colours, owing to various Accidents; from Cobalt is produced Zaffer and Smalt; the *Mendip Hills* in *England* afford it, but it is not so rich as the *German* and *Bobemian*.

The *Lapis Calaminaris* is a spongy Substance, of a lax and cavernous Structure, yet considerably heavy; when pure, it is
of

of a pale brownish grey Colour, but from its lax Structure subject to extraneous Mixtures. Dr. *Lawson* was the first who asserted from a Course of Experiments, that Calamine was the Ore of Zink, which is known in *England* by the Name of Spelter : Zink is very frequently brought us from the *East Indies*, under the Name of Tutenag ; it melts in a very small Fire ; both Calamine and Zink turn Copper into Brass. Calamine is found in great Plenty in *England*, particularly in *Somersetshire*.

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 warmer Climates, encrease in Bulk. The *Agate* is a semi-pellucid Gem, variegated with Veins and Clouds, but without Zones ; the several Kinds are of different Colours.

The *East India Agates* are much finer than those of *Bohemia, America*, or any other Part of the World. Among the most curious of the Specimens in this Place, 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

in *Germany*: It is formed of Crystal, debas'd with a small Admixture of Earth.

The *Sardonyx* is of the Onyx Kind, and is either zoned or tabulated; it is compos'd 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 divid'd into several distinct Species, and generally found in such Parts of the World as produce the Onyx, particularly the warmer and Eastern Climates.

In this Table we find also many Specimens of the different Kinds of *Jasper*, of which some Account has been given, Page 68.

And here is a rough *Egyptian* Pebble, broke into two Parts; on each Piece is a perfect Resemblance of the Head of *Cbaucer*, as he is usually painted: This is entirely the Work of Nature, not having been at all assist'd by Art.

Some Pieces of *Lapis Lazuli*, or *Azure Stone*, by the Ancients call'd *Cyaneus* and

Cæruleum. It is of a blue Colour, veined and spotted with white and yellow, not difficult to imitate by Art; but the genuine good Stone should 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 the Kind generally used.

We next come to a great Number of Specimens of precious Stones of all Kinds, opake 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

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 Indies*, and sometimes in *Europe*: The Oriental are the finest; but the *Bohemian*, 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 *Asteria*, 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*.

Turcois.

Turcois. This was long thought to be a natural Gem; but it has since been discovered to be only 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 most beautiful.

Oculus Mundi is of a pale and uniform Colour, a whitish grey, no ways 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*, though our own Country has afforded Stones that, in some Degree, emulate its Qualities.

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, (a fine Sea green, inclined to bluish, resembling Sea Water) which it receives from the Influence of Copper and Iron Ore. It is found in various
Shapes

Shapes and Sizes, generally about the Size of a Horse-bean ; it bears a natural Polish when found, and has the Sea green Colour in all Degrees, from the deepest to the palest, without the Intermixture of any other Colour. 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 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, usually called a Flame Colour, which Appearance it probably receives from Lead and Iron. It is found of various Degrees of Paleness or Deepness ; sometimes the yellow is greatly predominant ; its Form is that of an oblong roundish Pebble, flatted on one Side.

Side. 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, as in general all the Gems that come from thence are.

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. It is never found in angular Columns, like Crystal, as many Gems are, but always in Form of an oblong irregular Pebble: It is not so subject to Faults and Blemishes as the Ruby, and when pure and well coloured, it is little inferior to it in Beauty. This Stone is of a middle Degree of Hardness between the Sapphire
and

and common Crystal : The Ladies are well acquainted with it, having 'of late been much worn by them in a Variety of Ornaments, as Bracelets, Caps, Egrettes, &c. It is brought from the *East Indies*, where most of the finest of our Gems are produced, yet often 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. It is found in the *East* and *West Indies*, and in ſeveral Parts of *Europe*. Thoſe of the Pebble Kind are moſt valuable, by being hardeſt, and having, when poliſhed, the fineſt Luſtre ; but it is moſt frequently met with in the angular Figure of Crystal. 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

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. The true Topaz is always met with in a Pebble-like Form; it has, when polished, a glorious yellow Colour. Crystal, tinged with yellow, is often substituted instead of it by the modern Jewellers, but the Wheel discovers the Difference; for the very worst Topaz is much harder than Crystal. They are found in the *East* and *West Indies*, and sometimes in *Europe*.

Emerald

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 Mines. This Stone loses its Colour in Fire, and is then undistinguishable from a white Sapphire. The genuine oriental Emerald is a very hard and most beautiful Gem, but few of them have of late been brought to *Europe*, that which the Jewellers call oriental, being the Produce of *America*; and what is usually sold under the Name of occidental Emerald is nothing but tinged Crystal. The Emerald is sometimes found in a Pebble-like Form, but more frequently in a columnar or angular one, like Crystal. The oriental Emerald is of the Hardness of the Sapphire, or Ruby, and second only to the Diamond in Lustre and Value. The *American* is of the Hardness of the Garnet, and the *European* softer than that, but much harder than Crystal. The Pebble Emeralds are found loose in the Earth,

often

often on the Banks of Rivers, the columnar adhering to a white opaque crystalline Matter. 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 come 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. The best and hardest are of a Pebble-like Form; they are sometimes found in the Crystal Form. The white Sapphir, as the Jewellers call it, is very little inferior to the Diamond in Value.

Ruby is of a very fine red Colour, with a small Admixture of purple, which increases

creases its Beauty : its Colour it receives from Gold and Tin. In the larger Specimens it is often spotted, or otherwise blemished, which greatly reduces its Value. It bears so good a Polish in its natural State, that it is often worn as it is found. Its Colour is from the deepest to the palest red, but always tinged, more or less, with purple. 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.

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

In the Table near the 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 $136\frac{1}{4}$ Carats.

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

F. present

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 some Time kept in a Cellar) for cooling them in hotter Climates; but this is not certain, many imagining they were designed for other Uses.

Marcasites, bright glittering Stones, with a Mixture of Sulphur, or Arsenic,

to which they owe their Lustre. Some Account is given of them Page 79. The *Indians of South America* give it the Rank of a precious Stone, and wear it in Ornaments about their Persons. Here 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 opake 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.

We find nothing more to mention in this Room, except the Collection of *Gustavus Brander, Esq;* (one of the Trustees of the *British Museum*) 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 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 completely covered with a stony Matter, the Substance still retaining its pristine Qualities. There are many Springs in *England* and elsewhere, which incrustate whatever is left

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. 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 such as are recent: as to the Minerals and simple Fossils, they have already been noticed, Page 80.

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, Petrifications resembling the *Nautilus*. There is one very curious Specimen in this Collection. These Kind of Petrifications 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.

Asteria, 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.

Conchites, 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.

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

Ichthyolithi, Impressions of Fish on Stone, or petrified Parts of them.

Entomolithi, a Variety of Specimens of petrified Insects.

We must now proceed to the other Table, where we find,

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

Conchyl. 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.

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

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

Gipsa, Several Specimens of the Gyp-sum, a Kind of Stone of which is made Plaister of *Paris*.

Spata, Spars of various Kinds.

Crystalla, Crystals.

Asbesti. } Under these Titles are depo-
Apyri. } sited the Asbestus or Cotton-
Stone,

Stone, of which was formerly made the incombustible Linen, and other Stones, which can, without visible Alteration, bear an intense Heat.

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

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

Pyrit. Mundick or Marcasite.

Semimetalla. Antimony, Bismuth, Cobalt

Mineræ Auri et } Gold and Silver Ores.
Argenti. } Among 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.

Ferri. Iron Ores, with the *Flores Martis*.

Brass is made by mixing a certain Quantity of the *Lapis Calaminaris*, or of *Zink*, with *Copper* in the melting.

COLLECTIO SLOANIANA.

The Room we are now about to make our Remarks on, contains a fine Collection of fossil Shells, figured Fossils, recent Shells, and some other Articles. This is not the least Curious Part of the Museum; and the recent Shells here preserved particularly 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

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 Isicles, 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 last are of the Kind of Spars called *Stalagmodiaugia*. The *Stalactites* take many different Names, according to the Colour and Degree of Purity they possess. They are daily formed, which many found under the Arches of *Westminster* Bridge, and in a Vault under the Terras at *Windsor*, sufficiently testify.

We must here add the *Ludus He'montii*, 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. The Matter by which these Pebbles are joined, is used in Medicine in Nephritic Complaints.

Under this Title are deposited a *human Skull* and a *Sword*, both of which are completely covered over and incrufted with the same stony Substance to a considerable Thickness, yet without losing their Form. They were found in the *Tyber* at *Rome*.

Ætites, Eagle Stones. *Pliny* the Naturalist says, that Eagles cannot hatch
their

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. These Stones are formed of two different Substances, the one much harder and more compact than the other; the Nucleus, which is of a softer Matter than the Surface, shrinks as it petrifies, thereby leaving a Cavity between the harder Circumference and itself, and being of course loose, must naturally rattle.

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 *Lithotomi*. They 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 arriv'd to a State of Petrification ; but
the

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 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

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 at least 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* and *Glocestershire*,
besides

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, 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 Surprise,

prize, 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. There is a small white Shell Fish of *Barbadoes*, which seems truly a recent Animal of this Genus; and in the *East Indies* there is another small and greyish, but the large and beautifully marked ones are found only fossile. The Snake-Stone is found of almost all Sizes in great Plenty in several Parts of *England*, particularly *Yorkshire*.

Ostracites,

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

Anomia. *Conchæ Anomiæ*, are a Sort of bivalve Shell; the Valves of which are of unequal Extent, both of them convex, and the Head or Beak of the longer Valve crooked, and falling over the Head of the other; they are commonly called beaked Cockles. 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

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 particularly in *Glocestershire*, and some other Counties, they are as common on the ploughed Lands as Pebbles in other Places. Many of these Shells have the outward Surface smooth, and some of them have Ridges and Furrows, or are otherwise irregular on the Outside, and are angular or corner'd instead of having circular Rims.

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;

Shell ; they are also generally auriculated.

Echinites, petrified Sea Urchins, or Hedgehogs. Here 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 are found. Some of the Specimens have their Surface smooth and even, in others it is covered with a Mixture of Excrecences 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

Re-

Resemblance to an Olive. It is in reality the Spine of an Echinus filled with Spar ; it is very beautifully fluted and striated longitudinally ; it is common in *Syria*, and sometimes found with us.

Belemnites, vulgarly called Thunderbolts or Thunder Stones. They are composed of several Crufts of Stone encircling each other, of a conical Form, and various Sizes ; usually a little hollow, and somewhat transparent, formed of several *Striæ* radiating from the Axis to the Surface of the Stone ; and when burnt or rubbed against one another, or scraped with a Knife, yield an Odour like rasped Horn, their Size is various, from a quarter of an Inch to eight Inches ; and their Colour and Shape differ. 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 frequent amongst Gravel, or in Clay ; they abound in *Glocestershire*, and are found near *Dedington* in *Oxfordshire*, where they sometimes contain the Silver Marcasite.

Asteriæ, Star-stones. These are small short angular or fulcated Columns, between one and two Inches long, and seldom above a third of an Inch in Diameter : composed of several regular Joints ; when separated, each resembles a radiated Star ; some have four, others five Rays or Points, either sharp or rounded. The several Joints in the same Specimen are usually of the same Thickness. The *Asteria* is also called *Astrites*, *Astroites* and *Asteriscus*. They may be reduced to two Kinds ; those whose whole Bodies make the Form of a Star, and those which in the whole are irregular, but are adorned as it were
with

with Constellations in the Parts. The Quality of moving in Vinegar, as if animated is scarce perceivable in the latter Kind, but signal in the first. They are, not without Reason, supposed to be a Part of some Sea-fish petrified. The Curious frequently meet with them 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*, and of the same animal Origin, but not sulcated; composed of a Number of round radiated Joints, resembling in some measure so many small Wheels, and generally found in Strata of Clay here and abroad.

The *Asteriæ* are often picked up at *Cutworth* in *Northamptonshire*, at *Skugbury* in *Warwickshire*, and about *Belvoir-Castle*

Castle in *Lincolnshire*; a small Kind are found near *Lassington* in *Glocestershire*.

Ichthyolithi, 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*.

Under this Title are also deposited some Specimens of the *Bufofites*, or, as Dr. Hill more properly calls them, *Lycodontes*, as they are found to be the *Dentes*

G. Molars,

Molares, or grinders of the Wolf-fish, petrified. They are found in *England*, *Germany*, and more particularly in the Island of *Malta*; they are commonly called Toad-stones, and are worn in Rings, having many imaginary Virtues attributed to them.

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

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 immerfed, 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 *Somerfetshire* 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 *Stamsop* in *Staffordshire* are often 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 Shell of an Almond, or a Peach-stone.

Graptolithi, figured Slates. They are a soft Kind of Marble, and have by Nature delineated on them very lively Re-

presentations 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, are the various Kinds of earthy Matter found in digging. They are friable, opaque, insipid Bodies, not inflammable, vitrifiable by extreme Heat, diffusible in Water, and separable from it by Filtration. They are divided into simple and compound; the simple comprehends the Boles, Clays, Marles, Ochres, and Tripelas; the compound takes in the Loams and Moulds. When used in Medicine, the different Kinds have various

rious 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 Virtues of the *Bolus Armena* first mentioned.

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 sometimes has them ; and hairy Balls are sometimes 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 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 such are to be preferred as 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 im-

posed

posed on. When Medicines are so dear, they are very liable to be counterfeited.

The Stone found in the Chamoise, Porcupine, and Monkey, are 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, 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, or as a natural Stone of that Size would be.

What we have last 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 increase 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
Diffolvent

Diffolvent would be a great Acquisition to Medicine.

We are now come to a Part of the Museum which will, it is imagined, 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 here deposited. I must recommend to my Reader to attend to the Specimens, which are very numerous, as we shall only notice a few of the most curious under each Title. The Virtuosi may find almost every Species that is now known among the 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 Hedgehog, 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

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 flat-tish 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 ; 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. The Deck and Chambered *Patellæ* are worth Notice; 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 Marinae, 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 nearly 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. 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

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; many are rough, others smooth, fasciated, or wavy; of all which there are Specimens,

mens, as well as of the prickly Trochus or Spur Shell from the *East Indies*, and 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, 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

and terminates in a very long and sharp Point; but the Form of the different Kinds of Turbo in some Respects varies. The most curious Specimens under this Title, and worthy Observation, are Unicorn Whelks, Telescopes, 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 fulcated 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,

folded, or jagged; the Columella is sometimes rough, at others smooth: Under this Title are to be seen Wing Shells, the Music Shell, the ribbed Musick Shell, the brown Murex with many Spines, the Turban, the Helmet, a Variety of yellow Shells, and many Spider Shells: The Fish that inhabits the Murex, 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

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, 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

in some Kinds are not contiguous near the Clavicle, and are frequently armed there with Spines. The Gondola Shells, the Persian Crowns, and many Shells that resemble Figs and other Fruit, are deposited under this Title.

Rhombi Cylindri, 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 Form, has 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 Stampers, others Masks.

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

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 conglobated 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 Porcelain, the Beetle, the *Chinese* and Boat Porcelain, the Atlas Porcelain, Mole Porcellains, and one Specimen of that Kind called the Weavers Shuttle. 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 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

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 striated; the smooth Kind are white, and not unfrequently tipped with red; the others often white, sometimes green. The common Tooth Shell, the Dog Tooth Shell, and others are to be seen among the Specimens.

Vermicularia, Worm-shells, are of a very irregular Shape, and 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

take Notice of the Bivalves, with which the Remainder of this Table is filled.

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. We find here preserved a great Variety of the scarcer Sorts; among the rest, the Thorny Oyster, the Prickly Oyster, the Hammer and Saddle Oyster, of which some have the Valves joined in a Manner more particularly resembling a Hinge. Here are also some Specimens of transparent round flat Oysters, used in some Part of the *East Indies* instead of Glafs.

Pectines, Scollop Shells, are of a flatted 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

Mantle Scollops of various Colours, particularly the Ducal Mantle, the Marbled Scollop, the Coral Scollop, and others.

Cordia, 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 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

the yellow Chama, the Basket Shell, and the reticulated white Chama, are curious.

Tellinæ, 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 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*, *Mocoe Stone*, *Onyx*, *Cornelian*,

lian, 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. There is one in particular which has a Point of Gold, and is by many credulous People thought to have been transmuted 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 Miners, 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 here is also a

View of a Mine, shewing their Huts, Ladders, &c. The Crucifixes belong to them, as being commonly seen about the Entrance of Mines 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 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 Baromez, 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 described it with 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 some were inclined to believe there was no such Thing in Nature.

Here we find many Specimens of the various Kinds of the Apocynum, or Silk Grass, common in the *East* and *West Indies*, where they apply it to several Uses. The different Kinds of Cotton are 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

some Sea Coccoons 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 Melocactus, by *Linnaeus* called *Cactus*, the Turkish Cap, or Thiftly 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 Fiffures of the Rock, requiring very little Earth to nourish them. Several Sorts of Spices and Drugs, &c. as Cloves, which are the Fruit of a large Tree, having Leaves like the Laurel; it grows in the *Molucca* Islands: the Oil 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 pro-

duces 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 bears 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 the Produce of both the *Indies*, and 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 Molucca Bean, and Cashew Nut; the first comes from the *East Indies*,

is enclosed in two Skins, between which is a strong caustic Oil; the Kernel is pleasant to the Taste. The other is in Shape like a Windfor Bean, with two Skins, enclosing the same Kind of Oil and a Kernel; it is brought from *Jamaica*. There are frequently cast on Shore in the north-west Islands of *Scotland*, a Sort of Fruit, called by some *Orkney Beans*, which are not the Produce of any Part of *Europe*, but of *America*. Sir *Hans Sloane* procured four Species of them, and found that he had himself gathered them in the Island of *Jamaica*. The first Sort was a Kind of Kidney Bean, called by him the great perennial Kidney Bean, with a great crooked Lobe. This is a Native of the *East and West Indies*.

The second Kind was the Horse Eye Bean of *Jamaica*, described by Sir *Hans*, and is found in other hot Countries. The third Kind was that called in *Jamaica* the Ash-coloured Nickar Nut, from being like a Nickar or Marble that Boys

play with. This is common in the *East* and *West Indies*.

The fourth Kind was a *Jamaica* Fruit not yet fully known. It is not easy to account how they should be driven to such a Distance from the Place of their Growth, unless by the Winds and Currents.

We meet here with the Heads and Fruits of Palm Trees, and also some Tea Nuts, Cocoa Nuts, Acacia, Coffee Berries, which last is the Fruit of a Kind of Jessamine, with a Leaf like a Chesnut, and a white sweet Flower: It grows in *Arabia* and the *West Indies*. Some Specimens of Millet, Guinea Corn, and Maiz. The *Indians* in *New England*, and other Parts of *North America*, had no other Vegetable but Maiz to make their Bread of; they call it Weachin; the Ear of Maiz yields more Grain than any of our Corn Ears. There are commonly about eight Rows of Grain in the Ear (and more if the Ground be good) each of which contains

tains at least thirty Grains, and these are larger than any Grain of our corn; their Colour varies. The Maiz of *Virginia* grows seven or eight Feet high; that of *New England* is shorter, and the *Indians* up in the Country have a yet shorter Kind in Use. The Stalk of the Maiz is full of Sap, and has much sweet Juice in it, of which in all Probability Sugar might be made. 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. Here is preserved 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 in high Estimation in *China* and *Japan*, being deemed an excellent Cepha-

lic, 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

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 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, called also *Antipathes*, *Lithophyton*, and *Pseudocorallium*. 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 they are of the Animal Kind: the

Matter,

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,

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.

Nidi Insectorum, Nests of Insects. An Enquiry into this Part of Natural History

ry 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 entirely covered with Clay, which are of two Kinds, one plain, fabricated by a small black Wasp, the other is a wreathed tubulated Clay nest, and these are built by a purplish black Wasp ; they are both the Produce of *Pensylvania* ; yet all these differ from the common Wasp's Nest. There are many other Varieties in
the

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 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.

We find here a great Variety of Specimens preserved of the Nests of different Insects, too many to take particular Notice of; 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

ved 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

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. Here 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 Clefts 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,

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, 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, and an Egg on which is neatly and whimsically rivetted a small Horse Shoe. Besides these Eggs of
Birds,

Birds, are some Specimens of those of Crocodiles, Guianas, Lizards, Turtles, and Tortoises.

Stella Marina, Star Fish. The *Stella Marina* is a soft Animal, composed of many Segments, running from a central Part resembling the Rays of a Star, as vulgarly painted. The central Part is the Body, and has always a Mouth in its lower Side; the Rays are equidistant. The *Stella Arborefcens* has the Mouth in the middle; its Body is pentangular, and from the five Angles arife as many Branches, which are divided and subdivided till the exterior ones are no thicker than Horse-hairs, and the whole in Number amount to some Thousands. One Kind of *Stella Marina* taken in *North America*, is called the Basket Fish, and is of the fame Nature as the arborefcent Star Fish and the Medufa's Head. Those of the smaller Kind are called on our Coasts, where they abound, Five Fingers. Some of the Specimens are very large,
the

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 Helmets *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

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 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 surprising;

zing ; 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.

We find 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

found only in the Sea, chiefly in the *Mediterranean*.

The three small Tables 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 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 Relief.

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. These are a large Family of Insects, and are divided, by Authors who have treated on the Subject, into several Classes; some of them have luminated Antennæ, others sharp pointed;
in

in many Kinds, the outer Cafes or Shields for the Wings are perfect ; in others, only covering a part of the Body. In a few, the Antennæ are inferted in a Kind of Proboscis, or Trunk, and some have pointed Instruments at their Head. The feveral Kinds are difpofed under the Titles that follow. Under this general Title are found the Elephant Beetle, the Rhinoceros Beetle, from the *East* and *West Indies*, the *Cervus Volans*, or Stag Beetle, found in *Effex*, and some other Counties. It is a very curious Infeft, of a blackifh Colour ; the Horns are near an inch and a half in length when full grown, and fomewhat refemble thofe of a Stag ; they can clofe the Points, and ufe them as a Crab does its Claws : near the Eyes are two Pair of Antennæ, the Males are fmallier than the Females. The Unicorn Beetle, and many others, are preferved as curious Specimens.

Dermestes, Wood Beetles, are a Kind of Scarabæus, which are particularly di-

distinguished by having clavated Antennæ. Among the Specimens are the spotted winged black Dermestis, the red legged black, and the hairy Dermestis.

Cassidæ, Tortoise Beetles. 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. This Insect is named *Hemisphæria* by Dr. Hill.

Chrysomelæ, a small Beetle with beaded Antennæ, thickest towards the Extremity; the Body is of an oval Form, the Thorax oblong and rounded. Some of them are of a blackish Colour, variously spotted or striated, others green, yellowish, or entirely brown.

Curculiones,

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*, and the Weevil, which destroys so much Corn in Granaries, are of this Kind.

Cerambyces, Capricorn Beetles, are a Beetle with very long slender-jointed Antennæ generally hanging over the Back; they have long and slender Bodies, and are fond of Places in the Neighbourhood of Rivers. The great sweet smelling Capricorn or Musk Beetle, by some Authors more particularly called *Cerambyx*, is a most beautiful Insect; the others are of various Colours, as grey, black, brown, gold-coloured, and some of a very beautiful Violet Colour. The Capricorn Beetle is a curious Specimen.

Lepturæ, have four Wings, with Antennæ oblong, slender, and setaceous; the exterior Wings are truncated at the Extremity, and the Thorax is of a sub-

cylindric Figure ; they are generally esteemed a Kind of Beetle, and are black, Copper-coloured, red, &c.

Ditisci, 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, are 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 bite severely. They are said to do great Injury to such Cattle as chance in feeding to eat them. Of these the most curious is the light green Buprestis with yellowish green striated Wings : the large black Buprestis, or Tree Beetle, and the small black Buprestis, are of this Kind.

Elatri, have a Body of an oblong flattened Figure, the Head nicely joined to the Shoulders, and Legs very short and slender.

der. 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, are a large and long black Beetle, with slender beaded Antennæ, the exterior Wings dimidiated and short, a sharp Fork at its Tail, and two Vesicles just above it, the Body almost naked, and is nimble, and very voracious. The brown *Staphilinus* with blue Wings is a curious Insect; a Number of them are black, but distinguished one from the other, either by the 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.

Grylli, Crickets, resemble a Locust. The Antennæ of the Cricket has no Articulations. 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 long, and made for leaping. They have articulated Antennæ, very flexile, the outer Wings brown, the inner membranaceous, transparent, and reticulated. 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. Under this Title are, besides, some very curious Specimens of what are called in the *Indies* Walking Leaves, or
Moving

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, but very much larger, the smaller Kinds being larger than the Hornet. 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, have a small Head, Shoulders of an angular Make, Wings partly crustaceous, partly membranaceous ; they have a long Proboscis, which is bent under the Belly, and always lies strait, not in a spiral Form : They are of several distinguished

guished Kinds, and of different Colours, as green, grey, black, red, &c.

Notonectæ, 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. It is a thin and light Insect, yet a slow Mover; its Head is small, and has a small Proboscis; the Body on the Back is of a red Lead Colour, but a dusky brown on the Belly, and is covered with a kind of Scales; the Tail is long and straight, composed of two tender Fibres, which it seldom separates: it lives among the Weeds in clear standing Waters.

Cocci,

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. *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.

Phryganeæ, are a Kind of small Fly, not unlike the Gnat, but they have four reticulated Wings, which are incumbent, and have four Tentacula, or Feelers, two on each Side. 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, have either buttoned Antennæ, clavated Antennæ, or gradually diminishing, and terminated by an oval Head. They are divided into seven Classes, each of which contain a great Variety of Species. A very great Number of Specimens from different Parts of the World, curious and beautiful, are here preserved ; 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.

Phalænæ, Moths, have either prismatic Antennæ of an equal Thickness almost their whole Length, conic Antennæ, gradually diminishing to a Point, or bearded Antennæ ; and some of them have Trunks, others none. They are a Kind of nocturnal Butterfly, flying only in the
Night,

Night, and are more numerous than those properly called Butterflies, and are, like them, divided into seven Classes. Some of them fill 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*.

COLLECTIO SLOANIANA.

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

Phalenæ. Under this Title are the Remainder of the Moths.

Tenthredines. This Kind of Insect is by the *French* named *Mouche a Scie*, from its having a serrated Weapon, or Sting. In Shape it is like a Bee, but in Colour generally resembles a Wasp. It is a very gregarious Animal, but makes no Honey, tho' whole Swarms live together: it loves to be among Meat, as in Kitchens, and

Lar-

Larders, &c. 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.

Vespa, Wasps. This Insect has four Wings and six Feet, his Body is yellow, with black triangular Spots. The common Wasp breeds in the Ground. We may here mention the Ichneumon Wasp, which is a small Kind, with a very slender Body. They live in Holes of Mud Walls. The Hornet resembles the Wasp, but is twice as large, and the Head of a longer and slenderer Shape, and the Eyes formed somewhat like a Half-moon. Here are various Specimens of the Wasp of different Colours and Sizes.

Apes, Bees. The Specimens are numerous of this useful Insect; some are very
small,

small, others hairy, and a few black. Here we must mention the Humble Bees, the Bodies of which are for the most part black, 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, Horse Flies, have but two Wings, and are of various Colours, as black, brown, yellow, &c.

Æstri, Gad Flies, or Breeze Flies. These have green Heads, and yellowish Bodies, large Eyes, and a long Trunk; they fly swiftly, and without Noise; they are met with in the Neighbourhood of Waters. The large black and yellow Gad Fly, and the small Breeze Fly are of this Kind.

Muscæ, Flies. Here are to be found

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.

Culices, 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) All Spiders have a Weapon issuing out of their Mouth, are covered with a Sort of crustaceous Coat, but it is tender and brittle, have two Antennæ, composed of a Number of Joints, the Head fixed to the Shoulders, and have eight legs; in the rest they differ. Here are many Specimens, and among the rest, the *Italian* and *West Indian* Tarantula.

Onisci, Wood Lice, or Millepedes. This Insect is sometimes called *Afellus*; they are divided into seven Species, some rare ;
one

one Kind from *Cornwall* has long Antennæ, is near an Inch in Length, and distinguished from the other Kinds by the Shape of its Tail, which is a flat Lamina with three Points.

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

Iuli, Gally-worms, are a Kind of Insect 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; they have slender and long Bodies, very smooth, and of a yellowish or reddish Colour, furnished with a great Number of Legs, two long Antennæ, and a bifid Tail. The Bite of this Insect is said to be

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, Bettles, 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 fulcated 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: This Bird is a Species of *Indian* Raven, is very ugly, and has a rank Smell; it is larger than our Raven, its Neck and Head thick, has large Eyes, and its Beak is bent like a Bow, having a large and thick Horn like protuberance on its upper Part; the
Beak

Beak is of a yellowish White below; above towards the Head of a fine gay Red; the upper Chap is serrated. The Beak of a Toucan, or Brazil Pye: This Bird is of a middle Size, between the common Magpie and the Thrush; it has a Beak thicker and longer than its whole Body, hooked at the End, and of a very thin light Substance, yet bony, with a sort of toothed Edge; its Head is large in Proportion to the Body, black on the Crown, the rest of it with the Neck and Back slightly variegated with White; the Breast is orange coloured, Belly and Thighs bright Red, Tail black, but red at the End. The Beak of a Spoonbill, or Platea, a long necked Bird, approaching to the Nature of the Stork or Heron; its Beak is different from all other Birds, being broadest at the Extremity, and terminating in a large rounded flat Process; the Bird is all over white, except the Wings, which have some Black; it builds in high Trees in *Holland*: And some Quills of the Condor

are

are preserved here; a Bird of such a prodigious Size and Strength, as to be able to carry a Sheep through the Air in its Talons. So many 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, it is necessary my Remarks on them should be but short. The first Title that presents itself to our View, is

Quadrupedia, Quadrupeds. Among these I shall only mention a few Specimens;

mens; 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 *Yerbua*, 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

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; it is about the Size of a large Cat, Head like a Fox, sharp Nose, small Teeth, two long before like a Hare, small Eyes, long smooth erect Ears, black Whiskers; its Tail is round, about a Foot long; it frequently hangs to Branches of Trees by it; its hinder Feet longer than the fore ones; five Toes, resemble a Monkeys; on the Back it is blackish, mixed with brown and grey, and yellowish on the Belly.

Under this Title are a great Number of *Fætus'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,

Aves, Birds. We find here a great Number and Variety of *English* and foreign Birds, brought from all Countries, and preserved in Spirits. Among these I shall first mention the *King Fisher*, a very beautiful Bird, approaching in many Things to the Woodpecker, but that it has not two Toes behind; the Legs of this Bird are very short, black before and red behind; its general Colours are green and blue, and are very bright and beautiful. The *Wheat Ear*, which is somewhat larger than the common Sparrow; its Head and Back is of a greyish Colour mixt with red; the Belly is whitish with a glow of red; the Throat redder than the Belly; its Beak is black, slender, and straight; they are by some called the *English Ortolan*, so much are they esteemed at Table. The *Crossbill* is about the Size and Shape of a Greenfinch; its Beak is hard, thick, strong, and black; both Parts of it are crooked, so that the Points cross; its Head and Back are variegated with black
and

and green; the Rump and Breast are green, the Throat grey, the Belly white, the Wings and Tail black and green; it feeds on Seeds and Kernels of Fruit. There are several Specimens of *Humming Birds*, it makes a Noise in flying like the Humming of a Bee, and with its little Beak, which exceeds not the Size of a Needle, sucks the Juice out of Flowers as it flies; it is the smallest of all Birds, but of the most beautiful and lively Colours; there are several Kinds of them of various Sizes, some so small as to weigh no more than the tenth Part of an Ounce; the *Indians* make very curious Pictures of its Feathers; the Leg and Foot together measure but half an Inch, its whole Trunk not an Inch. We must next mention some Birds of the Titmouse Kind, as the *Blackcap*, the *Blue Titmouse* or *Nun*, and the *Blue American Titmouse*, called in *Brazil Guizacenoia*; in this last the Head, Throat, Breast, Belly, and the lower Part of the Beak are of a fine blue, the Neck and Tail

Tail black, the Legs brown, and the Wings black, variegated with blue. Among the Specimens here preserved, the Reader will find a great Number of others no less curious, and some unnatural Productions, as a Gosling with three Legs, &c. &c.

REPTILIA. AMPHIBIA. SERPENTIA.

In these three Repositories are many amphibious Animals in Spirits. Among them 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 *Amphisbænæ*, 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 *Oils*, *Balsams*, and other *chemical Preparations*, extracted from *Vegetables*, chiefly the Growth of the *East Indies*.

In different Parts of this Room on the Wainscot over the Repositories, &c. are some *dried Animals*, and *stuffed Skins* of others,

others, particularly some *large Bats*, *Turtles* and *Tortoises*, *Sharks Jaws*, more *Heads* and *Beaks* of *Birds*, a very *large stuffed Snake's Skin* from *Surinam* in the *West Indies*, the *Skin* of a *scaly Lizard*, some *Lizards*, *Guanas*, and the *Skin* of an *Ant Bear*; a *Flamingo*, a *young wild Boar*, a *Porcupine*, *Armadillos*, an *Oron Outon*, or *wild Man of the Mountains*; the *Head* of a *Sea Horse*, *Jaws* of *Fish*, and some *Crocodiles*.

Here 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 Sloane'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 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 Paws* of the *Walross*, 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

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. an *Indian Scalp*, and some *Wampum*. These are a Sort of Shells, used as *Money* among the *Indians*; a String of *Wampum* is made of Shells, formed into small *Cylinders* of a quarter of an Inch long, and somewhat less over, strung in great Numbers on long Strings; it is white and black, the meanest is in single

Strings, of which the white goes at five Shillings a Fathom, the black ten, or by Number, the white six a Penny, the black three. The next in Value is that which is wove into Bracelets, about three quarters of a Yard long, black and white in Stripes, six Pieces in a Row, the Warp is Leather Thongs, the Woof Thread. The most valuable of all is that wove into Girdles, these consist of many Rows black and white, woven into Squares and other Figures; these are used in their great Payments, they make their noblest Presents of them, or lay them up as Treasure. Here is also some *Cassada Bread*, or *Cassavi*, this is made of the Root of a Plant called Yucca, Manioc, or Manihot; the Juice of the Root is poisonous, but the dry Powder of it nourishing and wholesome. The *Indians* in making it rasp the Roots, press out the Juice in Bags, and dry the remaining Matter over the Fire; they then make it into Cakes, which are either dried in the Sun or otherways; when these

these Cakes are thick they are called *Cassavi*, or *Cassada*, and serve the poorer Sort; the thinner are eaten by the Rich, and called *Seiam*.

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*, *Steelyards*, *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.

Under *Glass Bells* are some very *curious Pieces of Work in Ivory*, particularly one made by the late *Queen of Denmark*. The *Flower Pots in Ivory* are very fine.

Some *Models of Chinese Grottos*; a *Model of Captain Gilbert*, made in *China* of the fine earth. The *Root of the Tea Plant* must be noticed in this Place; this Plant grows in the several Provinces
of

of *China*, *Japan*, and *Siam*, and affects a stony Soil in Vallies at the Feet of Mountains; the Root resembles that of the Peach Tree, the Leaves are green, longish at the Point, narrow, better than an Inch long, and jagged all round; the Flower like that of the wild Rose; the Tree is of various Sizes, sometimes very large, at others a mere Shrub of the smallest Kind.

Here are also some *Pieces of Sculpture*, as King *William*, and King *George* the First, cut in Walnut Shells and in Ivory; the Head of *Baker*, who wrote the Chronicle; also an Impression of *Oliver Cromwell's* Seal; *Paintings at large*, in *Miniature* and *Enamel*; 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*.

Thomas Briton, the musical *Small-coal-man*. A black *Whale*, and a *Buffalo*.

Several Drawings in Miniature, composed of very small writing, particularly two Heads, one of *Queen Ann*, the other of *Prince George of Denmark*, said to contain a Number of Speeches in Parliament, and Proclamations; and also the Head of the Duke of *Gloucester* done in the same Manner.

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

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 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.

SECTION III.

THE last Department we are to mention in this our Account is that of printed Books ; it contains many Collections, and a great Number of scarce Works, well worth the Attention of the learned World.

Crossing the Hall, in the Way from the back Stairs, the first Room we enter is appropriated 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 ; the remaining Part of the Presses are prepared for the Reception of such as may be added in the Reign of his present Majesty.

Major EDWARDS's Library.

This is a good Collection of *English, French, and Italian* Books, but chiefly the
last,

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.

BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. I.

In this Room are preserved Part of Sir *Hans Sloane's* Library, consisting of Books of Physic, Pharmacy, Anatomy, Surgery, Chemistry, &c.

BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. II.

Another Part of Sir *Hans Sloane's* Library, Natural History, Herbaria, Hortus Siccus. Here are many Drawings, perhaps the finest that are to be seen in the World. The Reader must particularly admire a Book containing some Drawings of *Monf. Robert*, Painter to *Louis* the Fourteenth, King of *France*. They consist of a great Number of Vegetables, curious Animals, Shells, and other
natural

natural Productions, very elegantly drawn and coloured from Nature. Sir *Hans Sloane* paid this 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, and some other Things. It is to be remarked, that this Lady made a Voyage to *Surinam*, and resided there some Years, to perfect herself in the Knowledge 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. III.

Here are many Books on philological Subjects; Grammars, Lexicons, Critics Treatises on Rhetoric, Geography, some Travels, Journals, and Miscellanies.

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, Globes, and large Maps of different Countries.

BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. V.

This Room contains Treatises on the Arts and Sciences, Systems of Philosophy, Ethics, Astronomy, Commerce, Philosophical Transactions.

BIBLIOTHECA SLOANIANA. VI.

The remaining Part of Sir *Hans Sloane's* Collection, being Books of Divinity and Law.

BIBLIOTHECA REGIA. I.

In this next Room is deposited 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

Books collected in the Reigns of *Henry VII. Henry VIII. Edward VI. Queen Mary,* and *Queen Elizabeth.* Here are also several other Collections, 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 Place 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 REGIA II.

In this last Room of the Library is deposited the remaining Part of the Books
given

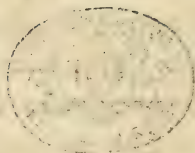
given by his late Majesty. They were collected in the Reigns of *James* the first, *Charles* the first, and *Charles* the second.

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 not known to many, who would otherwise be glad of such an Opportunity of consulting some scarce Books.

We have one Room more to mention, which 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

the magnetical Powers in philosophical Ufes.

I have only now to obferve, that on the Days the Committee of the Trustees fit, the laft Department is fhewn in the fame Order in which the Rooms are arranged in the firft Edition.



INDEX.

I N D E X.

A.

	Page
A BRACADABRA	62
Abraxas	61
Acacia	154
Achates	66, 105
Admiral Shell	140
Æsculapius	46
Ætites	108
Adder Flies	179
Ailurus	21, 42
Alabaster	71
Alabastra	70
Alcoran, fine copies of	28
Allegators	193
Ambers	78, 99, 105
American Idols	54
American Household Utensils	65
Amethyst	92
Amianthus	76
Ammonitæ	102, 113
	Amphibia

I N D E X.

	Page
Argus Shell	140
Armadillo	189, 195
Articles from Herculaneum	63
Asbestos	76, 134
Asphaltus	79
Asteriæ	103, 119
Astroites	119
Aves	191
Avium Partes	186
Aureliæ	ibid.
Aures marinæ	133

B.

Bacchanalia	8
Balearic Crane	196
Balm Crickets	177
Bark Lace	155
Bark Papyrus	13
Barnacles	194
Baromez	149
Basaltes	3
Basanos	ibid.
Basket Fish	165
Shell	145
Baskets made of Bark	56

Bastinados

I N D E X.

	Page
Baffinadoes	57
Bats, large	194
Battifte	9
Bead Shells	134
Bees	182
Beetles	170, 194
Beetle Porcellain	140
Belemnites	102, 118
Belted Snail	133
Benzoin	156
Beryl	89
Bezoar	126
Bibliotheca Cottoniana MS.	26
_____ Harleiana MS.	27
_____ Regia	207
_____ Regia MS.	25
_____ Sloaniana	204
_____ Sloaniana MS.	33
Bird of Paradise	195
Birds	22, 191, 195
Bismuth	81
Bitumens	78, 105
Black Crab from Jamaica	166
Blattæ	175
Blood Stone	60
Blue Eggs from Virginia	164
	Boat

I N D E X.

	Page
Boat Flies	178
—— Porcellain	140
—— Shells	138
Bracelets	60, 63
Brainstone	21
Brander, Esq; his Collection	100
Breeze Flies	183
Bricks stamped with Figures	59
Brimstone	79
Bronzes	38, 43, 47, 52, 62, 199
Brushes made of Roots	57
Buccina	135
Buffalo's Head	7
Bufo nites	121
Bulla	138
Bull Frog	193
Buprestes	174
Bust of Sir Hans Sloane	9
Bustos	46, 58
Butterflies	180

C.

Cactus	151
Cake, Sea	130
Calabashes	150

Calabash,

I N D E X.

	Page
Calabash, large	64
Calamine	81
Calculi	125
Calistus, Head of	59
Caltrop Shell	137
Calumets of Peace	57
Cameleons	193
Cameos	169
Camphor	156
Canoes	202
Canopus	39
Capricorn Beetles	173
Cardia	144
Carolina Frog	193
Cashew Nut	153
Cassada Bread	198
Cassidæ	172
Cassowary	196
————— Eggs	162
Cats Eye	87
Celtes	49, 63
Centipes	185, 194
Centroniæ	130
Cerambices	173
Cervus volans	171
Chalices	49
	Chamæ

I N D E X.

	Page
Chamae	144
Chamber'd Limpets	132
Charters	29
China Pheasant's Eggs	164
Chinese Porcellain	140
Chrysolite	93
Chrysomelæ	172
Cicadae	177
Cidares	130
Cimices	177
Circus, Models of	47
Claw of Lobster, large	166
Coals	78
Cobalt	81
Cochineal	179
Cocci	ibid.
Coccinellæ	172
Coccoons, Sea	151
Coccoons of Silkworms	186
Cochleæ	133
Cochlites	103, 113
Cocoa Nuts	154
Coffee Berries	ibid.
Coffin of Mummiy	17
Concha Veneris	144
Conchites	103, 116
L	Condor's

I N D E X.

	Page
Condor's Quills	187
Confetti di Tivoli	107
Contrayerva	156
Cormorant's Eggs	164
Copal	156
Coral	21, 99
—— Scollop Shell	144
Corallia	157
Coralloides	103
Corn from Herculaneum	60, 63
Cornelians	67
Coronated Volutes	140
Cotton	150
—— Stone	76
Cowries	140
Cramp Fish	196
Crickets	176
Crocodiles	193, 195
—— Eggs	165
Crow, Iron	80
Crown Bird	196
Crustacea	166
Cryſtal	66, 73, 98, 104
—— Metallic, from Ætna	62
Culices	184
Curculiones	173

Cyclops

I N D E X.

			Page
Cyclops Pig	—	—	190
Cylindri	—	—	139
Cynocephalus	—	—	42

D.

Deck Limpets	—	—	132
Dentalia	—	—	142
Dermeftes	—	—	171
Deus Avertuncus		—	43
Diamond	—	—	96
————— Pitt's		—	37
————— fine Rose		—	97
Dice	—	—	60
Ditifci	—	—	174
Dolia	—	—	138
Dolphin	—	—	196
Dragon Flies	—	—	179
Drawings, fine, by Monf. Robert			205
————— by Madame Marian			ibid.
Drums	—	—	58
————— Chinefe		—	58, 65
————— American		—	58
————— from Lapland		—	ibid
Ducal Mantle Shell		—	144

I N D E X.

	E.	Page
Eagle	—	196
—— Eggs	—	164
—— Stone	—	108
Ear Shell	—	133
Echini Marini	—	130
Echino Melocactus	—	191
Echinites	—	102, 117
Echinorum Radioli	—	103, 132
Echites	—	110
Egg within another	—	164
Eggs	—	ibid.
Egg, Sea	—	130
Egyptian Antiquities	—	38
—— Mummy	—	12
—— Pebbles	—	70, 85
Elatri	—	174
Elephant Beetle	—	171
—— Back Bone	—	23
—— Tusks	—	148
Embalming	—	13
Emerald	—	94
Emew	—	196
Endive Shell	—	137
Enhydros	—	109
		Entomolithi

I N D E X.

	Page
Entomolithi	103
Entrochi	120
Ephemeron	179
Epitaphs	6
Erodialis	110
Eschara	158
Ethiopian Crown	138
Eutocium	110

F.

False Argus	140
Fans	65
Fasces, Tops of Roman	49
Feather Crowns	197
Fern, large	168
Fibulas, Roman	59
Flamingo	22, 195
Flies	183
Flints	66
Flying Fish	194, 196
----- Lizard	193
----- Squirrel	189
Formicæ	183
Fossilia Bivalva	103
----- Multivalva	ibid.

I N D E X.

	Page
Fossilia Univalva	103
Fossils	66, 101, 106
Fresco Paintings	7, 23
Fructus	149, 194

G.

Gad Flies	183
Galbanum	156
Gallyworms	185
Gargoulettes	56
Garnet	91
Geodes	109
Giants Causeway	2
Ginseng	155
Glossopetra	121
Gnats	184
Gondola Shell	139
Granate	91
Granite Columns	4
Graptolithi	104, 123
Grilli	176
Guanas	193, 195
——— Eggs	165
Guinea Corn	154
Gum Elemi	156
	Gutti

I N D E X.

	Page
Gutti	54
Gypsum	72, 104

H.

Hall, Contents of	2
Hammer Oyster	143
Hanging Nests	162
Harpocrates	19, 38, 40, 64
Harvest Flies	177
Hats	65
Heart Shells	144
Hebrew Letter Shells	140
Heliotropium	68
Helmintholithi	110
Hercules Balbinus	53
Hermit Crab	167
Hetruscan Antiquities	45, 53
Hieroglyphics	17
Hippocampus	194
Hooded Snakes	193
Horned Owl	195
Horns of Animals	ibid.
———— of Mouse Deer	ibid.
———— of Unicorn Fish	196
Horfe Flies	183

I N D E X.

	Page
Hugh Lupus, his Sword of State	57
Human Heart Shell	154
Humming Birds	192, 195
Hyacinth	90

I.

Jacinth	90
Janus bifrons	53
Japonefe Pagod	55
Jasper	68, 85, 99
Jaspides	ibid.
Jay from East Indies	23
Ibis	17, 39
Ichneumones	182
Ichthyolithi	103, 121
Ichthyodontes	121
Idols, American	54
—— Egyptian	18, 39, 52, 64
Jets	78, 105
Jews Pitch	79
Incrustations	100
Indian Pots	56
—— Shields	64
Inscriptions	6
Insecta	194
	Instru-

I N D E X.

	Page
Instruments of Music, Indian	57
Intaglios	169
John Doree	194
Ifis	19, 38, 40
Juli	185
Jupiter Serapis	38

K.

Keratophyta	21, 157
Keys	60, 63
Kingfisher	191
————— Eggs	164

L.

Lacrymatories	50, 53
La Fosse	9
Lamps	59, 53
——— Metal, odd fancied	49
——— Sepulchral	50
Laocoon	24
Lapis Calammaris	81
——— Lazuli	81, 85
——— Ollaris	74
——— Pregnans	110
L 5	Lava

I N D E X.

	Page
Lava from Vesuvius	6
Leopard Shells	140
Lepturæ	173
Libellulæ	179
Ligna	149
Limpets	132
Lithotomi	110
Lizards	22, 193, 195
——— Eggs	165
Lobsters	166
Locustæ	176, 194
Lotus	17
Lucina	46
Ludus Helmontii	108

M.

Maccaw's Eggs	164
Madrepora	21, 158
Magna Charta	27
Maiz	154
Mantes	176
Mantle Scollops	144
Marble	70, 105
Marbled Scollop	144
Marcafites	79, 98, 105
	Marmora

I N D E X.

	Page
Marmora	70, 105
Masks, uncommon	47
Mask Shells	139
Mathematical Instruments	58
Matrices to stamp earthen Ware	63
Measures, Roman	60
Medals, English	28
French	29
Pontifical	34
Sir Hans Sloane's	30
Their Nature	ibid.
Medallions	ibid.
Medusa's Head	165
Metallica	80
Mica argentea	75
aurea	74
Mill Beetles	175
Millepedes	184
Millepora	21, 158
Millet	154
Mineralia	88
Minerals	66, 80 101, 105
Miscle Birds Eggs	164
Missilia	30
Mitre Shell	135
Moçoes	67

I N D E X.

	Page
Models by Simons	169
Mole Cricket	176
Mole Porcellain	140
Molucca Beans	152
Monkeys	189
Moon Stones	71
Moths	180
Mummy, Egyptian	12
Murices	136
Muscæ	183
Muscles	145
Musical Instruments	57
Musculi	145

N.

Natural Productions	21
Nautili	141
Nautiliti	102
Needle Shell	136
Nephritic Stone	69
Neritæ	134
Nepæ	178
Nests of Birds	162
—— of Insects	159, 186
	Nidi

I N D E X.

	Page
Nidi Avium ——— —	162
——— Insectorum ——— —	159, 186
——— Serici ——— —	ibid.
Nile ——— ——— ——— —	8
Nilometri ——— ——— ——— —	42
Noah's Ark Shell ——— ——— ——— —	144
Notonectæ ——— ——— ——— —	178

O.

Oculus Cati ——— ——— ——— —	87
——— Mundi ——— ——— ——— —	88
Œstri ——— ——— ——— —	183
Olive Shells ——— ——— ——— —	139
Onisci ——— ——— ——— —	184
Onyx ——— ——— ——— —	83
——— Shell ——— ——— ——— —	140
Opal ——— ——— ——— —	86
Ophites ——— ——— ——— —	5, 68
Opossum ——— ——— ——— —	190
Ores ——— ——— ——— —	81, 105
——— Cinnabar ——— ——— ——— —	81
——— Copper ——— ——— ——— —	81, 105
——— Gold ——— ——— ——— —	ibid.
——— Iron ——— ——— ——— —	ibid.
——— Lead ——— ——— ——— —	ibid.

Ores

I N D E X.

	Page
Ores Quicksilver — —	81, 105
— Silver — —	ibid.
— Tin — —	ibid.
Oron Outon — — —	195
Orus — — —	19, 38
Ofiris — — —	18, 38
Ostracites — — —	102, 115
Ostrea — — —	143
Ostrich's Eggs — — —	164
Ova — — —	ibid.
Owls Eggs — — —	ibid.
Ox Heart Shell — — —	144
Oysters — — —	143

P.

Paintings, Fresco — — —	7, 23
— — — in Miniature — — —	201
Palanquin, Model of — — —	199
Paper Nautilus — — —	141
Papiliones — — —	180
Papyrus Bark — — —	13
Parrots Eggs — — —	164
Patellæ — — —	132
Pateras, Hetruscan — — —	45
— Roman — — —	49
	Pearls

I N D E X.

	Page
Pearls	96
Pearl Oysters	194
Pea Shells	134
Pectines	143
Pectinites	102, 116
Penguins Eggs	164
Periapta	42
Persian Crown Shell	139
Petrifactions	100
Phalenæ	180
Phœnician Seals	43
Phryganæ	179
Phytolithi	104, 122
Piscium Partes	188
Pinna Marina	168
Placentæ	130
Porcellanæ	140
Porcelain Shells	ibid.
Porcupine	195
————— Fish	196
Porphyry, Egyptian	99
Portraits	10
Precious Stones	86
Prickly Oysters	143
————— Trochus	134
Purple Pearl	96

Purpuræ

I N D E X.

	Page
Purpuræ — — — — —	137
Pyrites Argenteus — — — — —	105
————— Aureus — — — — —	79, 80
Pyropus — — — — —	86

Q.

Quadrupedia — — — — —	188
Quills of Condor — — — — —	187

R.

Rattle Snake — — — — —	193
————— Root — — — — —	156
Remora — — — — —	194
Reptilia — — — — —	193
Reticulated white Chama — — — — —	144
Rhinoceros Beetle — — — — —	171
————— Bird — — — — —	186
Rhombi — — — — —	139
Ribbon Snail — — — — —	133
Ring Key — — — — —	60
Roman Antiquities — — — — —	46
Roman Mantle Shell — — — — —	144
Root of Tea Plant — — — — —	200
Rouffeau his Portrait — — — — —	9

Royal

I N D E X.

	Page
Royal Staircase Shell —	136
Ruby — — — — —	95

S.

Sacrificing Instruments —	49
Saddle Oyfter — —	143
Sailor Shells — —	141
Salamanders — —	193
Saloon — — — —	123
Sapphire — — — —	95
Sardi — — — —	66
Sardonyx — — — —	83
Saw-fish — — — —	196
——— Snout of — —	ibid.
Scarabæi — — — —	170
Schwampam — — — —	199
Scollops — — — —	143
Scolopendræ — — — —	185
Scorpiones — — — —	185, 194
Screw-shells — — — —	135
Scythian Lamb — — — —	149
Seals, Phœnician — —	43
——— Turkish — — — —	61
Sea Compaffes — — — —	208
——— Horfe, Head of — —	195
	Sea

I N D E X.

	Page
Sea Lion, Head and Paw of	196
--- Polypus	194
--- Locusts	166
Selenites	72
Semimetalla	81, 105
Serpentia	193
Serpentine Marble	5, 68
Sertularia	21
Shark, young	196
Shark's Jaws	195
Shells, Fossil	112
----- Recent	129
Shrimps	166
Silices	66
Siliquastræ	122
Silk-grafs	150
Simpulums	49
Siftrum	38
Skeleton of a Whale	196
----- Unicorn-fish	6
Sledges	66
Sloth	189
Snails	133
Snake Stones	113
Snow Shoes	66
Snuff-box made of Lava	62

I N D E X.

Page

Sope Berries	—	—	151
Spars	—	—	71, 104
Spata	—	—	ibid,
Speckled Heart-shells		—	144
Spiders	—	—	22, 184
Spider Shells	—	—	137
Spindle Shell	—	—	135
Spongæ	—	—	156
Spur Shell	—	—	134
Stag Beetle	—	—	171
Stalactites	—	—	104, 106
Stampers	—	—	139
Staphilini	—	—	175
Star-fish	—	—	165
Stellæ Marinæ	—	—	165
Stilus	—	—	60
Strombi	—	—	135
Stucco Ceilings, Pieces of		—	57
Sturgeon	—	—	196
Styrax	—	—	156
Sulphur	—	—	74, 105
Sulphura	—	—	ibid.
Surinam Toad	—	—	193
Sword-fish, Head of		—	196
————— Snout of		—	ibid.

T.

I N D E X.

Page

T.

Tabani	—	—	183
Tahbahs	—	—	61
Talc	—	—	75
Talismans	—	—	61
————— Turkish	—	—	ibid.
Tarantula	—	—	184
Tea Nuts	—	—	54
Telescope Shells	—	—	136
Tellinæ	—	—	145
Tenthredines	—	—	181
Termini	—	—	5
Terræ	—	—	124
Tessellæ	—	—	60
Testacea	—	—	166
Testudines	—	—	186
Thistly Melon	—	—	151
Thorah	—	—	28
Thorny Heart-shells	—	—	144
————— Oyster	—	—	143
Tiber	—	—	8
Tooth Shells	—	—	142
Torpedo	—	—	196

Tortoises

I N D E X.

	Page
Tortoises — — — — —	186, 195
———Eggs — — — — —	165
Tortoise Porcelain Shell — — — — —	140
Toucan — — — — —	187
Touch-stone — — — — —	3
Tower of Babel Shell — — — — —	135
Trochi — — — — —	134
Trochites — — — — —	120
Tropic Bird — — — — —	195
Trumpet Shells — — — — —	135
Tubipora — — — — —	159
Tubularia — — — — —	ibid.
Tun Shell — — — — —	138
Turbines — — — — —	135
Turcois — — — — —	81, 88
Turkish Cap — — — — —	151
Turtles — — — — —	186, 194
———Eggs — — — — —	165
Tyger Shells — — — — —	140

U.

Unicorn Beetle — — — — —	171
———Whelks — — — — —	136
Urchins, Sea — — — — —	130
Urns — — — — —	45, 51, 53
	Urns

I N D E X.

	Page
Urns Alabaster	45
— British	52
— Roman	ibid.
— Square	ibid.

V.

Vegetabilia	142, 194
Venus's Heart Shell	144
Vermes	186
Vermicularia	142
Vespæ	182
Vesuvius	6
Via Appia, Stone from	4
Vice-Admiral Shell	140
Virginia Nightingale	195
Volutæ	139
Votaries	47, 53
Vultur	196
Vultur's Head	22

W.

Walking Leaves	176
Walrofs, Head and Paws of	196
Wampum	197
	Wasps

I N D E X.

		Page
Wasps	_____	182
----- Nests	_____	22
Water Beetles	_____	174
----- Scorpions	_____	178
Weaver Shuttle Shell	_____	140
Weights, Roman	_____	60
Wendel Trap Shell	_____	136
Whale, Skeleton of	_____	196
Whisks, Indian	_____	57
Wild Boar, young	_____	195
Wild Man of the Mountains	_____	ibid.
Wing Shells	_____	137
Woodcock Shell	_____	ibid.
Wood Beetles	_____	171
Woodlice	_____	184
Worm Shells	_____	142
Worms	_____	186, 194

Y.

Yellow Chama Shell	_____	144
Yerbua	_____	189

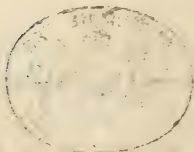
Z.

Zoolithi	_____	103, 122
----------	-------	----------

T H E E N D.

E R R A T A.

- Page 9. l. 8. for Dome read Ceiling.
12. l. 6. after *Homer* add in Bronze.
20. l. 11. for greatest read highest.
21. l. 4. after Natural Productions read
presented by — *Ellis*, Esq;
29. l. 18. for Cabinets read Presses.
29. — N. B. The *French* Medals are in
HARL. II.
71. l. 3. dele from the Word some to
Buildings, &c.
99. l. 11. for Beetles read Bottles.
112. l. 16. for as numerous as read more
numerous than.
116. l. 15. for Oysters read Cockles.
169. l. 1. for some read a great Number of.
169. l. 14. for some read a Variety of.
173. l. 1. after Curculiones add Cornworms.
175. l. 10. after voracious add they are found
in Vineyards.



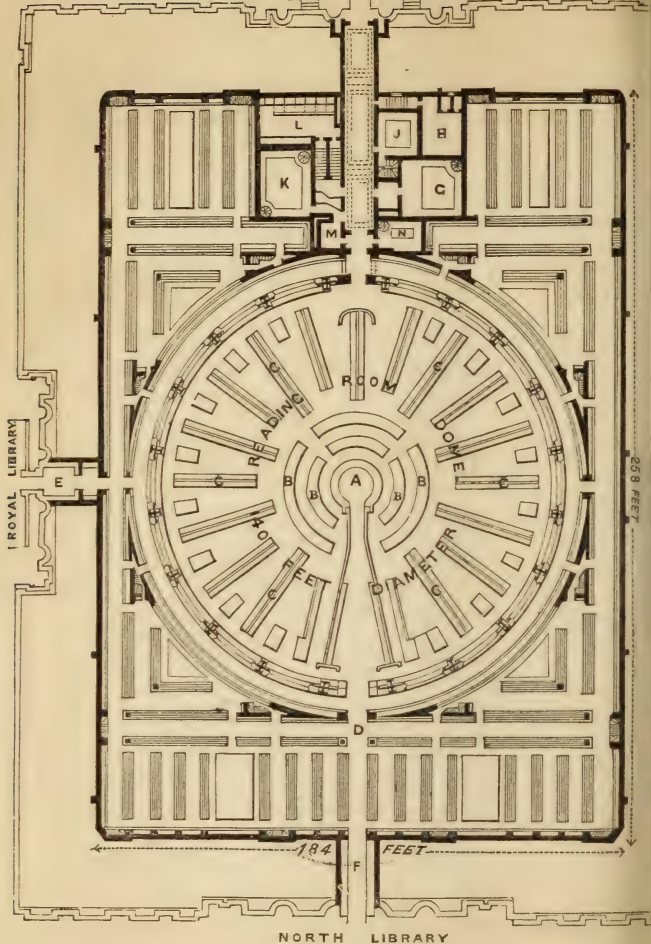
R. Owen

~~~~~  
BRITISH MUSEUM.

NEW READING-ROOM.  
~~~~~



Price One Penny.



PLAN OF NEW READING-ROOM, BRITISH MUSEUM.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>A Superintendent.</p> <p>B Catalogue Tables.</p> <p>C Readers' Tables.</p> <p>D Access for Attendants.</p> | <p>E Entrance from Royal Library.</p> <p>F Entrance from North Library.</p> <p>G For Registration of Copyrights.</p> <p>H Ladies' Cloak-Room.</p> <p>J Attendants' Room.</p> | <p>K Gentlemen's Cloak-Room</p> <p>L For Gentlemen.</p> <p>M Umbrella Room.</p> <p>N Assistants' Room.</p> |
|---|---|--|

BRITISH MUSEUM.

NEW READING-ROOM

AND

LIBRARIES.

WITH A PLAN.



LONDON:

JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

1857.

CONTENTS.

	Page
INCREASE OF THE LIBRARY	5
ORIGIN OF NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES	7
CONSTRUCTION OF NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES	9
DECORATION, &c. OF NEW READING-ROOM	13
ARRANGEMENTS OF NEW READING-ROOM	14

BRITISH MUSEUM.

NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES.

THE new Reading-Room and Libraries of the British Museum are now completed. The *Times*, in a leading article on the 7th of May last year, contained a general description of the building then in progress, and we gladly avail ourselves of the permission liberally granted by that Journal to extract from its pages the substance of another article which appeared on the 21st of April last, containing concise but very accurate details of the construction as it exists in its state of completeness.

“ Its site, in the internal quadrangle of the Museum, has concealed its progress from the public eye, although the lofty and capacious edifice occupies an area of 48,000 superficial feet. This site was indeed its proper and only situation, from the obvious necessity of the new Reading-room being adjacent to the vast magazines of books and manuscripts contained in the various apartments of the Museum.

INCREASE OF THE LIBRARY.

“ The present number of volumes in our great public library is upwards of half a million; but even that large figure does not represent the far larger collection of separate and distinct articles—in tracts, pamphlets, and manuscripts. They are legion, and not yet accurately catalogued or com-

puted. Probably, the enormous quantity of pamphlets, political, theological, and scientific, of Great Britain, since the Reformation, constitute the British Museum Library one of the largest collections of printed literature in the world. Maps also form a relatively considerable portion. The rate of increase is enormous. In the Parliamentary return for the year ending the 24th of December, 1856, not yet published, it will appear that the last annual additions number 10,434 volumes, including music, maps, and newspapers, of which 753 were presented, 4010 purchased, and 5831 acquired by home copyright. The number of parts of volumes was 27,516. In addition, the Library had accumulated numerous maps, charts, and plans, variously obtained. The number of pieces of music alone added was 2347. In gross, the total additional articles that year numbered 42,639. Of the complete works accumulated in the twelve months, 1901 were presented, 2005 purchased, and 7933 were acquired under the Copyright Acts. In the same year, also, each article being impressed with the Museum stamp, the number used was 162,940!

“The number of books returned to the shelves of the General Library was 110,873; to those of the Royal Library, 8869; to those of the Grenville Library, 1018; to the closets in which books are kept from day to day for the use of the readers, 79,598; making a total of 200,358, or 684 per diem. Adding the number of volumes returned to the shelves of the Reading-rooms, about 144,000, the whole amounts to 344,358, or 1175 per diem. The number of readers within that year was 53,209, or an average of 181 per diem, the Reading-rooms having been kept open 293 days. Each reader had, therefore, consulted on an average $6\frac{1}{2}$ volumes per diem.

“Thus had the Library outgrown its local habitation since its foundation in 1753, when the first contents of ‘Montagu House,’ Bloomsbury, consisted of the Sloane Collection, including only a few books, the Harleian MSS., and the Cottonian Library; Parliament providing no money, but by Act authorising the provision of 30,000*l.* by a *Lottery!* The old

mansion continued perfectly sufficient for the whole miscellaneous contents of the Museum until a few new rooms were added for the Egyptian antiquities obtained in 1801, and for the Townley Marbles. In 1823 the present entirely new building, designed by Sir Robert Smirke, became necessary. Montagu House was finally levelled with the ground in 1845, the new portico being only finished April 19, 1847. It is worthy of record that in the month of July, 1759, only five readers attended the public reading-room.

ORIGIN OF NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES.

“The utter insufficiency of the institution for book room and accommodation for readers existed during the last four Parliaments, and without a remedy. The public, the trustees, men of letters in the Legislature, in vain devised various plans, and demanded pecuniary aid from the Commons. Select committee reports and annual returns followed in succession. It is sufficient now to refer our readers to the two volumes of reports in 1835 and 1836, and to the various Parliamentary returns asked for since 1850; to similar Parliamentary volumes on Public Libraries in 1849 and 1850; and, lastly, to the effective Report of the Royal Commission (with 800 appended folio pages of evidence) appointed to inquire into the constitution and government of the Museum. The practical result was an unanimous representation of the Commissioners that ‘the subject of additions to the Museum was one which must evidently, at no distant period, engage the attention of Her Majesty’s Government.’ Mr. Hume, fortunately, was an active member of the Commission, and concurred from honest conviction in the necessity of an early and munificent grant of public money. The Royal Commissioners, reporting the inadequacy of book-room, the injury to the valuable contents of the library by the existing reading-room arrangements, the slave-labour of the attendants, and the bad accommodation of the readers, stated that ‘these circumstances have suggested to Mr. Panizzi a scheme of extension by which the buildings to be constructed would

consist of new MSS. rooms and a new enlarged reading-room, which would enable the trustees to devote the present MSS. rooms, including that at present made over to the Grenville Library, to the printed books.' This report lay dormant almost for four years. 'Questions' were constantly asked in the House of Commons as to the intentions of the Ministers of the day. The ordinary annual vote was now and then opposed by individual members, on the ground of the indecision or indifference of the Government to the recommendations of the Commission. Actually the trustees asked no more than half of the sum which they conceived desirable for the purchase of books, assigning the true reason, that the Library would be inadequate for the reception of increased contents. Matters thus continued *in statu quo*. In the mean time the difficulty of finding room for the current accessions to the Library became daily greater.

"The plan alluded to by the Commissioners had to be abandoned on the ground of expense and delay. As a last resort, Mr. Panizzi proposed to the trustees that a building should be erected in the inner quadrangle of the Museum. By this scheme the cost of purchase would be avoided. This proposal was accompanied by drawings showing the ground-plan, and a general detail of the manner in which it was suggested that the interior arrangements for the accommodation of the readers and of books should be framed. The architect of the trustees, Mr. Sydney Smirke, reported favourably on this plan; and the result is a building, than which none are better, few perhaps so thoroughly, adapted to the purposes for which it is intended. On a 'Supply night,' the 3rd of July, 1854, Parliament, by its last evening vote, on the 'miscellaneous estimates,' granted 55,225*l.* for the 'British Museum establishment,' towards its ordinary expenditure, and 101,142*l.* for 'new buildings and fittings.' In this latter gross estimate there was an item of 61,000*l.* on account 'for the erection of a building within the interior quadrangle, for the purpose of affording increased accommodation.' The first grant was not half enough, as will soon

be seen; still it was a beginning, and laid the foundation. Within three years the vast structure has been completed, at the cost of 150,000*l.*, or about that sum when all contingent expenses are accounted for.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES.

“The Reading-room is circular. The entire building does not occupy the whole quadrangle, there being a clear interval of from 27 to 30 feet all round, to give light and air to the surrounding buildings, and as a guard against possible destruction by fire from the outer parts of the Museum. The dome of this Reading-room is 140 feet in diameter, its height being 106 feet. In this dimension of diameter it is only inferior to the Pantheon of Rome by 2 feet; St. Peter’s being only 139; Sta. Maria in Florence, 139; the tomb of Mahomet, Bejapore, 135; St. Paul’s, 112; St. Sophia, Constantinople, 107, and the Church at Darmstadt, 105. The new Reading-room contains 1,250,000 cubic feet of space; its ‘suburbs,’ or surrounding libraries, 750,000. The building is constructed principally of iron, with brick arches between the main ribs, supported by 20 iron piers, having a sectional area of 10 superficial feet to each, including the brick casing, or 200 feet in all. This saving of space by the use of iron is remarkable, the piers of support on which our dome rests only thus occupying 200 feet, whereas the piers of the Pantheon of Rome fill 7477 feet of area, and those of the tomb of Mahomet 5593. Upwards of 2000 tons of iron have been employed in the construction. The weight of the materials used in the dome is about 4200 tons—viz. upwards of 200 tons on each pier. The first standard was only fixed in January, 1855. The framework and scaffolding upon which the dome rested were removed on the 2nd of the following June. No subsidence or ‘set’ of material was observable on the wedges being removed. The entire dome was roofed in and copper covering laid in September, 1855. The roof is formed into two separate spherical and concentric air chambers, extending over the whole surface; one

between the external covering and brick vaulting, the object being the equalization of temperature during extremes of heat and cold out of doors; the other chamber, between the brick vaulting and the internal visible surface, being intended to carry off the vitiated air from the Reading-room. This ventilation is effected through apertures in the soffites of the windows, and partly by others at the top of the dome; the bad air passing through outlets provided around the lantern. In order to obviate the effects of condensation, all the skylights, lanterns, and windows throughout the building are double. The quantity of glass used amounts to about 60,000 superficial feet. In order to guard against the consequences of an avalanche of snow falling from the dome on to the surrounding libraries, the building has been carried up outside perpendicular to such a height above the spring of the arch as to form a gallery nine feet in width, provided with proper outlets, by which the snow is intercepted.

“This Reading-room contains ample and comfortable accommodation for 300 readers. Each person will have allotted to him a space of 4 feet 3 inches long. He is screened from the opposite occupant by a longitudinal division, which is fitted with a hinged desk graduated on sloping racks, and a folding shelf for spare books. In the space between the two, which is recessed, an inkstand is fixed, having suitable penholders. Thus the whole table-top is free from writing implements or other embarrassments, and every precaution is taken to preserve the books if the readers will but use common care.

“The framework of each table is of iron, forming air-distributing channels, which are contrived so that the air may be delivered at the top of the longitudinal screen division, above the level of the heads of the readers, or, if desired, only at each end pedestal of the tables, all the outlets being under the control of valves. A tubular footrail also passes from end to end of each table, which may have a current of warm water through it at pleasure, and be used as a footwarmer if required.

“The Catalogue tables, with shelves under, and air-distributing tubes between, are ranged in two concentric circles around the central superintendent's enclosure or raised platform, the latter being fitted with tables, ticket-boxes, and with dwarf partitions surmounted by glass screens, dividing a passage leading to the surrounding libraries. The pedestals of the tables form tubes communicating with the air-chamber below, which is 6 feet high, and occupies the whole area of the Reading-room. It is fitted with hot-water pipes, arranged in radiating lines. The supply of fresh air is obtained from a shaft 60 feet high, built on the north side of the north wing about 300 feet distant, communicating with a tunnel or sub-way, which has branches or ‘loop-lines’ fitted with valves for diverting the current either wholly through the heating apparatus, or through the cold-air flues, or partly through either, as occasion may require. The air-channels are of sufficient capacity to admit a supply of fresh air for 500 persons at the rate of 10 cubic feet per minute, and at a velocity not exceeding 1.0 foot per second. For summer ventilation steam-pipes, placed at the summit of the roofs and dome, will be heated, and extract the foul air when the external and internal temperature is unfavourable for the purpose.

“The arrangement of the presses is throughout peculiar. It is calculated that the shelves within the Dome-room will contain 80,000 volumes. Two lifts are placed at convenient stations for the purpose of raising the books to the level of the several gallery floors. The bookcases are of novel and simple construction, the uprights or standards being formed of malleable iron galvanized and framed together, having fillets of beech inserted between the iron to receive the brass pins upon which the shelves rest. The framework of the book-cases forms the support for the iron perforated floors of the gallery avenues, and which are generally 8 feet wide, the central 6 feet being appropriated to the perforated floor, and the remainder being a clear space between the back of the books and the flooring, by which contrivance the light from the skylights (in all cases extending to the full width

of the avenues) is thrown down the back of the books on each story, so that the lettering may be easily discerned throughout the book ranges.

“The shelves are formed of iron galvanized plates, edged with wainscot and covered with russet hide leather, and having a book-fall attached. They are fitted at each end with galvanized iron leather covered, and wadded pads placed next the skeleton bookcase framing, to prevent injury to the binding when the books are taken out or replaced. Between these pads the skeleton framing of the cases forms an aperture by which a current of air may pass and ventilation be kept up throughout. The shelves rest upon brass pins, the holes for which are pierced at three-quarters of an inch apart from centre to centre; but by a contrivance in cranking the shaft of the pin, which may be turned upwards or downwards, this interval is practically halved, and the position of the shelves may be altered three-eighths of an inch at a time. There are 2,750,000 of these holes!

“In all cases, except against the external walls, the bookcases are double, the books being placed on both sides, a lattice of iron-work being fixed for their longitudinal separation. Thus, throughout the whole interior of the new building there are no walls, the division being in all cases formed of a double range of books, fore-edge to fore-edge. The only exception is at the shelving provided for newspapers, a single range of which necessarily occupies the space of two ranges of books. Three thousand superficial feet of cases are provided for newspapers.

“For convenience of access to the galleries, the staircases have been placed so that, throughout the building, they are within 40 feet of each other. The building contains 3 miles lineal of bookcases, 8 feet high; assuming them all to be spaced for the averaged octavo book size, the entire ranges form 25 miles of shelves. Assuming the shelves to be filled with books, of paper of average thickness, the leaves placed edge to edge would extend about 25,000 miles, or more than three times the diameter of the globe!

“The cost, about 150,000*l.*, includes the fittings and furniture and the necessary shelves for immediate use.

DECORATION, &C. OF NEW READING-ROOM.

“In the decoration of the interior dome, light colours and the purest gilding have been preferred. The great room, therefore, has an illuminated and elegant aspect. The decorative work may be shortly described:—The inner surface of the dome is divided into twenty compartments by moulded ribs, which are gilded with leaf prepared from unalloyed gold, the soffites being in ornamental patterns, and the edges touching the adjoining margins fringed with a leaf-pattern scalloped edge. Each compartment contains a circular-headed window, 27 feet high and 12 feet wide, with three panels above, the central one being medallion-shaped, the whole bordered with gilt mouldings and lines, and the field of the panels finished in encaustic azure blue, the surrounding margins being of a warm cream-colour. The details of the windows are treated in like manner,—the spandril panels blue; the enriched column and pilaster caps, the central flowers, the border moulding and lines being all gilded; the margins cream-colour throughout. The moulded rim of the lantern light, which is painted and gilded to correspond, is 40 feet diameter. The sash is formed of gilt moulded ribs radiating from a central medallion, in which the Royal monogram is alternated with the Imperial Crown.

“The cornice, from which the dome springs, is massive and almost wholly gilded, the frieze being formed into panels bounded by lines terminating at the ends with a gilt fret ornament. Each compartment of the dome is marked by a bold enriched gilt console, which forms at once the support of the main rib and the base for a colossal marble statue, a series of which it is proposed to place on the cornice.

“Between the cornice and the floor the space is filled with the bookcases and galleries of access, the cornice, standards, and railings of which are wholly gilded, the panels of the soffites of the latter being blue, having gilded ornaments therein.

“The tables and enclosures are of wainscot, the chairs of mahogany, the floors being covered with kamptulicon.

“The main entrance into the new Reading-room is direct from the Great Hall, and there are secondary entrances for the officers from the King’s Library and the Great Northern Library rooms, through which all books are conveyed to the centre of the Reading-room, whence they are distributed.

“The amalgamation of the several catalogues, which are drawn up on various plans, into one catalogue prepared on a uniform plan, is proceeding rapidly. Letters A, B, C, D, E, F constitute about one-third of the entire catalogue, and this portion, completed, will be placed in the new Reading-room on its opening; it will be comprised in nearly 500 volumes. The completion of this Herculean work is now under the responsible superintendence of Mr. J. Winter Jones, the successor of Mr. Panizzi in the keepership of the department of printed books, Mr. Panizzi being now the Principal Librarian.”

“The architect, Mr. Smirke, has the merit of the preparation of the original and first designs. The contractors, Messrs. Baker and Fielder, share no common deserts in their professional labours. Indeed the skill, perseverance, and ingenious resources of their managing partner, Mr. Fielder, have been beyond all praise. It is gratifying to record that such a vast and lofty building has been completed without loss of a single life or any serious accident.” The warming and ventilating arrangements have been carried out by Messrs. Hadon of Trowbridge.

ARRANGEMENTS OF NEW READING-ROOM.

We will now proceed to describe more at length the internal fittings and arrangements of the Reading-room, which will be better understood by reference to the plan which forms the frontispiece to this paper. A, on the plan, shows the circular enclosure occupied by the Superintendent, the Clerk, and the attendants. The Trustees, having succeeded in providing for the public a Reading-room superior

in its construction and appointments to all other buildings of the same class, have determined to afford the readers every possible facility in the prosecution of their various inquiries. With this view they have selected one of the superior officers of the Library, and placed the general management of the Reading-room in his hands. This officer is also charged with the special duty of assisting the readers in their researches ; and, from his central position in the Reading-room, will be readily accessible to all, and able to superintend the whole service. This gentleman, possessing a large store of miscellaneous information, an extensive acquaintance with the languages and literature of modern Europe, and an intimate knowledge of the contents of the Library, is eminently qualified to discharge the duties confided to him to the great advantage of the readers. It is anticipated that, by this arrangement, the Trustees will meet a want which has been long felt, and will infinitely increase the utility of the National Library to all who desire to consult it.

B indicates the catalogue-tables, which are arranged round the Superintendent's enclosure. In addition to the catalogues, these tables will be furnished with printed tickets, containing on one side the regulations to be observed by the readers in applying for and returning the manuscripts and printed books they desire to use, and on the other a form to be filled up with certain particulars relating to the works they send for.

C represents the tables. These are 35 in number ; eight are 34 feet long, and accommodate 16 readers, 8 on each side ; nine are 30 feet long, and accommodate 14 readers, 7 on each side ; two are 30 feet long, and accommodate 8 readers each, viz. 7 on one side and 1 on the other ; these two tables are set apart for the exclusive use of ladies ; sixteen other tables are 6 feet long, and accommodate 2 readers each ; these have no divisions between them, and are fitted up with rising desks of a large size for those readers who may have occasion to consult works beyond the usual dimensions.

E, F, D show the openings leading from the North Library and the King's Library to the New Reading-room. When readers have filled up their tickets they hand them to the attendants in the central enclosure, by whom they are passed to other attendants, whose duty it is to fetch the printed books or manuscripts from the shelves of the libraries. Through these openings, D, E, and F, the books are brought to the central enclosure, and thence conveyed by the Reading-room attendants to the readers; the readers' tickets, filled up as above described, being then deposited in boxes constructed for the purpose within the superintendent's enclosure, and retained until the books they respectively describe have been returned by the readers, when the tickets are given up.

The book-presses under the gallery are filled with a large library of reference for the use of the readers, comprising most of the standard works on the various branches of learning, and an extensive collection of dictionaries of all languages, biographical works, encyclopædias, parliamentary histories, topographical works, &c. &c. These books, which are about 20,000 in number, the readers can consult at pleasure without filling up tickets for them.

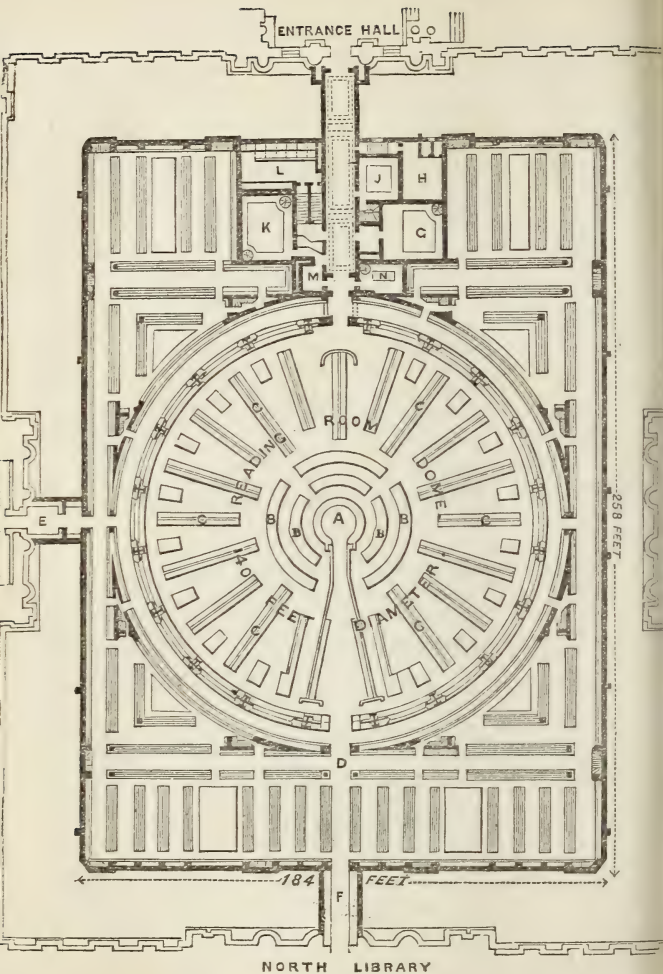
On each side of the passage from the Entrance Hall, through which the readers enter, officers will be placed, charged with the duty of seeing that no persons pass to the Reading-room who are not provided with the necessary ticket of admission.



BRITISH MUSEUM.

NEW READING-ROOM.





PLAN OF NEW READING-ROOM, BRITISH MUSEUM.

Superintendent.
 Catalogue Tables.
 Readers' Tables.
 Access for Attendants.

E Entrance from Royal Library.
 F Entrance from North Library.
 G For Registration of Copyrights.
 H Ladies' Cloak-Room.
 J Attendants' Room.

K Gentlemen's Cloak-Room.
 L For Gentlemen.
 M Umbrella-Room.
 N Assistants' Room.

BRITISH MUSEUM.

NEW READING-ROOM

AND

LIBRARIES.

WITH A PLAN.



LONDON:

JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

1858.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INCREASE OF THE LIBRARY	5
ORIGIN OF NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES	7
CONSTRUCTION OF NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES	9
DECORATION, &c. OF NEW READING-ROOM	13
ARRANGEMENTS OF NEW READING-ROOM	14

BRITISH MUSEUM.

NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES.

THE new Reading-Room and Libraries of the British Museum are now completed. The *Times*, in a leading article on the 7th of May last year, contained a general description of the building then in progress, and we gladly avail ourselves of the permission liberally granted by that Journal to extract from its pages the substance of another article which appeared on the 21st of April last, containing concise but very accurate details of the structure as it exists in its state of completeness.

“ Its site, in the internal quadrangle of the Museum, has concealed its progress from the public eye, although the lofty and capacious edifice occupies an area of 48,000 superficial feet. This site was indeed its proper and only situation, from the obvious necessity of the new Reading-room being adjacent to the vast magazines of books and manuscripts contained in the various apartments of the Museum.

INCREASE OF THE LIBRARY.

“ The present number of volumes in our great public library is upwards of half a million; but even that large figure does not represent the far larger collection of separate and distinct articles—in tracts, pamphlets, and manuscripts. They are legion, and not yet accurately catalogued or com-

puted. Probably, the enormous quantity of pamphlets, political, theological, and scientific, of Great Britain, since the Reformation, constitute the British Museum Library one of the largest collections of printed literature in the world. Maps also form a relatively considerable portion. The rate of increase is enormous. In the Parliamentary return for the year ending the 24th of December, 1856, not yet published, it will appear that the last annual additions number 10,434 volumes, including music, maps, and newspapers, of which 753 were presented, 4010 purchased, and 5831 acquired by home copyright. The number of parts of volumes was 27,516. In addition, the Library had accumulated numerous maps, charts, and plans, variously obtained. The number of pieces of music alone added was 2347. In gross, the total additional articles that year numbered 42,639. Of the complete works accumulated in the twelve months, 1901 were presented, 2005 purchased, and 7933 were acquired under the Copyright Acts. In the same year, also, each article being impressed with the Museum stamp, the number used was 162,940!

“The number of books returned to the shelves of the General Library, was 110,873; to those of the Royal Library, 8869; to those of the Grenville Library, 1018; to the closets in which books are kept from day to day for the use of the readers, 79,598; making a total of 200,358, or 684 per diem. Adding the number of volumes returned to the shelves of the Reading-rooms, about 144,000, the whole amounts to 344,358, or 1175 per diem. The number of readers within that year was 53,209, or an average of 181 per diem, the Reading-rooms having been kept open 293 days. Each reader had, therefore, consulted on an average $6\frac{1}{2}$ volumes per diem.

“Thus had the Library outgrown its local habitation since its foundation in 1753, when the first contents of ‘Montagu House,’ Bloomsbury, consisted of the Sloane Collection, including only a few books, the Harleian MSS., and the Cottonian Library; Parliament providing no money, but by Act authorising the provision of 30,000*l.* by a *Lottery!* The old

mansion continued perfectly sufficient for the whole miscellaneous contents of the Museum until a few new rooms were added for the Egyptian antiquities obtained in 1801, and for the Townley Marbles. In 1823 the present entirely new building, designed by Sir Robert Smirke, became necessary. Montagu House was finally levelled with the ground in 1845, the new portico being only finished April 19, 1847. It is worthy of record that in the month of July, 1759, only five readers attended the public reading-room.

ORIGIN OF NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES.

“The utter insufficiency of the institution for book room and accommodation for readers existed during the last four Parliaments, and without a remedy. The public, the trustees, men of letters in the Legislature, in vain devised various plans, and demanded pecuniary aid from the Commons. Select committee reports and annual returns followed in succession. It is sufficient now to refer our readers to the two volumes of reports in 1835 and 1836, and to the various Parliamentary returns asked for since 1850; to similar Parliamentary volumes on Public Libraries in 1849 and 1850; and, lastly, to the effective Report of the Royal Commission (with 800 appended folio pages of evidence) appointed to inquire into the constitution and government of the Museum. The practical result was an unanimous representation of the Commissioners that ‘the subject of additions to the Museum was one which must evidently, at no distant period, engage the attention of Her Majesty’s Government.’ Mr. Hume, fortunately, was an active member of the Commission, and concurred from honest conviction in the necessity of an early and munificent grant of public money. The Royal Commissioners, reporting the inadequacy of book-room, the injury to the valuable contents of the library by the existing reading-room arrangements, the slave-labour of the attendants, and the bad accommodation of the readers, stated that ‘these circumstances have suggested to Mr. Panizzi a scheme of extension by which the buildings to be constructed would

consist of new MSS. rooms and a new enlarged reading-room, which would enable the trustees to devote the present MSS. rooms, including that at present made over to the Grenville Library, to the printed books.' This report lay dormant almost for four years. 'Questions' were constantly asked in the House of Commons as to the intentions of the Ministers of the day. The ordinary annual vote was now and then opposed by individual members, on the ground of the indecision or indifference of the Government to the recommendations of the Commission. Actually the trustees asked no more than half of the sum which they conceived desirable for the purchase of books, assigning the true reason, that the Library would be inadequate for the reception of increased contents. Matters thus continued *in statu quo*. In the mean time the difficulty of finding room for the current accessions to the Library became daily greater.

"The plan alluded to by the Commissioners had to be abandoned on the ground of expense and delay. As a last resort, Mr. Panizzi proposed to the trustees that a building should be erected in the inner quadrangle of the Museum. By this scheme the cost of purchase would be avoided. This proposal was accompanied by drawings showing the ground-plan, and a general detail of the manner in which it was suggested that the interior arrangements for the accommodation of the readers and of books should be framed. The architect of the trustees, Mr. Sydney Smirke, reported favourably on this plan; and the result is a building, than which none are better, few perhaps so thoroughly, adapted to the purposes for which it is intended. On a 'Supply night,' the 3rd of July, 1854, Parliament, by its last evening vote, on the 'miscellaneous estimates,' granted 55,225*l.* for the 'British Museum establishment,' towards its ordinary expenditure, and 101,142*l.* for 'new buildings and fittings.' In this latter gross estimate there was an item of 61,000*l.* on account 'for the erection of a building within the interior quadrangle, for the purpose of affording increased accommodation.' The first grant was not half enough, as will soon

be seen; still it was a beginning, and laid the foundation. Within three years the vast structure has been completed, at the cost of 150,000*l.*, or about that sum when all contingent expenses are accounted for.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW READING-ROOM AND LIBRARIES.

“The Reading-room is circular. The entire building does not occupy the whole quadrangle, there being a clear interval of from 27 to 30 feet all round, to give light and air to the surrounding buildings, and as a guard against possible destruction by fire from the outer parts of the Museum. The dome of this Reading-room is 140 feet in diameter, its height being 106 feet. In this dimension of diameter it is only inferior to the Pantheon of Rome by 2 feet; St. Peter’s being only 139; Sta. Maria in Florence, 139; the tomb of Mahomet, Bejapore, 135; St. Paul’s, 112; St. Sophia, Constantinople, 107, and the Church at Darmstadt, 105. The new Reading-room contains 1,250,000 cubic feet of space; its ‘suburbs,’ or surrounding libraries, 750,000. The building is constructed principally of iron, with brick arches between the main ribs, supported by 20 iron piers, having a sectional area of 10 superficial feet to each, including the brick casing, or 200 feet in all. This saving of space by the use of iron is remarkable, the piers of support on which our dome rests only thus occupying 200 feet, whereas the piers of the Pantheon of Rome fill 7477 feet of area, and those of the tomb of Mahomet 5593. Upwards of 2000 tons of iron have been employed in the construction. The weight of the materials used in the dome is about 4200 tons—viz. upwards of 200 tons on each pier. The first standard was only fixed in January, 1855. The framework and scaffolding upon which the dome rested were removed on the 2nd of the following June. No subsidence or ‘set’ of material was observable on the wedges being removed. The entire dome was roofed in and copper covering laid in September, 1855. The roof is formed into two separate spherical and concentric air chambers, extending over the whole surface; one

between the external covering and brick vaulting, the object being the equalization of temperature during extremes of heat and cold out of doors; the other chamber, between the brick vaulting and the internal visible surface, being intended to carry off the vitiated air from the Reading-room. This ventilation is effected through apertures in the soffites of the windows, and partly by others at the top of the dome; the bad air passing through outlets provided around the lantern. In order to obviate the effects of condensation, all the skylights, lanterns, and windows throughout the building are double. The quantity of glass used amounts to about 60,000 superficial feet. In order to guard against the consequences of an avalanche of snow falling from the dome on to the surrounding libraries, the building has been carried up outside perpendicular to such a height above the spring of the arch as to form a gallery nine feet in width, provided with proper outlets, by which the snow is intercepted.

“This Reading-room contains ample and comfortable accommodation for 300 readers. Each person will have allotted to him a space of 4 feet 3 inches long. He is screened from the opposite occupant by a longitudinal division, which is fitted with a hinged desk graduated on sloping racks, and a folding shelf for spare books. In the space between the two, which is recessed, an inkstand is fixed, having suitable penholders. Thus the whole table-top is free from writing implements or other embarrassments, and every precaution is taken to preserve the books if the readers will but use common care.

“The framework of each table is of iron, forming air-distributing channels, which are contrived so that the air may be delivered at the top of the longitudinal screen division, above the level of the heads of the readers, or, if desired, only at each end pedestal of the tables, all the outlets being under the control of valves. A tubular footrail also passes from end to end of each table, which may have a current of warm water through it at pleasure, and be used as a footwarmer if required.

“The Catalogue tables, with shelves under, and air-distributing tubes between, are ranged in two concentric circles around the central superintendent’s enclosure or raised platform, the latter being fitted with tables, ticket-boxes, and with dwarf partitions surmounted by glass screens, dividing a passage leading to the surrounding libraries. The pedestals of the tables form tubes communicating with the air-chamber below, which is 6 feet high, and occupies the whole area of the Reading-room. It is fitted with hot-water pipes, arranged in radiating lines. The supply of fresh air is obtained from a shaft 60 feet high, built on the north side of the north wing about 300 feet distant, communicating with a tunnel or sub-way, which has branches or ‘loop-lines’ fitted with valves for diverting the current either wholly through the heating apparatus, or through the cold-air flues, or partly through either, as occasion may require. The air-channels are of sufficient capacity to admit a supply of fresh air for 500 persons at the rate of 10 cubic feet per minute, and at a velocity not exceeding 1·0 foot per second. For summer ventilation steam-pipes, placed at the summit of the roofs and dome, will be heated, and extract the foul air when the external and internal temperature is unfavourable for the purpose.

“The arrangement of the presses is throughout peculiar. It is calculated that the shelves within the Dome-room will contain 80,000 volumes. Two lifts are placed at convenient stations for the purpose of raising the books to the level of the several gallery floors. The bookcases are of novel and simple construction, the uprights or standards being formed of malleable iron galvanized and framed together, having fillets of beech inserted between the iron to receive the brass pins upon which the shelves rest. The framework of the book-cases forms the support for the iron perforated floors of the gallery avenues, and which are generally 8 feet wide, the central 6 feet being appropriated to the perforated floor, and the remainder being a clear space between the back of the books and the flooring, by which contrivance the light from the skylights (in all cases extending to the full width

of the avenues) is thrown down the back of the books on each story, so that the lettering may be easily discerned throughout the book ranges.

“The shelves are formed of iron galvanized plates, edged with wainscot and covered with russet hide leather, and having a book-fall attached. They are fitted at each end with galvanized iron leather covered, and wadded pads placed next the skeleton bookcase framing, to prevent injury to the binding when the books are taken out or replaced. Between these pads the skeleton framing of the cases forms an aperture by which a current of air may pass and ventilation be kept up throughout. The shelves rest upon brass pins, the holes for which are pierced at three-quarters of an inch apart from centre to centre; but by a contrivance in cranking the shaft of the pin, which may be turned upwards or downwards, this interval is practically halved, and the position of the shelves may be altered three-eighths of an inch at a time. There are 2,750,000 of these holes!

“In all cases, except against the external walls, the bookcases are double, the books being placed on both sides, a lattice of iron-work being fixed for their longitudinal separation. Thus, throughout the whole interior of the new building there are no walls, the division being in all cases formed of a double range of books, fore-edge to fore-edge. The only exception is at the shelving provided for newspapers, a single range of which necessarily occupies the space of two ranges of books. Three thousand superficial feet of cases are provided for newspapers.

“For convenience of access to the galleries, the staircases have been placed so that, throughout the building, they are within 40 feet of each other. The building contains 3 miles lineal of bookcases, 8 feet high; assuming them all to be spaced for the averaged octavo book size, the entire ranges form 25 miles of shelves. Assuming the shelves to be filled with books, of paper of average thickness, the leaves placed edge to edge would extend about 25,000 miles, or more than three times the diameter of the globe!

“The cost, about 150,000*l.*, includes the fittings and furniture and the necessary shelves for immediate use.

DECORATION, &C. OF NEW READING-ROOM.

“In the decoration of the interior dome, light colours and the purest gilding have been preferred. The great room, therefore, has an illuminated and elegant aspect. The decorative work may be shortly described:—The inner surface of the dome is divided into twenty compartments by moulded ribs, which are gilded with leaf prepared from unalloyed gold, the soffites being in ornamental patterns, and the edges touching the adjoining margins fringed with a leaf-pattern scalloped edge. Each compartment contains a circular-headed window, 27 feet high and 12 feet wide, with three panels above, the central one being medallion-shaped, the whole bordered with gilt mouldings and lines, and the field of the panels finished in encaustic azure blue, the surrounding margins being of a warm cream-colour. The details of the windows are treated in like manner,—the spandril panels blue; the enriched column and pilaster caps, the central flowers, the border moulding and lines being all gilded; the margins cream-colour throughout. The moulded rim of the lantern light, which is painted and gilded to correspond, is 40 feet diameter. The sash is formed of gilt moulded ribs radiating from a central medallion, in which the Royal monogram is alternated with the Imperial Crown.

“The cornice, from which the dome springs, is massive and almost wholly gilded, the frieze being formed into panels bounded by lines terminating at the ends with a gilt fret ornament. Each compartment of the dome is marked by a bold enriched gilt console, which forms at once the support of the main rib and the base for a colossal marble statue, a series of which it is proposed to place on the cornice.

“Between the cornice and the floor the space is filled with the bookcases and galleries of access, the cornice, standards, and railings of which are wholly gilded, the panels of the soffites of the latter being blue, having gilded ornaments therein.

“The tables and enclosures are of wainscot, the chairs of mahogany, the floors being covered with kamptulicon.

“The main entrance into the new Reading-room is direct from the Great Hall, and there are secondary entrances for the officers from the King’s Library and the Great Northern Library rooms, through which all books are conveyed to the centre of the Reading-room, whence they are distributed.

“The amalgamation of the several catalogues, which are drawn up on various plans, into one catalogue prepared on a uniform plan, is proceeding rapidly. Letters A, B, C, D, E, F constitute about one-third of the entire catalogue, and this portion, completed, will be placed in the new Reading-room on its opening; it will be comprised in nearly 500 volumes. The completion of this Herculean work is now under the responsible superintendence of Mr. J. Winter Jones, the successor of Mr. Panizzi in the keepership of the department of printed books, Mr. Panizzi being now the Principal Librarian.”

“The architect, Mr. Smirke, has the merit of the preparation of the original and first designs. The contractors, Messrs. Baker and Fielder, share no common deserts in their professional labours. Indeed the skill, perseverance, and ingenious resources of their managing partner, Mr. Fielder, have been beyond all praise. It is gratifying to record that such a vast and lofty building has been completed without loss of a single life or any serious accident.” The warming and ventilating arrangements have been carried out by Messrs. Haden of Trowbridge.

ARRANGEMENTS OF NEW READING-ROOM.

We will now proceed to describe more at length the internal fittings and arrangements of the Reading-room, which will be better understood by reference to the plan which forms the frontispiece to this paper. A, on the plan, shows the circular enclosure occupied by the Superintendent, the Clerk, and the attendants. The Trustees, having succeeded in providing for the public a Reading-room superior

in its construction and appointments to all other buildings of the same class, have determined to afford the readers every possible facility in the prosecution of their various inquiries. With this view they have selected one of the superior officers of the Library, and placed the general management of the Reading-room in his hands. This officer is also charged with the special duty of assisting the readers in their researches; and, from his central position in the Reading-room, will be readily accessible to all, and able to superintend the whole service. This gentleman, possessing a large store of miscellaneous information, an extensive acquaintance with the languages and literature of modern Europe, and an intimate knowledge of the contents of the Library, is eminently qualified to discharge the duties confided to him to the great advantage of the readers. It is anticipated that, by this arrangement, the Trustees will meet a want which has been long felt, and will infinitely increase the utility of the National Library to all who desire to consult it.

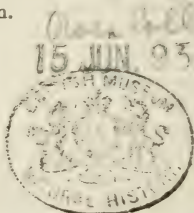
B indicates the catalogue-tables, which are arranged round the Superintendent's enclosure. In addition to the catalogues, these tables will be furnished with printed tickets, containing on one side the regulations to be observed by the readers in applying for and returning the manuscripts and printed books they desire to use, and on the other a form to be filled up with certain particulars relating to the works they send for.

C represents the tables. These are 35 in number; eight are 34 feet long, and accommodate 16 readers, 8 on each side; nine are 30 feet long, and accommodate 14 readers, 7 on each side; two are 30 feet long, and accommodate 8 readers each, viz. 7 on one side and 1 on the other; these two tables are set apart for the exclusive use of ladies; sixteen other tables are 6 feet long, and accommodate 2 readers each; these have no divisions between them, and are fitted up with rising desks of a large size for those readers who may have occasion to consult works beyond the usual dimensions.

E, F, D show the openings leading from the North Library and the King's Library to the New Reading-room. When readers have filled up their tickets they hand them to the attendants in the central enclosure, by whom they are passed to other attendants, whose duty it is to fetch the printed books or manuscripts from the shelves of the libraries. Through these openings, D, E, and F, the books are brought to the central enclosure, and thence conveyed by the Reading-room attendants to the readers; the readers' tickets, filled up as above described, being then deposited in boxes constructed for the purpose within the superintendent's enclosure, and retained until the books they respectively describe have been returned by the readers, when the tickets are given up.

The book-presses under the gallery are filled with a large library of reference for the use of the readers, comprising most of the standard works on the various branches of learning, and an extensive collection of dictionaries of all languages, biographical works, encyclopædias, parliamentary histories, topographical works, &c. &c. These books, which are about 20,000 in number, the readers can consult at pleasure without filling up tickets for them.

On each side of the passage from the Entrance Hall, through which the readers enter, officers will be placed, charged with the duty of seeing that no persons pass to the Reading-room who are not provided with the necessary ticket of admission.



1845

The first part of the document
 contains a list of names
 and their corresponding
 addresses. The names are
 arranged in alphabetical order
 and the addresses are listed
 below each name. The list
 includes names such as
 John Smith, James
 Brown, and William
 Jones. The addresses are
 given in full, including the
 street name and number, the
 city, and the state. The
 list is followed by a
 section containing a
 detailed description of the
 property owned by each
 individual. This section
 includes information such as
 the size of the property, the
 type of building, and the
 location of the property.
 The document concludes with
 a section containing a
 list of names and their
 corresponding addresses, which
 is identical to the list
 found at the beginning of
 the document.

THE BRITISH

EXPLAINED AND

MANY THOUSAND

HAS COMMENCED WITH

and will be continued until the Treaty is familiarly laid before the Public; the contents than can be otherwise obtained and time which few are able to afford, distance from the Metropolis, whose visiting it impossible, or at least unlikely.

SH MUSEUM

AND ILLUSTRATED

BY

AND ENGRAVING

THE NUMBER FOR MARCH 12th,

tures of this Great National Storehouse
giving a more intimate knowledge of
and, except by study, and a devotion of
and prove most gratifying to those
suits or occupations may render their
er.

T

M

and
famil
conte
and t
dista
visiti

4

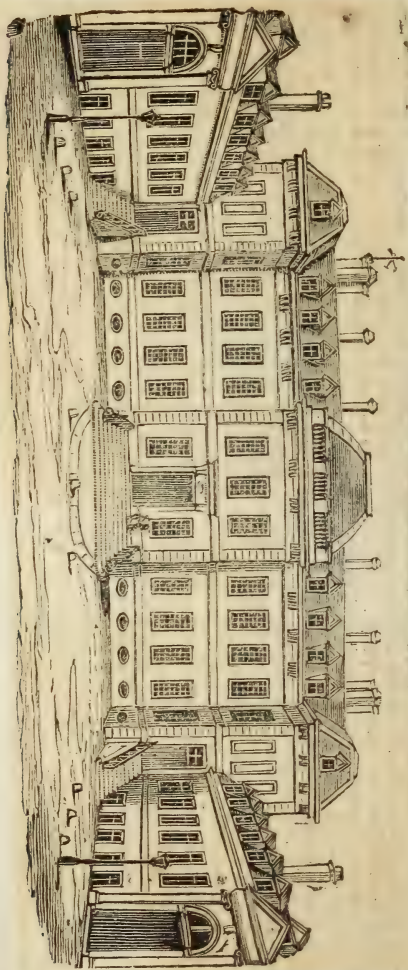
The British Museum Explained and Illustrated.

BY P. H. RICHARDSON, ESQ.

CHAPTER I.—THE QUADRANGLE AND HALL.

THE object of the articles in this publication relating to the British Museum, is an attempt to introduce the general visitor to a more ready and intimate knowledge of its treasures, natural, antiquarian, scientific, and barbaric, than can be otherwise obtained, except by study and a devotion of life and time, which few are able to afford. As the spectator passes through the immense collection with the synopsis guide in his hand, which however well it is designed, is necessarily but a catalogue of its contents, his imagination becomes confused with the multiplicity and grandeur of the objects presented to his sight. On referring to his guide he in vain seeks for instruction, for some explanation of the objects he sees, and of the greater part of which he is entirely unacquainted; all he finds are the names of the

mismas; and though he may admire the wonderful creations of nature, the primeval attempts of barbarian genius, or the unequalled perfection of antiquarian art, yet in general he sees them but as the passive dreams of imagination; their volubility is diminished or lost. It will in this attempt be our endeavour, in some measure, to remedy this, not only by giving a passing description of the entire contents of this unrivalled establishment, but by selecting some excelling portion of every class, by which a general yet more perfect knowledge of the whole may be obtained, and thus that which for the reasons alleged is now in general seen but as a strange yet interesting show, may become better comprehended and known. Of those subjects in the collection which more particularly excite notice and mark each class, engravings are given, in which all meritorious ornament or attempt at effect is avoided, and only true and exact representations are given.

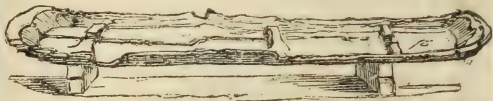


This ancient building in which the British Museum is formed was the mansion of the Duke of Montague, in London, in the reign of Queen Anne; it was built by him on a French plan, on his return from his embassy in France; the architect was Peter Paget, a native of Marseilles. His reputation as an artist was great at the time. It succeeded an edifice which was designed by Dr. Hook in 1674, and which was destroyed by fire two years after; the length is two hundred and sixteen feet, and the height to the cornice is fifty-seven. It consists of one quadrangle, the south side of which is in the same style as Burlington-house, and has an Ionic colonnade; the wings are the dwellings of the officers connected with the establishment; the edifice itself possesses neither beauty nor convenience; the exterior wall and entrance has the heavy elevation of baronial pride, and the interior of the court has the same character. Immediately within the entrance of the main body of the building, on the northern side, is a large and lofty hall and staircase, decorated in fresco by Rousseau and Le Fosse—the first the apotheosis of Isis, and the assembly of the gods by the last. They are masterly designed and executed, but neglect more than age, perhaps, has almost entirely defaced them.

At the time of the formation of the Museum in 1752, in conformity to the will of the celebrated Sir Hans Sloane, (who left his museum to the nation, on condition that the parliament provided a house sufficiently adapted for its reception, and also paid to his executors the sum of twenty thousand pounds for that which had cost him fifty,) the institution was formed. To this collection, which at that time was of far greater importance than it is at the present day, and was then classed among the first in Europe, others were added, at the time, by order of parliament, which, with the purchase of the building united, amounted to the sum of eighty-five thousand pounds. This sum was raised by way of lottery.

Being immediately under the care of government, the concerns of the Museum are conducted by fifteen trustees, who rank among the highest and most honourable officers of the state. This noble collection contains, besides the Sloanian museum, the libraries of Sir Robert Cotton, and Major Edwards, the celebrated Harleian collection of manuscripts, the Greek and Etruscan pieces of Sir William Hamilton, the marbles and bas

reliefs which were collected by Mr. Townly, the manuscripts of the late Marquis of Lansdowne, and the unique spoils celebrated through all antiquity of the Parthenon at Athens, the celebrated temple of Minerva called the Elgin marbles. The whole library of the books and manuscripts collected by the kings of England, from the reign of Henry the Seventh to William the Third, was presented to it by George the Second. A collection of pamphlets published between 1640 and 1660, and containing all the political occurrences of that eventful period was given to it by George the Third, also by George the Fourth the celebrated royal library which had been collected by his father. In 1803, that collection of Egyptian antiquities which had been sedulously chosen by the savans of Napoleon in his invasion of Egypt, were, after the capitulation of Alexandria, deposited here by government. Among later acquisitions are Greenwood's collection of stuffed birds, Halked's minerals, and oriental manuscripts, Tyssend's collection of Saxon coins, Dr. Bentley's classics, the Greville collection of minerals, Dr. Birch's library, Gustavus Branders' collection of fossils, and the collection of classics by Thomas Tyrwhitt, Esq., and Sir William Musgrave; also a splendid collection of books, prints, coins, medals, shells, and gems, which were bequeathed by the Rev. Mr. Crecherode, and many other private donations from various quarters.



On entering the court-yard of the Museum, the attention of the visitor is attracted by some remains of antiquity which meet his view; among them is one which more particularly deserves notice, as it is, perhaps, the most ancient relic of naval architecture of our ancestors which has reached our time. It is a canoe or boat which some few years ago was discovered at Petworth, in Sussex, on the estate of the late Earl of Egremont. In the left bank of the river Arun, at the village of North Stoke, three miles from Arundel, near the South Downs, in a meadow between the villages of North and South Stoke,

where the river takes a turn in a creek that runs into it, there this canoe was found embedded in the mud, one part was completely buried, and the other was visible about two feet under water. From time immemorial it had been thought to be the stump of an old tree, and was allowed to remain there, as it formed a support for one end of a flat wooden bridge which connected the two meadows, the same as are generally employed in like situations. Thus situated, and thus considered, it formed no impediment to the flow of water which passed in front, and it remained undisturbed. About 20 years ago a farmer who wanted the land, thought proper to straiten the line by cutting off the curved part; this brought the flow of water angularly across the old piece of timber, and he cut away as much of the wood as intercepted the drain. A bridge soon after having been built higher up, it was thought proper to remove the old piece of timber, or old tree, as it was supposed. Upon the labourers employed to effect this, finding how large it was, they attached eleven horses to it by an iron chain, and then, with great difficulty, drew it to the land, with its load of mud and flint. Its real form and character were then discernible; it proved to be one half of the stem of a large oak, hollowed and cut into the shape of a canoe. The extreme toughness of its substance is shown, that although its thickness is but four inches and a half at the bottom of the vessel, and the stem to which the chain was fastened, and by which it was drawn up the sloping bank, is elevated four feet, while the opposite end was in the water, with its load of mud in it, it still resisted the action and counteraction of these forces in safety, and was drawn entire to the flat surface. The size of this vessel is as follows:—Its length is thirty-four feet, its depth one foot ten inches, the width in the middle four feet six, and its thickness at the bottom four inches and a-half; one foot and a-half at the stem, and one foot eight inches at the stern, and the sides one inch and a half. At the bottom three bars are left at different distances, which serve to strengthen the whole, and give a firm footing to those who worked the vessel. It has no appearance of its having had a rudder attached to it; but there is a notch, which probably has been for the oar which guided

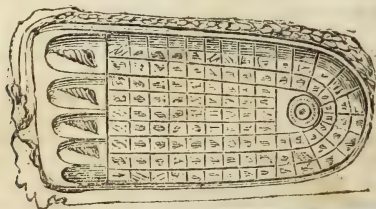
it. Of its antiquity there are but slight means of judging ; but its blackened condition and fibrous texture prove, like that of wood buried in bogs, that it must have been for ages immersed in water. The extreme simplicity of its construction indicates that it must have been the production of an early and rude condition of man. It is of much greater antiquity than the vessel found some years since in the bed of the Rother, as it has the appearance of having been hollowed by fire. From a combination of circumstances, it may, with safety, be regarded as a relic of the aboriginal Britons, and wrought before or soon after the arrival of the Romans.

Passing from the court-yard to the entrance-hall of the Museum, a variety of objects strike the eye, which are well worthy of observation. On the right hand, the figure of a celebrated Eastern philosopher and saint is seen, and deserves attention, not only from the singularity of the sculpture, but as the representation of a man who, in all probability, existed prior to the age of Moses, or the earliest of Hebrew prophets and leaders. The statue itself bears marks of considerable antiquity ; and as the Hindoos and Birmans are religiously and strictly bound never to alter the representation of their deities or prophets, it probably is the copy of one of earlier date. All the statues of this saint, which are known throughout Hindostan and the more eastern parts of Asia, bear close resemblance to each other. A brief account of his doctrines, which though now, as many others in the present age, are in some degree corrupted, may not be misplaced here.



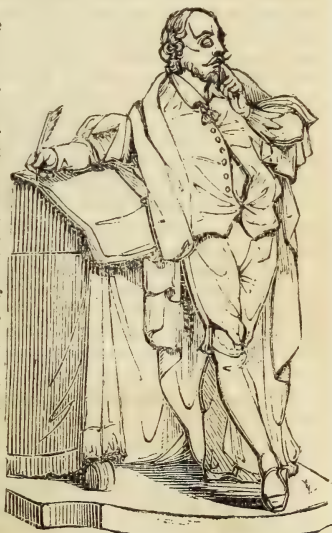
This is the statue of the celebrated Gaudma, Godama, Boagh, or Budda. By these different names is he known in various parts of Hindostan, and particularly in the Birman empire. Godemana is the common appellation in India beyond the Ganges. It is said by the Bramins, that it signifies wise man or sage. It is supposed that this Godama or Gaudma, was originally an Indian Prince, deified by superstition. There exists an ancient treatise, which gives an account of the religious principles of Gaudma : it is entitled "Zorado." He is there said to have attained divinity at the age of thirty-five, and to have preached his law for forty-five years, and to have taught salvation to all human beings. According to this treatise, cited by Dr. Buchan, his doctrines and his laws chiefly consist in observing five commandments, and abstaining from ten sins. The five commandments are as follow :—First,—From the meanest insect, up to man, thou shalt kill no animal whatever. Second,—Thou shalt not steal. Third,—Thou shalt not violate the wife or concubine of another. Fourth,—Thou shalt tell nothing false. Fifth,—Thou shalt drink neither wine or anything that will intoxicate, nor eat opium or other intoxicating drugs. The person who keeps these com-

liable to poverty, or other mistortunes and calamities. The ten sins consist in the slaying of animals, in theft, falsehood, adultery and discord, harsh and indignant language, idle and superfluous talk, the coveting of your neighbour's goods, envy, and the desire of your neighbour's death or misfortune, and the following the doctrine of false gods. Every one who abstains from these sins shall successively increase in virtue through all his successive transmigrations through different worlds, and at length he will become worthy of beholding his Creator, and hearing his great voice. He will also be exempted from the four human miseries—poverty, old age, disease, and death. The good works required are the giving alms, and thoughtfully pronouncing three words. Whoever dies without abstinence and good works here prescribed, will certainly pass into one of the infernal states, and be doomed to certain transmigrations of evil. The priests of Gaudma are called, in the Burmese language, Rahans, and they have likewise bestowed on them the title of Tomora or Pamora, which is likewise applied to the images of the divinity, when he is represented—as he generally is—in a priestly habit. Gaudma commanded his images and relics to be constantly washed; the most celebrated of his temples have what is singular as resembling the Egyptian, a pyramidal form. His images are of all materials—of copper, gold, clay, silver, or alabaster. Many, like this in the Museum, are richly gilt, and adorned with paintings of flowers; they are of different sizes, but all in the same position, and bear resemblance to each other; and there is placidity and peace to be observed in the countenance of all. Among other objects of great veneration of the followers of Gaudma, are stones of large dimensions, one of which is seen with the figure in the Museum, on which the impression



of his foot is represented, covered with various hieroglyphics. The principal disciples or followers of Gaudma are considered as saints, and his figure is generally accompanied by many of them in priestly habits. Every true disciple prays before he goes to rest, and before he rises in the morning at the dawn of day. Friday is with them considered as unfortunate, and on it they undertake no business; they keep holy no particular day of the week, and make offerings on the phases of the moon, especially at the full and change; which may be considered as the Gaudma Sabbaths. This sect esteem the opinion of a Divine Being, who created the universe, to be highly impious; and, accordingly, his followers are, strictly speaking, atheists, as they suppose everything to arise from fate and necessity, and their gods are merely men who, by their virtues, acquire supreme happiness, and by their wisdom become entitled to impose law on all human beings.

In this Hall are several statues: that of Shakspeare, by Roubiliac, is sculptured with all the exquisite skill of that celebrated artist, but at the same time possesses all the faults of his school. The only authentic likeness which exists of that great master of the heart, which this statue is intended to represent, is his bust at Stratford-upon-Avon, to which this bears no resemblance. The countenance of the figure here has no



trace of genius; it is rather that of a *bon vivant*, "a

good fellow," it seems, joining in bacchanalian chorus. The figure is that of a stout, well-fed, dull gourmand, whose name and wit is forgotten after his departure, and not that of one who "will live through all time." The figure is fat, awkward, and puny. The habiliments are not those of the age in which he lived, but rather the aldermanic finery of the sculptor's day. The statue of Sir J. Banks, by Chantrey is finely executed; it shows the talent



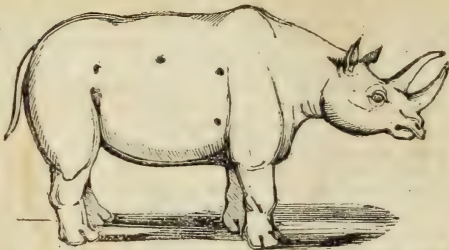
of that artist; the character of the naturalist is drawn. The countenance is intellectual, and displays genius and research.

In the same hall, and close to the statue of Shakespeare, is that of the Honourable Anne Seymour Damer, of which the accompanying is a sketch. She was a lady of some fortune, and a liberal patroness of sculpture, for which she had no little taste, and is even reported to have herself wielded the chisel. The statue is

by Westmacott, but the miniature of the figure of "Father Thames," placed in her arms, is said to have been sculptured by herself. There are many persons who consider it very problematical, and are inclined to the opinion that Mr. Westmacott was its artist, and flattered the vanity of the lady by allowing it to be supposed that it was her production. As Mr. Westmacott, however, adheres to the opposite assertion, it is only just that due credence should be given to him. Be this doubt as it may, the work of art is one of some merit, and deserves considerably more notice than has hitherto been given to it.

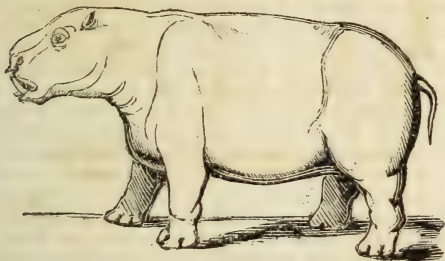


In passing into the passage which leads to the Gallery of Sculptures, are some of the largest animals known. Among them are three of the genus Rhinoceros, of Southern Africa; they were obtained for the Museum from the Association for Exploring Central Africa. One of them, the Rhinoceros Kitloa, was before unknown. This animal, called the Rhinoceros unicornus, or "one horned," is of the class Mammalia; it is distinguished into two species by the number of its horns. That which has but one horn ranks among the largest of the quadrupeds; in size of body he is equal to the elephant; his height is, however, less, his legs being shorter; near the extremity of the nose he has a single horn, which is black and smooth. This is sometimes three feet and a half in length; it forms the peculiar



character of his race. He has a disproportionate upper lip, which hangs over the lower one, and terminates in a point; and the animal, by the assistance of the muscles, moves it with great dexterity in collecting his food and conveying it to his mouth. The nostrils are in a transverse direction; the ears are pointed and large; the skin is rough and nearly naked of covering, and, about the neck, is gathered into immense folds; a fold extends between the shoulders and fore legs, and another from the hinder part of the back to the thighs; the disproportionate size of the legs make the body, from its great bulk, hang low; the breadth of the feet do not exceed the size of the legs. This animal was known to the ancients; Pliny mentions it as an animal that, in the games given by Pompey, appeared in the circus at Rome, and was brought to combat with an elephant, against which it was an unequal foe. It is described by Aristotle, and is mentioned by the historian of Alexander as one of the strange animals met with in their march in India. It is a native of Bengal, Siam, and Cochinchina; also is found in China and in the islands of Java and Sumatra. It is a stupid, solitary animal—fond of shady forests adjoining rivers, and wet and marshy plains are his favourite haunts, unless attacked. Its temper is mild and inoffensive, but provoked, its rage is desperate and dangerous. It reaches the age of fifty or sixty years. During the first month, the young one is not larger than a dog; the horn is at first imperceptible, but increases by slow degrees. At the age of two years, he has hardly attained his height. His eyes are small, and his sight is dull; but he possesses the sense of smelling and hearing in great perfection. The principal food of this animal consists of thorns, and

prickly shrubs. The skin has been said to be impregnable to a bullet, but it is not the case. In taste, his flesh resembles pork.



Before the window on the left is a Hippopotamus.

This animal, which derives its name from *ἵππος*, a horse, *εἰς ποταμὸς*, a river, is called the river-horse or sea-cow; its head is of enormous size, and the mouth very large; the ears are pointed and small; the hair on the body thin, yet very strong, and the colour a dusky brown; his bulk is next to the elephant, being 17 feet in length, and the circumference of his body is sometimes 15; his legs about three feet; the girth of his head, which is converse, is near nine, and his mouth will open two feet wide; the teeth of the lower jaw are very long, and so hard, that they strike fire with steel—this probably gave rise to the report among the ancients, that the Hippopotamus vomited fire from his mouth. They inhabit the banks of the African rivers, from the Niger to the Bergruin, not many miles north of the Cape, near the rivers of which they formerly abounded, but have been nearly exterminated. From his great bulk, he moves unwillingly on land, also from the shortness of his legs; he easily takes the water, which he prefers, and sinks to the bottom, on which he walks; he cannot, however, long remain under it. A shy animal, he seeks it as much for concealment as comfort; in day-time, so fearful of being discovered, that he inhales the fresh air in places where he is hardly perceptible; if wounded, he attacks the boats with fury, and sinks them by biting large pieces from their sides. These animals are bold and danger-

ous in water, but, turned on land, their nature is mild, though a dangerous animal to meet. The way he is taken is by pit-falls, which are covered over. The Romans were acquainted with the Hippopotamus; the Emperor Augustus had one in his triumph over Cleopatra. He is the behemoth of Job, who admirably describes his manners, food, and haunts—"Behold now, behemoth, he eateth grass like an ox; now his strength is in his horns; his bones are strong, his teeth are pieces of brass; he lyeth under the shady trees in the covert of the rude fens; behold, he drinketh up a river; he can draw up Jordan into his mouth."

The British Museum Explained and Illustrated.

CHAPTER II.—THE LANDING-PLACE.

STILL lingering on the ground-floor, the eye rests upon a most ingeniously executed specimen of Hindoo sculpture, discovered on the banks of the sacred river Nerbudda, which winds through the southern portion of Hindostan to an extent of nearly seven hundred miles. It most probably formed a portion of some ancient temple, many having formerly been erected on the margin of the Nerbudda. This fragment suggests at first view a strong resemblance to the ancient sculpture of the Egyptians; nor will the affinity be less apparent, when a closer examination is made. In the edifices of both we find the prevalent use of colossal statues placed against piers or walls; sometimes closely attached to, or sculptured on them, and which may therefore be considered quite as much to form part of the general embellishment as specific objects of adoration. In both we find (as above) caryatid figures usurping the place of columns, and, indeed, figures human and animal, enter as much into the



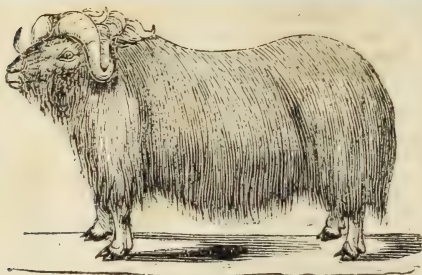
have done in the Egyptian. Looked upon in the light of an interesting relic of antiquity, therefore, this fragment claims especial attention.

On ascending the first staircase, the landing presents to our view several interesting objects of attraction. Amongst these, the most prominent is the Llama, an animal bearing a strong resemblance to the Camel, and, like the Camel, used in its native country (South America) as a beast of burthen. Its



utility to the natives may be inferred from the fact of this animal being able to supply them with both food and raiment; its flesh being equal to our mutton, and its hair or wool capable of being woven into cloth that a modern dandy need not be ashamed of wearing. The Llama can carry with ease a hundred pounds or more, and can travel at the rate of four or five leagues a day; but according to the testimony of a Spanish writer, one De Zarate, it would seem that their manners sadly require the intervention of some quadrupedal Lord Chesterfield, to whom the mission might be confidently entrusted. The following is Zarete's account of the matter:—"When Llamas are fatigued, they lie down, and the load must be taken off, for neither beating nor help will make them get up. Their weariness is manifested in a very disagreeable way, for when a man is on one of them, and the beast is pressed under such circumstances, it turns its head and immediately discharges its saliva, which has a bad odour, into its rider's face." Now if that be not the very height of animal impudence, we should like to know what is: but we must still progress.

Yonder, on the second landing-place, is a fine specimen of the Musk Ox, procured in the late arctic expedition from Melville Islands, and presented by the Lords of the Admiralty. It is common both to the



northern district of Siberia, and to the warmer region of Thibet and China, in which latter places it is procured with less trouble, and esteemed of more value. The musk, which is contained in a bag attached to the abdomen of the male musk animal, is solid, in grains of different sizes, and of a strong, acrid, disagreeable flavour. A single grain of musk has been known to constantly fill the air of one apartment with a sensible impregnation for fifty years, without its weight being perceptibly diminished. How musk possesses such extraordinary powers of scent, is not, indeed, very accurately ascertained; but the best chemical analysts have supposed it to proceed from a process of putrefaction going on at the time the odour is emitted.

In juxta-position with the Musk Ox we find the Polar Bear—a magnificent animal, brought home by Captain (now Sir John) Ross, from the Melville Islands, in his first voyage to the North Pole in the year 1818. This is a fair sample of the Ursine race generally, and may be looked upon as giving a tolerable idea of their usual dimensions. They abound in Nova Zembla, Greenland, and the coasts of Baffin's and Hudson's Bay, but none have ever yet been seen on the shores of the White Sea. Their diet chiefly consists of the floating carcasses of whales and other marine animals; but that the Polar Bear can subsist equally well on vege-

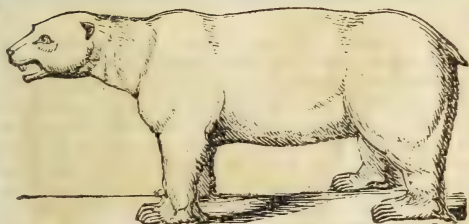


table diet, was proved in the case of two which thrived for years in the French menagerie, without being permitted to touch animal food. The individual kept in the Tower during the reign of Henry III. seems to have been indulged in food more congenial to their habits, for there are two of the king's writs extant, in choice Latin, directing the sheriffs of London to furnish fourpence a-day "for our white bear in our Tower of London and his keeper," and to provide a muzzle and iron chain to hold him when out of the water, and a long and strong rope to hold him when he is fishing in the Thames. This provision for animals by "act of Parliament" is a subject that has escaped the attention of our modern legislators, though we fear acts as arbitrary and for as little purpose are to be found receiving the royal assent every day.

Over the Musk Ox, we see the Striped Antelope of Pennant, from the Cape of Good Hope, an animal whose grace and agility have passed into proverbs. Generally speaking antelopes are gregarious, and their vision and smell are so acute as to compel the hunter to use the greatest caution and circumspection to bring them within range of the gun. The names, indeed, by which the animals themselves have been distinguished in all languages, have direct reference to this greatness of sight, and to the brilliancy of their large black eyes, which form their most conspicuous feature. But here on the case of the Polar Bear we find the Elk, a species of deer, chiefly found in North America, and a noble animal it is! There is, or was lately, one in the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, but this is deemed in size

and appearance infinitely superior. Their flesh is good but coarse; eating like tough venison, and the tongue and nose are often to be procured at the tables of the great, where they are esteemed delicacies. They feed on the young leaves and branches of trees, and may be considered harmless animals enough unless provoked, and then the hair on the back of the Elk, bristling up like the mane of a lion, gives him a wild and frightful appearance. An Elk-chase forms a scene of the most animated description. The picturesque garb of the hunters, the sterile tracks and prairies through which they follow their prey, the dangers of the morass and the pitfall, and above all the glare of the torches shedding a red unearthly light over the wild country traversed in the depth of night, all combine to render an Elk-chase one of the most exciting scenes that the imagination can picture, and which participation in its excitement alone can appreciate.

Here are a few objects of a different nature, which, however, must not be permitted to pass unnoticed. They divide the animals above mentioned. The first is the trunk of an arborescent fern, brought from the mountains to the eastward of Silhet in Bengal, and is upwards of forty-five feet in height. By its side is placed a transverse section of another arborescent fern, and near it is a species of palm, growing in South America. But by far the most conspicuous objects on the upper landing-place are a male and female Giraffe, or cameopard, from South Africa, and another giraffe presented by the Trustees of the Hunterian Collection, and which last was the first ever seen in this country. The groupe is completed by a young Indian Elephant and a Malay Tapir, which, as we shall hereafter again have to speak of these animals, may remain without farther description for a few chapters at least. These terminate the animal curiosities of the first landing; and here we would entreat the visitor to pause awhile. Let him remember that he is on the eve of witnessing all the most striking objects that nature and art can furnish, —that he is on the threshold of a spot where human enterprise has brought from every clime and every country something to attract the eye and interest the mind.

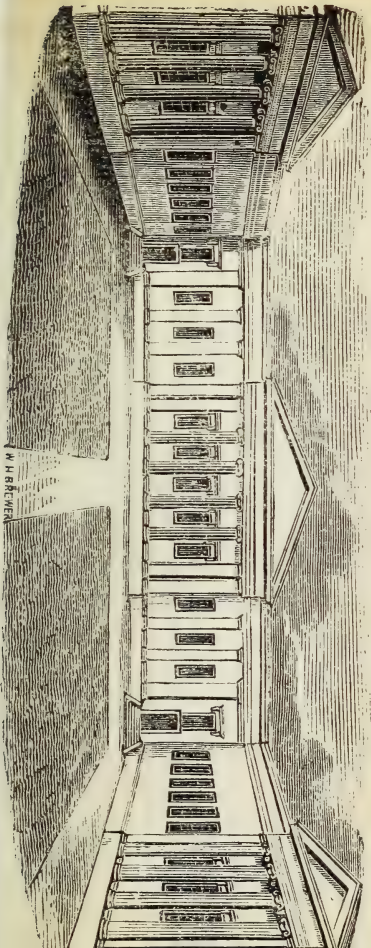
Where, from the rudest indications of barbaric skill on the one hand, to the highest manifestations of civilized ingenuity on the other, man has brought into action those glorious attributes with which his Creator has endowed him, and has thus established his claim to the title of "Creation's Lord." Here the tenants of the forest and the denizens of the plain have alike found a resting-place; here the peaceable and the ferocious remain in quiet contact. For this has Nature surrendered her stores, Art exhausted its ingenuity, Enterprise ransacked the treasures of the earth, Discovery lent its aid

to diversify the scene, and Antiquity displayed its choicest relics even though embedded in the rust of ages. Let him remember to prize—to appreciate—the information he will gain, and, like a careful economist, preserve the pearls of wisdom collected in his youth, to be the pride and ornament of his old age.

The British Museum Explained and Illustrated.CHAPTER III.—THE NEW QUADRANGLE AND THE
FIRST ROOM.

THE necessary alterations that have from time to time been made in the Museum, have also forced upon the trustees the necessity of improving the exterior, and for the better attainment of this object, a new entrance and more noble quadrangle has been constructed and nearly completed, at the back of the one now standing of which we have previously given an illustration. The unfinished state in which it at present remains, through the parsimony of the late government in withholding the funds, renders any attempt at graphic or particular description impossible; but as doubtless some years will still elapse before the public are honoured with a view of it, this is the less necessary. When sufficient money is forthcoming to enable those who are employed to proceed with the works, the old entrance will be re-

moved, and this appear in its stead, the annexed wood-cut giving a very faithful depiction of the new quadrangle as far as it has yet been finished. The edifice was originally projected from the designs of Mr. R. Smirke, and savours chiefly of the Ionic order. The façade is ornamented in the centre with a pedimented portico of six columns, and has a single line of square windows with pilasters between those on either side of the portico. The exterior of the west wing is also decorated with a portico, but has no pilasters; and the east wing, as far as it has been completed, presents a corresponding appearance. At the north-east and north-west angles are spacious stone staircases, which appear severally intended to serve as separate places of ingress and egress, a plan which, however it may detract from the majestic aspect of the building, will certainly materially increase the comfort of the visitors, inasmuch as no confusion amongst them can then possibly arise.



W. H. BRUCE

But, however, it is with the first room that our business at present lies; and here we find many objects to arrest our attention. The ceiling of this apartment is ornamented in the same style as that of the staircase, and is, indeed, a continuation of the same story, both representing the fable of Phæton borrowing the Horses of the Sun. The painter was Charles de Rosse, who had the reputation of being one of the best colourists of the French school.

In the first case, which chiefly contains the artificial curiosities of uncivilized tribes and nations, we find some singular Esquimaux dresses, brought home by Captain Sir Edward Parry, on his return from the arctic expedition in 1822. It is to this enterprising gentleman, indeed, that we are indebted for various other articles in this collection: amongst which we find a whalebone net used by the Esquimaux to lay under their beds, to protect them from the snow; a wooden bowl, remarkable as being fashioned without the aid of iron tools; a cup and spoon, made out of the horns of the musk ox; some arms, of not very formidable appearance; and a culinary vessel and lamp, hewn out of solid stone. But the most interesting object here, as manifesting the early application of scientific principles amongst a nation scarcely one remove from barbarism, is that of a pair of eye-shades, formed of bone, which is the simple yet effective instrument employed by the Esquimaux to defend their eyes from the too intense light reflected by the snow. As may be perceived, they have a small narrow aperture in the centre, and are capable of being fixed near the eyes by a thong, or strip of skin, passing round the head; so that, when they are worn, no light can possibly enter the pupil of either eye, excepting through the small openings of these rude yet curiously constructed spectacles. Above the case is placed a sledge brought from Baffin's Bay by Captain Parry.

We now come to what has been, from time immemorial, as great an object of attention amongst barbarians, as amongst the more civilized inhabitants of this sublunary world—we allude to the article of dress. Let not the unsophisticated reader delude himself into the belief, that the fopperies of dandyism are confined to the regions west of



Temple Bar. The snow hut of the Esquimaux contains as many evidences of the desire for outward show, as the gayest saloon in May Fair. Nor is this confined solely to the fairer sex. Hemmed in by glittering icebergs, surrounded by mountains, upon whose summits

winter sits throned in perpetual snow, diademed with icicles, the Esquimaux is still to be seen wending his way in a garment which, for the singularity and oddity of its appearance, Stultz might throw down his shears in absolute vexation, at not being able to equal. But it is not to the coat alone we should confine our attention; here is a boot, worthy of Hoby, that has been fashioned from deer-skin, and ornamented with a leathern fringe, to gratify the vanity of



the wearer. Both evince a peculiar aptitude to display the articles of dress to the greatest advantage.

In the second case we find similar articles of Esquimaux apparel, of which the annexed illustrations will have given an idea, and a landing-whalebone net, brought from Kotzebue Sound; a pair of boots belonging to a female, from Cape Thompson; a dart-thrower from Point Barrow; and, in particular, a richly-carved paddle, from the Island of Tahiti; or, as it has been more improperly, though commonly called Otabeite. This paddle is a piece of

fully finished, and was doubtless once the property of one of the Island chiefs. The ease and celerity with which they guide themselves over the wide expanse of waters by the simple use of paddles of this construction is most remarkable, and excites wonder and admiration in the breasts of even the most civilized.

The third case presents us with various specimens of cloth manufactured from the bark of the paper mulberry tree, in the Sandwich Islands, some of them with stamped patterns, executed by the islanders themselves. Approximating thereunto, is a sail made from the intestines of the Walrus; and, near that, are two husks of the Walrus itself. Here, also, are some bows and arrows tipped with bone, from California; and a small harpoon, with a moveable tip, adapted for spearing fish.

Passing the fourth case, which contains chiefly boots remarkable for having divisions for the toes like gloves (probably on account of the power it would afford the wearer of taking up anything by his feet) we arrive at case the fifth, where a quiver formed of palm-leaves, and containing small poisoned arrows, challenges our attention. These weapons were brought by Lieutenant Maw, R.N., from South America, where they are used by the Indians, who dwell on the banks of the great river Marañon and its branches. Their points have been dipped in the Worari poison, which causes death to ensue almost instantaneously, and, as it is said, without a pang or struggle. We are informed by Dr. Hancock, who visited South America some ten years since, that the Worari is obtained from the Mavacuri, a plant resembling a gourd, and bearing a fruit the size and shape of a large orange, enclosed in a hard shell, which is generally used to hold the poison when prepared. The small arrows, infected with this poison, are much employed by the Indians to kill birds, monkeys, and, strange to say, those animals that they destroy for food. They are propelled through a small hollow reed by the breath; and, it is alleged that there is not any certain antidote to the effects of this pernicious juice, albeit, salt and sugar are often employed for that purpose, and sometimes with success.

Most of the objects in the next division speaking for themselves, we shall pass over them to take cognizance of the boat over these cases, which was brought by Captain Beechey from Behring's Straits. It is a Green-

lander's *kajak* or fishing-boat, and is intended only for a single person. A skin covering is carefully attached to the gunwale of the boat, with an aperture in the middle, through which the adventurous navigator introduces his body, and, sitting down, confines the skin with a band securely round his waist. In this way he is almost ready to bid defiance to any accident, for should his light skiff be overset, no water can enter; and as it remains buoyant, a dexterous stroke of the paddle will instantly right it, and he can proceed on the voyage.

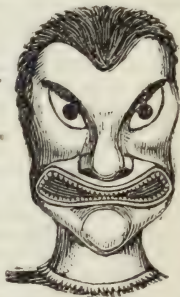
The ninth case introduces us to vessels displaying great variety of form, as the bottle with the singularly distorted figure of a dwarf attached to it on the first shelf; and the quadruple vessel with the dwarf figure belonging to it on the second, will amply testify. These were taken from the tombs of the aboriginal Peruvians; and above them are ranged some Mexican antiquities that were purchased at the sale of the Mexican Museum, formed by Mr. Bullock some years ago. They chiefly consist of small statues formed of various stones, and of rude workmanship. In the remaining cases are articles chiefly from the western coast of North America and the South Sea. Here is a breast-plate constructed in a most remarkable manner, with mother-of-pearl and scales of shells, and trimmed with feathers, forming part of an Otaheitan warrior's dress. An inspection will well repay the spectator, and prove the *vraisemblance* of our illustration.



Here, too, are some ornamental carvings from the Friendly Islands, which, as the work of mere savages, are worthy of notice. The carving in all is most ingeniously executed. They are used to contain *cava*, an exhilarating liquor, prepared in a way which we will not trust ourselves to describe.



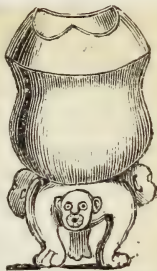
In cases nineteen and twenty are some whimsical distortions of the human form, imitated in feathers gaudily tinted. The grotesque head-piece, here given, will, with its strangely exaggerated features, exhibit a tolerable idea of the skill possessed by the natives of the Sandwich Islands, but whether they have been intended for idols, or are merely "the works of art" belonging to that country, cannot be distinctly ascertained. If the latter supposition be correct, our Gilrays and Cruikshanks may indeed "hide their diminished heads," as no caricature that ever emanated from the pencil of either, equalled the one now before us. An uninformed observer might well suppose one of Gulliver's *Brobdignag* tribe—so immortalised by Swift—had undergone decapitation, and that this was the trophy of the executioner.



In the twenty-second case, on the second shelf, there are some peculiar wooden bowls, with fantastic figures as ornamental supporters. These are from the



some savage Chantrey or Baillie. A collection of these gathered together at an Indian banquet must present a most extraordinary picture. They seem to evince, by the rudest indications, the dawning of the sculptor's art; displaying itself in the grotesque, rather than in the sublime and beautiful. These carvings, ridiculous as they may appear—absurd as they are, would form most important illustrations to a history of human nature, revealing the first bent of the savage and untutored mind, and, like experience, serving as the beacon light attached to the stern of Time's vessel, to scatter light over the dark track of ages through which we have noiselessly sped.



Ranged along the walls are weapons and offensive arms of every description. It is somewhat strange that, in all uncivilized countries when first discovered, the spirit of aggression seems uppermost, the principal attention and skill being displayed in articles of destruction, rather than those of a more useful class. This will be sufficiently apparent on the most cursory glance being bestowed on the objects; but, upon a closer examination, the truth of this remark becomes manifest.

The last, but not by any means least, object of curiosity in this room is the original manuscript of the Great Charter (Magna Charta) granted by King John to his subjects at Runnymede, June 15, 1215. The authentic signature of the royal granter is attached; but, as the art of penmanship had not made such pro-

gress in those days as it has in ours, we can feel but little surprise at the autograph being illegible. It was made out in order to be lodged in the archives of some great monastery or public office. Another of the originals of this celebrated Charter, corresponding with the one before us, is preserved in the cathedral library at Salisbury. This we have here was procured by Sir Robert Cotton in the reign of James I., when he was accumulating his great collection of manuscripts to

The British Museum Explained and Illustrated.

CHAP. IV.—THE MAMMALIA SALOON.

THE reader, as well as the visitor, must now make a sudden progression into the new apartments to which the animals, formerly in the old rooms, have been removed. Ascending the flight of steps leading to the *Mammalia Saloon*, forming part of what is at present styled the Eastern Zoological Gallery, we find ourselves in a wide and spacious apartment, the cases in which are for the most part filled with specimens of the Simian tribe. These, all falling under the general title of *mammalia*, cannot fail to be regarded with peculiar interest. It is scarcely necessary to remind the reader that quadrupeds supply us with the most precious of earthly gifts. The ample coverings of our fleecy flocks possess infinitely more value than the brightest gem that ever flashed lustre from an eastern diadem. Without the horse, the ox, the sheep, and the dog, our present condition would be the most wretched that can be imagined; our political, social, and commercial relations would undergo an overwhelming revolution. Deprived of his rein-deer how would the Laplander support his "sleepless summer of long night" or his snow-enshrouded winter? Without the enduring camel the desert sands of Africa, if not lifeless solitudes would at least be impassable to the human race, and for all commercial purposes as useless as an ocean without ships. Let it not therefore be considered we are devoting too great a space to the consideration of these objects, for although the race of monkeys may not exactly challenge the respectful attention due to the more noble orders of animals, they demand, from their singular similarity in conformation to the human race an especial paper devoted to themselves.

The animals of this very varied and extensive order, so familiarly known, inhabit the warmer regions of Asia, Africa, and America. A single species remain as a European representative on the rock of Gibraltar, either by descent as an indigenous animal, or by accidental importation from the opposing coast of Barbary, where it is extremely frequent. Their true and natural

forests are filled with the animal world, courting their grateful shades, silent and resting; and it is only in some deep glade "afraid to glitter in the noontide beams," that the screams of an awakened parrot or the gambols of some frolicsome monkey disturb the universal solitude. The food of this family may be called almost entirely vegetable. The accounts of their love for animal food, and relish for that of human beings, as related by several writers, must be placed amongst those fictions of imagination which have too often been mistaken for the records of truth. A taste for saccharine repasts seems, however, to be their distinguishing characteristic;

"Destructive on the upland sugar groves
The monkey nation preys; from rocky heights,
In silent parties, they descend by night,
And, posting watchful sentinels, to warn
When hostile steps approach; with gambols, they
Pour o'er the cane-grove. Luckless he to whom
That grove belongs."

It is worthy of remark, that apes and monkeys occupy the same line on the two continents, and there live as colonies; each species in its respective haunt and district of forest, without disturbance or confusion, and without invading the property of one another. The parrots and their mischievous companions jostle each other under the same foliage, as if nature had intended to bring together the only quadrupeds which resemble man, and the bird which most readily imitates his voice. As we gaze on the cases before us, fancy seems to whirl us at once to a foreign clime. Who would not wish to contemplate, in the ancient forests of America, those troops of animals flitting from branch to branch—now swinging with their prehensile tails, and anon assuming a thousand grotesque attitudes; and whilst they leap, spring, and mutter, as if they meditated some important enterprise, flocks of parrots and parroquets alight among them, chattering in the branches, and tossing about their heads, which glitter and sparkle in the rays

But it is time that we turned our attention to the specimen before us. In case one, we find a miscellaneous collection of monkeys, brought from various portions of the globe; but as a description of one will serve as a descriptor of the whole class, we shall content ourselves with confining our attention to the specimen chosen by our artist. This is the black Oorang, a native of Africa, and particularly the Guinea coast and Angola; they are said to live in vast troops, and to be dangerous in their attacks upon persons travelling alone in the forests where they are to be found. They are covered with shining black hair, longest on the back and shoulders. A



writer of reputed veracity states, that an African ourang once carried off a young negro, who lived during an entire season in the society of these animals, and, on his return, reported that they had never injured him, but, on the contrary, seemed greatly delighted with his company; and that females, especially, evinced a great partiality for him, and not only brought him abundance of nuts and wild fruits, but actually defended him in the most careful and courageous manner from the attacks of serpents and beasts of prey. We must not omit to state that the form of the ourang's body and limbs more approaches the human than that of any other animal, but it is distinguished from man by greater depression of the forehead and inferiority in the relative volume of the brain.

Passing onwards we observe many that have what are called prehensile tails, with which they lay hold of branches, and thus in climbing have all the advantages of a fifth arm. It is a circumstance calling for notice, that the monkeys which are natives of America differ from those found in the other quarters of the globe, in having longer tails, no pouches in their cheeks, and the

Our next illustration, from case three, displays the singular position adopted by the *Entellus* monkey when in the act of resting on its hip. It is a native of India and Bengal. If taken at an early age they become familiar and tame; but being peculiarly susceptible of cold are scarcely ever to be met with in our modern menageries.



In case nine we meet with a curious specimen of the Hoolock, chiefly found in British India. Their food in the wild state consists for the most part of fruits, common only to the jungle in this district of country; and they are particularly fond



of the seeds and fruits of that sacred tree of India, called the peepul tree. They are easily tamed, and show no disposition to fight, unless provoked. They

Case eighteen presents us with several beautiful varieties, amongst which the bearded ape stands conspicuous. Here, also, in the vicinity, may be remarked the rib-nosed baboon, which was once a great attraction at Exeter-Change. Whilst there he was exceedingly docile to his keepers, though easily exasperated by strangers; and amongst his other accomplishments, he had been taught to drink grog and smoke tobacco. In the first he delighted, but the latter was not such a favourite, and a



bribe of gin-and-water was generally promised before its performance. His cage was furnished with a small, but strong arm-chair, into which, when ordered, he would seat himself with great gravity, and await further orders. All his manœuvres were performed with great slowness and composure. His keeper having lighted his pipe, presented it to him, when he usually inspected it minutely, sometimes feeling it with his finger, as if to know it was lighted. Then putting the waxed end into his mouth, and holding a newspaper before his

eyes, he alternately began to smoke and read with all the solemnity of an elderly gentleman immersed in unravelling the tangled web of political opinions.

Case twenty is a repository for many of the more rare kinds, amongst which the one annexed will be strikingly conspicuous. It is a native of the wilds of South America, and has habits and peculiarities similar to the tribes we have already described. In fact, the necessity we are under of avoiding anything approaching to tediousness of description, requires our explanatory comments to be less copious than perhaps many of them may appear to require; but it will soon be manifest, that such alike are the "manners and customs" of the Simian species generally, that what is mentioned with reference to one may be predicated of nearly all the rest.



The British Museum Explained and Illustrated.

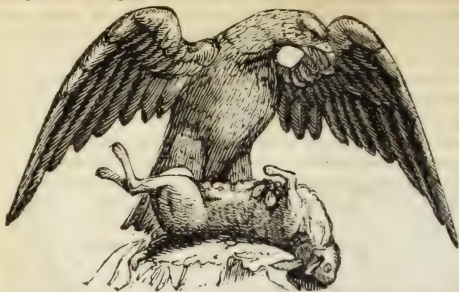
CHAPTER V.—THE EASTERN ZOOLOGICAL GALLERY.— ORNITHOLOGY.

PROCEEDING from the history of quadrupeds to inquire into that of the feathered race, which constitutes the second great class in the animal kingdom, and forms the chief object of interest in this gallery, we find nature still possessing the same vivifying power, though here she seems more prolific and more diversified in her operations. If, from the ministry of quadrupeds, man derives assistance in maintaining his influence over the soil, it is to these denizens of the air that he is indebted for many of his pleasures. By the richness and brilliancy of their colours, the melody of their voices, the beauty and elegance of their forms, they charm the eye of the beholder, soothe his ear, and captivate his imagination. By these qualities they invariably afford him pleasure; whether he contemplate the melodious grove, the screaming precipice, or the noisy forest; by these they cheer his solitude, enliven his rambles, and animate whilst they adorn the scenes of nature. We will not attempt to discuss the subject of the universal law of migration, further than observing, that its object seems the preservation of those birds who would be deprived of their natural food were they to remain stationary in any given locality. Thus the swallow, the cuckoo, the nightingale, many species of soft-billed warblers and others, visit us in spring from the south, and leave us on the approach of winter; whilst the fieldfare, the redwing, the woodcock, and various aquatic birds, find a winter asylum with us, and depart again in spring, to make room for a new succession of visitors. In the case of the lark and the thrush, which also visit us in great numbers, the performance of flight across the German Ocean does not much surprise us; but when we examine this little bird, which is by no means adapted for long aerial progression, we are at a loss to perceive how the migration could have been performed. So much, however, might be written on this subject, and so impracticable has it been found to give more than a very condensed account of even the birds themselves, that we may be readily excused if we omit any detail upon these points; therefore, turning at once to the cases on our

or high places, and have their young hatched ~~blind and~~ nearly naked, so that it is necessary for a time they should be fed by their parents and remain in the nest. These may truly be regarded as the giants of the feathered race. The first family is that of the condors, chiefly inhabitants of America; as the great vulture of the Andes and the Californian vulture, both of which are not true vultures, but properly condors. Birds belonging to these species have been peculiarly noticed by travellers on account of the great heights to which they soar in the air. A recent American writer says that he has repeatedly seen the condor sailing high above the loftiest of the snowy Corderillas, at an elevation of 16,000 feet above the level of the ocean, with no apparent motion of the wings, and yet in an air so attenuated, that where he himself was stationed at thousands of feet below, the rarity of the atmosphere rendered all efforts painful to those not long accustomed to the light medium that there prevails. The muscles in the wings of the condor are so powerful that a blow from one of them has destroyed life.

Pre-eminent for size and strength the vultures exceed all other birds whose powers of wing are adequate to sustain continued flight. They are a race peculiar to hot climates, and their food consists of putrid animal substances, for a removal of which (where indeed a quick removal is much called for) they seem expressly appointed. Their flight is wonderfully rapid and graceful, and they are led by some faculty, not yet fully understood, but most probably by an exceedingly acute sense of smell, from astonishing distances, and at an elevation in the atmosphere, beyond the reach of human sight, to their fœtid repast. In a tribe of birds thus characterised, the Griffon Vulture, which is before us, is one of the most conspicuous. The accompanying illustration exhibits the manner in which the Golden Eagle devours its prey; this magnificent specimen is deposited doubtless in an adjoining case for the purpose of showing

the rapacity manifested by all birds of this class in satisfying their hunger. But to return to the Griffon Vulture.



This bird, like the rest of its family, except when pressed by the utmost necessity, never preys on living animals, but prefers carrion and putrid substances; and when fed to repletion is easily made captive. The male, as usual with other rapacious birds, is smaller than the female. The Bearded Vulture, or *Lammer-geyer*, which resembles the bird depicted above, is the most ferocious of this class, pouncing with impetuosity on animals exceeding itself in size; hence the young chamois, the wild goat, the mountain hare, and various species of birds, find in the *Lammer-geyer* a most formidable and ferocious enemy. Having seized its prey, this Bearded Vulture devours it upon the spot, the straight form of their talons disabling them from carrying it to a distance. The *Lammer-geyer* refuses flesh in a state of putrefaction unless sharply pressed by hunger; hence Nature has limited this species as to numbers, while, on the other hand, to the vultures who are destined to clear the earth of animal matter in a state of decomposition, she has given an almost illimitable increase. This is but one amongst a thousand evidences of the protection of an unseen yet all-seeing Providence. The family of Falcons (*Falconidæ*) which occupy the next cases, have their heads covered with feathers and the eyebrows prominent, giving the eye the appearance of being deeply set in the head, and imparting a character to these birds very different from that of the vultures.

food so much as the flesh of animals they themselves have killed. They will not be satisfied without the blood of their victims, and when they find carrion meat they leave it in disgust for their meaner brethren to feed on.

This disposition is accompanied by a remarkable conformation of the beak, which in these birds has a deep notch near its roof or origin, thus enabling them, as here shown, to wound and tear their prey with greater facility. The other varieties here are the Ignoble Falcons with simple,



and the Hawks with rather longitudinal nostrils, whilst the honey-buzzard, osprey and kites, have an oblique slit covered with a valve behind. These distinctions will readily enable the visitor to distinguish the several kinds. Amongst the Hawks the most remarkable bird is the Secretary. This strange bird, found in the Cape of Good Hope, and called also the serpent-eater, from its preying on those reptiles, has been attempted to be naturalised by the French

at Martinique, for the purpose of destroying the lance-headed serpent, with which that island abounds, but we have not heard if the attempt was successful or not. Here, too, are the Eagles, (*Aquila*) to describe the different varieties of which a volume might be devoted. Formed by Nature for braving the severest cold, feeding



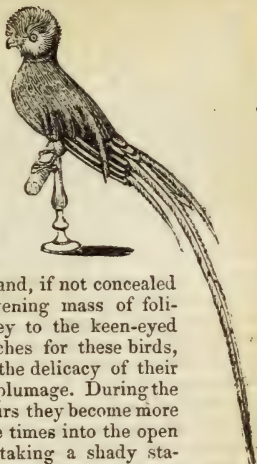
the speed of the elements themselves ; unawed by anything but man ; and from the ethereal heights to which the eagle soars, looking abroad at one glance on an immeasurable expanse of forests, fields, lakes, and ocean, deep below him ; he appears indifferent to the little localities of change of seasons, and can pass at will from summer to winter, dashing upwards from his eyrie in the mountain to that abode of eternal cold the higher regions of the atmosphere, and again descend to the torrid or arctic regions of the earth. We now approach the numerous and most solemn family of the owls (*Strigide*) ; most of these are remarkable for the

radiated circles of feathers surrounding their eyes, and for their large ears, which as they hunt in the dark may enable them to discover their prey by the sense of hearing when not within the range of their imperfect vision. Whilst the owls are altogether most remarkable birds, the horned owls are even more so than any others of this winged race. They are spread over the whole of Europe, and appear to be everywhere stationary ; at least such is the case in our own island, where they inhabit barns, ruins, church-towers, and hollow trees, remaining concealed all day, but issuing at the approach of evening, when they prowl on light and noiseless wings, in search of their prey, night being the time when this genus exert their powers and display their destructive energies. Although mice form the principal part of their subsistence, it is nevertheless certain that they occasionally prey on young birds, rats, and leverets ; and instances have been known of their even committing serious havoc amongst the finny tribe.



That magnificent bird, which we see yonder, in case forty, belongs to the genus Trogon, and is well worthy of the adjunct, "Resplendent," which has been appended to it. Their feet are often feathered almost to the toes, and their soft, full, lax plumage, and lengthened tail,

bestow upon the species a peculiar aspect. These birds abound in South America, where they conceal themselves in the central solitudes of umbrageous forests, and, except during the breeding season, dwell insulated and alone. They will sit motionless for half a summer's day,



upon a withered branch, and, if not concealed by some accidental intervening mass of foliage, they fall an easy prey to the keen-eyed hunter, who eagerly searches for these birds, not less remarkable for the delicacy of their flesh than their beauty of plumage. During the morning and evening hours they become more active, venturing at these times into the open parts of the forest, and, taking a shady station, dart upon winged insects, particularly beetles. At other times they feed upon fruits, at which they also invariably dart, precisely as if they were insects capable of escaping. It has been remarked that the skins of these birds are of so delicate a texture as to be with difficulty preserved in a natural or complete condition. It is probable that this is the cause why here they assume a heavy, shapeless aspect, redeemed, it is true, by the gorgeous colours and metallic splendour of their plumage. The one our artist has above represented is the most magnificent of its tribe, being one of which, in its natural state, no delineation nor description can convey an adequate idea. The greater proportion of the plumage is apparently composed of burnished gold. The head, as will be perceived, is ornamented with a brilliant crest of decomposed barbs, the wing-coverts falling in flakes of golden green over the deep purplish black of the primary and secondary quill feathers; the rich carmine of the lower parts presenting a warmth and depth of effect which no Venetian painter ever equalled, whilst the long waving of the tail, extending

Case forty-eight introduces to our notice a species of *Menura*, entitled *Menura Superba*, or Lyre-tail, from New Holland. It is characterised, as its name implies, by the great extension and peculiar shape of its tail feathers. It is equal in size to the pheasant, and the general plumage is brown. The tail of the female is of the ordinary structure, and displays but little of the attractive powers of the male. The Lyre-tail evinces a peculiar attachment to rocky districts, and in Australia it is only there to be found. Its history, however, is still obscure, and its anatomical structure has, we believe, not yet been fully investigated. In our next number we shall enter at large into the anatomical peculiarities of



birds in general. The specimens we have above given will be sufficiently corroborative of the munificence of our intention. The space to which we are confined renders it impracticable—not to say impossible—to discourse as fully as we could wish of these specimens, but in our next we shall strive to remedy the difficulty, by devoting a larger space to their consideration.

e British Museum Explained and Illustrated.

CHAPTER IV.—THE EASTERN ZOOLOGICAL GALLERY.—
ORNITHOLOGY.

PURSUING our examination of the cases to the left, we find in case sixty-four a magnificent specimen of the Bird of Paradise, so noted during our early intercourse with Eastern countries. The bill is straight, compressed, rather strong, and unnotched; the nostrils being surrounded by a close tissue of feathers of a velvet texture, sometimes resplendent with metallic lustre. These birds are natives of New Guinea, and in consequence of the delicately graceful structure of their plumage, and the pure and beautifully blended colours by which they are adorned, the species in general may be regarded as the most highly prized of all the feathered race. Their history has been long obscure, notwithstanding the first of the *genus* made known to Europeans was imported as early as the year 1522, by one Antony Pigafetta, who accompanied Magellan in his voyage round the world. Pigafetta, it appears, was satisfied from the first by ocular demonstration, that this bird had legs, though the natives cut them off as



parts of no importance. In consequence, however, of this prevailing, if not universal mutilation, a notion soon became prevalent in Europe that the bird was naturally destitute of these common-place but very useful organs, and that consequently it floated forever in the air, winnowing with loving wings the gentle breezes, or at times suspending itself for a few brief moments from some lofty sun-illuminated tree by the two peculiarly lengthened filaments with which it is adorned. In accordance with this belief, it was of course consistent to suppose that whatever individuals were obtained "on this dim spot, which men call earth," they had fallen from their aerial heights immediately before their dissolution. Even Aldrovandus, the most zealous naturalist of his age, having himself

only seen such specimens as had been mutilated in the usual manner, accuses Pigafetta of audacious falsehood in asserting that the bird was naturally furnished with legs and feet, and the great Scaliger, himself a naturalist of no mean order, gave equal credit to this foolish fancy. The true residence of these birds seems to be Papua, or New Guinea, whence they make occasional excursions to some smaller neighbouring islands. They fly in flocks of about thirty or forty, led, it is alleged, by a single bird which the natives call their king, but which is said to be of a different species. It is further pretended that when this bird settles, the whole flight settle also, in consequence of which they sometimes perish, being unable to rise again owing to the peculiar structure of their wings. They also fly always against the wind, lest their flowing plumage should be discomposed. While flying they make a noise like starlings, but their common cry rather resembles that of a raven, and is very audible in windy weather, when they dread the chance of being thrown upon the ground. In the Aru Islands they are seen to perch on lofty trees, and are variously captured by the inhabitants with birdlime, snares, and blunted arrows. Though many are taken alive, they are always killed immediately, embowelled, the feet cut off, the plumed skins fumigated with sulphur, and then dried for sale. With respect to their food we have little certain information from the older authors, some of whom assert they prey on small birds—a supposition which Dr. Shaw, in his "General Zoology," inclines to think is favoured by their strength of bill and legs, and the vigour with which they defend themselves. They are also said to feed on fruits and berries, and Linnaeus says, that they devour the larger butterflies—a diversity of opinion which will rather bewilder than enlighten the notions of a spectator.

We now pass the Kingfishers, remarkable chiefly for their length of bill and splendour of plumage. The *Alcedo Ispida* (our common kingfisher) is the only species which we find in Europe, and it yields to few of its brethren in lustrous beauty. It is one of the rarest, and certainly the handsomest, of all our resident species. It haunts the banks of lakes and rivers, building in willows near their margin, and preys chiefly on small fish, on which it darts with the rapidity of an arrow, plunging its little gem-like body for one flashing moment into the chrysal and willow-overhung stream, and re-appearing the next with its prey secured.

We now arrive at case seventy-two, in which a bird with a gigantic beak arrests our attention. This is the Indian Horn-bill depicted in the annexed illustration. Its body exceeds that of the largest raven, but is very lean and incompact. It is believed



to feed chiefly on fruits, although it will seize upon reptiles when pressed by hunger. Its freedom from any offensive smell, and the excellence of its flesh, which is much esteemed as an article of food, go far to prove that its habits are chiefly frugivorous. In a domestic state it will eat meat raw or dressed. Notwithstanding the size of the beak, the tongue is very small, and not the least singular feature in their economy consists in their feeding greedily and without injury, upon the seeds of the *nux vomica*. Subjoined is a



skeleton of the beak, interesting as an object of natural history, chiefly for the better understanding and appreciation of the enormous weight this bird has to carry. These bills, or beaks, are toothed along the edges, and are generally surmounted by an additional horny structure, which bestows on them a very striking and peculiar physiognomy. These bony excrescences vary considerably with the age of the bird, being scarcely perceptible in the young. When flying, their unwieldy beaks and lengthened tails cause them to exhibit a most singular and awkward aspect; indeed their appearance altogether is exceedingly uncouth. Yonder is the Woodpecker, a small but attractive bird, whose curious propensities for "tapping the hollow-tree bough" will not suffer us to

let it pass without a word. They are shy and solitary birds, and are chiefly employed in tapping decayed trunks in search of insects. Buffon, that always eloquent, but frequently erroneous, and sometimes inconsistent Frenchman, has drawn a melancholy picture of the miseries of a woodpecker's life. According to his views, nature appears to have condemned it to incessant toil, for while other species freely employ their courage or address, and either glide along on fearless rapid wings, or lurk insidiously in closer ambush, the woodpecker is constrained to drag on a miserable existence, in boring through the scaly bark and tough unyielding fibres of the hardest trees. Necessity admits no intermission of its labours—no interval of sweet repose. Not even the darkness of the night, nor sleep—that “soft restorer” who throws her balmy mantle over such a mass of human misery—brings any solace here, for the nocturnal hours are spent in the same constrained and painful posture as are those of day. It never shares in the joyous sports of the other inhabitants of the woods, and so far from joining in their glad responses, it rather deepens the natural sadness of the forest by its wild and melancholy cries. So Buffon thinks and writes; but what is all this but the most fantastic coinage of the brain, as if the blessed beings which people this gladsome world endured the primal curse and shared the self-inflicted ruin of our race—as if their joyful hearts were ever pressed by sorrow, or responded, in wailing sadness, to the woes of man! Amid the unmeasured wretchedness which springs from human folly, the wan faces of our fellow men pent up in close built cities, the drunkard's hollow eyes, his palsied limbs and tattered garments, with all the ills that vice is heir to, what is more inspiring than to see even a fragment of the face of nature, some little open plot of garden-ground where in spring the blackbird still may sing his evening hymn, or the autumnal redbreast cheerily announce approaching winter. Is there sorrow there, or suffering, save what may spring from some dark spirit in the mind of man—the “immortal rebel!” When Buffon himself, a great interpreter of nature, in spite of all his fitful fancies, yielded up his life to the God who gave it, did the lilled fields of France reflect the sun's warm rays less brightly, or her sylvan choristers welcome with sadder note, the rosy break of the ensuing morn? It would indeed be but a doleful thought if misery such as man so often meets with among human kind, and which

he is therefore prone to picture, were to spread itself from his own sad bosom into the depth of darkly-shaded forests, where so many gorgeous feathered inmates dwell, or among oceans' rocks, amid upheaving waters, or wave-worn caves, or chrysal rivers, with their golden sands.

But we have been led into a longer digression than we intended; and, therefore, resuming our enquiries, proceed at once to the consideration of the numerous tribes of Parrots, by which (case seventy-six) we are now surrounded. The genus, *Psittacus*, according to Linnæus, comprehends the almost innumerable tribe of parrots, lorries, paroquets, maccaws, and cockatoos, having the bill curved, thick, and generally sharp-pointed, and the tongue thick, round, and fleshy, the lower larynx being furnished on each side with three peculiar muscles, which probably contribute to the facility with which these birds acquire the articular intonation of the human voice. Their natural food consists of fruits and seeds, in search of which they will climb trees with the greatest facility, suspending themselves indifferently by their hooked-bill or feet. Their voices are harsh and discordant, their forms often elegant, and their plumage usually beautiful. They form, indeed, a magnificent family, abounding in almost every region of the torrid zone, and in the new world extending from the shores of the Ohio to the straits of Magellan, thus presenting a vast and varied assemblage of species from every country of the world, excepting the comparatively cold and cloudy clime of Europe. The modern sub-divisions of this great natural family are too numerous and too

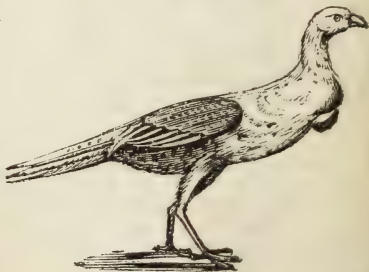
minute to be here recorded; and we must, therefore, satisfy ourselves with a glance at the varieties here presented to the spectator. There is nobody, we presume, at this enlightened day, that would desire to be edified, under the pretence of popular reading, by oft-told anecdotes of parrots; we shall, therefore, devote the little space we can afford to a consideration of the objects immediately before us.

The *Leadbearer's Cockatoo*, of which a representation is annexed, is indigenous to New Guinea and New Holland, but this peculiar species is, as yet, but ill-defined. They are remarkable for their great docility, and prefer the vicinity of marshy places. The Great Scarlet Maccaw, which is in close proximity to the above, is a most gorgeous bird; and, when in full plumage, measures above three feet in length, including, of course, the tail. The one before us is certainly a sumptuous creature; but, after



all, rather too much like a richly-liveried footman—an association, perhaps, somewhat strengthened in our estimation, by its being so often seen as an inhabitant of lordly mansions, and surrounded by other menial bipeds, almost as gorgeous as itself, and equally as soulless. Pursuing our direction in the same way, we arrive at case 104, containing stuffed specimens of the Gallinaceous tribe. These, from their being common, are too generally overlooked; but to us, looking at it with an imaginative eye, they speak with the force of a moralist. What is, indeed, more beautiful than the fond devoted affection of these creatures to their offspring, teaching, in the blindness of instinctive love, a lesson to proud but cold humanity. The Cock of the Woods here depicted, is

now utterly extinct, as a wild British species, though once frequent in these islands. Some few are said to be remaining in the pine forests of Scotland, and also



in the mountainous parts of Ireland; but this we are not well informed.

The Ostrich, of which an illustration is presented to the reader, is a bird so popularly known, that we need not, if we had the space, which we have not, dilate upon its peculiarities.

It is a native of Africa, where, in the pathless wilds and arid solitudes, it finds a home. Incapacitated by its heaviness for flight, it has recourse to its legs, instead of its wings, for safety; and in this manner it has been known to outstrip in speed the fleetest horse. In Arabia, the Arabs have availed themselves of this bird for securing a vehicle of transit across



the Desert, and in this way they can travel for miles at the most rapid speed, without the ostrich either suffering from the weight of a man on its back, or sinking under the fatigue. Perhaps in consequence of this, railroads have not yet been introduced into this country, being considered unnecessary whilst the race of ostriches remain. They are seldom prone to attack, except in self-defence, and lead a passive kind of life. The female lays a number of eggs at a time, which are buried in the sand, and left, generally, for the sun to warm forth into existence. Their height is usually from six to seven feet. The ostrich is amongst birds, what the Cameleopard is amongst animals, being remarkable for the grace and beauty of its form. In the arid and sandy deserts of Arabia, where the eye gazes for miles on only the wide waste and cheerless prospect, without an oasis being found to relieve the monotonous of the scene.

hastening the process of incubation, and causing the eggs to break, introducing, as if by magic, a group of new-fledged birds, to rivet the attention of the wayfarer.

In the same case (109), is a most singular specimen of the Bustard, the largest of European birds, and the rarest with us. The one in our illustration is the ruffed bustard, remarkable chiefly for the peculiar formation of the breast.

Bustards are seldom, if ever, met with in the southern and south-western portions of the British isles; but we remember to have seen several last summer in the county of Norfolk, to which it has long been reported to have been exclusively confined. It is an unwieldy bird, and generally weighs about thirty pounds; its flesh is, however, highly esteemed by epicures.

And now come we to case 114, in which the most remarkable of all is the Trumpeter. This most singular bird, of which there are only two species, belongs to the genus *Phosia* of Linnaeus, and is a native chiefly of South America and the Brazils. It is of use there to the natives when domesticated, by its quality of making a peculiarly shrill noise, or "trumpeting," when danger is near. For this purpose, it is often set to guard poultry, and feeding chiefly on serpents, its presence is much sought after.



The British Museum Explained and Illustrated.

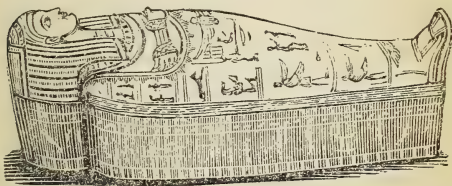
CHAPTER IX.—THE EGYPTIAN ROOM AND MUMMIES.*

IT is with a blended feeling of awe and admiration that we approach the Egyptian room. So connected as everything relative to Egypt is with mystery and ingenuity—the light of the past ages shining through the dimmer vista of the present—the mind is lost in the immensity of the subject it designs to grasp, and we are compelled to turn with a half-satisfied feeling from the wonders before us, conscious that they are indicative of more than the enterprise of mankind can reveal, and that, like the Bridge in the Vision of Mirza, which in its nearer portions appeared tolerably entire, but in those more remote, consisted of only broken arches, which gradually disappeared in the impenetrable mist that overhung the vast ocean of time in which it was lost, so the objects which we are about to consider, though seemingly complete, are in reality only a collection of dislocated fragments, the origin of which is lost in that abyss of the elder time of which there exists neither record nor memorial. This room lies to the left at the extremity of the eastern gallery, and contains various Egyptian curiosities, of which by far the most interesting and important are the mummies. Before entering into a description of the mummies themselves it will be as well perhaps to say something of the process of embalming, by which they were prepared. The manner of embalming was this; the brain was scooped out with an iron scoop at the nostrils, and medicaments thrown in to fill up the vacuum; the putrifying matter of the body was then removed, and myrrh, cassia, and other spices, except frankincense, deposited in their stead. This was in order to dry up the humours, and the body was placed in nitre, where it remained soaking for seventy days. It was then wrapped up in bandages of fine linen, and gums to make it adhere as if glued, and so it was delivered to the relatives, entire in all its features, the hair of the eyelids being preserved entire. They used to keep the bodies of their ancestors, thus embalmed, in apartments magnificently adorned, and took great pleasure in beholding them alive, as it were, without any change in their size, features, or complexion. The prices for embalming varied according to the rank of the party embalmed. The highest was a talent, the next twenty *minæ*, and so on decreasing to a very small amount. But

and the body being incased in nitre, grew dry, nothing remaining besides the skin glued upon the bones. For this description of the process of embalming we are indebted to both Herodotus and Diodorus. The former, who is unquestionably the better authority of the two says, (Book II. Section 85) :—" This service is appointed by persons whose art it is to perform the process of embalming as their business. When a dead body is brought to them, they show their patterns of mummies in wood, imitated by sculpture, and the most elaborate of these, they say, is one belonging to *Osiris* ; the second is less costly, and the third is cheapest of all. Having shown these, they enquire in which way the service shall be performed, upon which the parties make their agreement and leave the body for preparation. The interior soft parts being removed, both from the head and from the trunk, the cavities are washed with palm wine and fragrant gums, and partly filled up with myrrh, cassia, and other spices. The whole is then steeped in a solution of soda for 70 days, which is the longest time permitted, and then having been washed, the body is rolled up in bandages of cotton cloth, being first smeared with gum instead of glue. The relations then receiving the body, procure the case for it in a human shape, and inclose the dead body in it. When thus inclosed, they treasure it up in an appropriate building or apartment, and place it against the wall." This appears to have been the most expensive mode of preparation. In order to avoid such expense for those who preferred the middle course, the process was simplified by omitting the actual removal of the interior parts, and introducing a corrosive liquid to melt them down ; the soda, which was generally introduced, thus consumes the flesh so that skin and bone are only remaining when the body is returned to the friends. The third and the most simple process was merely to cleanse the body well both within and without, by means of some vegetable preparations, and keep it in the alkaline solutions for seventy days, without any other precautions. Embalming also appears to have been performed by means of a species of pitch, which was poured into the trunk of the body in a liquid state, through an aperture made on purpose in the right side, but this has been lately considered as apocryphal. The bandaging to which all the Egyptian mummies were subjected, appears to be one of the most remarkable parts of the process. The envelopes are composed

gradually surmounting the whole body. They are applied and interlaced so gradually and accurately that one might readily suppose they were intended to restore to the dry shrivelled body its original form and size. The only difference in the bandages of the different kinds of mummies, is in their greater or less fine texture, being applied on all in nearly the same manner. All the bandages and wrappings that have been examined by the microscope are of linen. The body is at first covered by a narrow dress laced at the back and tied at the throat, or it is all enveloped in one large bandage. The head is covered by a square piece of very fine linen, of which the centre forms a kind of mosque over the features. Five or six such pieces are usually put one over the other, and the last is usually painted or gilded, in representation of the embalmed person. Every part of the body is then seperately invested with several bandages, strongly impregnated with resin. The legs extended side by side and the arms placed over the chest are fixed by other bandages, which surround the whole body, and these last, which are commonly covered with hieroglyphics, are fixed by long, crossed, and very ingeniously applied bands, which complete the envelope. Most of the bodies are placed in this state in the catacombs; those of the rich only being placed in cases which are usually double; the interior being composed of boards, made of several portions of linen glued together, and the exterior cut from a piece of cedar or sycamore wood.

On taking a survey of the numerous bronze instruments of amusement and veneration that lay on the left side of the room, the first conspicuous object that arrests the attention, is the case R R, containing the mummy



of Harsontioff, priest of Amoun, in Thebes, holding vari-



round the loins, and chlamys on their shoulders, emblematical of the enemies of Egypt. Its dimensions are about five feet eight inches in length.

Case U U is the coffin of Penamoun, the incense-bearer of Thebes. The face is of dark polished wood, ornamented with a small square beard. The head is in a rich casket, representing the wings and body of a bird, with two side ornaments; round the neck is a pectoral plate, representing a disked face in a boat. The hands are crossed on the breast, each holding a roll of Papyrus,



and below is the HAT or good demon. Round the sides of the chest, traced in yellow upon a black ground, is a cat grasping a snake; the mummy on its bier with the soul soaring above (an indubitable evidence of the belief of the Egyptians in the immortality of the soul), and in addition to these we find a temple on a mountain, above which are the symbols of east and west, a lion-headed mummied deity holding two swords, a man walking, holding in each hand a star, the judgment scene, a deity with two snaked heads, and the disk of the sun descending below the solar mountain.

The next in importance may be considered the Case Z Z, containing the mummy of Mautemmen, a female attendant on the worship of Ammon, and most probably a priestess. The body is swathed in such a manner as to exhibit the whole of the form, and it is



mented, others are narrower, and cross from the shoulder to the belt, whilst the arms are swathed with narrow strips like the animal mummies. The back part of the head, and the extremities of the head and feet, are bared, exhibiting the hair and bones.

In the centre of the room, case A A A is the wooden coffin of Cleopatra, daughter of Candace : on the arched part of the cover are judgment scenes before Ra and Osiris, a train of inferior deities seated in porches and holding swords in their hands. Two rows of hawks with human and animal heads ; on one side a boat with a disk attached to a snake drawn by four deities. On the other a boat with the disk of the right symbolic eye attached to a snake drawn by three jackals. The *Hat*, the Scarabæus, with extended wings, and the Scarabæus in the boat, with Isis and another deity paying it homage. The interior represents Heaven, surrounded by zodiacal signs, and at the sides of the head are four tortoises. The upper end has the hawk of Ra, and the lower the cow of Athor, seated on a pedestal. On the sides are the twenty-four hours as female figures, twelve on each side, each procession closed by a thirteenth female, doubtless as a personification of the morning and evening star. It is nearly six feet in length, two feet in breadth, and two feet in height. But it must not be considered that the Egyptians directed their attention exclusively to the preservation of the human species ; on the contrary, embalming was practised almost as extensively upon some animals as it was on men, particularly on those that they held sacred. The list of mummied animals given by Mr. Pettigrew, includes the lion, wolf, bat, dog, monkey, cat, jackal, fox, hyena, bear, ichneumon, shrew-mouse, deer, goat, sheep, oxen, and calves, hippopotamus, vulture, eagle, ibis, owl, hawk, falcon, crocodile, swallow, goose, toad, adder snake, lizard, carp, pike, and some few other fish, with some insects. Strange to say, some vegetables also have been found embalmed.

In case D D we find the mummy of part of a bull, remarkable for its perfect preservation during a lapse of two or three thousand years. Most of these animals had cases appropriated to their species ; but sometimes they are mixed, and very rarely they are



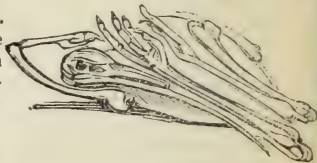
In case B B we meet with a small coffin in a vaulted cover, containing the mummy of a Greco-Egyptian child. The body is covered with an external wrapper, with a representation of the deceased in a



toga; the hair is crowned with a wreath, the feet are in shoes, and the left hand is holding a branch of laurel, whilst the other is raised. On the top of a cover is a viper between two wreaths. The representation here given will serve to give a very faithful conception of the wonderfully exact preservation of the whole.

In cases E E the mummies of the Ibis and the Crocodile are introduced to our notice.

The first we spoke of at some length in treating of its ornithological properties, and of the latter it will be only necessary to add,



that the Egyptian crocodile formed one of the emblems of Sevek, the Egyptian Chronos, or Saturn, and hence



its deification. The other objects in this room, consisting of ornaments, statues of deities, musical instruments, &c. &c., are many of them deserving close investigation; but the description, or even enumeration of them all, would soon become as tedious as it would be found unnecessary. Concluding then, as we commenced, with a description of mummies, it may be mentioned that, in some situations, the conditions of the soil and atmosphere, by the rapidity with which they permit the drying of the animal tissues, are alone sufficient for the preservation of the body in the form of a mummy. This

from Caxamarca by General Paroissier. Like most of them it is in a sitting posture, with the knees almost touching the chin, and the hands by the sides of the face. It is quite dry and hard. The features are distorted, but nearly perfect, though the hair has fallen off. The Peruvian mummies do not appear to have been subjected to any particular preparation; the dry and absorbent earth in which they are placed being sufficient to prevent them putrifying. M. Humboldt found the bodies of both Spaniards and Peruvians lying on former fields of battle, dried and preserved in the open air. In the deserts of Africa the preservation of the body is secured by burying it in the hot sand, and even in Europe soils are sometimes met with, in which the bodies undergo a slight process of drying, and then remain almost unalterable, even on exposure to the air and moisture. There is a vault at Toulouse, in which a vast number of bodies that had been buried were found, after many years, dry, and without a trace of the effects of putrefaction; and in the vaults of St. Michael's Church, Dublin, the bodies are similarly preserved. In both cases putrefaction is prevented by the constant absorption of the moisture from the atmosphere, and, through its medium, from the body, by the calcareous soil in which the vaults are dug. It would far exceed our limits or intention to go into lengthened inquiries on the subject; but we must give it as our opinion, that if European climates were more favourable, it is probable that, with the present knowledge of materials for hardening the tissues, such as pyroligneous acid, corrosive sublimate, arsenic, salts of iron, &c. &c., mummies might be prepared equal to the Egyptian in permanence, and superior to them in the preservation of their forms.

