

Ricreatione dell' *occhio* é della *Mente* Nell' *observation*' delle *Chioccioline* Dal *P. Filippo Buonanni* &c. in *Roma*, per il *Varese*, 1681.

HAVING discoursed as it were in his own defence how proper for the diversion of a *Philosopher* these sort of *Speculations* are, as creating a *pleasure* only to him whose *faculties* are *refined* enough to *relish* it; he divides his *Subject*, which is *Shell-fish*, according to the number and figure of their *Shells*, whence arises the distinction of them into *Univalves*, *Bivalves*, and *Turbinated*. The production of these, as to its manner, being much controverted among *Naturalists*, he enumerates and examines the several opinions concerning it, *viz.* That they propagate their own *Species* by their own *Nature* as other *perfect Animals*, as some think, or as others, that they arise from *putrefaction*, as *Insects* have been supposed to do; and some few opinions more subordinate to these two: And not at all acquiescing in, neither confuting, the reasoning and experiments of *Steno*, *Redi*, or *Lyster*, he embraces the old and antiquated opinion of their being *equivocally* produced out of *putrefaction*, for which he brings little proof besides the well known reasons, and Authority of *Aristotle*.

After this he considers the great variety of *Shapes* and *Colours* which adorn them, and having made some
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enquiry into the causes of them, whether they proceed from *Mineral Tinctures*, as we see *lead* is whitened by *Vinegar*, blackt by *Oyl*, burnt to a *Yellow*; &c. he seems to incline to the opinion that they are meerly *Accidental*, and produces experiments to justify the Assertion.

After this, he enumerates the different *Proprieties*, and uses may be made of *Shell-fish*, and gives us a general Account of several *Museum's*, in which are to be seen great and curious Collections of them, as that of *Wormius* at *Amsterdam*, of *Calceolarius*, the *Museum Cospianum* annexed to that of *Aldrovandus* at *Bologna*, &c. At *Rome*, he tells us of many collections of this nature; as in the Palace of Prince *Pamphilio*; the *Museum* of Cardinal *Chigi*, the Study of the *Queen of Swedens* Antiquary, and many others.

His second Part contains a plain and succinct Description of the several *species* contained under each *genus*; to which are added their *colours*, the *places* where they are found and whatsoever is particular in each of them, which descriptions refer you to the fourth part of his book, consisting wholly of the figures of them curiously engraven.

The third part is intirely problematical, where he enquires about the generation of *Pearls*, and in what kinds of *Shell-fish* they are found, whether the matter they are formed of be the *dew*; whether they grow from the *shell*, or are produced in the *body* of the Fish, as also whether they are *diseases* of them, or their proper *fetus*.

He examines the reason why *Shell-fish* are produced rather in the *Sea*, than in *Lakes*, or *Rivers*; as also why more in the *Water* than in the *Earth*, &c. why there
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is not that *variety* of *parts* in them which is found in other *Animals*; for he asserts, and pretends *Anatomy* for it, that they have no *Teeth, Heart, Bones, Liver, Gall,* nor *Spleen, &c.* Last of all Supposing the *Concha Veneræ* to be the *Remora* of the Antients, he disputes the possibility of its being able to stop a Ship.

O X F O R D,

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