

the Bellows inverted. I know another that was for crackling *Cinders* under her feet. From which kind of *Instances* I am inclin'd to doubt, whether that Distemper begins at the *Depravation* of the *Acid liquor* in the *Stomach*, and not rather at the *Uterus*, which next infects the *Brain*, such kind of things gratifying the *Fancy* some ways mislead, more than the *Appetite natural* any ways depraved.

6. Somewhat like to this is to be found in *Brutes*. In *Mal* last a Greyhound Bitch at *Brightwel-Hall*, about five or six days before she cast her Whelps, had such a wild kind of Hunger, (though she was fed sufficiently every day with usual food) that finding another Bitches Whelps, she devoured them all (4 or 5, as I remember) and fell next upon the Bitch her self, who made a shift to get from her as well as she could, being helped. From this, and from *Sows* devouring whole *Litters* of Pigs, I am prone to think otherwise of the *Longings* of *Teeming-Women*, than is the common opinion.

A Confirmation

Of the Experiments mentioned in Numb. 27. to have been made by Signor Fracassati in Italy, by injecting Acid Liquors into Blood.

THE Honourable *Robert Boyle* having seen the particulars inserted in *Numb. 27.* concerning some Experiments made by Signor *Fracassati*, and recollecting what himself had experimented of that nature several years ago, was pleased to give to the Publisher the following *Information* about it, by the favour of a Letter, written to him from *Oxford, Octob. 19. 1667. viz.*

SIR,

I Hinted to you in my last something about the Original of the Experiments made in Italy, by injecting Acid Liquors into Blood: To explain which, I shall now tell you, That about this time three years* I mentioned at *Gresham Colledge* to the *Royal Society*, an odd Experiment I had formerly made (not by Chance, but De-

his Office hath the care of seeing them faithfully managed) do fully agree with the Affirmation of this Noble Person, as well in the *circumstance* of the *Time*, as the *substance* of the *Matter* in question; it being in the Month of *December*, of *An. 1664.* when, what is now alledged in this Letter, was publicly related by its *Author*.

LII 2

sign)

ign) upon Blood yet warm, as it came from the Animal, viz. That by putting into it a little Aqua-fortis, or Oyl of Vitriol, or Spirit of Salt, (these being the most usual Acid Menstruums) the Blood not only would presently lose its pure colour, and become of a dirty one, but in a trice be also coagulated; whereas if some fine Urinous Spirit, abounding in Volatil Salt, such as the Spirit of Sal Armoniack, were mingled with the warm Blood, it would not only not curdle it, or imbase its Colour, but make it look rather more florid than before, and both keep it fluid, and preserve it from putrefaction for a long time.

This Experiment I devis'd, among other things, to shew the Amicableness of Volatil Spirits to the Blood. And I remember, 'twas so much taken notice of, that some very inquisitive Members of the Society came presently to me, and desired me to acquaint them more particularly with it; which I readily did, though afterwards I made some further Observations about the same Experiments, that I had no occasion to relate.

This having been so publickly done, though I shall not say, that Signor Fracassati may not have hit, as well as I, upon the Experiments published in his Name, yet there is so little difference between the warm Blood of an Animal out of his Veins and in them, that 'tis not very improbable, that he may have had some imperfect Rumour of our Experiment without knowing whence it came, and so may, without any dissingenuity, have thence taken a hint to make and publish what now is English'd in the Transactions. If it be thought fit, that any mention be made of what I related so long since, I think I can send you some other Circumstances belonging to it: For I remember, I tried it with other Liquors (as Spirit of Wine, Oyl of Tartar, Oyl of Turpentine) and I think also I can send you some Remarks upon the Colour of the upper part of the Blood. And I shall on this occasion add, in reference to Anatomical matters in general, that after I saw how favourably the usefulness of Experimental Philosophy was receiv'd, I was invited to enlarge it in another Edition; and for that, I provided divers Anatomical as well as other Experiments, and designed many more, so that I have by me divers things that would not, perhaps, be unwelcome to Anatomists, &c.

An Observation about the Epiploon, or the double Membrane, which covers the Entrails of Animals, and is filled with Fat.

This Observation should have been added to those that were publish'd in Number