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V. Microscopical Observations upon the Tongue; in a Letter to the Royal Society from Mr. Anthony Van Leeuwenhoek, F. R. S.

Delft in Holland, December 6. 1707.

A FTER I had fatisfied my felf concerning that Mar-ter which is found upon the Tongue, and which we call the Thrush, I let my Thoughts wander a little further upon the Confideration of the Tongue it felf, in order, if it were poffible, that I might discover the Pores in the Tongue, by which that Matter is imbibed, which is afterwards protruded out of the Tongue : wherefore I did, asit were, reject or lay aside all my former Remarks about the Tongue, and having taken four diftinct Tongues of Oxen or Cows, I fet my felf to examine the Skins of the fame, and particularly the External Particles, that are upon the thickness of the Tongue, and where, as I conceive, is the place that admits the Juices into the Tongue, by which that Senfation is produced which we call the ticles as well as I cou'd from those that lay under them, and observ'd that the latter, that is to fay, the Internal were furnish'd with a very great number of pointed Particles, the tops of which, for the most part, were broken off, and remained sticking in the outmost Skin; and it has often happen'd, that when I placed one of those Internal Particles of the Tongue before a Microscope, it appear'd to me, to be as 'twere a transparent Body, fomthing larger than a Thimble, and I cou'd difcover in it little Internal Holes or Cavities, thro' which a greater quantity Q 2

quantity of Light was admitted, than by the other parts 3 and I also imagined, that the Extream Parts of those Caviries had exceeding small Orifices in them.

Now that we may the better conceive an *Idea* of the forementioned protuberant Particles which are found in the thickeft part of the Tongue of an Oxe, I caufed the fame to be drawn just as they they appear to the naked Eye, as you may fee in *Fig.* 1. A, B, C, which Particles are a little bigger than they were upon the Tongue, becaufe those were a little dried up.

Notwithstanding that I took a great deal of pains to feparate the uppermost Skin from the Parts that lay under, to the end that I might view those latter intire and unbroken, yet I cou'd not bring it to bear any farther, than as it is represented here in *Fig.* 2. D, E, F, G, H, I, in which I cou'd only discover a few pointed Particles between G, H, and I.

Upon viewing with a Microfcope that fpace of the Tongue, which is between the Protuberances, I obferv'd, that 'twas all over cover'd with a great number of exceeding fmall rifing roundneffes, that were fo clofe to one another, that you cou'd not put in two Hairs between them, as you fee in Fig. 3. K, L, M.

Moreover I stripp'd off the Superficies of the Tongue with a sharp Knife, and repeated the same a second time; and then discover'd an unspeakable Number of little Holes, some of which seem'd to be fill'd, others were cut through length-ways.

Fig. 4. N, O, P, Q R, S, reprefents one of the aforementioned thin Slices, in which we had difcover'd divers fmall Holes; the great Hole in the faid Figure at T, is the place where there was a little Protuberancy like those in Fig. 1. and which had been cut off. At P, Q, and R, you may observe the place where a much greater Protuberancy had stood; and the dark little Strokes or Lines between Q and R, are those Particles which were cut thro' thro' length ways; and the Particles that lie near them, are those that were cut a cross. — I did likewise feparate the uppermost thick Skin of the Tongue from the parts that lay under, as well as I was able, to the end I might discover what those Particles were that were placed in the find Openings; and at last I discover'd in the underlying Parts, a great number of long Particles, which I concluded to be as long, or something longer, than the thickness of the uppermost Skin, and that the Points of those long Particles were sheathed into the small little Cavities or roundnesses, described above by Fig. 3. K, L, M.

From this appearance I allo imagined to my felf, that when we prets our Tongues against the Roof of our Mouth (in order to taste any thing,) the aforementioned long Particles, the ends of which are exceeding flender, prefs thro' the uppermost Skin, which at that place is also very thin, (or to speak more properly, is endued with small Pores or Holes) and so receives a little Juice 3 from all which proceeds such a fort of Sensation, which we call Taste.

These long flender Particles appear'd so numerous, as we view'd 'em thro' a Microscope, that no Grass in the Field cou'd seem thicker to the naked Eye. See Fig. 5. V,W,X,Y. and at first they stood streight up an Eud, but by growing dry, they assure funded so funder the four sectors and the represented between X and Y.

Sometime ago a certain Gentleman related, as a very wonderful thing, that the Oxen or Cows had their Tongues armed with very fharp Particles; but I told him that that must necessfarily be to, because those Beasts had no Teeth in the upper Mouth or Jaw, and therefore were forced to prefs the Grass with their Tongues against the Roofs of their Mouths, in order to break it to pieces. Thefe fharp Particles are Bones, that are bent or crooked a little, and the outward parts of them ftand towards the inmost part of the Mouth, and the nearer they come to the thickest part of the Tongue, where those Particles are to be found that are represented by *Fig.* 1. A, B, C, the fmaller they grow, and these Bony Particles have alfo a thin Skin over them.

I also caused a Hog-Butcher to bring me at feveral times divers Tongues of Hogs, and cut off the protuberant Particles which are found at the top of the Throat, and I caused one of those small Particles to be drawn by the Painter, which appear'd as large to him, as 'tis here represented in Fig. 6. between A and B.

I placed feveral of these protuberant Particles before a Microscope, and observed upon one of the Tongues other tharp pointed Particles sticking out of the forementioned protuberant ones; whereupon I caused it to be Painted, as it appeared to me, in *Fig.* 7. C, D, E, F, G; the most pointed part is at F, where it pierces thro' the uppermost Skin, and between E and G you may observe four leffer sharp Particles of the same Nature.

Fig. 8. H, I, K, L, M, reprefents likewife one of the foremention'd protuberant Particles of a Hog's Tongue, in which between K and L you may observe standing out three sharp-pointed Parts, and at M a fourth; and 'twas moreover all cover'd with the foremention'd Tumors or Roundness.

Furthermore, after feveral Diffections of the faid Particles, I made a fhift to feparate the uppermoft Skin of the faid Particles, and viewing divers of them with a Microfcope, I cou'd perceive that each of 'em were of a different Figure; but all agreeing in this, that they were arm'd with an unconceivable Number of painted Particles, which lay, as 'twere all involved or hid in the Skin; and thefe, as I imagine, are endued with a Power (when (when the Tongue is prest against the Roof of the Mouth) to produce the Sensation of Taste.

Fig. 9. N, O, P, Q R, the syou one of those Prominent Parts, as 'twas deveited of its Skin, and as well as the Painter cou'd deferibeit; and altho' the Points that flick out seem to be very blunt, yet I fancy if one were to see them in their true State and Nature, they would be very fharp; and the reason why they don't appear to now, is that the Points are probably broken off, and remain flicking in the Skin.

A did likewile view the Tongues of Hogs in those Parts where there were no Protuberances, even to the end of the Tongue; and with great wonder always difcover'd a mighty Number of very flender long Particles, which always run into a fharp Point at the end, just as any Needles do appear to the naked Eye.

Fig. 10. S, T, V, W, X, reprefents a very fmall Particle of the Tongue, with three Protuberances on it; which being dryed, appeared fo ftanding out as is defcribed, each of them having four pointed Particles, one of which at W, was ftanding out much higher than the reft; all these unevennesses out of the Skin are occasion'd, as I conceive, by reason that the Parts, in which the faid sharp-pointed Particles, are as 'twere riveted or fastned, lying lengthways, do not equally shrink in, in the drying

After all this I took a very tharp Razor, and therewith cut oif from the Tongue a few Slices as thin as I con'd possible, and placed them before the Microfcopes, in order to discover how the aforemention'd pointed Particles lay in the Skin.

Fig. 11. A, B, C, D, E, F, G, reprefents one of those fmall Slices of the Tongue; in which at D, E, F, 1 observed three tharp Particles; and that which was described by E, had four pointed Particles together; and who knows

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knows but in D and F there may be other tharp Particles that up in them.

In the faid Fig. by H, H, H, H, H, H, are reprefented ten Particles, in which the fharp Points are placed, which were partly cut off, and which appear'd to the Eye like fo many Cavities; but which proceeds alone, in my Opinion, from hence, that the Matter with which those Parts were fill'd, was dryed in; for those Parts were not drawn in by the Painter, but at the end of feveral days after they were cut off from the Tongue.

Forafmuch as those Parts of the Tongue are not of equal bigness, nor do stand equally close to one another, I caused to be drawn another little piece of the upper part of the abovementioned Tongue, as you may see in Fig. 12. where I, K, L, M, are those Particles from which the very sharp Points are cut off, and M, N, O, I, the sharp-pointed Particles themselves, which appear here very plainly to the Eye.

Now when I ftroked my Finger upwards and downwards over that part of the Tongue, where the forementioned pointed Parts are found in great number, in order to difcover the Sharpneffes thereof, I must own, that I could perceive no more roughness than if I had been feeling a piece of Velvet.

Now when I perceived, that a great number of very flender and fharp pointed Particles had no hardnefs nor ftiffnefs in them, I began to think whether those Particles that are represented in Fig. 11. by H, H, H, or in Fig. 12. by I, K, L, M, may not be sheathed up when they are at rest, and forbear to exert their Sharpness, or to thrust themselves out of the Skin, but only at such times when the Sensation of Tast is to be excited; for how can one conceive, that such soft Parts thousd be able to withstand all those Motions which are produced in them by the Tongue, both in eating and other Occations: Moreover it came into my Thoughts, that when the the Butchers kill the Hogs, the pain that is cauled by the Wounds they then give them, might also force those flender fharp-pointed Particles to come out of the places of the reft.

I discover'd likewise a great many round protuberant Particles between the faid Particles, the Diameter of which was twice as big as of those in Fig. 12. between K and L; and when the Skin came to dry, I cou'd discover in a great many Places, the external or sticking out Membranes drawn inwards in such a manner, that one wou'd take 'em for Valves.

From this appearance I began to confider, whether those fort of Particles were not made for the discharging the Tongue of its superfluous Matter; and the rather, because I had oftentimes observ'd, that those Vessels had nothing included in them, but a moistness which mostly evaporated, and left as 'twere an empty place behind it, which extended it felf as far as the thickness of the Skin.

After I had brought my Observations thus far, I determin'd to separate the uppermost Skin from the Parts that lay under, which I brought to pass in small Parcels; and when I had divided fuch an uppermost Skin, I cut from it, (in that part where it had been united) with a fharp Razor, feveral Scaley Particles, which having placed before the Microscope, I observed with wonder a great Number of Holes or Cavities, which when they were placed opposite to the fight appear'd wider, but when removed from the fight narrower, fo that each Cavity feem'd to be of the Form of a Tap or Funnel; and foralmuch as each of the faid Cavities had, as it were, a Body fast about them, I concluded, that these were certainly those Parts which in Fig. 11. are described by H, H, or in Fig. 12. by I, K, L, M, and that they were broken of from their bottom or part that lay under them.

Now the better to receive the aforementioned Parts, L canfed a fmall Particle of 'em to be drawn, as you may fee in Fig. 13. between P, Q and R.

From these Discoveries I confidered with my felf, when ther those tharp-pointed Particles in Fig. 10, 11, 12, might not proceed out of those hollownesses that are reprefented in Fig. 13. For my further Satisfaction therefore, I cut off a small Slice with a sharp Razor, from that part from which I had cut off Fig. 12. before, and placed it before a Microscope and observed, that for fo many Cavities which I had found in Fig. 12. as many pointed Particles appeared in this, having their Roots, or being failned into a Fleihy Substance lying under the uppermost Skin; and forasmuch as the last mention'd Particle with its Points flood opposite to the fight, I cut off a small Slice of it, and placing the pointed Particles uppermost, I cau'ed it to be drawn as in Fig. 14. A, B, C, D. E. F. G. of which D, E, F. G. A, are those Parts that are placed in Fig. 13. of which, some are bent crooked. which I suppose is not their natural State, but what has been acquired either by my handling, or by their growing dry and thrinking; as also that the pointed tharp Parts, represented in Fig. 10, 11, 12. are joyned together. and in the feparating of the uppermost Skin, the tops of em are either broken off, or remain flicking in the faid Skin:

In Fig. 14. by A, B, C, D, is defcribed a very fmall part of the Fleth of a Tongue, in which those pointed Particles are as 'twere planted, and in which, the Painter could just perceive fome roundish Particles, which he has represented as be faw them, and which Particles I conclude are Particles of Flesh that were cut through across.

I next turn'd my Thoughts to the Examining how the pointed Particles in Fig. 14. D, E, F, G, A, were disposed in the parts of the Flesh; whereupon, I cut across the Flesh Elefh of the Tongue in that part of it, where the pointed Particles are rooted in, and observed oftentimes, that when I came to a pointed Paricle, just where it was planted in the Flesh, it did confist of y or 8 Particles of Flesh, and sometimes more, that infinuated themselves between the parts of the Flesh of the Tongue; and the long Flesh Particles of the Tongue (which did as 'twere furround the pointed Particles that are rooted in the Flesh) appear'd to be Analagous to those perpendicular Vessels in Wood, which do also, as it were, incompass the Horizontal Vessels, of which I have formerly given you an account.

Now when I observed that the pointed Parts described by E, F, G, in *Fig.* 14. did consist of several long Flesh Particles, I began to consider, whether each of those long Flesh Particles, did not end in such Points as in *Fig.* 11. are represented by D, E, F.

Fig. 15. H, I, K, L, M, reprefents a very finall piece of the Tongue of a Hog, fo as it appear'd through the Microfcope, in which you may observe five particular Particles which had been cut through across; in fome little Slices I have observed feven such roundish Flesh Particles: The long Particles, which are extended from L to K, and from M to I or H, and which encompass the foremention'd Particles, are the Flesh parts of the Tongue.

I did moreover cut through lengthways some of these pointed Particles, described in Fig. 14. by E, F, G, just at the place where they are fastned into the Flesh, in order, if it were possible, to discover how deep those Particles were rooted into the little Muscles of the Flesh, but I could prosecute my Design but a very little way.

I cauled the Painter to draw one of thole very small Particles, so as it appeared through the Microscope, and as it is represented by Fig. 16. N, O, P, Q, R.; and whereas in the foregoing Fig. 15. the Flesh Particles are de-R 2 foribed fcribed, cut through lengthways, here the finall Mulcles of Fleih are represented cut through across; and the faid Fleih Mufcles, as far as the Painter could perceive them, appear to be four in number, viz. one just by N, another by O, the third by P, and the fourth by Q; and those Particles which run in length from R to O, or from Q to P, are the Fleih Parts of those pointed Particles, which, as I faid before, go in between the Fleih Par icles; but 'twas impossible for me to discover how far they go in; I had enough to do to place them in this manner before the Eye of the Painter, and I have wish'd more than once, that I could get them so drawn as they appeared to me; for the Parts dry away so fast whill I am viewing them, that they do in a manner disppear before I deliver them to be drawn by the Painter.

Amongst others I observed the pointed Particle, which was flit in two, one part of it spreading it self to the Right, the other to the Left of a little Flesh Muscle that: was cut through across.

It will appear very strange to some People, what I am going to fay of these small Muscles of Flesh, viz. that according to the best Judgment I could make of their Magnitude to my Eye, as the Diameter of a Hair of one's Head gives one, so the Diameter of one of these Muscles of Flesh gives two: Yea, I have seen a Flesh Muscle that I had cut across as it lay in its length, which at both the Ends was no thicker than a single Particle of Flesh, but in the broadest part of it had fix Flesh Particles, and in the middle of the fix there lay part of a feventh Flesh Particle, and so made the likeness of a Weaver's Shuttle; and this Flesh Muscle lay furrounded with the Flesh Muscles that lay in their length.

Now, when we often fee that the Diameter of one of rhefe little Muscles of Flesh (such a one as is described in Fig. 16. by N, O or P) does not exceed two Hairs breadth of one's Head; and when we compute that fix bundred hundred Breadths of a Hair does not exceed the Diameter of one Inch; it follows, that 300 Diameters of these similar Muscles is but equal to the Diameter of one Inch; and consequently then, that 90000 of the faid small Muscles of Flesh make no more than the thickness of one Inch.

These long Flesh Particles, which compose the Muscles of Flesh, are likewise themselves composed of abundance of smaller Particles; but how unspeakably small then must these Particles be, of which the whole Bundle is made up.

One mult also confider, that these long Flesh Pariscles are not round, but each affumes such a Figure, as fuits best to the others, to which 'tis joyned, and so as to leave no space nor Vacuity between them, infomuch that I have seen some of them that were in a manner of a Triangular Figure.

Now forasmuch as the Particles represented by Fig. 15 and 16, were in a manner dryed away before the Painter cou'd fix his Eye upon them, I bethought my felf of an Expedient to place them before his Eye, even whilf they remain'd moift and plump.

Fig. 17. A, B, C, D, E, F, G,G,G, H, I, K, L, M, reprefents a finall piece of the Tongue of a Hog, in which the pointed Flefh Particles that in Fig. 14. are defcribed by D, E, F, G, A, appears to be coming out or rather joyned to and faitned in those parts which are shewn by G, H, I, K, L, M, and the Tips or Points of 'em are also broken off.

This little piece was cut off from a different part of the Tongue than the foregoing; and you must observe, that you may often cut Slices from the Tongue, without being fo happy as to cut the Particles lengthways.

You may see how those forementioned Particles spread themselves amongst the vast number of little Flesh Muscles which are all cut across; and you may likewise perceive how the other Particles cut lengthways, and defcribed by G, being divided into two Branches at the top, are joyn'd in one a little lower, and then afterwards divide themfelves again, and fo continue till they are cut off at F and D; in like manner those Particles cut lengthways, and defcribed by H, I, K, are prefently joyned and foon after feparated again, as you may fee at C and E; and again, other Particles of the fame nature, reprefented by K, L, M, are united, and a little above B, C, are again disjoyned; and between the faid C and B, isanother fmall Particle, which is alfo divided.

The Painter told me, that in drawing he coud perceive Holes or Cavities in those Particles, which are defcribed to be cut lengthways, but as I cou'd not be fure of that, I chuse rather to give them the name of Flesh Particles, whose inmost parts are as 'twere shrunk inwards; and how many foever cuts I made in the Tongue, the *Phenomena* or Appearances thereof were always various, yea, fo much that we were quite astonished at it, and if I cou'd represent them to any other Bodies Eyes in the fame manner as I faw 'em my felf, they woud cry out, *What Wonders are these !*

Between those Fleth Particles that are cut thro'across, and which are furrounded by the other Particles that are cut thro' lengthways, you may observe, that several of them are distinguished from the rest by a darker Circle of the red Pencil, which Circle you most suppose to be little Membranes that encompass the small Muscles of Flesh, which small Muscles are likewise in part represented by G, G, G.

I have often thought that our Tafte proceeds alone from the Tongue; but within thefe few days, I am become of another Opinion; for when I viewed that part of the Roof of the Mouth, opposite to the top of the Throat, where the notch'd or jagged parts of the Hog's Tongue are determined, I judged that that was the place from from whence the Head did partly difcharge it felf, and the Matter to be caft out, which comes into the Mouth without its proceeding from the Lungs; as also that there are a great many parts in it, which receive the Matter which we call the Tafte: but this wants a further Enquiry.

VI. Part of a Letter from the Reverend Mr. W. Derham, F. R. S. to Dr. Hans Sloane, R. S. Secr. concerning the Migration of Birds.

Upminster, April 1st. 1708.

Remember that some time since, I promised to suggest a thing to the Society relating to the Migration of Birds, which I conceive may conduce to the Difcovery of that pretty Phanomenon; and I am forry I forgot it till the Jynx (just now come) hath brought it to my Thoughts. The Business I would humbly recommend is. That the Members of the Society all over the Realm. would themselves, or procure their inquisitive Friends to observe, and note down the very Day they first see or hear of the Approach of any of the Migratory Birds: And it may be convenient also to observe how the Winds fit at the fame time, especially towards the Sea-coasts. The feveral Obfervations ought to be communicated to the Society. Which when compared together, we may probably make a good guess which way those Birds come, whether fromward the East, or any other Point. The Jynz or Wryneck (for instance) which I take to be undoubtedly a Bird of Paffage, I first heard this Year on March 29, the Wind Southerly, or S. Westerly that and the preceding Day; but Easterly before. The Certhia alla