

Smile 1 - Parke 2 5

Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2010 with funding from Research Library, The Getty Research Institute

http://www.archive.org/details/evphratesorwater00vaug

7 ...

EVPHRATES,

OR THE

WATERS

EAST;

Being a short Discourse of that Secret
Fountain, whose Water slows
from Fire; and carries in it
the Beams of the Sun
and Moon:

By Eugenius Philalethes.

Sadith ex Lib. Sacro.

Et dixit Deus, cujus Nomen san Aificetur: Fecimus ex Aqua omnem Rem.

London printed for Humphrey Moseley at the Princes Arms in St. Paul's Church-yard 1655.

BRIDE

WATER

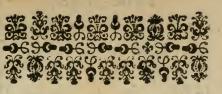
FASTS

Truck to the control of the control

and the world of

Land ex Isia. Some Last some and some (in tiples not executed by the com Rem.

Lawlon on without song him haldes at the Pure - Armein S. Pawis Charles part : 63 fr



To the READER.

Be Have Reader, and I suppose it is not unknowne to thee) within these few years, in severall little Tractats delivered my Judgement of Philosophie, I say of Philosophie, for Alchymie in the common acceptation, A 3

and as it is a torture of Metalls, I did never believe, much less did I study it. In this print, my Bookes being perused will give thee Evidence; for there I referre thee to a subject that is universall, that is the foundation of all Nature, that is the matter whereof all things are made, and wherewith being made are nourished. This I presume can be no metall, and therefore as I ever disclamed Alchimie in the vulgar sense, so I thought fit to let the Alchimists know it, least in

the perusall of my Writings they should fix a construction to some Passages, which cannot fuit with the Judgment of their Author. Hence thou maist fee what my Conceptions were, when I began to write, and now I must tell thee they are still the same, nor hath my long experience weakened them at all, but invincibly confirmed them. But to acquaint thee how ingenuous Iam, I freely confess, that in my prastife I waved my own principles, for having miscarried

carried in my first attempts, I laid aside the true subjest, and was contented to follow their Noise, who will hear of nothing but Me. talls. What a Drudge I have been in this fatid and facu. lent School, for three years together, I will not here tell thee, it was well that I quitted it at last, and walk'd again into that clear light, which I had foolishly forsaken. I ever conceived that in metalls there. were great secrets, provided they be first reduc'd by a proper Dissolvent; but to

feek that Dissolvent, or the matter whereof it is made, in -Metalls, is not onely Er_ vor but Madness. I have for the Truths sake, and to justiffe my innocent and former Discourses, added to them this little piece; which perhaps is fuch, and hath in it so much, as the World hath not yet seen published. It is not indeed the tenth part of what I had first delign'd, but some fober Considerations made me forbear, as my suddain and abrupt Close will inform thee. Howsoever,

what I now referve, as to Philosophicall Mysteries may be imparted hereafter in our Meteorologie; & for the Theologicall, we shall draw them up for our own privat use in our Philosophia Gratiæ. I have little more to say, but if it may adde any thing to thy content, I can assure thee here is nothing affirm'd, but what is the fruit of my own experience. I can truly say of my \ own, for with much labour have I wrung it out of the Earth, nor had lany to in.

struct me; for I was never so fortunate as to meet with one man, who had the abilities to contribute to me in this kind. I would not have thee build mountains on the Foundation I have here laid, not especially those of Gold; But if thou dost build -Phylick upon it, then have I shew'd thee the Rock and the Basis of that famous Art, which is so much profest, and so little understood; here thou shalt find the true subject of it demon-Arated, and if thou art not

very dull, sufficiently discovered; Here God himfelf and the Word of God leads thee to it; Here the Light shews thee Light, and here hast thou that Testimonie of Iamblicus, and the Ægyptian Records cleared; namely, that God sometimes delivered to the antient Priests and Prophets a certain Matter, per beata Spectacula, and communicated it for the use of Man. Ishall conclude with this Admonition; if thou would'st know Nature, take heed of Anti10 the Reader.

Antimonie and the common netalls; seek onely that very first mixture of elements. which Nature makes in the reat World; seek it I say, whil'st it is fresh and news nd having found it, coneal it. As for the use of it, ek not that altogether in ookes, but rather beg it the Hands of God, for is properly his Gift, and ever man attain'd to it rithout a clear and sensible fistance from above; Neget not my Advice in this, ough it may seem ridicu-

lous

lous to those that are overwife; and have the Mercies of God in derision. Many men live in this World without God; they have no Visits from him, and therefore laugh at those that feek him, but much more at those that have found him. St. Paul gloried in his Revelations, but he that will do so now, shall be number'd amongst Ranters and Anabaptists. But let not these things divert thee, if thou servest God, thou servest

3.00

10 the Reader.

a good Master, and he will not keep back thy Wages. Farewell in Christ Jesus.

E. P.

Euphrates

ord Miles, and the cost to the cost the cost of the co

T. D

Euphines



EUPHRATES &C.

T is written in those living 0racles, which we have received, and believe, that Reveloct 6 there is an Angel v.s.

if the Waters: and this seems o be spoken in a general sense, s if the Angel there mentioied, had been President of all hat Element. Elsewhere we ind an Angel limited to a more particular Charge, as that vhich descended at a certain eason, and stirred the Waters John c.s. 1 the Pool of Bethelda. Nor is

ir indeed any thing strange that Angells should visit and move that Element, on which the Spirit of God did move in the be-

gen. c. 1. ginning. I cite not these places, as if they were pertinent to my purpose, or made altogether for it, though I know they make nothing against it; but I cite them as Generals, to shew that God is conversant with Matter, though he be not tyed to it, and this is all my Design. Notwithstanding I know, that tib. de An. Prince Avicen, hath numbred

withstanding I know, that
Lib. de An. Prince Avicen, hath numbred
Lib. de An. Prince Avicent, hath numbred
L

rably

rably of Nature, and if I avoid such Disputes as these, it is because I would not offend weak Consciences. For there are a people, who though they dare not think the Majesty of God was diminished, in that he made the World, yet they dare think, he Majesty of his Word is much vilified, if it be applied to what ie hath made. An opinion truy, that carries in it a most danerous Blasphemy; namely that iods Word and Gods Work rould be fuch different things, hat the one must needs disgrace he other. I must confesse I am such to feek, what Scripture hall be applied to, and whom was written for, if not for us, Mark 2. Id for our instruction; for if v. 17. vey that are whole (as our Saour testifies) have no need of Phisitian, then did God cause

scripture

scripture to be written, neither for himself, nor for his Angels but it was written for those Creatures, who having lost their first Estate, were since faller into Corruption. Now then if scripture was written for us, i concerns us much to know what use we shall make of it, and this we may gather from the different conditions of Man before and after his Fall. Before his fall, Man was a Glorious Creature, having received from God Immortality, and perfect Knowledge; but in and after his Fall, he exchanged immortality for death, and knowledge for ignorance. Now as to our redemp. tion from this Fall, we may not (in respect of Death) expect it in this world, God having decreed, that all men should once die: But for our Ignorance, we

nay and ought to put it off in this life, for almuch as without the Knowledge of God, no man can be faved; for, it is both the Tause and the Earnest of our future immortality. It remains then that our ignorance must be put off in part, even in this life, before we can put off our mor-Itality; and certainly to this end was Scripture written, namely that by-it we might attain to the Knowledge of God, and return to him from whom we were fallen. And here let no man be angry with me, if I aske how Scripture teacheth us to know God? Doth it onely tell us there is a God, and leave the rest to our discretion? Doth it (that I may speak my mind) teach us to know God by his Works, or without his Works? If by his Works, then by Natural things,

for they are his Works, and none other; if without his Works, I defire to know what manner of teaching that is, for I cannot yet find it. If they say it is by Inspiration, I say too that God can teach us so, but Scripture cannot; for certainly Scripture never inspired any man, though it came it self by inspiration. But if it be replied, that in Scripture we have the testimonies of men inspired, I say this Answer is besides my Question; for I speak not here of the bare Authority or Testimony of Scripture, but I speak of that Doctrine, by which it proves what it testifies, for with such Doctrin the Scripture abounds. Sure I am, that Moses proves God by his Creation, and God proves himself to Moses by Transmutation of his Rod into

a Serpent, and of the ferpent in I and it to a Rod. And to the Egyptians he gives more terrible Demonstrations of his Power and Soveraignty in Nature, by turning their Rivers into Blood; and the Dust of their Landinto Lice, by a Murrain of Beafts, by Blains and Boiles, and the death of their First born. By the several plagues of Froggs, Locusts, Hail, Fire, Thunder, and Darkness; all which were but great natural works, by which he proved his Godhead, as himself hath said. And the Agyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I stretch Exod. c.7. forth my hand upon Ægypt. When he reveals himself to Cyrus, he doth it not by a simple affirmation that he is God, but he proves himself to be such by the World that he hath made.

B 4

Euphrates, or the

1 saiah 45. I am the Lord (saith he) and there is none elle; there is no God besides me; I girded thee though thon hast not known me. I formed the Light, and create Darkness, I make Peace, and create Evill. I the Lord do all these things. I have made the Earth, and created Man upon it. I, even my hands have stretched out the Heavens, and all their Host have I commanded. Let any man read those Majestick, and Philosophicall Expostulations between Fob. 38,

39,40,41. him r

God and Fob; or in a word, let him read over both Testaments and he shall find, if he reads attentively, that Scripture, all the way, makes use of Nature, and hath indeed discovered such natural Mysteries as are not to be found in any of the Philosophers; and this shall appear in the following Discourse. For

my own part, I fear not to fay, that Nature is so much the bufines of Scripture; that to me, the Spirit of God, in those sacred Oracles, seems not onely to mind the Restitution of Man in particular, but even the Redemption of Nature in generall. We must not therefore confine this Restitution to our own Species, unless we can confine corruption to, it withall which doubtless we can not do: for it is evident that Corruption hath

not onely Seiz'd upon Man, but on the World also for man's Genes. 3. sake. If it be true then that v. 17. Man hath a Saviour, it is also as true, that the whole Creation hath the fame; God having reconciled all things to himself. in Christ Jesus. And if it be true, that we look for the Redemption of our Bodies, and a

Euphrates or the

New man: It is equally true that we look for a New Heaven, and a New Earth, where in dwelleth Righteousness: for it is not Man alone, that is to be Renued at the general Refauration, but even the world, as well as Man, as it is written: Rehold! I make all things

Rewl. 21. ten: Behold! I make all things

New. I speak not this to dis-

parage man, or to match any other Creature with him : for I know he is principall in the Restauration, as he was in the Fall, the Corruption that succeeded in the Elements, being but a Chain, that this prisoner drags after him: but I speak this to shew, that God minds the Restitution of Nature in general, and not of Man alone, who though he be the noblest part, yet certainly is but a small part of Nature. Is scripture

then

then misapplied, much less vilified, when it is applied to the object of Salvation; namely o Nature; for that is it, which God would fave, and oredceme. rom the present Depravations which it is subject enverily, when I read scripture I can ind nothing in it, but what conernes Nature and Naturall hings: for where it mentions Regeneration, Illumination, and Trace, or any other spixionall ift, it dothie now predlely; but insorder do Nature istor! what fignifies all this, but a New influence of Spirite decending from God to affift! Nature and to free us from hose Corruptions, wherewith of a longstimes we have been oppress. I supposed it, with hors e denied white Godis more setaphysicall, than any Scrip-

ture

ture can be, and yet in the work of Salvation, it were great impietie to separate God and Nature; for then God would have nothing to fave, nor indeed to work upon. How much more absur'd is it in the Ministerie of? Salvation to separate Scripture and Nature : for to whom I beseech your dorhas Scripture speak? Nay, to whom is Salvation minister'd, if Nature be taken away : I doubt not but man stands in Nature, not above it; and let the School-men resolve him into what parts they please, all those parts will be found natural, fince God alone is truely Metaphysicall. I would gladly learn of our Adversaries, how they came first to know, that Nature is Corrupted; for if Scripture taught them this physicall truth, why OTTIT?

27. 15. 15

may it not teach them more : but that Scripture taught them, is altogether undeniable: Let us fansie a Physician of such Abilities, as to state the true temperament of his patient, and wherein his Disease hath disorder'd it. Doth he not this to good purpose : Questionles, he doth: and to no less purpose is it in my opinion, for the spirit of God, whose patient nature is, to give us in Scripture a Character of nature, which certainly he hath done in all points, whether we look to the past, present, or future Complexion of the World. For my own part, I have this Assurance of Philosophy, that all the Mysteries of Nature confist in the knowledge of that Corruption, which is mention'd in Scripture, and which succeeded the

retords

the Fall Fnamely to know what it is, and where it resides principally sas also to know what Substance that is, which resists it most, and rewards it, as being most free from it, for in these two consist the Advantages of life and death. To be short: Experience, and Reason grounded thereupon, have taught me, that Philosophie and Divinity are but one, and the same science : but Man hath dealt with knowledge, as he doth with Rivers, and Wells, which being drawn into severall pipes are made to run severall wayes, and by this Accident come at last to have severall names. We see that God in his work, hath united spirit and matter, visibles and invisibles, and out of the union of Spirituall, and naturall substan-

es riseth a perfect Compound, vhose very Nature, and Being onfifts in that union. How then sit possible to demonstrate the Vature of that Compound by a ivided Theory of Spirit by it elf, and matter by it self! forthe nature of a Compound onlists in the Composition of pirit and matter, then must notre seek that Nature in their searation, but in their mixture nd Temperature, and in their utuall mixt Actions, and assions. Besides: who hath eer seen a spirit without matter, r matter without spirit, that he ould be able to give us a true heory of both principles in their mplicitie: Certainly, no man ving. It is just so in Divinity, r if by evalion we confine ivinity to God in the abract, who (fay I) hath ever known -

known him fo? Or, who hath received such a Theologie from him, and hath not all this while delivered it unto us? Verily, if we consider God in the abstract, and as he is in himself, we can say nothing of him pofittvely, but we may fay something Negatively, as Dionysius hath done, that is to fay, we may affirme, what he is not, but we cannot affirme, what he is. But if by Divinity, we understand the Doctrine of Salvation, as it is laid down in Scripture, then verily it is a Mixt Doctrine, involving both God and Nature. And here I doubt not to affirme, That the Mysterie of Salvation can never be fully understood without Philosophie, not in its just latitude, as it is an Application of God to Nature and a Conversion WATERS OF THE EAST.

Nature to God, in which two otions and their Meanes, all hirituall and naturall know-

dge is comprehended.
To speak then of God with-It Nature, is more than we in do, for we have not known m so: and to speak of Nature ithout God, is more than we lay do, for we should rob God his glorie, and attribute those ffects to Nature, which beng properly to God, and to e spirit of God, which works nature. We shall therefore e a mean form of speech, beveen these extremes, and this orm the Scriptures have ught us, for the Prophets and postles, have used no other, et not any man therefore be fended, if in this Discourse e shall use Scripture to prove bilosophie, and Philosophie to

prove Divinity, for of a trut our knowledge is such, that ou Divinity is not without Nature nor our Philosophie withou God. Notwithstanding, I dar not think but most men will re pine at this course, though cannot think, wherefore they should, for when I joyne Scrip ture and Philosophie, I do bu joyne God and Nature, an uni on certainly approved of by God, though it be condemned of men. But this perverse igno rance, how bold soever it be I shall not quarrell with, for besides Scripture. I have other grounds, that have brough me very fairely, and soberly to this Discourse.

I have sojourn'd now for some years, in this great Fabrick, which the fortunate call their World: and certainly I

have

ve spent my time like a Trauler, not to purchase it, but observe it. There is scarce y thing in it, but hath given an occasion of some oughts; but that which took : up much, and loon, was the rtinual action of fire upon wa-. This Speculation (I know t how) surpris'd my first outh, long before I saw the niversity, and certainly Nare, whose pupill I was, had en then awaken'd many Noins in me, which I met with terwards, in the Platonick Phiophie. I will not forbear to rite; how I had then fanfied ertain practice on water, out which, even in those childish yes, I expected wonders: but rtainly neither gold, nor filr, for I did not so much as nk of them, nor of any such Suly

covetous artifice. This Confider ration of my felf, when I was Child, hath made me since es amine Children, namely, wh thoughts they had of these El ments, we see about us, and found thus much by them, th Nature in her simplicity, much more wise, than som men are with their acquire parts, and Sophistrie; of a true I thought my self bound of prove all things, that I migh attain to my lawfull defires, be least you think, I have onl convers'd with Children I sha confess, I have convers'd wit Children and Fools too: that is as I interpret it, with Childre and Men, for these last are no in all things, as wife as the firf A Child I suppose, in pur Naturalibus, Before educatio alters, and ferments him, is Subjec ubject hath not been much onsider'd, for men respect him ot, till he is companie for em, and then indeed they oile him. Notwithstanding I ould think, by what I have ad, that the naturall disposion of Children, before it is orrupted with Customes and l'anners, is one of those things, pout which the Antient Philophers have busied themselves ren to some curiosity. I shall ot here expresse what I have und by my own experience, r this is a point of foresight, id a ground by which wife en have attained to a certain nowledge of Moralls, as well Naturalls.

But to return from this Diefion, to the Principles first oposed, namely Fire and Warrie I shall borrow my entrance

3

hae fus trens is into this discourse, from m famous Countrey man Rise of Chester, who speaking of thi Art, delivers himself thus. Ar hac (saith he) de Philosophi occulta est; & est de illa part Philosophia qua Meteoratractar Loquitur enim hac Ars, non se lum de elevatione & depression Elementorum, sed etiam Elementatorum. Soias HOC, qui magnum secretum est.

These words, if the Mysteries they involve and related were distinctly laid down would make an endlesse Dicourse; for they contain all the Nature doth: and all that A can do. But that we may some Order, and as far as Conseence will permit, expresse whethey signific: We do first say That God is the principal ar sole Author of all things, who is

is Word and Spirit, hath form'd nd manifested those things we e, and even those things hich at present we cannot see. Is for the matter whereof he orm'd them, it being a substance, raexistent, not onely to us, but the World it self, most men nay think the Knowledge of it. mpossible; for how shall we now a thing that was fo-long efore us, and which is not now xtant with us, nor ever was (in heir opinion) since the Creatin? To this Objection, which t first sight may seem invincile, we shall return an Answer hall break it; For we will shew ow, and by what means, we ame to know this Matter, and ot onely to know it, but after ong labours to see it, handle it, nd taste it. It is evidene elough, that every Individuall (Suppose 1,000 (22)

(suppose Man himself) is made of a Seed, and this feed when the Body is perfected, appears no more, for it is altered and transformed to a Body: However that self-same body doth afterwards yield a feed, which is the very fame in Nature with that original first feed whereof the Body was made. I presume then, that he that would know the Generation of Man; needs not look back fo far as Adam to know the first seed; for if Nature still affords the like, what needs that fruitlesse Retrogradation: It is even so with the World, for it was originally made of a feed, of a seminall viscuous Humidity or Water, but that Seed (as we have said in our Aphorisms) disappeared in the Creation, for the Spirit of God that moved upon it, that transform'd it, and made

nade the World of it. Howfover that very World doth ow yield and bring forth out fits own Body a Jecondary Jeed. which is the very same in Esence and substance with that rimitive generall feed wheref the World was made. And if ny man shall ask, what ufe Vature makes of this generall ed, and wherefore the yields :? I answer, that it is not to rake another World of it, but o maintain that World with it vhich is made already; For God-Allmighty hath to Dereed; that his Creatures are jourished with the very same ratter whereof they were forsed; and in this is verified that Maxim, which otherwise would e most false: Ex issdem nutrinur, ex quibus constamus. We rek not much whence our own

Nutri-

Nutriment comes, nor that of Beasts, for both provisions are obvious? But what is that which feeds Grass, Herbs, Corn, and all forts of Trees with their Fruits? What is it that restores, and supplies the Earth, when these copious and innumerous Products have for the greatest part of the year lived sucking on her Breafts, and almost exhausted her? I am affraid they will speak as they think, and affirm it is Water; but what skilfull Affertors they are, shall appear hereafter.

Certainly, even that which we eat our selves, and Beasts also, proceeds all of it from the same Fountain; but before it comes to us it is altered, for Animalls feed on particulars, but Vegetables alastract, this sperme immediatly in its Heavenly

attract

enly universal Form. Notvithstanding I would not have his fo understood, as if this eed did ferve onely to nourifb, or many things are made of it, ind especially that subterraneus Family of Mineralls and Metalls. For this thing is not Water, otherwise than to the fight, but a coagulable fat Humidity, or a mixture of Fire Aire, and pure Earth overcast ndeed with Water, and therefore not feen of any norknown but to few. In Vegetables it oftentimes appears, for they feed not as some think on Water, but on this seminall viscostie that is hid in the Wal ter. This indeed they attract at the Rootes, and from thence it ascends to the Branches, but fomtimes it happens, by the way to break out at the Barke, where

Down day where meeting with the cold at the pureaire, it subsites and congeals to makes, 2 Gumme. This congelation is Cousedir not Suddain, but requires some small time, for if you find it whiles it is fresh, it is an exceeding subtill moy sture, but glusinous, for it will spin into strings as small as any hair, and had it past up to the Branches, it had been formed, in time, to a Plumm or Cherry. This happens to it by cold, and above ground, but in the Bowells of the Earth it is congealed by a sulphurious heat into Metalls, and if the place of its congelation be pure, then into a bright Metall, for this Sperme is impregnated with light, and is full of the Star-fire, from whence all Metalls have their Lustre. The same might be said of Pearles and Precions Stones, this

his starrie seed being the Moher of them all; for when it is Minerallised by it self, and without any faculent mixture, then romit igniculos suos, it sheds nd shoots its Fires, and hath o much of Heaven, that if we lid not know the Conspiracy. ve should wonder how it could ove the Earth. Let us now in few words, resume what we lave said, and the rather, beause we would explain our Method, for we intend to folow Raymond Lullie, who in he Fifth Chapter of his Testavent hath laid down a certain rigure, which fully answers to hose words we have formerly we have already mention'd

We have already mention'd wo Principles, God and Naure, or God and the created Vorld: For that third Principle or Chaes that was praexistent to the World, we shall speak of no more, but in lieu of it, we shall have recourse to the secondary Sperme or Chaes that now is, and comes out of the visible World; for we will ground our Discourse upon nothing but what is visible, and in the Front of it we place the Divine Majestie, who is the sole Centrall Eternall Principle and Architect of all.

tive, or bed as how cived swell. Form the distributed

Elements Hyle THE STANDARDINGS POLICE PROPERTY OF THE POLIC

This Figure is Raymond Lul lies, and in the Center of it you see the first Hyle or Matte whereof the World was made In this Hyle (faith Raymond) ail the Elements and all natural Principles, aswell Means a Extreams, were mingled po tentially In forma confusa A que; and this Primitive Sper matic Ocean filled all that space which we now attribute to the Air, for (faith he) Attinge bat usque ad circulum Lunarem Out of this centrall Hyle (with which we have now done) di rise all those Principles an Bodies, which you find write ten in the Circumference of the Figure, and here beginns out Philosophie.

In the first place over the Hyle, you see the Elements, of the Visible created World

whof

Waters of the East. whose parts are commonly caled. Elements, namely Earth, Vater, Air and Heaven; for here is no other Fire but that gnis fatuus, which Aristotle indled under the Moon. From ne Elements on the right hand, y rarefaction and resolution of neir substance you see deried another Principle, namely ic Vapours of the Elements or ie Clouds; in which Vapours upper water & Lower J. ne inferiour and superiour Nares meet and are there marri- meet on The I, and out of their mixture re- Vapours & au Its that secondary Sperme or baos Philosophicall, which we ok for. Next to the Clouds Vapours of the Elements, bosh Jage 69 to ou will find in the Figure a on the water ird Principle, namely a clear-water sperm later, which proceeds immedi, Chaos which Look for Th ely from the Clouds: Et illa Res (Saith Lullie) argente Boult of Ph vivo Thumesort or Cloud six allmos train water. Las-

Euphrates, or the vivo magis propinqua, que qui dem reperitur supra terram cur rens, & fluens. The fourth Principle, which Nature imme diatly generates by congelation hen The out of the substance or viscosit of the Aqueous universal Mer eended the curie is the glaffie Azoth, which we left this is a certain fierie sulphurious botance or masculine Minera; and thi cofite in is Gold Philosophicall, th Learth Sulphur, the Earth, and the ich nature Male; as the Viscuous VV ater i reals into the Mercurie and the Female Cafrie Broth The rest of the Principle! uch is a which are ranged in the Figure ie suspurious are artificiall Principles, and Juline cannot be known or manifester nevabus Gols without Art, excepting the lossishicas seventh and last Principle 4 the & Shewhich is either Gold or Silver le - as The for these are perfect Metalls cous water medicine, which of it self is not the Fernale niversall niver salt

iversall, and reduce it to a articular disposition and efect. Thus far we thought fit odeale plainly with you, and or the practic part of this Fiure, we shall wave it, for we ad rather speak nothing, than o speak that we cannot be unerstood. I dare say, there are ome Writers, who rejoyce in heir own Riddles, and take a peciall pleasure to multiply hose Difficulties, which are umerous enough already. For ny part I shall not put you to a yall of Wit, you may take ne rest from their Author, and nus expose you to no other azard, but what I have been ormerly exposed to my felf. Ve shall now again return to ur Theorie, and to make our ntrance, we fay, that Fire beinsevery motion, and motion D 2 begins

Euphrates, or the

et was fo erejone is

begins Generation: For if the Elements, or parts of this matel riall World did all of then stand in suis terminis, such gens General Cessation would produce no thing. To prevent this, the Almighty God placed in the Heart of the World, namely in the Earth (as he did in the heart of every other Creature a Fire-life, which Paracellu. calls the Archaus, and Sendi vow the Centrall Sunn. This Fire, least it should consume its own body the Earth, he hath overcast with a thick, oylie, [altish Water, which we call the Sea: For Sea-water (as we have tried) not to speak of its Salt, is full of a sulphureous volatill fatnef, which doth not quench fire like the common water, but

> feeds it. The like Providence we see in the bodies of Animals,

> > whole

those heat or life is tempered rith a salphureous, saltish moiure, namely with Blood, and the lood with the breath, as the Sea with Wind and Aire. Over nis Archaus, or centrall fire, iod hath placed his Heaven, ne Sun and Starrs, as he hath laced the Head and the Eyes oer the Heart: For between tan and the World there is no nall accord; and he that nows not the one, can never now the other. We may oberve also, that the wind passeth tween the inferiour and lupefour fires, that is between the ntrall and calestiall Sun; and Man the Breath hath all its perty and motion between the eart and the Eyes, that is beveen the fire and the light that in us. We see moreover in an and the World, a most even

correspondency of effects; for as the Blood, even so the Sea hath a constant Pulse or Agitation, both spirits stirring and working alike in their Bodies. Nor ought we to neglect another Consideration; That the Light of the World is in the fuperiour parts of it, namely in the Sun and Starrs: But the original fire, from whence theld Sparks fly upwards, appears no but lives imprisoned in the Earth, even fo certainly, all the brightness of Man is in hill Face, for there he sheds his ligh at the Eyes, but the first fours of it, namely that fire which i at the Heart, is no more see than that which is in the Earth 100 Onely this we may fay, that both these imprisoned fires at h manifested to Reason by the same effects; namely by the

ulfe, that the one causeth in he Bloud, and the other in the ea; to which may be added hat transpiration or evapouraion of Humours, which both hese spirits produce alike in heir severall Bodies. And that e may further prove that these ermes of Archaus and Sol entralis are not vain words. et us but consider what a strong leat is required to this sublimaon of Vapours and Exhalatiis; for it is not simple water at is driven upwards, but aundance of Salt and Oile, toether with the water. If any ian thinks the Sun can do this, must tell him he knowes not ie operations of the Sun, nor or what use it serves in Nature. he Sun serves onely to dry up le superfluous humidity, which e Night leavs behind her on

Euphrates, or the

the outside of things; for this - makes all Vegetables cold and - flaccid; hinders their Digestion - and Maturity; but the Sun with: -cleare heat, taking off that ex - traneous Moisture, forward their concoction, and helps to ripen that which is raw. This must be done with a most gentle heat, not with fuch as shall make the Earth to smoak and extracts Clouds from it, for this would not bring things to a maturity; but rather burn and calcine them. We know, that if we stand long in the Sun, we shall grow faintie, and common fire will not burn in the light of it; for the Sun, which is the true Element of Fire, attracts it, so that by degrees it goes off and for sakes his Fuell; but if you convey the fire out of the Sun, then it will more out of the Sun Phine strongly crongly apply to the Fuell, and nite it felf to it and burn it. It i just so with the Earth, for philes the heat of the Sun is preent, the hear of the Earth is nore busie with the Sun than with its own Body. For as Sendevow hath well written, In [4erficie Terra Radiiradiis jununtur. In the Face of the Earth he Beams of both Luminaries neet, and there is such a Conpiracy between Fire and Fire, hat the centrall breaking forth o meet the calestiall, suffers a ind of Extafie and doth not nuch mind his own Body. Give ne leave to speak thus, for here is such an affinity between hese two, that they had rather oin with one another, than with my third Nature; but that is it which cannot be but in part, and y way of influence, God ha-

ving confined the one to the Center and the other to the Cir. cumference. I could demoni strate this Sympathie by a most noble Magnetism, which i have seen to my admiration. between the Sun and sweet oile. or rather the fire und foul of Nitre; and here I shall tell you that the Earth is full of Nitre: nay, I must affirm that pure earth, is nothing else but Nitre, whose Belly is full of Wind, Air, and Fire; and which differs no more from Heaven, than the Root of a Tree, that lodgeth in the dire. doth from the Branches of it that grow in the sun shine. This attraction of Fire by Fire, is the true cause why the heat of the Earth is so weak in Summer, and so strong in Winter. for in the VVinter when the Sun is absent, the centrall fire keeps

ather Nature

ps altogether within theearth Il being irritated by an ho-Te invalion of Cold, heats the ters much more vigorously; that Exhalations and Clouds : far more copious in the winthan they are in the sumer, which could not be if the were the cause of them. d to this, that an outward dry hat, as that of the Sun is, falig immediatly on the earth, ust needs burn the earth bere it can make it smoak; but inward fire; that is mingled ith the moisture of the earth. innot burn, be it never so ininfe, for it is qualified with the ater, and tempered to a moist eat; and without doubt such a re may very naturally resolve ome pars of the earth, and caule iem to exhale; as our own invard heat; being moistened with

Euphrates, or the

with the blood, makes us sweet without any violence. To re duce all this to a Corrollarie, w fay that in the Winter God feat the face of the Earth with Froj and Cold, as a man would sea a glass, and this to keep in the congelative spermatic Humidi ty, which otherwise might a scend with the more crude Vapours that break out copionsly at that time, and filling the Sphare of the Aire, take in like so many Sponges the Calestiall vitale Influences. For we must know, that Nature begins to imprez.

the mista Vapours Winter watery &

nate the Earth about the end of Autumn; and continues it all the Winter, the fierie subtill Influx of the Heavens being then condensed by the cold and moifure of the Moon, who is Regent all the Winter, and elevated above the Sun. This you

ay fee in Snow, which falls hard Frost, which being tain up whiles it is fresh, andgested in a Blind glassin ashes, r twenty four houres, if then ou open the glass, whilst the lution is warm, you shall perive in the breath of the water I the odours in the world, and rtainly far more pleasant than ey are in the Flowers at May look into the bottom of the llass and you will find there, fatt grey slime, not unlike to istile soape; Separate the legme from it by a fost distiltion in balneo, and put the rellence in a Boltshead well opt, in a drie heat of ashes; epit then warm for an hour two, and fuddainly the glass Il fly to pieces, for the wind, life or spirit, is not well setl in the Body. Here you ly see the first Attempts of



Euphrates or the

Nature, but if you know ho to work upon Water, you sha find greater things than I have told you.

The Magnesia then (as Sei divow hath written) is genrated in the Winter, and ne without reason, for then the heat of the earth is strongel and best able to digest the Ni triment that comes down from Heaven, and concost it to a v fcous sperme. But in the Sprin and Summer seasons, when th Sun hath chast off the Frost, an the centrall and calestiall Lum naries have, by their mutual mixture and conflux of beam relaxated and dilated the Port of the earth, then there is a wa made for the sperme to ascen more freely, which sublimin upwards is attracted and inter cepted by the vegetable King

dons

n, whose imediat aliment it is. To return then to those first ards of Rhalus Cestrensis; we this perme is made of the pours or clouds, & the vapours made by elevation and de-Usion of Eelements, and not ely of the elements, but (as he th) of elementats also, that of Bodies compounded of elements, and this bears a uble sense. For we must ow that the earth is charged th many particular natures. Mineralls of all forts and Caverous Reliques; for our Boes also lodge in the earth, ien the spirit of life hath left em. All these as well as the rth it selfe, suffer a rarefacti-, and resolution of substance; r into these Vapours faith Rayind Lully, Omnia corpora eleentata resolvantur ad intran-

dum novam Generationem. T puts me in mind of an Opini I have read sometimes in t Cabalists; namely that this ba or body we have attained too attraction and transmutation nutriment, rifeth not in the R furrection; but out of that fem nall particle, which original attracting the nutriment, did vercast it selfe therewith, the shall spring another new body and this seminall particle (se they) lurketh somewhere in the bones, not in that part which moulders into Dust. Of a trut we see that bones are very per manent and lasting, and th Foseph was not ignorant of when dying in Agypt, he gav that charge to his bretrhen, 7 Shall carry up my bones from hence. We know the Israelise were bondmen in Agypt nee

Gen. 50.

fou

our hundred years after Foph's death, yet all that time is bones were not consumed, at were carried away to the and of Canaan, as it is writn, And Moses took the bones of Exod. 13. sleph with him; for he had 19. faitly sworn the Children of rael, saying, God will surely fit you, & you shall carry up my nes hence with you. Certainly we judge rightly, we must nfesse that this seminall partie, is our onely original funmentall Matter, the rest being it an accretion that comes om the extraneous substance meat and drink. What losse it then if we lay by this corot accretion or accessed of mat-; for cannot he that made at first of the seminall parle, make us of it again? From s Opinion St. Paul, in my

judgment, abhorrs not, in the speech of his to the Corinthian: where he would shew them th manner of the Resurrection, an with what bodies the Dead rife Thou Fool (saith he) that which thou sowest, is not quickned ex cept it die; and that which tho Sowest, thou sowest not that boa that shall be, but bare Grain, : may chance of Wheat or of som other grain; but God giveth it body as it hath pleased him, an to every feed a body that is pro per for it: for so signifieth th Originall: And here you that are angrie Readers, let me b excused; for I deliver not the as my own Sentiment, but a the Tradition of the Fewes who were somtimes a very lear ned people, and knew more c the Mysteryes of God and Na ture, than any other Natio whatWaters of the East.

51

whatsoever. But to begin again where we left, you must know, hat when the centrall Sun subimes the Vapours, those Vapours outtake not onely of the nature for Earth and Water; but of civers tother particular Minealls, whereof the earth and water are if ull.

To make this more clear, the vapours properly so called, rife rom the Sea, and from all fresh paters. These partake of the ubstance and qualities of such Mineralls as are in the water ome of them being bituminous; ome faltish; some mercuriall, nd all of them moist and phlegvatic: On the contrary, those wellations that come from the arthare drie; for the earth is nore hott and minerall than the vater. These fierie earthy fumes, neering with the cold vapours

of

Euphrates, or the

of the water oftentimes pro duce most terrible Tempests some of these being nitrous some arsenicall, some sulphure ous, and all hot; and some, be reason of their copious sulphur inflamable. Both these, I mear the earthy exhalations, and the watery vapours meet in that vali circulatory of the air where their contrary Complexions of heat and cold are mingled together like agent and patient; or Sulphur and Mercurie; And the SAPOUR particular Natures and Sapours, mineralls, are resolved by the wind, and totally reduced into generall Principles. It is strange to consider what a powerfull resolving faculty there ist in wind or aire; for wind is no other thing than aire stirr'd, and that by fire, as we see in man, that

hat the motion of the breath is aused by heat, aswell as that of he blood, both proceeding from he same hot Principle of Life. o certainly the life of the world causeth wind or a comnotion in the aire, aswell as a ux in the Sea, for both these Ire Seas, and have their fluxes, s we shall prove elsewhere liore fully. Aire then, as weave said, resolves all things, Ind especially wind, for it reilves all salts into water; and this folution be distil'd, we shal ind some part of the falt redued into fresh water. As for the esidue, if it be exposed to the rind, it will resolve again, and ou may distill it the second me: In a word, if you repeat his Process, you will bring the vhole body of the falt into a vostill fresh water, nothing diffe-E 3 rent

rent from the common either ir fight or tafte. And here you must not think your salt is lost, for it you know how to congeal the water, you will find it again! but so alter'd from what it was that you will wonder to fee it This practice, if well understood, sufficiently declares the nature of air; but he that knows where to find congealed air, and an Disolare can diffolve it by heat to a vil by the upp tous water, he hath attained to tento a fomthing that is excellent, cous water Much more I could fay of this wonderfull and spirituall Element, whose penetrating, resolving facultie I have sometimes contemplated in this following and simple expeiment. Common Quickfilver hath a miracu. lous union of parts, and of all compounds is the strongest excepting Gold; for if you distill

Waters of the East. by Retort a hundred times, it vill be Quicksilver still notvithhanding all those reitteraed rarefactions of his body. But you take a thousand weight fit and vapour them away but nce in the open air, it will neer come to Quicksilver again; or the Fumes will be lifted up the wind, where they will sufer a totall dissolution, and will to represent his is the very reason why also vapourin ne vapours of the Elements are fred up to the middle Region our & three fine air; for there the wind is our terms 10st cold, and hath most liber - that it m e, and in no other place can by Pluve neir Resolution, which Nature itends, be perfeited. This if Inderstood, is a most noble leret of Nature: nor was fob iglorant of it, when complainig of the decayes of his own E 4

Euphrates, or the

chap. 30. Thou liftest me up to the wind wer. 22. thou causest me to ride upon it

and dissolvest my substance. We have hitherto shewed you how Fire rarifies all things and how wind and air resolv. them yet further than fire, all we have exemplified in Quicky filver. And this is it we have delivered elswhere in more en vious Tearms, namely Thank Circumferences dilate, and Cen ters contract; That Superiours dissolve, & Inferiours coagulate That we should make use of an indeterminate Agent, till we can find a determinate one. For truck it is, that the mercuriall dissolving facultie is in the air, and in aiery things; and the sulphurious congealing virtue is in the earth, that is to fay, in some mi-

Pales nerall natures and substances

* Tulphurs

which

Anima Magica.

Waters of the East. which God hath hid in the arth. Take therefore water of water of ir, which is a great diffolvent, uper & nd ferment it with earth, and Therment in the contrary, earth with wa- with Eart er; Or to speak more obscure- - & water y, ferment Mercury with Sul- - Low bur, and Sulphur with Mercuy. And know that this congea-ing faculty is much adjuvated helped y heat; especially in such plaes where the Sperm cannot ex. Page 676 vale, and where the heat is tem- flower do erate; but if the place be open, on this ? nd the heat excessive, then it issipates. It remains now that ve speak something of the two assive' materiall Elements, amely of Earth and Water; for hese are the bodies that suffer y fire, and whose parts are perpetually regenerated by a ircular rarefaction, and condenttion.

It is the advice of the Bro thers of R. C. that those who would be Proficients in this Ari should study the elements and their operation, before they feel after the Tinctures of Metalls. I is to be wished indeed that mer would do so, for then we should not have so many Broylers, and so few Philosophers. But here it may be questioned, who is he that studies the elements, for a ny fuch end as to observe and imitate their Operations? For in the Universities, we study them onely to attain to a false book-Theorie, whereof no use can be made but Quacking, Disputing, and making a Noise. Verily the Doarine of the Schoolmen, hath allay'd and perverted even that defire of Knowledge which God planted in Man. For the Traditions we receive there, comming from our Superiours,. rry with them the awe of the utor, and this breeds in us an pinion of their certainty; fo a an University-man; cannot all his life time, attain to fo fuch Reason and Confidence, as look beyond his Lesson. I ive often wonhred that any her spirits can think Aristotles hilosophie perfect, when it pnfifts in meer words without y further effects; for of a uth, the falfity and insufficicy of a meer Notionall Knowage is so apparent, that no wife an will affert it. This is best nown to the Phisitians, who hen they have been initiated this whirlygigg, are forced at st to leave it, and to assume w Principles, if they will be ch as their Profession requires ey should be. Aristotle will

very gravely tell us. Ubi desim Philosophus, ibi incipit Medicus But I admire what affistance: Phisitian can receive from thi Philosopher, whose science tell us, Scientia non est particulari um: for without particulars Phisitian can do nothing. But it in good earnest, did not Ari stotle's Science (if he had any arise from particulars, or did i descend immediately from Uni versals? If from Universals how came he to be acquainted with them? Did he know the Genus, before he knew the Spe cies, or the species before the in dividuals? I think not: He knev the individual first, and having observed his nature and propri ety, he applied that to the whole Species; or to speak sense, to al individuals of that kind: and this aplication made that know ledge

ige general, which at first was rticular; as being deduced om a particular object. This is ie, and Aristotle will tell us fo. ough he give himself the Lie; ir elsewhere he affirms Nihil in intellectu, quod non fuit ius in sensu. Which if it be ue, then Scientia non est parti-J'arium is false. But I have Inc with him at present, and I my own part I have learnt ig ago, not of Aristotle but Roger Bacon, Quod commu- Quod pauci funt valoris, nec proe sequenda, nist propter parti- Roy aria. And this is evident in practises and professions that induce any thing to the beneof man. For Nature her felf h imprinted the Universall tions and Conceptions in eveoul, whether learned or unn'd, so that we need not study Uni-

Universalls, and this our Frie had observed; for faith he. communibus Animi conce tionibus vulgus concordat cu sapientibus; in particularib vero, & propijs errat, & discou dat: And for this very reason he condemns Aristotle and Gs len, Quia in communibus & un versalibus se occupaverunt, perducti sunt ad senectutem, vi tam con umentes in pejoribus vulgatis, nec vias ad hac secret magna perceperunt. Let not do as those beathers did though in this very point the greaten part of the world follows there Let us rather follow where N ture leads; for the having in prest these universalls in one minds, bath not done it in vail but to the end we should apply them to outward sensible paring rimentall knowledge, which this life is our onely crown, d perfection. If a man should -It in the bare Theorie of Husndry, and onely read Virgil's orgicks, never putting his nd to the Plow, I suppose s Theorie could not help him his daily bread: And if we It in the Notions and names of ings, never touching the ings themselves, we are like to. duce no effects, nor to cure any leases, without which perforunces Philosophie is usesles, and t to be numbred amongst ourrecessaries; But how false this God knows, and man also my know it if he considers but ple two Obstructions of Life tness and poverty. But they not onely effects that are nting to Aristotles Philosophy even his Theorie is for the 7

most part false, and where it true, it is so flight and superf ciall, that it doth not further i at all. He is none of our auxil. aries beleive it, but the ver Remora to all naturall discovi ries, and he hath for many A ges, not onely obstructed by exstinguished the Truth. Muc might be faid of this fellow and his ignorance, which is not mor speak of his Atheism, and the eminency of his malice, which was not onely destructive to the Fame of the old Philosopher. whose Books this Scrible burnt, but even to the happine and progress of posterity, whom more excellent and invaluable Monuments of the

have digress thus far to conrect this scabby sheep, who hat spoil

poil'd a numerous Flock; and he rather, because of a late creeing attempt of some of his riends, who acknowledge im their Dictator, and the Faer of their Humane Wisdome, ld fuch indeed he is. But when ley tell us; who write against m, that we do but restore old eresies, when indeed we opose an Athiest, and one that nied the creation of the world. d the dear immortallity of our uls: they must give us leave be a little angry with them, ice we must lay the Haretic at eir Doors, for they are the en that maintain him. In the can time if they are in earnest, think us guilty of any herefie. them publickly shew where-, and we shall not fail to give em an account of our Sense and eir Misinterpretations. For

Euphrates, or the

our part we had not trouble them at this time; had not or of them darkly and timerous signified, that we teach a ne Phisic, new Philosophie, and ne Divinity; To whom I shall returne no answer but this; The before he undertakes to jude what Philosophie or Divinity new, he should first endeavous to understand the old. But the is a step out of my way, and the I may return way, and the I may return way.

I shall now resume my Descent of Earth and Water, and those sure are sensible substance not universalls and Chymara such as the Peripateticks fancy when they couple Nature as Nothing.

By Earth, I understand n this impure faculent body, which we tread, but a mo simple pure element, name

Waters of the East. he naturall centrall salt Nitre. his salt is fixed or permanent Salt us n the Fire, and it is the fulphur falled Ca of Nature, by which the retains und congeales her Mercurie. when these two meet, I mean the sure earth and the water; then he earth thickens the water, and me the contrary the water subliates the earth, and from these vo there riseth a third thing .ot so thick as earth, nor so thin swater, but of a mean viscous implexion, and this is called tercurie, which is nothing else ut a composition of Water and Mercury els. For we must know, that Composition iele two are the prime materi- water & Se Is of nature, without which e can make no sperme or seed: or is that all, for when the ed is made, it will never grow -

d dispos'd to a further Gene-

a body, nor can it be resolved

Euphrates or the

68

ration, unless these two are pre-Sent & also cooperate with it. This we may see all the year long by a frequent and daily experience: For when it Rains, this Heaven. ly water meets with the Nitre that is in the earth, and dissolves it, and the Nitre with his Acrimonie sharpens the water, so that this nitrous water dissolve! all the Seeds that are in the ground: And thus Solution i the key of Generation, not onely in our Art, but in Nature also which is the Art of God. W need not speak much more o the earth, for these few words if rightly understood, are suffici ent, and carry in them a deepe sense than an ordinary Reade will perceive. I know there i another Solar Oriental, Earth which is all golden and Julphu reous, and yet is not Gold, but bass

NB

pase contemptible thing, thatofts nothing, for it may be had or the taking up. This is the arth of Athiopia, that hath all olours in it: This is that An-Irodamas of Democritus, the reen Duenech and Sulphur that iever touch'd the fire, which if it e resolv'd thenit is our glassie Izoth, or vitriol of Venus Phi- Page 34

Mophicall.

This is enough as to the nawe of the earth, and now we vill speak of the Water. This ilement is the Deferent, or Veiculum of all Influences whatsever; For what efflux soever be that proceeds from the rrestiall Center, the same aends and is carried up in her the Air; And on the contra-7 all that comes from Heaven escends in her to the earth, for her Belly the inferiour and su-F 3---

periour natures meet and min gle, nor can they be manifested without a fingular artifice Hence it is that what soever is pure in the earth, all that she re ceives from the water: And here I mean such pure Substan Set purp ses as are called by the Philoso phers Decompositat; For the Eagle leaves her Egg, that is to fay, the mater leaves her Limo fity in the earth, and this Limo sity is concocted into Nitre, and to other innumerous Mineralls We have formerly told you of two Suns or Fires, the Calesti tral-all and the Centrall. Now both these dispence their efflaxions or influences, and they meet in the vapour of the water; For the Vulcan or earthly Sun, make the water ascend to the Region of the air, and here the water is ospread under the superiour fires.

Oof the Heavens

for she is exposed to the eye of |he Sun, and to the pointed ejaulations of all the fixed Starrs nd Planets, and this in a naked, arefied, opened body. The air of a truth, is that Temple, where inferiours are married to their uperiours; for to this place the Heavenly Light descends, and s united to the aereall oleous Humidity, which is hid in the elly of the Water; This light beng hotter than the water, makes ier turgid and vitall, and inreaseth her seminall viscous moiture; so that she is ready to depose her sperme or limositie, vere she but united to her proper Male. But this cannot be inless she returns to her own Country, I mean to the Earth; or here the Collastrum or Male esides. To this purpose she derends hither again, and imme-

diatly the Male laies hold upon her, and his fierie sulphurtou. And here observe that this Sul. phur is the Father in all metal. lic Generations, for he gives them masculine sierie Soul, and then Water gives the body, namely the limositie or heavenly agnewe by aqueon ous Nitre, whereof the body, by coagulation is made. We must know moreover, that in this Sulphur there is an impure extraneous heat, which gnaws and corrodes this waterie V-enus, endeavouring to turn her to an impure sulphur, such as his owned body is; But this cannot be, because of the Heavenly Seed or ou sto Called Light hid in the aqueous Nitre, on seous Mitre which will permit no fuch thing; For as foon as the ful-th phurious terrestriall heat begins to work, so soon it awakes and

ftirres

Waters of the East 73 firres up the Heavenly light? which being now fortified with he Masculine Tineture, or pure fre of the sulphur, begins to work on its own body , namely on this VI on the aqueous Nitre, and sepacates from it, the feculent extraseous parts of the Sulphur, and o remains by it self a bright the Tpu Coelestiall metalline body. Observe then that the tincture or foul of the sulphur cannot be regenerated in its own impure body, but it must forsake that the Soul me dark and earthy Carcass, and forsake The put on a new purified body before Bank Ears it can be united to the light of Heaven. This new body springs out of the water, for the water brought it down from Heaven, and certainly by water and spirit we must be all Regenerated; which made some learned Divines affirm that the element of -

water

Euphrates, or the of the earth. Nor can I here omit the Doctrine of St. John who makes the WATERIN one of those three Witnesses which attest God here on earth to And much to this purpose is that Speech of St. Paul: Howin That God in times past, sufferd all Nations to walke in their own wates; but nevertheless (faith he) he left not himselfe without and WITNES, inasmuch as he gave them RAIN from Heaven &c. The Benedictions of Bleffings that descend from God, are not a form of words, like the Benedictions of Men: They are all spirit and essence, and their Deferents are natural visible Substances, and these are the Bleffings which the Patriarch wisht to his Son: God giver Gea. thee of the DEW of HE A-VEN

Waters of the East.

EN from ABOVE, and of be FATNES of the EARTH rom BENEATH. He was ot ignorant of those Blessings, which the God of nature had sclosed in those natural things; nd therefore he saith in the ame place, The smell of my Son : like the smell of a field, which be Lord hath blessed. And St. aul in his Epistle to the Herews tells us, That the Earth, phich drinketh in the Rain, that ometh oft upon it, receiveth lessing from God; but that which eareth Thornes and Briars is reected and nigh unto Cursing, vhose end is to be burnt. But to explain what this bles-,ing is, we remember we have written elsewhere, that Water Anthrop.

s of a double Complexion, -Circumferentiall and Centrall. in the Circumference she is

crude, volatill and phlegmatic but in the Center she is bette concocted, viscous, aëreall, and fierie. This Centrall part is fof and saltish, outwardly whit and Lunar, but inwardly rea and Solar, nor can it be well ex tracted without a lunar or solar Magnet, whose proper aliment it is, and with which it hath a wonderfull Sympathie. Hence that obscure saying of the Philosophers, who when they describe unto us their Mercurie. give it this Character as most naturall, Quod adharet corporibus. That it adheares to the bodies or metalls. And as Pithagoras saith in the Turba, Suum absque igne consequitur socium. And therefore it is written in the same book, Magna est propinquitas inter Magnesiam & Ferrum. We see indeed by a vulgar

Waters of the East.

lgar Experience, that if any dinary stone stands long but common water, there flicks it a certain limositie, which e water deposeth. But notithstanding all this, and all ey fay, we must needs affirm, lat even their Mercurie aderes not to the vulgar metalls; id in this word Mercurie, as in lother termes, they are not a ttle ambiguous and subtill. here is indeed a mysterie of icirs in water, and a knotty ne, with which many learned ien have been gravel'd; and ow fince we have mention'd , we care not much if we speak berly of it.

There is nothing so frequent, nd indeed nothing so consideable in their Books as Fire and Vater, but the reiprocall and onfused whe of both termes, puzzles

The second secon

puzzles much, as when they tel us that their mater is their firm Of this they have written ! strangely, that I have fomtime been angry with them; but a mongst them all, I found on had a good will to satisfie me This Author confessed he mil carried two hundred several times, notwithstanding his knowledge of the true matter and this because he did no know the fire or agent by which the matter is altered. These miss fortunes of his own moved him it seems, to a commiseration of Posterity; but I must needs affirm he hath taken his liberty, and exprest his own mind, after his own way. Our fire (faith he) is minerall; equal, continuall; it vapours not unlesse the heat be too great; it participates of Sulphur ; it Disolves : Calcines , 15 + 2 2 W.

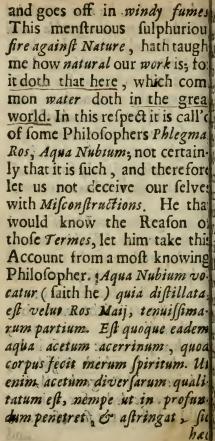
Waters of the East.

nd congeales all; it is artificial of find, and not chargeable, and t is taken elsewhere than from the Matter. To all this he adds hat at last, whereof he would have us take most notice. This ire (faith he) is not altered or ransmuted with the Matter. He hought certainly he had spoten enough, and truly so he hath out it is to such as know it already.

For my own part I have found cortain mineral stinking water,
which partakes of the nature of
inlinear, and whose preparation
s artificiall, which is not of the
seriall parts of the matter, but
weight vapours not unless it be
wer-heated, which Dissolves,
Saloines, and Congeales all, but
s not congealed; for it is exicl'd at last by the fire of nature,

and

Euphrates or the



ac aqua solvit, & coaqulat, non utem coagulatur, quia non est de ubjecto proprio. Thus much as o the Termes, and now let useturn to the thing it self. I said his fire effects that in the Glass, which common water doth in he great World; for as this hlegmatick element coagulates ot, nor is it at all diminished, hotwithstanding that infinite umber of individualls, which Vature still produceth; even so is in our work; for our water Ho alters not, though the mater be alter'd in her belly, and ur very Principles generated here, namely Sulphur and Merurie philosophicall. Nor should ny man wonder that I affirm ommon water to be incoagulable by heat at least, for in this I peak not unadvisedly. I know here are in water some natures

G

COACH-

Euphrates, or the

parts of the water, but of othese elements; Nor will I deny but some phlegme, nay, a very greapo quantity, and fomtimes all, marin be retain'd by mixture with of ther natures, and seem to but coagulated into Stones, and those sometimes transparent but coagulation in this sense namely by mixture of parts, an in meal and water, I mind not E but by coagulation I understand a trasmutation of the substance of meer water into Earth or air. and this in simple water cannot be. I know there is a water that of it felf, without all extraneous additions will coagulate in a soft hear to a fusible sals more pretious than Gold; but this is not any water that the eye sces, but another invisible Humidity', which is indeed every where

The state of the s

Waters of the East.

where, sed non videtur (saith but y toos Sendivow) donec artifici placeat. This might fatisfie as to this Appear w point, but I will add something the Artific more, least I speak without Rea- Oleane fon, especially to those, who are not willing to allow others a better judgment than they have themselves.

The commerce that is maintain'd between Heaven and Earth, by the ascent and volati-Mitie of water, may sufficiently inform us of what dangerous sonsequence, the coagulation of this element would be. It is improbable then that the wife God of Nature, should make that Humidity coagulable, whose vey use and office requires it hould be otherwise; For if in the essence of water, as it is simple water, there were an astrinrent congealing faculty, it would G 2

by degrees attain to a total fix-dation, and then there could be no further generation, either of spermes or bodies; Reason form it is this, if the water were fixed, there would be no vapour or cloud, and there being no vapour, there could be no sperme for the elements cannot meet to make the sperm but in a vapour. For example, the earth cannot ascend, unless the water be first rarefied, for in the belly of the water is the earth carried up ; and if the earth ascends not, having put off her grosse body, and being subtiliated and purgeal with the water, then will not the air incorporate with it, for the moisture of the water introduceth the air into the rarefieal & dissolved earth. And here ato the earth, so doth the air reconcile

rile the mater to the fire, as if it would requite one courtefy with mother; For the air with its minetuosity and fatness, introluceth the fire into the water, the fire following the air, and Hicking to it as to its fuell and liment. It remains now, that we observe, that the vapour of the water, was the locus or maorix, wherein the other three lements did meet, and without which they had never come toether; For this vapour was the referent that carried up the dure virgin earth to be marriad to the Sun and Moon, and ow again she brings her down on her belly, impregnated with one milk of the fone, and the fullood of the other, namely with ir, and fire, which Principles the predominant in those two periour Luminaries. But some

wife one may argue and tell me that this vapour being thus impregnated, may now be coagulated, and fixed, by help of those hot Principles of air and fire. To this I answer, that the viscous seminal part of the water may, but the phleam never, and I will shew as much by example. When this vapour is fully impregnated, it staics no longer in that Region, but refrom whence it ascended. But how doth it return? Certainly not in a violent stormic precipi-Lumen de tation like Rain, but as I have

Lumine.

written elsewhere, it steals down invisibly and silently; For if it be a vapour, such as I speak of, In quo est imaginatum semen Astrale certi ponderis, then it is neither keard of nor feen till all long time after. But to proceed in what I have promised

mised to prove, I shall instance in common Dew: For dew hath in it some small dose of the starfire. We see therefore that this bumidity comes down filently, for its inclosed fire keeps it rarefied in the form of air, and will not suffer it to condense to water, at that height as the vapour of Rain doth; But when it is descended neer the earth, lit mingles with other crude. vapours, and borrowing from them a great quantity of phleam, settles at last into Dropps. But before we go any farther let us here consider those words of the Son of Sirach. Looke (saith he) on all the Works of the most high, and there are Two and Two one against the other. In this he agrees with that little fragment which goe under the name of Moses, where God teacheth G 4

him thus. Scias, quod unicuique Creatura, & compar, & contrarium creavi. I will not perempal torily affirm that Moses is the author of this piece, or that God taught him in those very words, but I affirm, that those words expresse the truth of God, and point at some great Mysteries of his Wisedome- Nor will I here to omit a considerable Circumstance, namely that this piece m hath in it some Hebrew words, a and this proves the Author was the a few if not Moses. But to pass of by the Author and come to his w - Sense; I say that God created a - mater to oppose it to the earth, lo and this appears by their different complextions and qualities; " - For the earth is groffe and felid, the water, subtill and fluid; and H the earth hath in her the cogulating, astringens power, as the

water hath partly in it the loftuning disolving facultie. The pearth then shuts up her self, and in her self the fire, so that there d can be no Generation or Vegehation, unlesse the earth be ospened, that the fire may be at dlibertie to work. This we may flee in a grain of Corn, where the astringent earthy faculty hath bound up all the other elements, and terminated them to I drie compacted body. Now shis body, as long as it is drie, or as our Saviour saith, as long s it abiaeth alone; that is to say is long as it is without water, so ong it can bear no fruit: But fit falls into the Ground and lies, that is to fay, if it be difolv'd there by the Humidity of Heaven (for Death is but Disolution) then it will bring orth much fruit, as our SaviEuphrates, or the

our testifieth. It is the water of then that dissolves, and life fol--loweth the dissolution; for nois spent of the sooner is the body opened, but w oed Body the Spirit Rirrs in it, perceiving res to be - in the Dissolvent or dewie wawith theter, another spirit; to which a don the watere desires to be united. This of efficient spirit is the air inclosed in the Air is demor mater, which air is cal-water that led in the Philosophers Books, the response Aqua Maris nostri, aqua vita mand madefaciens. But who will believe that there is a drie water hid in the moist? Certainly few: and this Sendi-- vow tells us of some Sophisters of his acquaintance. Non credebant Aquam esse in mari ena that nostro, & tamen Philosophi viwas my deri volebant. I have my self known many fuch Philofophers, and of whom I can fay the very same. But to return to

our

our business; It is called aqua vita, because this air involves in it self a fire, which is life universall, not yet specified, and therefore it agrees with all particular lives, and is amicable to all kind of Creaturs. Now the particular specified fire; or life of the Grain, which is the vegetable magnet, attracts to him the der in felf the universall fire or life, to hed in the which is hid in the water, and water with with the fire he attracts the Air that cover which is the vestiment or body the line w of the fire, called by the Plato- his in the. nicks, Currus Anima, and som-of the wa times Nimbus ignis descenden- this is upon which the whole Myste-Universal ric of Naturall Augmentation or Los he water and Multiplication is built; For the body of the Grain of Corn, particular is augmented with the aliment-file fire of of air, not simple but decom- Grain or in pounded, advacts to for nouristion

pounded, which air is carried in the water, and is a kind of volatill sweet: salt; but the fire or hi life of the Grain, is fortified h with the univerfall fire, and N this fire is involved in the air, as n the air is in the water. And the here we may observe that it is not mater onely, that conduceth in to the Generation or Regeneration of things, but mater and fire; that is water and spirit, in or water that hath life in it; And this, if rightly understood, is a great Manuduction to Divi-Fact

To conclude, the Summe of all we would fay is this, the Rootes and Seeds of all Vegetables are placed in the earth, in the midst of this dewie fountain, as a Lamp is placed in the midst of oile; and the fire or life of the Seeds attracts to it selfe

the

.

he Abryssach or Leffa, I mean he Fuyce or Gumme of the waer, as the fire of a Lamp attracts he Oile that is round about it. Now when all the air is drawn out of the water, then attraction easeth, and concoction or transnutation begins, but if the rude water, which was the veviculum of the air staies with he feeds, then it hinders conoction, and therefore the Sun The lapour nd the Archeus jointly expell afcend to br ier, so that she takes wing and founthe she eturnes to the Region of the air, where again she fills her belly mick or her vith that starrie milk, and then ment for lescends as before. This is the Earth eason why there is in Nature & this is the uch a vicifitude of showres and work Males un-shines, for the showres bring in both e lown the aereal nutriment, and when the Plants have attracted , then the fun-shines call up the

Euphrates or the

94

crude water, which otherwife would hinder Digestion & Congelation, This then is the trade that common water drives, but if she could be coagulated, this trade would cease, and all life would cease with it. I have for many years look'd upon her as on a Bird that flies to her Neft, and from it again, feeding her young ones, and fetching food for them. Nor is this a new fanare the cy of mine, for some learned That bring in which respect that milkies moisture, which is found in her

thy moisture Cristall Brests, is call'd by some nd in her of Rinds volatilium, the milk of Birds, and they have left it written, that Birds do bring

their stone unto them.

To make an end, observe that there is a great difference bee plunal number our

Waters of the East. our Chymicall water or fire, nentioned formerly out of Ponanus; for our water helps coarulation, and this hinders it; for if the Phlegm, or crude spiit staies with the air, the air will never congeales; and therefore said Sendivow, Omnis agua all Via cong ongelatur calido, si est sine spiri- with bleat if u; And thus have I demon-y with call of trated my Position, namely hath adjaire hat common water is not conge- the waters a sable. The two Tabe Nothing now remains, nor are not cong there any thing hinders, but with cold hat we may safely and infalli- therefore ma ly conclude, that simple crude Lewithout water feeds nothing; but the um or congealable, part of it But the com eds all things; for this is the Water or The Bral Ballam and the elementall is long cale adicall Humidity, which being with Col mpounded of Inferiours and & by anseque operiours, is a Restorative both hath a Spin ndewow must mean the The lags · Crude Spirit, which is Confe

Euphrates or the of spirits and bodies. This i that general vital aliment which God himself provides fo all his Creatures, and which i yearly produced and manifested in the Elements, by the invisi ble operation of his Spirtt, that works all in all. This hath in i the whole Anatomy of Heaven and Earth, whose Belly is ful of light and life, and when it enters into these lower parts of the World, it overcasts them with a

certain Viridity, makes them break forth into flowres, and presents us with somthing that is very like to the Paradife we have loft. In a word this is no humane confection, but a thing

prepared by the divine spirit nor is it made for Vegetable. onely, but for Man also, whom God did fomtimes feed with it.

This the Scripture tells us whole whose Authority is above Ari-Rotle and Galen; For thus I read cap. 16. fin Exed. And it came to pass that at even, the Quailes came up and covered the Camp, and in the morning the Dew lay round about the Hoste. And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold apon the face of the Wilderness there lay a round small thing, as mall as the hoare Frost upon the ground, and when the Children of frael saw it they said one to another, it is Manna; for they wist not what it was; And Moses said unto hem, this is the Bread which the Lord hath given you to eate. Erery Child knows that dew fetles into round drops; and here Moses tells us, that when the. phlegmatic humidity was gone up, the congelative part, that laid behind, was a round small hing, for it retained still the figure of the drop, in whose bell ly it was hid. This congelative part is oleous and fusible; an with this also the Scripture ac cords, telling us, That when the Sun waxed hot, it melted. It withall of a most facile, quic alteration, and therefore eafil transmutable or convertible int any form; and for this reaso Moles charged the people 1 leave none of it till the morning but some of them (faith the text left of it till the morning, and i bred wormes and stank; Whence we may gather, that it is i some degree animall. We se then that the Spirit of God still busie with water, and t this house moves not onely up on it, but in it, nor do I doub but this is the ground of the deep question, which (among many others) God proposed t Fol

2:99

fob. Hath the RAIN a father, Chap. 38. or who hath begotten the DROPS v.28. of DEW? It is worth our obfervation, that the Children of Israel, when they saw this thing. (though they knew it not) said one to another, it is Manna; for what argues this, but that Manna (as the word imports) was some secret gift of God, which they knew not, but had formerly heard of by Tradition from their Fathers; and perhaps by fuch a description as Hermes gives it in the Zaradi, namely, that it ascends from the earth to Heaven, and descends again from Heavento the Earth; and this might make them call it Manna, because it descended with the dem! I question not but Moses knew it well, though the common people wish not what it was; For the Golden Calfe could not 3.68 H 2 bc.

be burnt to powder with common fire, but with the fire of the Al tar, which was not that of th Kitchin. This is plain out o the Machabees, where it is writ ten, that this fire was hid in Pit, and that for many years i was there kept sure during the Captivity. But who is so made as to hide common fire in a pit and to expect he shall find there many years after? Is not the best course to quench it and rather drown it in a VVell than burie it in a Pit. We doub not for our part, but this fir was far different from the :com mon, and this the Text also tell us, for when it was brought on of the Pit, it was not fire, bu a THICK WATER. The trut is that this Mysterie belong'd t the Fewish Church; the Pries and Prophets having receiv'd

from the Patriarchs; I mean from Abraham, Isaac, and Fasob, and they from Noah, and all of them from Adam, as we have proved elsewhere. These Magia Adamical and the World, and instructed Posterity; and these and none other must be those antient and first Philosophers, whom Zadith calls Avos Mundi, some of whose Termes are cited by him.

VVe shall now (before we make an end) repeat all we have said, and that in a few words, such as shall be agreeable to Nature & to the parts of the world, as they have been manifested to us by experience. We have certainly found, that there is nothing above, but the very same is also here beneath, but in a more gross materiall Complexion; for God hath ordained, that

H 3

the

the gross and corpulent sperm of Inferiours, should afford a Body to the animating and fubtil Influx of their Superiours. Now God hath decreed no union of Spermer, but of such as proceed from bodies that are of the same nature and kind; For his own Word bears him witheffe that he hates confusion or a mixture of Seeds that are different, or of a divers kind. Not unadvisedly then did the Priests, or (as Proclus tells us) the Founders of the antient Priesthood affirm, Cælum esse in Terra sed modo Terrestri G. Terram esfe in Calo sed modo Culesti; for otherwife they could not be of a kind. We say therefore, that in this Universez there are four Luminaries, whereof two are Calesteat and two are Centrall. The Calestiall are the Sun and Moon,

and

1evit.19.

103

and they are known to all the world; The Centrall indeed are not known, and theretore not believed, for the one is overcast with earth, and the other with water. In the Center then of the earth, there is hid a fire, which is of nature Solar, but more gross than that which is in the Sun; and in the belly of the water, there is carried a viscous gross air, of a menstrous lunar nature, but not so bright and subtill as that which is in the Moon. To be short, the Central Sun casts into the belly of the water a ma-Culine hot Salt; and the water receiving it, ads to it her seminal feminine Limosity, and carries it upon her wings into the Region of the air. Thus we see how the materiall part of the feed is made, and now to this body of it the Heaven gives life, the Moon H 4 giving

giving it spirit, and the Sun giving it Soul; and thus are the foure Luminaries brought together, the superiour contributing that to the feed, which is subtill and vitall; and the inferiour that which is corpulent and materiall. This seed is carried invisibly in the belly of the wind and it is manifested in Water, I say in water as clear as Cristall, and out of water it must be drawn, for there is not under Heaven, any other body where it may be found. I have fought it my self in the common metalls, in Quickfilver, in Antimonie, and in Regulus of Antimonie, also in Regulus of Mars; Venus, and Saturn, and of all the bodies: but I lost my labour, for I fought it where it was not All these Errors did I run into after Thad known the true matter;

for having miscarried in my first attempts upon it, I lest it as a thing untractable; and this Tergiversation of mine, brought me into many inconveniencies. I conceived indeed, that a vitioll made of those four impersect bodies, Antimonie, Iron, Lead, and Copper, might be that glassie Azoth of Lullie, whose spirit or water he hath so magnified in his Testament.

This indeed clinks finely, and may so swell a young head, as to make him turn Poet, and like the Delphick Divell, tell a lie in Heroicks. No lesse obstructive to me was that Speech of Parmenides, in the Turba. As aut plumbum, pro pinguedine vel nigredine, of stannum pro lique factione sumite. What can this signific at first sight but Antimonie? and what can this stan-

num, that comes from it by liquefaction be, but Regulus ? This made me labour for a long time on this feculent, unprofitable body, supposing of a truth, that Regulus of Antimonie was white lead, or Tin philosophical. But that we be not deceived, all these Parables relate to another Minera, and not to common Antimonie, which the Turba condemns in these words. Notandum est quod invidi lapidem antimonium nuncuparunt. Note (faith Cambar) or observe that the envious call'd the Stone Antimonie: But what the envious call'd it, that certainly it is not, And Basill Valentine in his Currus Triumphalis, which he hath written in the praise of Antimo. nie, tells us; Non tantum illi a Deo concessum est, ut in, vel ex Antimonio inveniatur Mercuri

Cambar in Turba.

us philosophicus, primum Ens, Argentum vivum, & aqua prima metallorum perfectorum, ex qua fit magnus lapis antiquorum philosophorum; Sed hoc primum Ens in Alia Minerali invenitur, in quo metallica ratione operatio altior est, quam stibij. And the same Basilla little afterwards, speaking of Stella Martis, delivers himself thus. Plerique putärunt hanc stellam esse materiam veram lapidis philosophorum, cogitaptes se veraciter hoc imaginari, quia natura stellam hanc sponte sua formavit; Ego vero nego: hi viri, Regià vià relità, per avias rapes, ubi Ibices habitant, Opradatrices Aves nidificant, iter instituunt: Non id. debetur buic stella; ut materia sit lapidis nobilissimi, licet in eo latet medicina optima. It remains then Reader, that we lay aside

aside all common metalls, as Gold, Silver, Copper, Iron, Tin, Lead, Antimonie and Quicksilver. For if we seek the sperme in any of these, we shall never find it, because we seek it in metallis vulgi, in quibus non est, as Sendivow hath told us. We must therefore seek another body, which is not common, nor is it made by mixture or otherwife, of any metall that is common; but is a certain black subphur made by Nature, and which never stouch'd the fire. This is that body whereof Albertus Magnus hath thus written: Datur in Rerum natura corpus metallicum quoddam, facilis solutionis, facilisque putrefactionis, si praparationem ejus. nôsti, falix Medicus eris. And after him, his Disciple Thomas Aquinas speaking of the same Mia

Minera, cites these notable words out of another Philosopher; Est quadam species metalli, quam Gens nunquam invenit. This is the metall we must seek for, and it is hard to find, because we must not dig to come + at it, for if we know where it is, we need no more but stoop and take it up gratis. Yet it is neither Glaubers Antimonie, nor common Lead, nor is it a flintstone, nor the Marle of Peter Faber, who after he had wearied himself, and deceived his Readers with Discourses of Antimonie, and sublimate with salts of common metalls, sought the sulphur at last in this Clod; or Marga, as he calls it. But to pass by these Fooleries and come to a Conclusion: I say that this black sulphur is the Male, which being found, we are in the next place

place to feek the Female; And here observe, that God Allmighty hath in particular bodies made no difference of Sexes, but onely in the animall Kingdome, for in Vegetables and Mineralls there is no fuch thing. VVe fee that in grains of Corn (Juppole of wheat) there is no division into Males and Females, for the truth is they are all Males, and God hath allowed them no Female, but the universal one, namely water, whose viscous general feed joyning with the partieular feed and spirit that is in the Grain, is therewith fermented and congealed into the same nature with the Grain it self! and fo propagates and multiplies the Gorn: even so it is in metallimetalls, for every one of them is masculine, sulphureous, and scaline Cholerick; Nor hath God or dained

dained that any of them should propagate and multiply the other, either naturally or artificially; though we deny not but they may be multiplied by help of that feed, wherein God hath placed the bleffing of Multiplication. In Metalls then, there is no Distinction or D. fference of Sexes, so that out of them it is impossible to extract Masculine and Feminine, Spermes, for such cannot be extracted but from bodies that are Male and Female, which metalls are not, for if they were, they -would propagate without Art, God having so ordained it. It is plain then, that metalls (being not Male and Female; breedwithin themselves no seed, andby consequence cannot givethat which they have not; for the truth is the feed whereof

112 Euphrates or the they spring, is that general seed he of the elements, namely a cerfain humidity, which appears The vias of (as Sendivow tells us) in foretal, ma aque pinguis, that is in the mely afertain form of a fat water. This water is their seed, their Mother and their Female, for of this n of fat they were originally made, and ater This if in this they be again disolved, then the Child will attract the Mother to it, and convert her totally to his own nature; and on the contrary, the spirit of the of Mother will multiply the Spirit althout the of the Child, and exalt it to a perfection more than ordinary. This is the way, and besides it tally to he there is none; For there is no Rature and water under Heaven, from it to a what bodies soever it be extrajection more Eted, that hath in it the miltiplying vertue, but this one water, · Promary is no other which God hath bleffed. And

117

here, though I leem to speak indifferently of Metalls; yet do mind this tot I: mind the common, for not Com their spirits have been mortin netal fied in the fire. Take therefore our sulphur; which ne - our \$ ver touch'd the fire, and whose life is whole in Him: join this living Male to a living -Female, for in this (as I have elsewhere intimated) lies allthe Mysterie, namely in the w-nion of a particular spirit to Anima the universall, by which means Nature is strangely exalted and multiplied. Labour therefore to unite these two substantially and thoroughly, and thou canst not miss, if thou knowest the applications; For suffer me to tell thee a secret; that the application of Actives to Passives, I mean the Manner of it, is the greatest difficulty in all the Art. FareEuphrates, or the

Farewell Reader, and enjoy these my Labours which I free-ly communicate to thee: not I'le assure thee, out of any Design, for I seek not my own Glory, but that of God and thy benefit.

TIL 80) 20 TEN.

nothis nigginal



A Short Appendix by way of Admonition to the Reader



T was not my intention to adde any thing unto what hath been allready written: but when I re-

flect on those vexations I have indur'd my self, in the pursuit of this Science. I begin to think Ihave not said enough. To be a little more plain then, know Reader, that who foever feeks the Philosophers Mercurie in metalls, of what kind soever

they

Euphrates or the

they be, is already out of the way; for that Philosophick Mercury, so much talk'd of, is a Water; and in metalls, water there is none; for the sulphur hath not onely congeled it there, but hath withall dried it up. This is evident in common Quicksilver, and Antimonie, which of all metalline bodies, are the most crude, and yet as crude as they are, their water is exiccated by their fire; for if we force them into a fume, that. fume series not to a liquid pirit, but into drie Flowres. This made the Philosop ers seek a more crude minera, whose fume was moist, and would settle into water, as being not yet master'd by the Sulphur. Such there was none but the Mother of Mercurie, or the first matter, whereof Nature makes the common Merriney

curie, and this also they call'd -Quickfilver, and a viscous water, for such it is. In this Minera the mercuriall vapour was not so drie, but it would settle into water, and with this water, they dissolved the metalline bodies; for the moist tume of this minera reduc'd the metalline drie fumes, so that both turn'd into one water, and this they called Mercurie philosophicall, and duplicated Mercurie. In this . point I need not fay more, and if they be not willfully blind, here is Light enough for our Metallmongers, and especially for those confident Roasters o Antimonie, who over the smoak of that Drugg dream of mysteries, as if they were transported into a certain Capnomancie. For my part I denie not but Antimonie may be reduc'd to a mercu-

Euphraics or the mercuriall water, though I know not to what purpose, for neither our Mercurie nor our Tincture riseth from it, if Basill Valentine may be believed. True it is, the Philosophers use it but as a meer Instrument) to refine that goes off again, and so they ld from whe duse even Kitchin fire, but it is evaporates not their matter or subject, and ain beleavemuch lesse is common Gold, as he gold pursone Ignorants would have it.

There is indeed another Antimonie, which is our Sulphur, and the subject of the whole Art; but this is so hard to find, and wen it is found, so hard to prepare, that it had almost cast me into Despaire. Howsoever if thou doest seriously consider

> what I have written, and what hath fallen from me in some places with as much purpose as caution, then verily neither the

thing it self nor the preparation of it can be bid from thee. To make an end, know that the Philosophers have two Merenries or waters, the First and Sesond, their first is the spirit of our Antimonie, and here understand me rightly; Their second is that of Mercurie and Venus Philosophicall, and this of it felf is all-sufficient; But to shorten time, the Philosophers ferment it with common Gold. I have now spoken more than Discretion can well allow of. but the Sense of those Difficulties I have met withall, hath carried me thus farr: Howsoever be thou cautious in thy Construction least the name of Antimomie deceive thee, for so thou maist run into a fruitless expence of Time and Substance. This is all I have to fay, and

124 Euphrates or the

now what use to make of it is in thy power; if thou canst be lieve, it is well, if not, forbear from this Art altogether, or thou wilt live to punish thy own Incredulity.

FINIS

ERRATA.

PAge 14.line 5. read retards.
p.24.l.ult.dele That.p.26.l.
23.r.attract. p.52.l.g.r.vapours.
Ibid.l.15.r.Sapours.p.61.l.14.r.
Quod. p.74.l.1.r. mas not cured.



