

T H E
Athenian Gazette :
O R
CASU ISTICAL MERCURY

Resolving all the most
Nice and Curious Questions.

PROPOSED BY THE
I N G E N I O U S
Of Either S E X :

From *Tuesday Decemb. 1.* to *Saturday January 30th, 1691.*

The Fifth Volume,

TREATING
On the several Subjects mentioned in the CON-
TENTS at the Beginning of the Book.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *John Dunton*, at the *Raven* in the *Poultry*. Where is to be
had the *First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Volumes* of the *Athe-
nian Gazette*, (and the *Supplements to 'em*,) beginning *March 17th*,
and ending *January 30th, 1691.* (Or single Ones to this Time.)

T H E
P R E F A C E
T O
The Fifth Volume.

WE have now finish'd the Fifth Volume, and the Supplement to it is preparing for the Press, which when perfected, it will compleat our entire *SETT* for one Year, which will be bound up all together, or in separate Volumes.

We have taken a new Method about our future Supplements, designing henceforward to make 'em up of the Natural and Artificial Rarities of England and other Countries; wherein we have already made a considerable Progress, and shall soon give you a Scheme of it; which, as it is an Undertaking that secures a Correspondence from all Places in England, &c. and with the Ingenious of such Places; so it won't be only a satisfaction to all such Persons as have neither time nor opportunity to enquire of such things, but also to such Persons of every particular County, when they shall see both their own and their Neighbour Countreys Curiosities together.

As for the Subject of past Supplements; viz. an Abridgment of all Valuable Books Printed here in England, as also a Translation of such Abridgments as we find of Moment in the Universal Bibliothek, *Journal des Scavans*, &c. our future Supplements will not supplant such an Useful Undertaking, and so advantagious to the Publick, since they will yet be carried on by our Bookseller and Mr. Bennet in Paul's Church Yard, and be perform'd by Monsieur de la Crose, a late Author of the Universal Bibliothek.

The Disputes which we have maintain'd against the Anabaptists, and which makes up so great a part of our last Twelve Numbers, have dependance on the Fourteen and Eighteen Numbers of the Fourth Volume, which will be of Use to such as have any Doubts about the Validity of Infant Baptism; for here they may see all that ever has been urg'd by the Anabaptists, either Antient or Modern upon the Subject, with a full Answer to 'em all.

Our Young Students Library is in the Press, in which you will find some Original Pieces (mentioned by Mr. de la Crose in his Works of the Learned for January last) one about the Pointing of the Mazore, which tho' we have been much importun'd to Print separate, we thought we could not oblige any Persons more than those for whose Use the whole

is

The Epistle to the Reader.

is design'd, and therefore we will rather let the World have recourse to the Young Students Treasure, than the Young Students to what is common to the World. But we shall not publish our General Table for this Year 1691. till the Young Students Library comes out of the Press, when we design to collect not only the Contents of all our Mercuries and Supplements hitherto Printed, but also the particular Treatises of our Young Students Library.

We shall always keep to our Old Method of Printing Eighteen Numbers successively, and the other Twelve together which compleat Thirty, our First Number for a Volume; and shall make five Volumes and Supplements to 'em, the Complement of one Year, to which there shall always be annext a General Table Alphabetically digested for a more orderly finding out any Question or Subject whatever treated of.

We have nothing else to offer but a word or two to our Querists, which is to tell 'em that we desire 'em, as near as they can, to observe those Rules we have laid down in the Preface to our Second and Fourth Volumes, in doing which they will both save themselves the trouble of disappointments, and our Bookseller the labour of any more Advertisements to that end.

We shall only add, that our Querists look upon most Advertisements as coming from our Bookseller, for that is not our business so properly as his, nor are we to answer for what lies in his Province, whether he ask our Advice in it or no, tho' we have little reason to blame him in any thing of that nature, if every thing were examin'd without prejudice; for those that will act rationally in their Censures of any thing, ought to suspend their Judgment till they know every Circumstance that modifies the Matter of Fact.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Works of the Learned; or, An Historical Account, and Impartial Judgment of Books newly Printed, both Foreign and Domestick; as also the State of Learning in the World, to be Publish'd Monthly. January, 169 $\frac{1}{2}$. By J. de la Crose, a late Author of the Universal and Historical Bibliotheque.

London Printed for John Dunton at the Raven in the Poultry. 1692.

The

THE CONTENTS OF THE The Fifth Volume.

IS there ever a Poet among the Athenian Society, and suppose a Question should be sent in Verse, should it be answer'd in the same? Q. 1. N. 1

Who is the best English Satyrift now living? q. 2. n. 1

Do the Modern English Dramatique Writers excel most, or those of the last Age? q. 3. n. 1

Is there any deceit in a Brimmer? q. 4. n. 1

Whether Songs on Moral, Religious or Divine Subjects, composed by Persons of Wit and Virtue, and set to both grave and pleasant Tunes, would not by the Charms of Poetry, and sweetness of Musick, make good Impressions of Modesty and Sobriety on the Young and Noble? q. 5. n. 1

To the Author of the late Famous Pastoral Poem. n. 1

In Discourse with a Person disaffected to the Government, concerning a famous Book not long since written in the defence thereof. q. 6. n. 1

Whom do you think the best Dramatique Professor in this Age? q. 1. n. 2

I can with a four-ounce Hammer drive a double Ten into a thick Plank up to the head, but if I take four Tun weight, and poizing it exactly, put it upon the same Nail in the same Plank, it will not force it up to the head; what may be the Reason of this difference? q. 2. n. 2

How big are Spirits, since 'tis said that our Saviour cast a Legion of 'em out of a Man? q. 3. n. 2

A Gentleman and a Lady in the Countrey, being Neighbours, not under Parents or Guardians, but both free, and at their own Disposals, did settle their Affections each on other, in order to Marriage. q. 4. n. 2

An intimate Friend of mine after having strong desires to, and promise of Marriage had been made him by his Mistress, received a very unkind Letter from her, which threw him into such a violent passion, that upon the reading on't, his Nose gusht out with Blood, and his Eyes with Tears. q. 5. n. 2

About the Year 83. I found at Richmond upon Thames a living Creature in the Water. q. 6. n. 2

In the First of Genesis 'tis said, That on the first day God ordained the day and night, &c. and on the fourth day he made two great Lights, the Sun and Moon, &c. q. 7. n. 2

A Lady not Learned, but having Children, and being desirous her self to enter 'em early into the knowledge of things, desires the Athenian Society to answer these following Queries for her resolution therein.

1. What Heads of things is it best to enter Children in when they begin to Learn?

2. What particular Branches or Members under those several Heads?

3. Which is the best way of referring what they meet with in their observation or reading to those Heads which they have been before instructed in? q. 1. n. 3

Is the Soul of Woman inferiour to the Soul of Man? and if so, will his Superiority continue eternally? q. 2. n. 3

Who are wisest, those that Marry for Love, or for Convenience? q. 3. n. 3

A Lady that's extreamly troubled with Corns, desires to know the Reason? q. 4. n. 3

As within this week I was travelling between Kenford, and Bury St. Edmonds, I was unfortunately set on by three Men in Disguise, who not finding their expected Booty, were so incensed as to rifle me of all my Cloaths, and were sending me home naked. q. 1. n. 4

What Language was spoken by our first Parents in Paradise? q. 2. n. 4

How came the two Disciples to know Moses and Elias in the Mount? q. 3. n. 4

Whether Methuselah was the longest liver, or not? q. 4. n. 4

Is not the Sun a Mass of liquid Gold, cupellated by the Influence of the fix'd Stars? q. 5. n. 4

Whether ever the Sun has been totally eclips'd. q. 6. n. 4

The Answer in your last Mercury to the Question concerning the Suns Eclipse. q. 1. n. 5

In my Minority I married a Lady contrary to the knowledge of our Parents, and now I'm grown to a state of Maturity. q. 2. n. 5

Balaam being a Moabite, how could he understand the Ass speaking unto him in Hebrew? q. 3. n. 5

What was it that Eve spun? q. 4. n. 5

A Lady affirmed their Sex to be more excellent than Mans, because, let a Man wash his hands never so often, there will be some settled Dirt in the Water, and that 'tis not so when a Woman washes. q. 5. n. 5

A word or two to the Anabaptists. n. 5

A

The Contents of the Fifth Volume.

- A Young Man that was an Apprentice in the Parish of St. Giles Cripplegate London, his Master and he had some difference, whereupon he went away from him; q.1. n.6*
- What is the cause of the Flux and Reflux of the Sea? q.2. n.6*
- I have sent you this true Relation, which I had from two Gentlewomen Lodgers in the house of one who keeps a Chandlers shop in Berry-street, St. James's, as followeth: About the 25th. of the last month, about break of day Mrs. E— went to open the street door, which she did, and just without it found a tallow Candle (as fair as a wax one) burning, the end turn'd up very finely some 6 or 7 inches long, which she put out, and laid by. q.3. n.6*
- I am no stranger to our common practice of using Equivocations in Oaths. q.4. n.6*
- A certain Old Woman pretending her self to be a Fortune-teller came the last week into a certain house at Bristol, and having some discourse with the Mistress of the house, told her of many Truths concerning the Family, which was impossible for the Old Woman to know, had she not been a Witch. q.5. n.6*
- You affirm Vol. 1. N. 8. Q. 3. That a Rational Soul is distinguishable by its actions, and if a Monster can Number, Discourse in Questions and Answers, that such a Monster hath a rational Soul, and shall be accountable in the Day of Judgment for its Actions. q.6. n.6*
- Page 247 in Howels Letters. we have an account that in Valentia in Spain a proper Young Man under 20 was executed there for a Crime. q.7. n.6*
- Whether three Suns really appeared ever at once. q.8. n.6*
- In Page 71, Dallison's Aphorisms, he affirms, That while the Crocodile sleeps with open mouth the Indian Ratt shoots himself into his Belly, and gnaws his Guts asunder: Your thoughts whether there be any thing of reality in it? q.9. n.6*
- A certain Vertuoso affirms, that in Rain is contained Salt, and that if the unprofitable parts by which it is involved be taken away by distillation, a Salt as white as Sugar may be found: Your Thoughts whether it is so or no? q.10. n.6*
- In Dallison's Aphorisms, page 277. He affirms, Lightning ne're hurts the Laurel; Your Opinion of this, which if you assent to, then the Cause of it, why that more preserves than other Trees? q.11 n.6*
- I had the Fortune to be joyned in Matrimony to a Man who had another Wife and Children by her, which I discovering, brought an Indictment against him, and cast him at the Old-Baily for his Life, after which I begg'd he might be transported, which was granted. q.12 n.6*
- Whether the Force and Virtues of the old Egyptian Talismans, and their other Magical Operations were true and real, or only Imaginary, or Illusion? q.1. n.7*
- What Wind in our Body is, whence it proceeds, and what are the true Remedies for it? q.2. n.7*
- Which is the best Text extant of the Old Testament, the Vulgar, Hebrew, or the Septuagint? q.3. n.7*
- Whether there be any Specifick Cure for the Biting of a Viper, or of a Mad Dog, and what? q.4. n.7*
- How the Blood circulates in a Body whose Legs are cut off? q.5. n.7*
- Why no venomous Creature will live in Ireland, Guernsey, and some smaller Islands? q.6. n.7*
- Whether there have been Satyrs, Centaurs, or other discoursing Creatures produced between the Race of Men and Brutes. q.7. n.7*
- Whether Japan be an Island or no? q.8. n.7*
- What is the fair interpretation of the second and fourth verse of the sixth Chapter of Genesis, concerning the Sons of God, and the Daughters of Men, and the Generations from them? q.9. n.7*
- At what time the Creed, commonly called the Apostles Creed, was first compiled and published, by whom, in what place & time? q.10. n.7*
- What is your Opinion concerning the Motion of the Earth or the Sun? I desire neither Reasons nor Authorities, but upon the whole your own Opinion upon this matter? q.11. n.7*
- Whether the Athenian Mercury be written by one Man? if so, whether of any Progeffion, and of what Age? if by more, how many, and of what Professions? q.12. n.7*
- Whether the Antients knew the Mariners Compass? q.13. n.7*
- Whether there's any such thing as the Imputed Righteousness of Christ, by which we are justified, since the Querist can find no mention thereof in the New Testament? q.1. n.8*
- Seeing 'tis undeniably allowable by the Laws of God for the Clergy to marry, how comes it to pass that their Wives and Children above all others should prove most unhappy? q.2. n.8*
- Whether there be any example of an Extempore Prayer made before a publick Congregation met together for the publick Worship of God in all the New Testament? q.3. n.8.*
- Suppose a Deaf Man well skill'd in Astronomy and Navigation, should have all his Books and Instruments taken from him, and he put down in the Ships Hold some days before she sets sail, and there be kept close many days after, so that he knoweth not when the Ship set sail. q.1. n.9*
- A Gentlewoman marries, the Husband by Contract is to leave her so much at his Death. q.2. n.9*
- In Vol. 3. N. 24. Question 12. of your Mercury, 'tis asked whether Devils can generate, &c. q.3. n.9*
- About two months ago I made bold to beg your Opinion concerning a strange Voice calling a person who died soon after, but I find I have not been particular enough to satisfy you that it was not a Dream or Fancy, but a Fault which I run into for fear of being impertinent. q.4. n.9*
- The inclosed was found in the street tyed with the Bone in it, in the manner I have sent it, and brought to me to know what might be the meaning of it. q.5. n.9*
- The*

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- The Question I have to propound to you, I received from so good hands, together with the permission of informing you of the very person where the Servant-maid lives, that I don't doubt but upon the enquiry you will your selves be as well satisfied of the truth, as I was before I ventured to send it to you q.6.n.9
- I have, to maintain my wicked Extravagancies, wrong'd a certain person who is now dead, both of Money and other things, for which I being troubled in Conscience, and struck with a remorse of my Crime against Almighty God. q.7. n.9
- A Friend of mine is much dissatisfied, and willing to refer the Case to your Society, she having been engag'd to a Gentleman upon the account of Marriage. q.8. n.9
- Suppose A. B. and some others are concerned for their shares in a certain Estate, whereof C. the Son of B. by consent of all parties is made Receiver of the Rents. q.1. n.10
- Was that Angel that appeared to Balaam in the way, an Angel from Heaven, or an Angel sent on that purpose pictured with a Flaming Sword? q.2 n.10
- What is the Reason of the Strake on every Mules back representing a Crucifix? q.3. n.10
- What is the Cause of the continuance of the Bodies of Living Creatures without putrefaction? q.4.n.10
- Whether a Forreigners Condition, such I mean as the French Inhabitants with us, who have Liberty to Inhabit or Trade in any part of England? q.5. n.10
- Whether 'twould not be a great ease to the Nation if they were Naturaliz'd, and bore a part proportionable to their Abilities in the Charges of the War? q.6.n.10
- It is thought Mr. S—— is the Author of those lines in Num. 1. Vol. 5. that relate to the late Pastoral Poem? q.7. n.10
- A Poetical Mercury. n. 11
- Pray tell us what unlucky Star, d'ye mind it, Could influence my Temper as you find it? q.1 n.11
- Why is't that Musick, Rhymes and Dances Have such Effects upon our Fancies? q.2.n.11
- What think you of that Doggrel Prater That steals the name of Observator, And aims at Wit, but comes not at her? q.3.n.11
- The greatest Blessing that Mankind can know Is met with in a sweet and pleasing rest. q.4. n.1.
- The different Accident of Colour shows That different matter doth the Clouds compose. q.5. n.11
- Since all our Doctors of Astronomy Maintain the Sun the only Spring to be. q.6.n.11
- Say Learn'd Athenians! how I may improve, Or else secure the Extasies of Love? q.7. n.11
- An Epithalamium. n. 11
- Looking over Sir William Temple's Memoirs, I met with a Story in it concerning an old Parrot belonging to the late Prince Maurice, that readily answered to several Questions promiscuously put to him, which you may more particularly inform yourselves of. q.1. n.12
- Our Jurors (particularly at Justice-Hall in the Old-Baily) that try in Cases of Life and Death, are oblig'd to be (or at least to tell the Court that they are) all of one mind, before they can give, or the Court receive their Verdict. q.2 n.12
- The Tuesday before Christmas day I gave you an account of a Gentlewoman who hath mightily impoverisht her self and Children by daily relieving the necessities of her near Relations, the tendernefs of her Nature being such, that she could not possibly forbear supplying their wants whilst she had a competency, tho' she thought she should suffer for it hereafter. q.3. n.12
- Besides the many gross Immoralities which have over-spread a great part of the Nation, there is a certain Infirmary, which hath seiz'd almost all the rest, which I call the Prudentials. q.4. n.12
- I have long liv'd in an unlawful, tho' successful Amour. q.1. n.13
- A Gentlewoman that has a Husband who used her barbarously. q.2. n.13
- Suppose the Querist have a Daughter about twenty years of Age, and a Brother about the same Age. q.3. n.13
- A Young Man of a very amorous disposition, has had the misfortune to yield to every attack of his Passion. q.4. n.13
- A Young Man being in Love with a Young Gentlewoman, promis'd her Marriage without the knowledge of his own Parents. q.5. n.13
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- There is a Weed which grows among Corn very plentifully, call'd Cats-tail. q.6. n.14
- To this we'll add another that's somewhat a-kin to't, and then endeavour to answer 'em both. What's the reason that the Eyes of Beans in the Kid grow downwards some years, and upwards other, as this? q.7. n.14
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Reader,

In these 12 Numbers are found some mistakes committed by the Printer, which the Authors are not accountable for.

The