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The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY
Department of Zoology
ITHACA, N. Y.



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Dr. Agnes Arber
~~c/o School of Botany~~
~~Cambridge University~~
Cambridge, England

52 Huntingda Road
Cambridge

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

May 4, 1959

ITHACA, N. Y.

Dr. Agnes Arber
c/o School of Botany
Cambridge University
Cambridge, England

Dear Mrs. Arber:

It has occurred to me that you may be able easily to solve a problem which I have encountered in the course of the work in which I am at present engaged on Marcello Malpighi and the evolution of embryological thought. As a part of it I am analyzing Malpighi's correspondence with the Royal Society and I am puzzled by the statement which James Crawford made to Malpighi in a letter dated 4 August, 1674, to the effect that the Society was eagerly awaiting his work on the anatomy of plants. There was among us, Crawford went on, a very celebrated physician who had intended to treat the same subject, but being advanced in years he proved unequal to so large an enterprise and died before completing a tenth part of the work, which thus remains for you to accomplish.

This letter has never been published (the original is in the Biblioteca Comunale at Bologna.)

Do you have a suggestion as to who this physician was? I should be grateful for your thoughts on the subject, and I hope that you will not think me impertinent ~~for~~ bothering you. I have of course read your papers on Malpighi and Grew and admire them very much.

Sincerely yours,

Howard B. Adelman

Howard B. Adelman
Professor of Histology & Embryology

HBA:mp

THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF LONDON

GENERAL MEETING

15 MAY ~~1940~~ 1941 at 3.0 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Confirmation of the Proceedings of the General Meeting held on 3 April 1941.
2. Statement of donations received since the previous meeting.
3. Admission of Fellows.
4. Recommendations of candidates for Fellowship.
5. Ballot for the election of the following candidates for Fellowship :—

H. DRYSDALE WOODCOCK, K.C.

BRYAN PATRICK BEIRNE.

REV. LESLIE WALTER ALLAN AURENDT.

JAMES WILLIAM MATTHEWS.

ANGUS D'ALBINI BELLAIRS.

ERIC OTTLEBEN CALLEN.

WILLIAM THOMAS WILLIAMS.

6. Ballot for the election of the following candidate for Associateship :—

THOMAS ALFRED DYMES.

7. Communications :—

3.15 P.M. Dr. AGNES ARBER, F.L.S. 'Nehemiah Grew and Marcello Malpighi.' An account of the work of these pioneer plant anatomists : this year being the tercentenary of the birth of Nehemiah Grew.

4.15 P.M. Dr. C. DAVIES SHERBORN, A.L.S. An autograph letter of Marcello Malpighi. (Exhibit.)

(Tea will be served on the first floor at 4.30.
Sugar cannot be provided.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL MEETING ON
3 APRIL 1941

Dr. E. S. RUSSELL, O.B.E., President,
in the Chair

The Proceedings of the General Meeting held on Thursday, 6 March 1941, having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

The following were thanked for gifts made to the Library since the last meeting :—The Swedenborg Society and Messrs. Frederick Warne & Co., Ltd.

Certificates of recommendation of the following candidates for Fellowship were read, for the second time, in favour of Eric Ottleben Callen and William Thomas Williams.

A certificate of recommendation of the following candidate for Associateship was read for the second time,—Thomas Alfred Dymes.

The following Fellows were elected as Auditors of the Treasurer's accounts for 1940-41 :—Representing the Council—Dr. Anna B. Hastings, Mr. Francis Druce : Representing the Fellows—Mr. D. J. Scourfield (or failing him, Mr. D. M. Reid) and Mr. J. E. Dandy.

The President reported the deaths of the following Fellows,—Mr. R. Lloyd Griffiths and Mr. H. B. Lacey.

The following new Bye-Law was read for the first time :—
Add to Chapter II the following Section,—

VII. During a period of National Emergency the Council may at its discretion remit in whole or in part the Annual Contribution of any Fellow serving in the Armed Forces of the Crown or in other forms of War Service. The decision of the Council as to what constitutes War Service shall be final. The Fellow whose Annual Contribution is remitted under this Bye-Law shall not be entitled to receive the Publications of the Society during the period of remission.

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Nchemmek Jew. Agnes Arber
 [Nchemmek Jew. with study of Platanus. See Agnes Arber N.S. 1950-8 (1906) manuscript available]
 Nchemmek Jew. 1641-1712. — Makino & Butcher Botany
 ed. by F. W. Oliver
 Camb. Univ Press. 1913

Tercentenary of Nchemmek Jew. — Nature Vd 147, p 240, 1941
 620-632

Nchemmek Jew. & Marcello Malpighi — Proc. Linn. Soc. Lond. 153rd Session
 (1940-41) p 218
 Letter from C. Dobell attached, &
 correction for Proc. Linn. Soc. Session 154 (1941-2)
 p 166

The Relation of Nchemmek Jew. & Marcello Malpighi — Chronica Botanica Vd VI,
 1941, p 391-392

Nchemmek Jew. & Marcello Malpighi — Lies, Vd 34, 1942, p
 17
 An Essay in Comparison

Copy of Nchemmek Jew's ^{original} ~~manuscript~~ certificate & photograph
 of the entry in the register
 Photograph of an engraving of Nchemmek Jew's mother
 (Bur. Mus.)

" engraving of Marcello Malpighi
 " " " Francis Gleason

Originals of illustrations in "Makino & Butcher Botany"

Some additional notes as the card.

NEHEMIAH GREW AND THE STUDY OF PLANT ANATOMY

By AGNES ROBERTSON, D.Sc.

Fellow of University College, London

THE condition of any branch of science at the present moment can hardly be understood without a consideration of its history and a reference to the work of those inquirers to whom it owes its origin. I think we may fairly say that the pioneers in each subject are to-day held in due honour, but still the fact remains that for the most part they are left unread! This is much to be regretted, since their work is often most suggestive, and not infrequently exhibits a breadth of outlook for which we seek in vain in the writings of modern specialists. And in any case it cannot fail to be of value to workers of the present day to thoroughly understand what aims and expectations were in the minds of the founders of their subject when they first broke the ground. The subject of plant anatomy has made gigantic strides of late years, and it may perhaps be of some interest, in view of the records of recent progress in the subject which will appear in this journal, to turn for a moment to that classic of botanical literature, Nehemiah Grew's *Anatomy of Plants*. This work, which is the first in the English language dealing seriously with the subject, is a large and leisurely folio published in 1682, and dedicated by the author (who was M.D. of Leyden, Fellow of the Royal Society and of the College of Physicians) to "His most sacred Majesty Charles II." In view of the lengthiness and comparative inaccessibility of the volume, which practically comprises the author's collected botanical works, it may be useful to place on record some slight sketch of its contents. "Your Majesty will find," says Nehemiah Grew in his dedication, "that there are Terræ Incognitæ in Philosophy as well as Geography. And for so much, as lies here, it come to pass, I know not how, even in this Inquisitive Age, That I am the first, who have given a Map of the Country. . . . In sum,

NEHEMIAH GREW'S "ANATOMY OF PLANTS" 151

Your Majesty will find, that we are come ashore into a new World, whereof we see no end."

Nehemiah Grew has sometimes been accused of borrowing from the Italian, Marcello Malpighi, whose great work on the same subject was laid before the Royal Society in 1674. But it is certain that the first part of Grew's work was in the hands of the Bishop of Chester a year before Malpighi's earliest communication reached England, and there seems, I think, no sufficient reason to doubt the essential independence of the English botanist's work. He explains as follows the reasons which induced him to take up the study of plant anatomy: "The first occasion of directing my Thoughts this way, was in the Year 1664, upon reading some, of the many and curious Inventions of Learned Men, in the *Bodies of Animals*. For considering, that both of them came at first out of the same *Hand*; and were therefore *Contrivances* of the same *Wisdom*: I thence fully assured my self, that it could not be a vain Design; to seek it in both. And being then newly furnished with a good stock of *seeds*, in order to raise a *Nursery of Plants*; I resolved, besides what I first aimed at, to make the utmost use of them for that purpose: that so, I might put somewhat upon that side the *Leaf*, which the best *Botanicks* had left bare and empty. . . . And although it seemed at first an Objection in my way, That the first projectors seldome bring their business to any good end: yet I also knew, That if Men should stay for an Example in everything; nothing extraordinary would ever be done."

Grew refers to the remarks on plant anatomy which occur in Robert Hooke's *Micrographia*, but justly points out that such observations as he made were merely by the way, and that he never set out definitely to make a complete investigation of the subject. With regard to Grew's methods there is little to be said. He used both naked eye and microscope, and refers to perpendicular, transverse, and oblique sections, "all three being requisite, if not to Observe, yet better to Comprehend, some Things." He held particularly sane views on the education of students: "what is learned," he says, "by their own Observation, will abide much longer in their mind, than what they are only Poynted to, by another."

When we turn to the special part of the book—the anatomical descriptions of the several organs,—we find that in the root he

dependence of the form of the leaf on certain intersecting circles, of flowers on intersecting spheres, and so on, which have rather tended to obscure the excellence of the purely morphological parts. For it is in his feeling for *form* that Nehemiah Grew seems to excel. The fact that the microscope was a comparatively new invention was very much in his favour; for not being perfectly accustomed to it, he was in the habit of perpetually checking his work by reference to naked-eye observations—a habit which unfortunately botanists of the present day tend to lose!

In conclusion I should like to quote Nehemiah Grew's own apology for the magnitude of the task he had undertaken: "The Way is long and dark: and as Travellers sometimes amongst Mountains, by gaining the top of one, are so far from their Journeys end; that they only come to see another lies before them: so the Way of *Nature*, is so impervious, and, as I may say, down Hill and up Hill, that how far soever we go, yet the surmounting of one difficulty, is wont still to give us the prospect of another. . . . A War is not to be quitted for the hazards which attend it; nor the *Councils of Princes* broken up, because those that sit at them, have not the Spirit of Prophecy, as well as of Wisdom. To conclude, if but little should be effected, yet to design more, can do us no harm: For although a Man shall never be able to hit *Stars* by shooting at them; yet he shall come much nearer to them, than another that throws at Apples."

[Originals & Illustrations from
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End of the volume.]

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Reprinted from *The Makers of British Botany*

Cambridge University Press
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(Reprinted from NATURE, Vol. 147, page 630, May 24, 1941.)

TERCENTENARY OF
NEHEMIAH GREW (1641-1712) 1712

By DR. AGNES ARBER

NEHEMIAH GREW will always be held in honour by botanists as the co-founder with Marcello Malpighi of the science of plant anatomy. It is true that in his ideas about plant cells he did not advance much beyond Robert Hooke, who, in 1665, figured and named these units; but, as regards knowledge of vascular structure, the position is very different. Grew and Malpighi not only initiated the study of the bundle system of the flowering plant, but also carried it to a surprisingly high level, considering that they had to start from the very foundations. Grew's first book, "The Anatomy of Vegetables Begun" (1672), contains the earliest printed illustration showing vascular bundles as seen in section under the microscope. He followed up this work in 1673 and 1675 by treatises on the detailed anatomy of roots and of stems. Finally he brought all his results together in 1682 in a splendidly illustrated folio, "The Anatomy of Plants", which included improved second editions of his first three books, as well as much additional matter. The excellence of Grew's botanical morphology and anatomy has been recognized fully; indeed his reputation in this line is deservedly so great that it has tended to overshadow the other facets of his output. It seems worth while, therefore, in this, his tercentenary year, to direct attention to certain less specialized aspects of his scientific work.

Grew's general attitude towards biology cannot be understood unless one realizes how deeply he was committed to a mechanistic view of the universe. It seems likely that Hooke, and also Descartes, had to some extent turned his mind in this direction, though in the seventeenth century such ideas were so much in the air that it is scarcely

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PROCEEDINGS OF
THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF LONDON

183rd Session (1940-41)

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Chronica Botanica

the International Plant Science Newsmagazine

November 1941



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NOTICES

Attention is called to a Standing Order of Council relating to Papers,—

'In the Journal or Proceedings of the Linnean Society except by special resolution of the Council not more than one paper shall be published by any one author not being a Fellow of the Society.'

CATALOGUE OF MANUSCRIPTS, Part III

The Catalogue of the Manuscripts in the Library of The Linnean Society of London, Part III. Synopsis of the Annotations by Linnaeus and contemporaries in his Library of Printed Books. By Spencer Savage, F.L.S., is ready for delivery to Fellows and others. This Part of the Catalogue, which is in quarto, extends to 19 pages. The edition is limited to 250 copies.

The price to Fellows is 3s. 9d., post free; to non-Fellows, 5s. 0d.

Bawden — NOMINA ad INFINITUM

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Foreword by William Seifriz

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SUMMER 1942
No. 93
VOL. XXXIV - PT. I

AN INTERNATIONAL REVIEW
DEVOTED TO THE HISTORY OF
SCIENCE AND CIVILIZATION

FOUNDED AND EDITED BY GEORGE SARTON

<i>Preface to Volume XXXIV. O'Connell.</i>	GEORGE SARTON
<i>Archimedes and Aristarchus.</i>	O. NEUGEBAUER
<i>Astronomical Tables beginning in the Year 1361.</i>	LYNN THORNDIKE
<i>Nehemiah Grew and Marcello Malpighi.</i>	AGNES ARBER
<i>"Sir" John Hill versus the Royal Society.</i>	CLARK EMERY
<i>Quelques constructeurs d'astrolabes en occident musulman.</i>	H. P. J. RENAUD
<i>Queries and Answers</i>	Notes and Correspondence
	Reviews
<i>Critical Bibliography of the History and Philosophy of Science and of the History of Civilization</i>	

OFFICIAL QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF
THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE SOCIETY

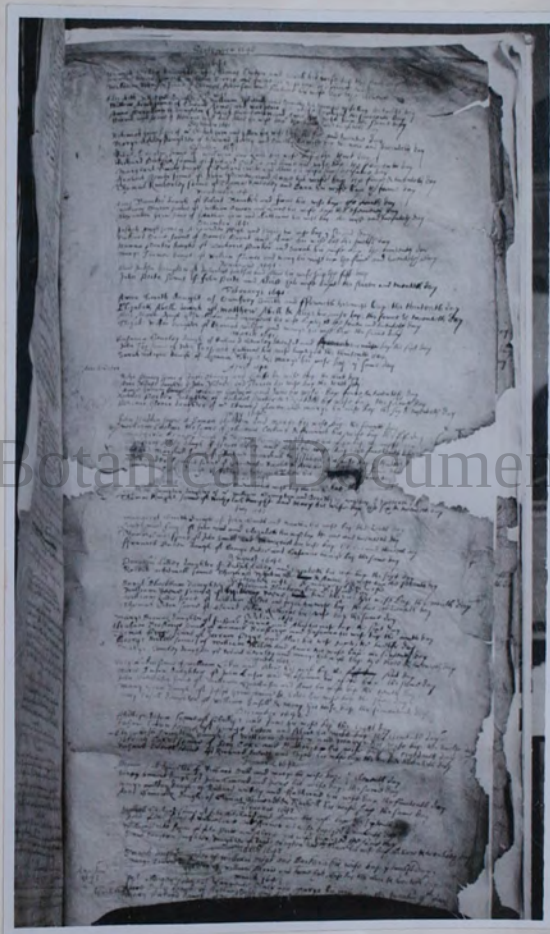
Page

Baptism solemnized in the *Parish Church of St. Peter Mancetter* in the County of *Warwick* in the Year *1641*

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parent's Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was Performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
September 1641.	Nehemiah Grew sonne of Mr. Obediah Grew and Ellen his wife bap ^d the six and twentieth day					
No.						

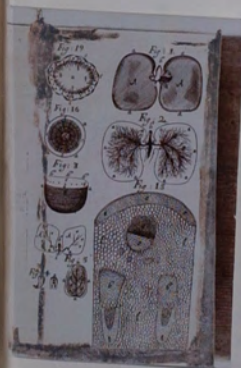
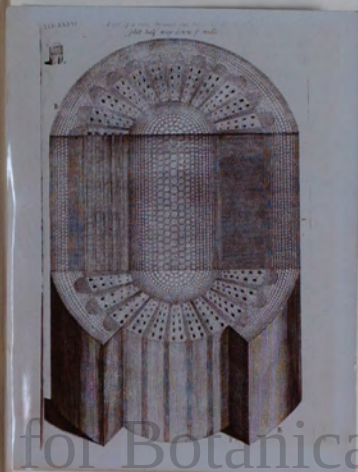
The above is a TRUE COPY of the BAPTISM REGISTER of the Parish aforesaid, extracted this *thirtieth* day of *October* in the Year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and *forty*

By me *G. G. Hall (Vicar of Mancetter).*



←
 Photograph 6
 register of
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 Christening
 (Plover, 1891)
 enclosed for
 photograph by
 the Vicar, St.
 Rev. S. J. Hall
 Dec 1940

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Illustrations in "Makers of Botany"

Additional Note

Greiv's preface to the Anatomy & Vegetables Begun contains what appears to be the first use of the term "anatomical anatomy." (See also note in the phrase next page)

The Anatomy & Vegetables Begun was presented to the Royal Society in print Dec. 7, 1671. There is always a specimen of as 1672.

Darby, Sir Humphrey (1844) Elements of Agricultural Chemistry, ed. by J. Shier, Glasgow. [H. 22, 25]

Test figs 8, 9, 10 (transverse sections, stems) - Sept. fig 11, a cross leaf with special transverse pulled out, as copied for Greiv's Anatomy & Plants. The same figures occur, from a later edition as plates, in the 1st ed. 1814. [H. 22, 24]

Linnaeus, C. (1763) Philosophie Botanica ed 2
Plantae quae feruntur convolvuntur, stemm. [MD. 58.5]
Convolvuntur, quae Oculis Naturae. Continetur,
etiam vitulae proprius accedunt; quaeque Classe
naturae congruent, etiam vitulus quodammodo
congruent.

This ref. should be added at end of p. 236 my article in Linn. Proc.

(Related phenomena related nature)

See E. W. J. Neave. The Epsom Spring. Isis Vol 34, 1943, pp 210-211
On Nehomuch grew the Epsom waters

Correspondence of John Ray. Ed by E. Lantester. London. Ray
Lect. 1648 [MC. 73.8]

Letter from D. Tanager Robinson to John Ray. Seneca. April
18, 1684. S. N., pp 41-3

p 142 "Just as I left Bononia, I had a lamentable spectacle of
Malgus's house all in flames, occasioned by the negligence of his wife.
All his pictures, furniture, books, & manuscripts were burnt. I saw
him in the very heat of the burning, & met him in a room behind so
much Christian patience & philosophy, in any man before; & he comforted his wife, &
condemned nothing but the loss of his papers, which are more lamented than the Alexandrian
Library, or Bartholomew's Bellinaria, at Copenhagen."

(Comparative Anatomy)

Theophrastus, Enquiry into Plants, 1.1.4. pp 7-8,
Hort's translation.

"The enquiry into plants, if pursued generally, may either take
account of the external part & the form of the plants generally, or else
their internal parts: the latter method corresponds to the study
of animals by dissection."

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