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nine experiments which the examiner in the 11th and 12th chapters reckons up as urged by his adversaries; yet do not thereby declare my acquiescing in his explications of those phenomena, but only leave both them and some other things he delivers about siphons and the *Magdeburg* experiments, to be discoursed by those that are more concerned to examine them, contenting myself to have sufficiently disproved the Funiculus which his expositions suppose, and cleared the grounds of explicating such experiments aright.

C H A P. V.

Two new Experiments touching the measure of the force of the spring of air compressed and dilated.

Page 12.

THE other thing, that I would have considered touching our adversary's hypothesis is, that it is needless. For whereas he denies not, that the air has some weight and spring, but affirms, that it is very insufficient to perform such great matters as the counterpoising of a mercurial cylinder of 29 inches, as we teach that it may; we shall now endeavour to manifest by experiments purposely made, that the spring of the air is capable of doing far more than it is necessary for us to ascribe to it, to solve the phenomena of the Torricellian experiment.

We took then a long glass-tube, which, by a dexterous hand and the help of a lamp, was in such a manner crooked at the bottom, that the part turned up was almost parallel to the rest of the tube, and the orifice of this shorter leg of the siphon (if I may so call the whole instrument) being hermetically sealed, the length of it was divided into inches (each of which was subdivided into eight parts) by a straight list of paper, which containing those divisions, was carefully pasted all along it. Then putting in as much quicksilver as served to fill the arch or bended part of the siphon, that the mercury standing in a level might reach in the one leg to the bottom of the divided paper, and just to the same height or horizontal line in the other; we took care, by frequently inclining the tube, so that the air might freely pass from one leg into the other by the sides of the mercury (we took, I say, care) that the air at last included in the shorter cylinder should be of the same laxity with the rest of the air about it. This done, we began to pour quicksilver into the longer leg of the siphon, which by its weight pressing up that in the shorter leg, did by degrees straighten the included air: and continuing this pouring in of quicksilver till the air in the shorter leg was by condensation reduced to take up but half the space it possessed (I say, possessed, not filled) before; we cast our eyes upon the longer leg of the glass, on which was likewise pasted a list of paper carefully divided into inches and parts, and we observed, not without delight and satisfaction, that the quicksilver in that longer part of the tube was 29 inches higher than the other. Now that this observation does both very well agree with and confirm our hypothesis, will be easily discerned by him, that takes notice what we teach; and Monsieur *Pascal* and our English friend's experiments prove, that the greater the weight is that leans upon the air, the more forcible is its endeavour of dilatation, and consequently its power of resistance (as other springs are stronger when bent by greater weights). For this being considered, it will appear to agree rarely-well with the hypothesis, that as according to it the air in that degree of density and correspondent measure of resistance, to which the weight of the incumbent atmosphere had brought it, was able to counterbalance and

and resist the pressure of a mercurial cylinder of about 29 inches, as we are taught by the Torricellian experiment; so here the same air being brought to a degree of density about twice as great as that it had before, obtains a spring twice as strong as formerly. As may appear by its being able to sustain or resist a cylinder of 29 inches in the longer tube, together with the weight of the atmospherical cylinder, that leaned upon those 29 inches of mercury; and, as we just now inferred from the Torricellian experiment, was equivalent to them.

We were hindered from prosecuting the trial at that time by the casual breaking of the tube. But because an accurate experiment of this nature would be of great importance to the doctrine of the spring of the air, and has not yet been made (that I know) by any man; and because also it is more uneasy to be made than one would think, in regard of the difficulty as well of procuring crooked tubes fit for the purpose, as of making a just estimate of the true place of the protuberant mercury's surface; I suppose it will not be unwelcome to the reader, to be informed, that after some other trials, one of which we made in a tube whose longer leg was perpendicular, and the other, that contained the air, parallel to the horizon, we at last procured a tube of the figure express'd in the scheme; which tube, though of a pretty See Fig. 5 bigness, was so long, that the cylinder, whereof the shorter leg of it consisted, admitted a list of paper, which had before been divided into 12 inches and their quarters, and the longer leg admitted another list of paper of divers feet in length, and divided after the same manner. Then quicksilver being poured in to fill up the bended part of the glass, that the surface of it in either leg might rest in the same horizontal line, as we lately taught, there was more and more quicksilver poured into the longer tube; and notice being watchfully taken how far the mercury was risen in that longer tube, when it appeared to have ascended to any of the divisions in the shorter tube, the several observations, that were thus successively made, and as they were made set down, afforded us the ensuing table:

A table

A table of the condensation of the air.

A	A	B	C	D	E
48	12	00		$29\frac{3}{16}$	$29\frac{3}{16}$
46	$11\frac{1}{2}$	$01\frac{7}{16}$		$30\frac{9}{16}$	$33\frac{6}{16}$
44	11	$02\frac{13}{16}$		$31\frac{15}{16}$	$31\frac{13}{16}$
42	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$04\frac{6}{16}$		$33\frac{8}{16}$	$33\frac{1}{2}$
40	10	$06\frac{3}{16}$		$35\frac{3}{16}$	35 -
38	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$07\frac{9}{16}$		37	$36\frac{9}{16}$
36	9	$10\frac{15}{16}$		$39\frac{5}{16}$	$38\frac{7}{16}$
34	$8\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{8}{16}$		$41\frac{10}{16}$	$41\frac{3}{8}$
32	8	$15\frac{1}{16}$		$44\frac{5}{16}$	$43\frac{11}{16}$
30	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$17\frac{7}{16}$		$47\frac{1}{16}$	$46\frac{3}{8}$
28	7	$21\frac{3}{16}$		$50\frac{5}{16}$	50 -
26	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$25\frac{3}{16}$		$54\frac{5}{16}$	$53\frac{10}{16}$
24	6	$29\frac{11}{16}$		$58\frac{11}{16}$	$58\frac{2}{16}$
23	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$32\frac{17}{16}$		$61\frac{17}{16}$	$60\frac{13}{16}$
22	$5\frac{1}{4}$	$34\frac{13}{16}$		$64\frac{13}{16}$	$63\frac{9}{16}$
21	$5\frac{1}{8}$	$37\frac{13}{16}$		$67\frac{13}{16}$	$66\frac{7}{16}$
20	5	$41\frac{9}{16}$		$70\frac{9}{16}$	70 -
19	$4\frac{3}{4}$	45 -		$74\frac{3}{16}$	$73\frac{11}{16}$
18	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$48\frac{11}{16}$		$77\frac{11}{16}$	$77\frac{1}{16}$
17	$4\frac{1}{4}$	$53\frac{11}{16}$		$82\frac{11}{16}$	$82\frac{7}{16}$
16	4	$58\frac{3}{16}$		$87\frac{11}{16}$	$87\frac{3}{16}$
15	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$63\frac{13}{16}$		$93\frac{13}{16}$	$93\frac{1}{16}$
14	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$71\frac{13}{16}$		$100\frac{7}{16}$	$99\frac{6}{16}$
13	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$78\frac{11}{16}$		$107\frac{11}{16}$	$107\frac{7}{16}$
12	3	$88\frac{7}{16}$		$117\frac{9}{16}$	$116\frac{4}{16}$

Added to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ makes

AA. The number of equal spaces in the shorter leg, that contained the same parcel of air diversly extended.

B. The height of the mercurial cylinder in the longer leg, that compressed the air into those dimensions.

C. The height of the mercurial cylinder, that counter-balanced the pressure of the atmosphere.

D. The aggregate of the two last columns B and C, exhibiting the pressure sustained by the included air.

E. What that pressure should be according to the hypothesis, that supposes the pressures and expansions to be in reciprocal proportion.

FOR the better understanding of this experiment, it may not be amiss to take notice of the following particulars :

1. THAT the tube being so tall, that we could not conveniently make use of it in a chamber, we were fain to use it on a pair of stairs, which yet were very lightfome, the tube being for preservation's sake by strings so suspended, that it did scarce touch the box presently to be mentioned.

2. THE lower and crooked part of the pipe was placed in a square wooden box, of a good largeness and depth, to prevent the loss of the quicksilver, that might fall aside in the transfusion from the vessel into the pipe, and to receive the whole quicksilver in case the tube should break.

3. THAT we were two to make the observation together, the one to take notice at the bottom, how the quicksilver rose in the shorter cylinder, and the other to pour in at the top of the longer; it being very hard and troublesome for one man alone to do both accurately.

4. That the quicksilver was poured in but by little and little, according to the direction of him that observed below; it being far easier to pour in more, than to take out any, in case too much at once had been poured in.

5. THAT

measures of strength to be met with in the air's spring, according to its various degrees of compression and laxity. But, before I enter upon this subject, I shall readily acknowledge, that I had not reduced the trials I had made about measuring the expansion of the air to any certain hypothesis, when that ingenious gentleman Mr. *Richard Townley* was pleased to inform me, that having by the perusal of my physico-mechanical experiments been satisfied that the spring of the air was the cause of it, he endeavoured (and I wish in such attempts other ingenious men would follow his example) to supply what I had omitted concerning the reducing to a precise estimate, how much air dilated of itself loses of its elastical force, according to the measures of its dilatation. He added, that he had begun to set down what occurred to him to this purpose in a short discourse, whereof he afterwards did me the favour to shew me the beginning, which gives me a just curiosity to see it perfected. But, because I neither know, nor (by reason of the great distance betwixt our places of residence) have at present the opportunity to inquire, whether he will think fit to annex his discourse to our appendix, or to publish it by itself, or at all; and because he hath not yet, for aught I know, met with fit glasses to make an any-thing-accurate table of the decrement of the force of the dilated air; our present design invites us to present the reader with that which follows, wherein I had the assistance of the same person, that I took notice of in the former chapter, as having written something about rarefaction: whom I the rather make mention of on this occasion, because when he first heard me speak of Mr. *Townley's* suppositions about the proportion, wherein air loses of its spring by dilatation, he told me he had the year before (and not long after the publication of my pneumatical treatise) made observations to the same purpose, which he acknowledged to agree well enough with Mr. *Townley's* theory: and so did (as their author was pleased to tell me) some trials made about the same time by that noble virtuoso and eminent mathematician the Lord *Brouncker*, from whose further enquiries into this matter, if his occasions will allow him to make them, the curious may well hope for something very accurate.

A table of the rarefaction of the air.

	A	B	C	D	E
A. The number of equal spaces at the top of the tube, that contained the same parcel of air.	1	00°		29 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 $\frac{3}{4}$
	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{3}{4}$		19 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$
	2	15 $\frac{3}{4}$		14 $\frac{3}{4}$	14 $\frac{3}{4}$
B. The height of the mercurial cylinder, that together with the spring of the included, air counterbalanced the pressure of the atmosphere.	3	20 $\frac{3}{4}$		9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
	4	22 $\frac{3}{4}$		7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
	5	24 $\frac{1}{4}$		5 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
	6	24 $\frac{7}{8}$		4 $\frac{7}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
	7	25 $\frac{1}{2}$		4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	8	26 $\frac{3}{4}$		3 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
C. The pressure of the atmosphere.	9	26 $\frac{3}{4}$		3 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
	10	26 $\frac{3}{4}$		3 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
D. The complement of B to C, exhibiting the pressure sustained by the included air.	12	27 $\frac{1}{4}$		2 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
	14	27 $\frac{3}{4}$		2 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
	16	27 $\frac{5}{8}$		2 $\frac{5}{8}$	1 $\frac{5}{8}$
	18	27 $\frac{7}{8}$		1 $\frac{7}{8}$	1 $\frac{7}{8}$
E. What that pressure should be, according to the hypothesis.	20	28 $\frac{1}{4}$		1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
	24	28 $\frac{3}{4}$		1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
	28	28 $\frac{7}{8}$		1 $\frac{7}{8}$	1 $\frac{7}{8}$
	32	28 $\frac{3}{4}$		1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 $\frac{3}{4}$

To make the experiment of the debilitated force of expanded air the plainer, it will not be amiss to note some particulars, especially touching the manner of making the trial; which (for the reasons lately mentioned) we made on a lightsome pair of stairs, and with a box also lined with paper to receive the mercury that might be spilt. And in regard it would require a vast, and in few places procurable quantity of quicksilver, to employ vessels of such kind as are ordinary in the Torricellian experiment, we made use of a glass-tube of about six feet long; for that being hermetically sealed at one end, served our turn as well as if we could have made the experiment in a tub or pond of seventy inches deep.

SECONDLY, We also provided a slender glass-pipe of about the bigness of a swan's quill, and open at both ends; all along which was pasted a narrow list of paper, divided into inches and half quarters.

THIRDLY, This slender pipe being thrust down into the greater tube almost filled with quicksilver, the glass helped to make it swell to the top of the tube; and the quicksilver getting in at the lower orifice of the pipe, filled it up till the mercury included in that was near about a level with the surface of the surrounding mercury in the tube.

FOURTHLY, There being, as near as we could guess, little more than an inch of the slender pipe left above the surface of the restagnant mercury, and consequently unfilled therewith, the prominent orifice was carefully closed with sealing-wax melted; after which the pipe was let alone for a while, that the air dilated a little by the heat of the wax, might, upon refrigeration, be reduced to its wonted density. And then we observed by the help of the above-mentioned list of paper, whether we had not included somewhat more or somewhat less than an inch of air; and in either case we were fain to rectify the error by a small hole made (with a heated pin) in the wax, and afterwards closed up again.

FIFTHLY, Having thus included a just inch of air, we lifted up the slender pipe by degrees, till the air was dilated to an inch, an inch and an half, two inches, &c. and observed in inches and eighths the length of the mercurial cylinder, which at each degree of the air's expansion was impelled above the surface of the restagnant mercury in the tube.

SIXTHLY, The observations being ended, we presently made the Torricellian experiment with the above-mentioned great tube of six feet long, that we might know the height of the mercurial cylinder, for that particular day and hour; which height we found to be $29\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

SEVENTHLY, Our observations made after this manner furnished us with the preceding table, in which there would not probably have been found the difference here set down betwixt the force of the air, when expanded to double its former dimensions, and what that force should have been precisely according to the theory, but that the included inch of air received some little accession during the trial; which this newly mentioned difference making us suspect, we found by replunging the pipe into the quicksilver, that the included air had gained about half an eighth, which we guessed to have come from some little aerial bubbles in the quicksilver, contained in the pipe (so easy is it in such nice experiments to miss of exactness). We tried also with 12 inches of air shut up to be dilated; but being then hindered by some unwelcome avocations to prosecute those experiments, we shall elsewhere, out of other notes and trials (God permitting) set down some other accurate tables concerning this matter. By which possibly we may be assisted to resolve, whether the atmosphere should be looked upon (as it usually is) as a limited and bounded portion of the air; or whether we should, in a stricter sense than we did before, use the atmosphere and aerial part

part of the world for almost equivalent terms; or else whether we should allow the word atmosphere some other notion in relation to its extent and limits; (for as to its spring and weight, these experiments do not question, but evince them.) But we are willing, as we said, to refer the matters to our Appendix, and till then to retain our wonted manner of speaking of the air and atmosphere. In the mean time (to return to our last-mentioned experiments) besides that so little a variation may be in great part imputed to the difficulty of making experiments of this nature exactly, and perhaps a good part of it to something of inequality in the cavity of the pipe, or even in the thickness of the glass; besides this, I say, the proportion betwixt the several pressures of the included air undilated and expanded, especially when the dilatation was great (for when the air swelled but to four times its first extent, the mercurial cylinder, though of near 23 inches, differed not a quarter of an inch from what it should have been according to mathematical exactness) the proportion, I say, was suitable enough to what might be expected, to allow us to make this reflection upon the whole; that whether or no the intimated theory will hold exactly (for about that, as I said above, I dare determine nothing resolutely till I have further considered the matter) yet since the inch of air, when it was first included, was shut up with no other pressure than that, which it had from the weight of the incumbent air, and was no more compressed than the rest of the air we breathed and moved in; and since also this inch of air, when expanded to twice its former dimensions, was able with the help of a mercurial cylinder of about 15 inches to counterpoise the weight of the atmosphere, which the weight of the external air gravitating upon the restagnant mercury was able to impel up into the pipe, and sustain above twenty-eight inches of mercury, when the internal air, by its great expansion, had its spring too far debilitated to make any considerable (I say considerable, for it was not yet so dilated as not to make some) resistance: since, I say, these things are so, the free air here below appears to be almost as strongly compressed by the weight of the incumbent air, as it would be by the weight of a mercurial cylinder of twenty eight or thirty inches; and consequently is not in such a state of laxity and freedom as men are wont to imagine; and acts like some mechanical agent, the decrement of whose force holds a stricter proportion to its increase of dimension, than has been hitherto taken notice of.

I MUST not now stand to propose the several reflections, that may be made upon the foregoing observations touching the compression and expansion of air; partly because we could scarce avoid making the historical part somewhat prolix; and partly because I suppose we have already said enough to shew what was intended: namely, that to solve the phenomena there is not of our adversary's hypothesis any need: the evincing of which will appear to be of no small moment in our present controversy to him that considers, that the two main things, that induced the learned examiner to reject our hypothesis, are, that nature abhors a vacuum; and that though the air have some weight and spring, yet, these are insufficient to make out the known phenomena; for which we must therefore have recourse to his Funiculus. Now as we have formerly seen, that he has not so satisfactorily disproved as resolutely rejected a vacuum so we have now manifested, that the spring of the air may suffice to perform greater things than what our explication of the Torricellian experiments and those of our engine obliges us to ascribe to it. Wherefore since besides the several difficulties, that incumber the hypothesis we oppose, and especially its being scarce, if at all, intelligible, we can add that it is unnecessary; we dare expect, that such readers as are not biassed by their reverence for *Aristotle*, or the Peripatetick schools, will hardly reject an hypothesis, which, besides that it is very intelligible, is

now

now proved to be sufficient, only to imbrace a doctrine, that supposes such a rarefaction and condensation, as many famous Naturalists rejected for its not being comprehensible, even when they knew of no other way (that was probable) of solving the phenomena wont to be explicated by it.

PART III.

Wherein what is objected against Mr. BOYLE's Explications of particular Experiments, is answered.

AND now we are come to the third and last part of our defence; wherein we are to consider, what our examiner is pleased to object against some passages of our Physico-Mechanical Treatise. But though this may seem the only part, wherein I am particularly concerned; yet perhaps we shall find it, if not the shortest, at least the easiest, part of our task. Partly, because our author takes no exceptions at the experiments themselves, as we have recorded them (which from an adversary, who in some places speaks of them as an eye-witness, is no contemptible testimony, that the matters of fact have been rightly delivered): and partly, because there are divers experiments which, together with their explications, the examiner has thought fit to leave untouched, and thereby allows us to do so too: and partly also, because that (as to divers of those experiments, upon which he animadverts) he does not pretend to shew, that our explications are ill deduced or incongruous to our principles; but only that the phenomena may be explained either better, or as well, by his hypothesis; whereof he supposes himself to have demonstrated the truth, together with the erroneousness of ours, in the other parts of his book, especially the third, fourth and fifth chapters. So that after what we have said to vindicate the hypothesis we maintain, and take away our author's imaginary Funiculus; it will not be requisite for us, on such occasions, to examine his particular assertions and explications. Which advertisement we hope the reader will be pleased to bear in mind, and thereby save himself and us the trouble of a great deal of unnecessary repetition. Wherefore, presuming he will do so, we shall not stay to examine the first and second corollaries, which in this 17th chapter he annexes to the manner of emptying our receiver by our pump. Neither should we say any thing as to his third and last corollary, but that we think fit to desire the reader to take notice, that according to what he teaches in that place, the more the air is rarefied, the more forcibly it is able to contract itself.

A defence of our first and second EXPERIMENTS.

AND to proceed now to his 18th chapter, which he intitles *De experimentis Boyleianis*, we shall find, according to what we lately noted, that against the first experiment he objects nothing, save that if one of the fingers be applied to the orifice of the valve, when the pump is freed from air, the experimenter shall feel to his pain, that the sucker is not thrust inward by the external air, but, as the finger, drawn

assertion he says is easy : but alleges two or three arguments for it, which I think will be more easily answered than his assertion evinced.

In the first he says, that those experiments concerning the adhesion of one's finger, &c. which he had mentioned in the foregoing chapter, *eodem modo se habent in loco clauso ac in aperto*. But the answering of this we shall suspend till anon; partly, because it may then be more conveniently examined; and partly, because our author seems not to build much upon it, his chief argument being that which he proposes in these words : *Cum tota vis hujus Elaterii pendeat à refutato jam aëris æquipondio cum* Page 20. *digitis 29½ argenti vivi, ita ut nec plus, nec minus faciat hoc elaterium in loco ocluso, quam sit per illud æquipondium in loco aperto; manifestum est, cum jam ostensum sit fictitium planè esse hujusmodi æquipondium, fictitium quoque esse tale elaterium.* 'Being the whole power of the spring of the air depends upon the æquilibrium of its weight with twenty nine inches and a half of quicksilver, so that this spring doth neither more nor less in a shut place, than is done by that æquilibrium in an open place; it is manifest, seeing we have shewed the æquilibrium to be plainly fictitious and imaginary, that the spring ascribed to the air is so likewise.' Wherefore since all the validity of his objection against the spring of the air depends upon his former chapter, wherein he thinks he has disproved the weight of the air; it will behove us to look back into the former chapter, and examine the four arguments which he there proposes. But I must crave leave to vary from his method, and consider the third in the first place, because the removal of that objection will facilitate and shorten the answer to the rest. His third argument therefore is thus set down : *Nam si tubus* Page 16.

viginti tantum digitorum (quo usi sumus in primo argumento) non totus impleatur argento, ut prius, sed spacium aliquod inter digitum superiorem & argentum relinquatur in quo sit solus aër; videbimus subtracto inferiore digito superiorem non solum deorsum trahi, ut prius, sed etiam argentum jam descendere, idque notabiliter, quantum nimirum extendi potest exigua illa aëris particula à tali pondere descendente. Unde si loco illius aëris ponatur aqua, aliusve liquor qui non tam facilè extenditur, descensus nullus erit.

Hinc, inquam, contra hanc sententiam formatur argumentum : nam si externus ille aër nequeat vel hos viginti digitos argenti à lapsu sustentare, uti jam vidimus, quomodo quæso sustentabit 29½? Certè hæc nullatenus reconciliari possunt.

'For if a tube but twenty inches long (such as we used in our first argument) be not quite filled with quicksilver, as before, but a little space be left betwixt the mercury and the finger on the top of the tube, in which air only may abide; we shall find that the finger below being removed, the finger on the top will not only be drawn downwards, as before, but the quicksilver shall descend also, and that notably, viz. as much as so small a parcel of air can be extended by such a descending weight. So that if, instead of air, water, or any other liquor which is not so easily extended, be put in its place, there will be no descent at all.

'HENCE, I say, against this opinion an argument is framed: for if the external air cannot keep up those twenty inches of quicksilver from descending, as we have proved; how shall it keep up twenty-nine inches and an half? Assuredly these can no way be reconciled.'

BUT to this argument, which he thinks so irreconcilable with his adversary's hypothesis, he has himself furnished them with an answer in these words; *Dices forte ideo argentum in hoc casu descendere, quia deorsum trahitur ab aëre illo sese per suum Elaterium dilatante.* 'You will perchance say, that the quicksilver therefore doth in the alleged case descend, because it is thrust down by that parcel of air which dilates itself by its own spring.' Which answer I think sufficient for the objection, notwithstanding the two exceptions he takes at it.

FOR