

THE ABBOT CLAIRAI WHO HIMSELF COMMUNICATED TO
DR. SCHEPPLIN AT BASIL IN THE YEAR 1756, TEACHES AS FOLLOWS:-
(CLAIRAI WAS A TRUE ADEPT),

HIS UNIVERSAL PROCESS.

Take pure MERCURY revived from Cinnabar. Dissolve your MERCURY in good AQUA FORTIS. Precipitate the calx with SPIRIT of sea SALT, & sublime it, until it is as white as snow & perfectly pure.

In this MERCURY SUBLIMATE you have united the SPIRIT of the GREEN LION - i. e., the SULPHUR Naturae in the NITRE or AQUA FORTIS with the MERCURY which you have precipitated with Sea SALT on the LUNAR MERCURY.

This MERCURY SUBLIMATE previously finely powdered, mix with finely powdered & sifted crude ANTIMONY EQUAL PARTS. Vitriolum est Sulphur, Antimonium est Mercurius, says Basilus. Put the mixture into a tabulated glass RETORT, which bury deeply in sand & distill the Gun, JUICE, or butyrum over.

This is called by the vulgar chemists BUTYRUM ANTIMONII, but by the philosophers who know what to do with it, it is called "MERCURIUS PHILOSOPHORUM VISCOSUS" "AQUA COELESTIS" "LUNA PHILOSOPHORUM", MERCURIUS SIMPLEX". (Basilus means by the word "vitriolum" the SULPHUR Naturae in the MERCURY SUBLIMATE. By antimonium, he means MERCURY vitae or REGULUS, i. e., MERCURY of ANTIMONY).

Abbot Clairai possessed 3 different Tinctures, one with the butyrum ANTIMONY, one made of MERCURY SUBLIMATE & GOLD, & one of Calaminaris from AIX LA CHAPELLE.

(MERCURY SUBLIMATE properly considered is MERCURY vitriolised & so you may vitriolise all the metals (vide Monte Snyder in Digby p. 16) Such a VITRIOL, Basilus calls Sulphur or volatile GOLD (sophic SULPHUR) ANTIMONY contains the MERCURY as well as the SULPHUR. So does Bismuth, † (MERCURY) Calaminaris, VITRIOL).

Afterwards, Abbot Clairai makes a delicate red Crocus of GOLD & volatilises that Crocus & then digests it in his MERCURY Simplex, without attraction & he digests it till it putrefies, becomes BLACK, WHITE & RED, which red POWDER or massa, he multiplies with MERCURY

duplex or animatus, & ferments with GOLD in the CRUCIBLE, & tinges a 1000 parts of MERCURY. In fact he works with volatilised GOLD for the red medicine, & volatilised SILVER for the white TR., & so does Antephius. You see what a number of processes there are with the butyrum alone. Now, consult Monte Snyder in Digby, p.p. 16, 17, 18, & 19, which is upon the same foundation as the Abbot Clainais' Work, but Monte Snyder makes a VITRIOL of GOLD, by means of his fulmen or so-called Sal Enixum. Vide Glauber's Fulmen Jovis, Fulmen Mercurii, Proserpina, & c.

Paracelsus calls it "PINGUES ADOLE VERBENAS."

See also what I have given you concerning Daniel, which I long very much to put to the test of experience.

TO PROCEED.

After you have made a well rectified butyrum, & have properly animated it with its own Cinnabar & CAPUT MORTUUM or with solar crocuses such as IRON or COPPER & c., so that it has become of a deep orange, or still better of a blood-red colour, or if you take REGULUS ANTIMONY MARS, you must animate your butyrum with the first sconiæ well dulcified. Unbigenus distills the red butyrum over (N.B.) before he magnetises it. That is what he calls a red oil.

This animated butyrum must be magnetised & flow into a viscous WATER. Antephius has attracted in the month of May. See Antephius p. 464.

You have your crystallised butyrum in a glass receiver, & expose it in the day time to the Solar rays of Light shining on the belly of the receiver, the receiver's neck covered with writing paper & tied with pack thread, but at night you place the open mouth of the receiver to the influence of the MOON & stars, during serene nights only, free from stench or smoke, & this you must do whilst the Sun is in ARIES, TAURUS or GEMINI, according to the season at every fine day & serene night. I should think the oftner the better, until the whole corrosive is universalised by attraction. (This volatilised spirit may be distilled off from time to time until the whole is spiritualised).

This is the Celestial Marriage & Union of the Superions with the

Inferions much insisted upon by the Author of "The Hermetical Triumph" & likewise by Unbigenus (which is his Universal Menstruum) & the quoted passages in Digby & no doubt the operation is highly necessary (although Abbot Clairai has not done it) as it impregnates the subject with the Universal Agent, the Solar Light, or invisible electrical principle, & unites that Universal Agent to the subject by means (by the medium) of the cold Lunan Humidity which liquefies the butyrum; & thus you communicate to your butyrum the Mercurius Universalis Animatus or duplex by your frequent attractions & liquefactions, i. e., you combine the universal FIRE with the mineral FIRE, the universal Lunan MERCURY with the antimonial MERCURY in the MERCURY vitae.

After the magnetisation, attraction, or liquefaction, the collected Liquor must be digested in a receiver or in a matrass closely shut up, placed over a lamp in a very gentle fermenting heat, no more than 80 or 90 degrees at most, & the attracted principle will cause it to ferment & putrefy. During which putrefaction, the elements will be separated & set at liberty. It should stand 6 weeks or 2 months until it is as BLACK AS INK, but it becomes first red, which is Flamel's red sea & I would not separate the elements by distillation until it has become clear again.

Van Outer in Digby p. 8 says that the butyrum draws from the atmosphere what it needeth in an hour's time, but in my opinion it should be magnetised at least during one month at every opportunity by day & by night, from $\frac{1}{2}$ April to $\frac{1}{2}$ May, or sooner, whilst the Sun is in ARIES TAURUS or GEMINI (see Aphorism 27).

Van Outer says that during digestion, the matter will become as red as blood (a proof that he has made a red Butyrum) & afterwards very black. (This is true as I have seen it in Manylebone in 1788).

During digestion & putrefaction, it is best to shut the glass with
with another body, so that there may be room for circulation of
the vapours in the upper glass, & the two joints well luted.
If the 2 glasses were ground in, it would be still better,
on account of the subtil poisonous vapours. Otherwise
take a high matrass with a glass stopper well
ground in & let 2/3 rds. be empty, & you will be safe. Then,
when it has cooled, pour it into a high distilling glass body,
& apply a nicely fitting alembic & receiver & lute carefully



all the joints. Place the glass in sifted wood ashes on a distilling furnace & give a very gentle heat like a warm hand (See Digby p. 118, but if you can do it over a steam-bath, it will be better, as the sediment must not be burned. If you want to work after Unbigenus, i. e., to make the TR., PER SE, by its own elements without common GOLD. If you distill by the steam, your WATER in the bath must only evaporate, but not simmer, much less boil.

By that gentle heat, distill off all the humidity, the Lunar aerial humidity; & there remains in the glass body the mineral gluten or radical humidity. Digby p.p. 119, 182, by means of his gentle heat, this Eagle's gluten cannot come over. When the vessels are cooled, pour this carefully into a glass tabulated retort, & lute a receiver to it & distill again, & according to Unbigenus, aphorism 20 & 21, this gluten must now come over, (N.B. If you do not universalise the whole butyrum but only a part thereof) in a vapour or cloud. Be careful to administer no more heat than is necessary to cause this vapour to rise. Continue this distillation until it is dry. The EARTH ascends volatilised.

What is come over now must be clear & transparent, full of Light & bright like the firmament, says Unbigenus. I have seen it come over with all the colours of the rainbow. It is a most beautiful operation.

As the ACID in the MERCURY SUBLIMATE has been universalised by the attraction & putrefaction, what is now come over is perfectly transparent. This is the MERCURIUS SIMPLEX.

You must continue this last distillation as long as any vapours will come over, & until some few & very light feces are left behind in the RETORT, which feces are rejected.

The first highly volatile Lunar MERCURY which you distilled off in balneo vaporoso, is not used in this work, but is the GREAT MENSTRUUM to extract Tinctures & c. (Aphorism 38) after it has been dephlegmated.

Aphorism 28, Unbigenus says "The whole body of the Serpent must come over spiritual & transparent (containing MERCURY, SULPHUR & SALT, or AIR, FIRE, & EARTH (the WATER is gone at first))".

Aphorism 30, "Our philosophical distillations consists only in the right separation of our spiritual mercurial WATER, from all its poisonous" (i. e., corrosive) oily substance, & from the CAPUT MORTUUM.

This aphorism I have explained before by the first volatile MERCURIAL WATER, on the attracted LUNAR MERCURY, & I believe I was right. The truth is:- the first corrosive red animated butyrum, animated by the first distillation by the Cinnabar of ANTIMONY, which Unbigenus distils over as a red MERCURIAL Oil, extremely corrosive, must be entirely universalised, by magnetisation & attraction.

Then it must be digested & putrefied, then distilled by a gentle heat until it is all come over.

Now, in order to proceed with expedition, & in order to universalise the red butyrum the sooner, I would advise to divide the melted butyrum, whereof you must have no less than 2 lbs., in 8 or 10 small wide mouthed receivers, which must be shut close, the moment the hot butyrum has been poured into the warmed receivers. Otherwise, before it shoots into Tables, or Bastions like a Font, sometimes playing all the colours of the rainbow, at the shooting of the various geometrical tables or figures, it would fume away & those invisible fumes are mortal on the spot, when breathed into the lungs. I used to preserve my nose & mouth with a towel & my eyes with 2 watch glasses fixed in chamois leather.

By this method, you will concentrate the Solar Light & attract the LUNAR humidity, 8 or 10 times at once in as many receivers, & this must save much precious time.

After the magnetisation has been performed for a sufficient length of time, at least during a whole change of the MOON, from FIRST QUARTER TO FULL & LAST QUARTER; then pour all your liquified butyrum in one sufficiently large receiver with a large glass stopper ground in, or better with a smaller receiver ground into the larger one in order to keep in the highly volatile principle attracted from SUN & MOON.

If these 2 vessels were stout & well ground in, the joinings could be luted with the utmost safety. Otherwise, you must have a high digesting matrass receiver with a long neck & glass stopper ground in. Mind that you warm your glasses first to expel or rarify the inclosed air, as the fermentation does generate elastic air, because this liquor is full of FIRE.

Now you must digest in a most gentle warmth such as Nature requires to ferment liquids, like a warm hand in summer-time, about from 70 to 80 degrees I believe. Perhaps 90 may be permitted. This digestion

must continue for 6 weeks or 2 months, until all the EARTH is separated. The liquid becomes red first & at last as black as ink, & throws up at last small bladders or vesicles. When the EARTH is separated then cease & let it cool before you open it. Otherwise, I believe the effluvia would be mortal, whilst warm & in a state of evaporation. I would not open the glass before it is clean again. Preserve mouth & nose & pour the whole into a glass body, & apply an alembic which fits nicely, & a receiver not too large. Lute well the joinings everywhere. Place your body in sifted ashes over a Lamp but best over a steam bath & distill by a very gentle heat, the most volatile principle over, which comes first & afterwards the phlegma. When spirit & phlegma are all over, & no more will come over by this gentle distillation, then you must cease.

When all is cold, the obtained volatile spirit & phlegma must the next day be rectified over a steam bath or in ashes, with the same gentle heat as before, & a pure universalised Saline SPIRIT will come over first, pure like Spirit of Wine. When that is all come over, the phlegma ascends next, but when the spirit is come over, cease & let the vessels cool.

This obtained volatile spirit, after dephlegmation, is the Author's attracted MERCURIAL celestial WATER (aphorism 48) & the MERCURY simplex of the wise, according to aphorism 47.

After this distillation of volatile philosophical spirit of wine (says R. Lullius) & its phlegma, there remains a gluten minérale behind in the glass body. This is a magnetised impregnated animated Butyrum.

(If you universalise the whole butyrum, no gluten remains behind, but the whole is volatilised & spiritualised).

1. If it chrySTALLISES, it should be further magnetised & attracted, in order that the whole gluten may be universalised. Then distill it again & separate the phlegma as you did before. This should be continued until there is nothing left of the mineral gluten. This is the right way. The animated EARTH must be left behind after the phlegma.

Aphorism 52. This philosophical EARTH is to be separated from all the waters & phlegma, by distillation, & the EARTH is to be gently dried, without burning it, because it contains the tender sophii

SULPHUR, OUR GOLD.

If the whole quantity of your butyrum is universalised by attraction on the SUN & MOON, THEN the distillation is a cloud or vapour mentioned in aphorism 20 & 21., concerns the first MAKING & rectification of the butyrum. Yes.

That butyrum, when magnetised, or attracted, until the whole is universalised, ought to come over entirely, after due digestion & putrefaction, the spirit first & the phlegma afterwards, without leaving any mineral gluten behind at all (Allnight).

Having distilled off the highly volatile MERCURIAL SPIRIT (MERCURY simplex) with the most gentle heat by the steam of an evaporating (not boiling) Balneum, or by Lampheat, which SPIRIT does not wet the alembic, but comes over with a dry alembic in the same manner, like a pure sulphureous spirit of wine, when you rectify S.V.

When this is all come over, you leave the succeeding phlegma with the EARTH in the glass body, & cease distilling the moment you perceive the alembic indicates any moisture appearing like small pearls, & leave the phlegma for the next day. In this case, this highly volatile spirit is the Author's MERCURY Simplex, Yes.

If there now remains nothing behind but phlegma & a sediment, or EARTH at the bottom, then this is his MERCURY, & in that case, the cloud of aphorism 20, 21., concerns the FIRST DISTILLATIONS, WHEN HE MADE HIS BUTYRUM (yes), where the cloud may allude to the 3rd. rectification (yes).

(I have seen the butyrum come over in a cloud more than once, when I rectified it). Therefore, what I say here, is right.

Then, if there remains nothing behind but phlegma & EARTH, distill the phlegma off from the EARTH over a balneum into another receiver, with a little more heat than at first, until the EARTH remains dry behind.

This EARTH contains the Sophii SULPHUR, or the spiritual GOLD, or our GOLD as well as the magnet to attract the SALT of Nature out of the FIRE during calcination in a CRUCIBLE (ALL night; this p. cleans all up). Now proceed as taught in Aphorism 52.

According to Aphorism 53 & 62, the MERCURY simplex, the first dephlegmated highly volatile philosophical S.V., is to tinge itself AS RED AS BLOOD, as soon as it is poured upon the dried EARTH, in order

to extract the Sophii SULPHUR, on FIRE, whereby the MERCURY simplex becomes MERCURY DUPLEX ANIMATUS, CUM SULPHURE SUO PROPRIO, without using vulgar GOLD.

With this MERCURY duplex you are to imbibe the white TR., & digest until it becomes RED, fixed & fusible.

This serves also for the multiplication of the red TR. The MERCURY simplex is for the white TR. All that follows is intelligible & connect.

The difficulty consists in the first process of procuring the MERCURY simplex, & the perfect separation of the animated EARTH on animated MERCURY vitae from the digested & putrefied, magnetised liquified butyrum, so that there may remain no gluten or butyrum behind, during the distillation of the MERCURY simplex, & after the distillation of the phlegma which you left with the EARTH, if this EARTH remains dry, after you have distilled the phlegma from it, all is right, & you can hardly mistake.

Aphonism 62 is the beginning of the process per se, by extracting the elements out of the EARTH, i. e., first, the tinging ruby red anima on SULPHUR, & 2nd. after calcination, the body on EARTH, a fixed SALT metallonum is extracted with the MERCURY simplex. See Aphonism 65 to 69.

The union of the elements & imbibitions with MERCURY simplex begin Aphonism 80, the first imbibition of the clarified WATER, on fixed SALT, with MERCURY simplex begins with Aphonism 83, & continues to 88, & the white SULPHUR Naturae is accomplished in Aphonism 89.

Aphonism 91., begins the imbibition of the perfect white SULPHUR Naturae with the double animated MERCURY. See Aphonism 92 to 96 & c. All the rest is easy.

THE SECOND PROCESS WHICH IS LONGER, & A LITTLE MORE EXPENSIVE, WITH COMMON FINE GOLD.

Is the third process of Urbigenus, as the former was his second way. The process to animate the MERCURY simplex with common fine GOLD is the process of Antephius, & Flamel, Monte Snyder & others. Yet, even these have not worked exactly by one & the same method.

From this third & longest way of Urbigenus, derives an abbreviation

of the work on a PARTICULAR GRADATING OIL, to graduate SILVER into GOLD; which process Unbigenus describes somewhat obscurely in aphorism 54, 55, & 56. This animation with common fine GOLD, gives only the Sophii SULPHUR Aphorism 56, in which time one might easily have completed the whole work, working without common GOLD, with the Sophii GOLD alone.

The gradating animated MERCURY is taught aphorism 59 & 60. This I have given you perfect & intelligible after T.G. Tugel & Donothea Juliana Wallichin.

Unbigenus extracts the Sophii SULPHUR, the volatile, spiritual GOLD, (concealed in ANTIMONY, in the SULPHUR ANTIMONY auratum & in the Cinnabar of ANTIMONY) out of the dried EARTH, on animated MERCURY vitae, by means of the Sophii MERCURY simplex, & obtains a blood red TR., which is his Mercurius Sophorum duplex or animatus.

Having obtained this, when the EARTH is become void or will yield no more TR., this MERCURY duplex or animatus being put into a RETORT, you may obtain the white & red oil by distillation; mentioned in several places in Digby, p.p. 120, 182, 183, & 192.

With these 2 oils you may imbibe the first SALT on the clarified EARTH, first with the white, up to the white TR., & then with the red oil to the perfect red medicine.

You will find in Digby pp. 8, 117, 177 to 179, 181, 184 to 186, 188 & 191, how many different methods the philosophers have used to perfect the Stone. Nature is inexhaustible.

However, these quoted pp. contain the best things in Sir Kinelm Digby's Chemical Secrets, because they agree with Antephius, Flamel, & Monte Snyder, p. 16., in Digby 17 & 18.

Pontanus has deviated from them all.

Note, that the white TR., must be multiplied with MERCURY simplex, or with the white oil, if you proceed that way, but the red TR., with MERCURY duplex or the red oil, if you distill it over; but it is unnecessary.

Note! After the first volatile principle & phlegma has been distilled from the magnetised & liquified, digested & putrefied butyrum & if there should remain yet a mineral gluten behind, which might be the case, you may distill the white & red oil from this gluten per RETORT as this gluten would certainly contain the animated MERCURY

vitae, on EARTH, which would by increased heat yield a red oil, on animated MERCURY, as mentioned in Digby, pp. 120, 182, 183, & 192; & the remaining CAPUT MORTUUM would then be THE MAGNET to attract the fixed SALT out of the FIRE, by calcination. You see there are various resources & roads leading to the same end.

F I N I S .

The first work of Unbigenus is to take mineral ANTIMONY from Hungaria or Transylvania, & make SULPHUR ANTIMONII auratum thereof. Edulconate your SULPHUR auratum with hot WATER, & dry it.

This is distilled in an EARTHEN RETORT over a naked FIRE & the 3 principles MERCURY, SULPHUR & SALT come over united in a vapour. This is confirmed by Tugel.

This vapour which coagulates in a fusible SALT, he magnetises, digests & putrefies, & this separates the principles by distillation, purifies & re-unites them, & this is done without the Serpent, i. e., without MERCURY SUBLIMATE.

T. J. Tugel says that SULPHUR ANTIMONII auratum will yield MERCURY, SULPHUR & SALT metallorum & that a great TR. may be made thereof as he has witnessed. So does the crude calaminaris, the red sort from Aix la Chapelle.

I have converted REGULUS ANTIMONY MARS into SULPHUR ANTIMONII auratum, & SULPHUR auratum into REGULUS. This is a proof that I am right.

1. The first work then is of ANTIMONY per se, without MERCURY SUBLIMATE, without GOLD.
2. The second work of ANTIMONY & MERCURY SUBLIMATE, without GOLD.
3. The third work of ANTIMONY & MERCURY SUBLIMATE with common GOLD, or GOLD & SILVER, or SILVER.

Basilus his subject is not a marcasite, but a mineral, i. e., the remote first mineral matter, which is Hungarian VITRIOL & the VITRIOL made of MARS & COPPER; although he knew other works also. See his explanation of his third key.

VITRIOL is the remotest mineral subject.

ANTIMONY the nearest marcasite between a mineral & a metal, containing the 3 principles as well as VITRIOL.

Bismuth-one is the marcasite of Donotha Juliana Wallachin & of Batsdorff.

MERCURY SUBLIMATE is the subject of Lamspring, MERCURY of Count Bernhard, & MERCURY SUBLIMATE i. e., a MERCURIAL WATER of Paracelsus.

REGULUS ANTIMONY MARS is the subject or Chaos of Inenaeus Philalatha, Cramer, Yandly, & the butyrum that of Antephius, Flamel, Unbigenus & Monte Snyder, yet they all differed in the working. It is necessary to know all this.

Sebold Schwantzen, Augustus, Elector of Saxony, & his successor, Christianus the 4th., worked in GOLD, SILVER, & in VITRIOL, which is attested by Sebold Schwantzen's own writings which have been published as well as by the Saxon processes, & I do not doubt one moment but Sebold Schwantzen learned from Isaacus Hollandus, whose labours were all upon GOLD, SILVER, & VITRIOL, IRON, ANTIMONY, MERCURY. ALL this is fully attested by Kunkel von Lowenstern in his Laboratorium Chemicum. Kunkel himself confessed that he once, & BUT ONCE succeeded in elaborating one of the Saxon or Schwantzen's processes upon VITRIOL & that he transmuted 8 marks 40 Ounces Troy of SILVER into good gold of 24 carats, in presence of his sovereign, but laments that he could neither multiply his TR., nor hit it again from the beginning.

Who will now be so stupid as to pretend that there is but one subject & but one opus operandi? It proves very little knowledge of Nature, & but a small share of knowledge of the Classic writers! Every Author in the Theatrum Chemicum Britannicum by Ashmole have had the ANIMAL STONE, except Ripley, who had the mineral & the ANIMAL, & write of both. ALI PULI has the animal stone, as you well know, & so had Count de Chazal, & you & I have seen some truth therein.