

Pontanus had his Knowledge from Artephius, therefore followed him, having read and understood him, except that Artephius, worked by the long humid way, but Pontanus by the dry short way, and Mr. F., believes that it can be done in a very Short Time, probably sooner than we are aware of.

Its ashes mentioned by Sendivogius, quoted in the Hermetical Triumph, is the Calcined  $\odot$ , melted by the  $\text{♁♂♂}$ , which is the philosophical Calcination.

Mr. F... recommends to read the Tumba Semiramidis.

It is a Scarce Treatise in English in 12v. /:I have it in Dutch:/

#### The Works of Pontanus.

explained by S. Bacstrom.

It appears from page 439 VII, in Salmons practical physio that Pontanus his Subject is Rebis; because he says, "it has many superfluties, which are turned into the true Essence, by the help of Our  $\Delta$  /:  $\text{♁♂♂}$  :/

Page 440, VIII: He that separates anything from the subject or matter, thinking such a Separation to be necessary, wholly errs in his philosophy. The Superfluous, unclean, filthy, feculent, the whole Substance of the Subject is transmuted or changed into a fixt and Spiritual Body, by the help of Our  $\Delta$ . Few attain to this art, thinking that to be superfluous and impure, which is not. /: all this proves that he has taken Crude  $\text{♁♂♂}$  :/

Page 440, IX. Concerning the properties of Our  $\Delta$ , how it agrees with our Matter, that a Transmutation may be made. Though the  $\Delta$  is not such, as to burn the matter, Separating nothing from it, /:he

made no butyrum:/ nor dividing the pure parts from the Impure, as the Philosophers teach. /:he has not separated principles or Elements:/ as Hermetical Triumph teaches:/

N. B. But transmuting and changing the whole subject into purity, nor does it sublime after the manner of Gebers Sublimation, nor the the distillations of arnoldus and others; but it is perfected in a Short Time.

Concerning the  $\Delta$  /:our  $\Delta$  :/ it is a matter, mineral, equal, continuous, it vapours or fume not, unless too much provoked.

/: a proof that he does not use so much heat, so as to melt the  $\delta$  and  $\text{☿}$ , which causes it to fume, when the butyrum comes over:/

It partakes of  $\text{♀}$ , and is taken otherwise than from the Matter /:  $\delta$  :/.

/:this seems to hint, that the  $\text{☿}$  must be sublimed with  $\text{☉}$  rom: and Sea  $\ominus$  according to the verses in Pandora and Alex: Piemontesa, in order that the  $\text{♀}$  of  $\text{♀}$  may ascend with the  $\text{♁}$  of Sea  $\ominus$ ; but Mr. F.... thinks not:/

It destroys all Things, dissolves, congeals, coagulates and calcines, adapted to penetrate, and is a Compendium /: i.e., our  $\Delta$  the right  $\text{☿}$ :/ without any great Cost.

441 XI. And this is the  $\Delta$ , with a gentle Heat, soft or remis. N. B. by which the whole work is perfected, together with all the proper Sublimations.


Page 442 XII. The Error in the Work proceeds chiefly, from not understanding the true  $\Delta$ , which is the moving principle that transmutes the whole matter into the true philosophers Stone. /:this is a very plain Hint:/


The philosophers, Artephius only excepted, have concealed the





principal or proper Agent /:i.e., Our  $\Delta$  :/ vide Artephius page 450, XI, 447:/

And unless I had read Artephius, and understood his Speech, I had never arrived to the Complement of the Work.


Pontanus his practice p. 442, XIV.

Let the matter /:Rebis:/ be taken and diligently ground with a philosophical Contrition; put it upon the  $\Delta$  ; with such a proportion of Heat, that it only excites or stirs up the matter, and in a Short time, that  $\Delta$  /:  :/ without any laying on of hands, will complete the whole work, because it putrefies, corrupts, generates and perfects and makes the 3 principal Colours, the Black, White and Red appear.

p. 443 XV. And by the means of this Our  $\Delta$  , the Medicine will be multiplied, if you join it with the Crude Matter /:   $\delta$   $\delta$   $\delta$  :/, not only in quantity, but also in quality or virtue.

Therefore seek out this  $\Delta$  /:the  :/ i.e., its concentrated  :/ with all Thy Industry, for having once found it, Thou shalt accomplish thy desire; because it performs the whole Work, and is the true Key of all the Philosophers /: recollect what Rusenstein says, that in the State of a  $\ominus$  , i.e.,  or  :/ which they never yet revealed.

Consider well, what I have said concerning the properties of this  $\Delta$  , and Thou must Know it, otherwise it will be hidden from Thee.

p. 444 XVI. This  $\Delta$  /:  rightly sublimed:/ is not transmuted with the matter, because it is nothing of the Matter, as I have before declared.

/:it appears from this, that the , having performed its

office, separates itself from the Tincture, and forms a ☉ by itself, as indeed the ♀ is revived and remains behind when we distill a Butyrum. The Concentrated ⚊ is here fixed in the Tincture and forsakes its own body, the ♀, wherewith it had ascended, which now being left alone, must form a ☉ or Kind of ☉ by itself:/

/: I do not doubt, but the concentrated ⚊ of Sea ☉ contained in the ☉ will cause crude ♂ or ~~♂~~ ♂♂ to ferment, swell, and gradually become pappy and moist, and in time form an unctuous Liquid substance, for these Reasons:

1. Acid is the principium putrificans in Nature, Alcali is the principium Conservans.

2. A long continued gentle heat can effect in Time, what a short strong heat cannot; for instance the maturation of Fruit in hot houses.

The Aerial ⚊ derives from Oxygen, Oxygen from Light, Light from Electrical principle, moved or rubbed into Light by the Sun and Sun's, as Electrical Globes, which Light when collected into numberless focus's by the atmosphere, generate Heat, which when concentrated and intensely agitated by Circular Motion become  $\Delta$ , which again yields Light, and when it goes out for want of  $\Delta$  or fuel, or both, returns to its invisible State of Universality, i.e., Electric Fluid.

This constitutes ☉, the most universal of all Salts, although that same aerial ⚊ exists in Sea ☉, which is a Kind of reverberated ☉ /:reverberated by the Sun:/ Yet it is not of a Solar but of a Lunar Nature, and in my opinion generated by the Moon, therefore may well be called by Mynsicht the Lunar universal Mercurial Key; as ☉, is truly the universal ⚊ or  $\Delta$  of Nature inwardly.

Sea ☉ is more alkaline than ☉, otherwise it could not be principium Conservans whilst ☉ is principium Generans et destruens.

Monte Snyder in his fulmen uses principium destruens for the Destruction or rather opening of  $\odot$  , in the  $\nabla$  , which afterwards becomes principium regenerans, as Every Destruction in Nature is followed by a New Generation.

The  $\ddagger$  in Sea  $\ominus$  derives from the  $\ddagger$  in  $\oplus$  , as Lunar Light derives from Solar Light, and when concentrated has power enough to putrefy the Matter, and cannot cause any fulmen, as the  $\ddagger$  of the  $\oplus$  can do in the phial, before Fixation.

Now the question is what is the Matter of Pontanus? With Artephius, I say it is  $\delta$  , and Pontanus means Crude  $\delta$  , because he calls it Crude Matter.

My reason is this; in Crude Antimony we have  $\triangle$  and  $\text{♀}$  , the 2 first material principles of all Metals.

In the  $\text{♁} \delta \text{♂}$  , which is a  $\text{♀}$  Sophorum Simplex, we have only the 2 Mercuries of  $\delta$  and of  $\text{♂}$  , not Their Sulphurs, which are left in the first black Scoria.

Although Irenaeus says: "The Sulphur seek in the house of Aries; it is not the  $\triangle$  , but the  $\text{♀}$  , which goes down by its own weight into the  $\text{♁}$  , and from Sympathy or homogeneity combines with the  $\text{♀}$  of  $\delta$  , and forms the  $\text{♁}$  . Why does the  $\text{♁} \delta \text{♂}$  produce no  $\text{♁}$  , when you make a butyrum? But the Crude  $\delta$  does abundantly; therefore I say if you work after Pontanus, with the 2 principles of the metals  $\triangle$  and  $\text{♀}$  , as Nature has joined them, take  $\delta$  crudem; yet take a pure  $\delta$  , with delicate long shiny needles, not a foul  $\delta$  , with coarse broken needles, as abounding too much in external common  $\triangle$  .

### Process.

Take 1 part,  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{3}$  (according to the Capacity of your digesting globe) of your most finely levigated  $\text{O}$ , so fine that all the shiny particles disappear, and let it be sifted through a fine seive.

/:or grind it with  $\nabla$  on a Marble Stone, as you do Colours, and dry it again thoroughly, then rub it into a soft  $\text{O}$  :/

Then take of good very pure  $\frac{1}{2}$ , likewise levigated to an impalpable  $\text{O}$  in a Wedgewood, but not in a glass mortar, with proper Care, on account of the Subtil, invisible venemous Dust.

Of this take  $1\frac{1}{2}$  parts,  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{3}$ , according to the size of the glass, which should not be much above  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the globe filled.

Unite the 2 powders with the greatest precaution as the venemous fumes arise on the spot from the Contact; put these mixed  $\text{O}$ s into your Digesting Globe, shut the glass and set it in digestion, and give that gentle external Heat, which Pontanus requires, to excite or stir up the Matter, but not to cause it to vapour, too much, much less to melt the matter into a butyrum, and fume and burst the glass, having no Receiver to go into. I should prefer here a double wooden vessel, with 2 watch-glasses; wherein the globe may stand in a 3-foot, so as to touch nothing; that oak vessel to be open at the Top, and an open glass Bill over it. The wooden Egg to stand in the Cast iron pot in the square digesting furnace, over a Lamp, according to Albertus Beyer, where he explains Count Bernhard Trevisan.

Mr. F.... and Mr. H... both think attraction of the matter by the Moon and Stars, to be unnecessary, indeed Pontanus does not hint at such an Operation. /:But if we attract so as to cause the matter to become moist or pappy, like mortar, we must use an Oak Stopper,

that the attracted humidity may escape, but that oak stopper, will burst the neck of the glass, as it broke my glasses formerly in Lambeth: /

I expect That:

1. The matter will become unctuous and become a Kind of Liquid pitch, and some black fume will arise, of which fumes some philosophers have spoken as a Good Sign, that you work in dibita Materia, see one of my Mscts.

2. The moist pappy or somewhat liquified matter will putrify and lastly dry up, become finally white and Red, and your heat continuing always gentle, the revived ♀ /:one of the Doves of Diana:/ will settle at the bottom and will form there probably a Red ☉, distinct from the remainder, whilst the Red ⚗ will be found at the Top, or above it. Pontanus says Our Δ is not transmuted with the Matter, and therefore the ♀ at least must be separable.

The Work with ☉ .

But if you wish to work with ☉ after Artephius you must absolutely take a pure  $\text{m} \delta \delta$ , 3 Scruples, and 1 Scruple of fine ☉, which melt thinly together, and powder the black massa to a most Subtil ♂, then you must make the ☉ alembrot of Artephius, i.e., Sublime  $\text{♀}$ , with  $\text{O} \times$  crudum, according to Dr. Hempes Msc., and of this take 4 parts of the ☉ or  $\text{m} \delta \delta$  or black powder, and the  $\text{♀}$  ã ã unite them, by gentle rubbing in a Stone Mortar, and place it in a Digesting globe, shut the Glass and digest.

If you take a  $\text{m} \delta \delta$ , you do not want the vol. ♀ of ♂, because

you have a fixt ♀ in your ☉ , which must be volatilised; the ☉ will be weakened unto death, by the 11th or 12th times coupling with the Chalybs, will be volatilized and mercurialised and become Spermatic, excited by the Universal Lunar ♀ in the concentrated ⚊ of the Sea ☉ , the Secret △ , in the ⚊ or Sal Alembrot.

I advise to take of the ⚊ or Sal Alembrot 2 parts, to 1 part of the Solar M , for this reason, that we may not be plagued with too much revived ♀ , were we to use 3 parts of the ⚊ , to 1 part of Solar M . The Work with Crude ♂ will be much sooner done, than with M ♂♂ and ☉ ; why?

Because corporeal ☉ must be volatilised first, by putrifaction, before it can be radically united with the Mercuries of ♂ and ♂ , and be regenerated therewith, i.e., before the Chalybs can conceive, therefore that union must require a longer Time.

In the Crude ♂ the primum Ens auri is open and volatile already, therefore putrifaction and Refixation into White and Red, by means of the Secret △ , must be accomplished in half the Time.

Never the less I suspect, that with the Solar ferment here spiritualized, when refixed, and corporally fermented in the ▼ , the White with ☾ , or the Red with ☉ , this would the first Time tinge 10 times as much, as Pontanus his work without the Solar Ferment.

/:Mr. F.... says there will be no ☺ , the whole will be turned or converted into purity:/

#### Multiplication.

Pontanus says; that the Medicine will be multiplied in quantity and quality, if you join the Secret △ with the Crude Matter /:with ♂ :/



Therefore once possessing the fixt fusible Red  $\overline{R}$  /: the spark of  $\Delta$  :/ melting like wax, without fuming, by letting it stand long enough, over the Lamp, to make sure of Fixation. Weigh it, and separate it from the  $\odot$  . Now take Crude  $\delta$  , in the most delicate  $\delta$  1 part,  ~~$\delta$~~  /:our secret  $\Delta$  :/  $1\frac{1}{2}$  parts, mix it carefully, and add a  $\frac{1}{3}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  part of this mixture to 1 part of the Red, fixt, fusible Tincture /:  $\Delta$  Naturae Rubrum:/ digest as before, the globe glass shut, placed in the wooden vessel, and the crude matter will soon open, putrify and volatise the fusible, fixt Tincture; which Tincture being the strongest will overcome the added Crude matter and refix it, by its own Fixity, and thus the  $\overline{R}$  will be multiplied in quantity by an addition of a  $\frac{1}{3}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  part of its own Weight, and in quality by a further spiritualisation by a new death and Regeneration, by means of our Secret  $\Delta$  alone; and there will probably again be a Separate  $\odot$  from the revived  $\odot$  . /:but suppose that  $\odot$  was left with it, what would be the Consequence at the End: I presume that coagulated  $\delta$  would by the power of the  $\overline{R}$  become itself a fixt tinging  $\overline{\delta}$ , or at least a Sophic  $\odot$  :/

However separate it, and project some of the  $\overline{R}$  upon it afterwards, and it must become a tinging, fixt, fusible,  $\delta$  ial  $\overline{\delta}$  .

Repeat this multiplication 3 or 4 times, and each time, it must and will be sooner accomplished, than the foregoing or preceeding process.

After 3 or 4 such multiplications or Incerations, subtilisations, the last perfected Red  $\overline{R}$  must be melted with fine pure  $\odot$  in the  $\nabla$  , adding as much  $\odot$  as the  $\overline{R}$  can over-power, so as to make or convert the  $\odot$  into a Red, ponderous, brittle, opake massa.

$\odot$  is the End of all Red Tinctures, and  $\odot$  of the White  $\overline{R}$  .

The ☉ increases the Red ♁ Naturae rubeum in quantity or Weight,  
and Specificates it to the Metals; although not in quality.

S. Bacstrom.

/:the Thermometer when placed on my Breast, rises to Summer  
Heat, 76 Degrees: /