

**SPECULUM
MUNDI**
 OR
*A Glasse representing the Face of the
World.*
*Whereunto is added a Discourse of the Creation,
together wth a Consideration of such things as are pertinent
to each dayes Works.*
 Written
*By John Swan M^o of Arts
Late Student of Trinities Colledge Camb.
Pri. in Cambridge. &
By T. Buck and R. Daniel.
1635.*



**SPECVLVM
MUNDI**

OR
**A GLASSE RE-
PRESENTING THE FACE
OF THE WORLD; SHEWING**
 both that it did begin, and must also end:
 The manner How, and time When,
 being largely examined.

WHEREUNTO IS JOYNE
 an Hexameron, or a serious discourse of the
 causes, continuance, and qualities of things
 in Nature; occasioned as matter pertinent
 to the work done in the six dayes of
 the Worlds creation.

Aug. in Ser. de Ascen.

*Qui se dicit scire quod nescit, temerarius est.
Qui se negat scire quod scit, ingratus est.*

¶ Printed by the Printers to the
 Universtie of Cambridge. 1635.

Killmoy

Killadon

Killadant

John B. Jones

1715





TO
 THE MOST NOBLE
 AND ILLUSTRIOUS
 JAMES

Duke of *Lenox*, Earl of *March*, Baron of *Se-
 trington*, *Darnley*, *Terbanten*, and *Methven*,
 Lord great Chamberlain and Admirall of
Scotland, Knight of the most noble order
 of the Garter, and one of his Majesties
 most honourable Privie-Councel
 in both Kingdomes.

May it please your Grace,



fter I had brought this small por-
 tion of my intended labour to
 that unpolished perfection which
 now it is, and loth to let it go a-
 broad without a *Meeans* to pro-
 tect it, I could not on the sudden resolve; either
 whom, or where to make my choice. For it is a
 tenet which may be easily granted, that men of
 retired lives, and small-grown fortunes, are sel-
 dome known to many; it being with them as with
 those in the dark, who see and observe the passa-
 ges to and fro of others in the light, but are un-
 seen themselves: which condition, sith it doth
 little lesse then jump with mine, and reflect with

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an opposite rade upon me, I could not, I confesse, at the first be settled, untill my second thoughts recalled the happie memorie of your gracious name: unto whom I could not but commit the patronage of this unworthy work; both in regard that I was then a student in that house, where and when your welcome presence made it glad; as also (if it be not presumption so to say) in that I was directed by one and the self-same tutour with your gracious self. But above all, my especiall motive hereunto, was the never doubting thought of your kinde good will to studery, and encouragement of those whose wishes are well devoted to the Muses. Now then, if it may please your Grace to make this book yours, by protecting it from the detracting crew of *Zoilus* his companie, I shall think my self alwayes too poore to expresse my thankfulness. Let it be as the grapes of Babel, who (as the Jews have it in a certain Apologue) sent upon a time to the vine-leaves of Judea, desiring to be overshadowed by them; for otherwise they should be consumed by the heat of the sunne, and never suffered to grow up to maturitie. The wings of your favour may be as those leaves to shelter my green and scarce grown grapes; so shall I hope to see them thrive: not as the camomill, by being troden on; nor as the palm, by being suppressed: for they be like to such a plant which needeth props, and is cherished by the
pearled

pearled distillations of crystall dew. And as for your gracious self, my wishes are, that your honours and dignities may increase with your houres; and let eternall glorie be attendant on your vertues, to crown them with eternitie: so shall you live, not onely with saints above, but with men below; and have the precious memorie of your renowned name honoured of those, whose times are yet unborn, and beings as yet farre from being. Thus prayeth

Your Graces most humbly

devoted servant,

JOHN SVVAN.



TO



To the Reader.

Gentle Reader,



Present thee here with a book of no great volume, yet stor'd with much varietie; and fearing I am guiltie of my many weak infirmities, and no few oversights, I cannot but crave thy courteous acceptation: for it is a granted *Maxime*, that a slander by hath often better eyes then they who play the game. Howbeit he were no man that could not erre, no more then they whose rancor'd mauthes shall bite with scorn, or vent the poison of a loath'd disclain. In a word, if thou expectest quaint language, or fragrant flowers of flowing Rherorick, I am somewhat sorie my sad fate should prove so cruell as not to give way for satisfaction. Beleeve it, I could have wish'd a better stile, and not been sorie to have soar'd aloft: and yet again I must confesse, that as eloquence was never any part of my essence, so neither was my aim so much at that, as to produce apt matter fitting the seriousnessse of the subject I took in hand. And verily if in this my hopes fail me not, I do not fear but my pains will be accepted: for although I go not about to teach the learned (because *Humiles arbuta juvant*) yet the ignorant may be instructed in what before they knew not; yea, and the learned also may be occasioned to call again to minde something which (for the present) hath either slept, or slipt their memories by reason of their better thoughts, and deeper contemplations. Be not therefore unjust judges in an harmlesse cause, nor forward censurers, charlishly to blast young springing blossomes in their tender bud: but rather take in good part this from him, who resteth, as his own, so also

Yours in this or the like endeavour,

JOHN SWAN.

TO



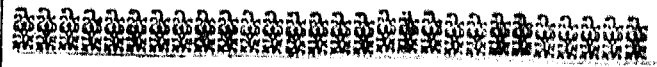
To his friend the Authour.

Thou art the World, and now methinks I see
A world of goodnesse here distill'd from thee;
Distill'd in lines so sweetly, I protest
I thought thy book the crystall of thy breast:
Where live Ideas, such as all shall passe
When they endure; onely in clearnesse glasse.
Yet now 't le blame thee: If thou would'st have had
The world drawn right, some line should have been bad.

THO. HARLESTON, Coll. Pemb.

¶ ¶

When



When fresh Aurora first puts forth her head,
 And calls bright Sol from out his Eastern bed,
 She modestly doth blush; her crimson die
 Makes red the verges of the dawning skie:
 Fearing (perhaps) that Sols reflecting ray
 Procures too hot, to some too cold a day.

So I, with bashfull fear and trembling doubt,
 This new-born book into the world send out.
 Some (sure) 'twill please: but never all did any.
 I wish the All were few, the Some were many.
 But be they as they will; 'tis told me since,
 That envie snarleth most at innocence:
 And those who least know where to finde th' amisse,
 Will soonest brag they could do more then this.
 Let them go on; they hurt not me nor mine:
 Detracting harms reflect at home in mine.

J.S.

A

A table of the contents in the severall Chapters,
 Sections, Paragraphs, Articles, and Questions,
 which are contained in this book.

CHAP. I.

The first Chapter concerneth the worlds beginning and ending; and is divided into three Sections.

- Sect. 1. That the world began, and must also end.
- Sect. 2. Of the manner how the world must end.
- Sect. 3. Of the sundry times which some have sancted out for the worlds ending.

CHAP. II.

The second Chapter concerneth the time of the yeare when the world began: and it is divided into seven Sections.

- Sect. 1. Of three opinions concerning the time of the worlds creation; with a confutation of the first.
- Sect. 2. Their reasons shewed who suppose the time to be in the Spring.
- Sect. 3. That the world began in Autumne; with an answer to their first reason who endeavour to prove it was in the Spring.
- Sect. 4. An answer to their second reason.
- Sect. 5. An answer to their third reason.
- Sect. 6. An answer to their fourth reason.
- Sect. 7. Concluding the time to be Autumne.

CHAP. III.

The third Chapter concerneth the first day of the world; and is divided into three Sections.

- Sect. 1. Of God the Architect of all; and of the first part of the first dayes work.

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Sect. 2. *Of the creation of Light.*

Sect. 3. *Of the intercourse between day and night.*

CHAP. IIII.

THe fourth and fifth Chapters concern the second day, with such things as are pertinent to the work done in it; and are divided into these following Sections, Paragraphs, and Articles.

Sect. 1. *Of the Expansion, or stretching out of the heavens, called the Firmament.*

Sect. 2. *Of the waters above the heavens.*

Sect. 3. *Of the matter of the heavens, &c.*

CHAP. V.

THe fifth Chapter beginneth with the second part of the second dayes work; and hath two Sections.

Sect. 1. *How to understand the word Heavens.*

Sect. 2. *Of the Aire; together with such appearances as we use to see there. This Section hath seven Paragraphs.*

Parag. 1. *Of the division and qualitie of the Regions in the Aire.*

Parag. 2. *Of Meteors: first in generall; then how they be divided in particular.*

Parag. 3. *Of Pierie Meteors, such as are said to be pure and not mixt. This Paragraph hath thirteen Articles.*

1. *Of burning Torches.*

2. *Of burning Beams.*

3. *Of round Pillars.*

4. *Of Pyramidall Pillars.*

5. *Of burning Spears, Streams, or Darts.*

6. *Of dancing or leaping Goats.*

7. *Of flying Sparks.*

8. *Of shooting Starres.*

9. *Of*

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9. *Of flying Launces.*

10. *Of Fires in the Aire, two kinds.*

11. *Of Flying Dragons, or Fire-Drakes.*

12. *Of Wandring Lights.*

13. *Of Licking Lights.*

Sect. 2. *of the fifth Chapter, still continued.*

Parag. 4. *of the second Section. It concerneth Fiery Meteors impurely mixt.*

This Paragraph hath three Articles.

1. *Of Comets, &c.*

2. *Of New stars, their matter and significations.*

3. *Of Thunder and Lightning.*

Parag. 5. *Of such Meteors as are Fiery onely in appearance. This hath seven Articles.*

1. *Of the Galaxia, that it is no Meteor.*

2. *Of Colours in the Clouds.*

3. *Of many Sunnes and Moons.*

4. *Of Beams or Streams of Light.*

5. *Of Circles or Crowns.*

6. *Of the Rain-bow.*

7. *Of Openings, or Chaps in the skie.*

Parag. 6. *Of Watery Meteors, and of their severall kinds.*

This Paragraph hath eight Articles.

1. *Of Clouds, and their matter.*

2. *Of Rain.*

3. *Of Dew.*

4. *Of Frosts.*

5. *Of Snow.*

6. *Of Hail.*

7. *Of Mists, and their kinds.*

8. *Of the Cobweb-like Meteor.*

Parag. 7. *Of Aery Meteors. This hath five Articles.*

1. *Of divers opinions concerning Winde.*

2. *Of Winde, what it is, &c.*

3. *Of the division of Windes, &c.*

4. *Of*

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4. Of the qualitie and nature of Windes.
5. Of Whirl-windes, Storm-windes, &c.

CHAP. VI.

THe sixth Chapter treateth of the third day, together with such things as are pertinent to the work done in it. Here be foure Sections, and two Appendices.

Sect. 1. Shewing into how many main parts the businesse of this day may be distinguished.

Sect. 2. Concerning the first thing done; viz. The gathering together of the Waters, which God Almighty calleth Seas. This Section disputeth seven Questions.

1. How the Waters were gathered together.
2. How they could be gathered but to one place, seeing there be many Seas, Lakes, Rivers, and Fountains, farre asunder.
3. Whether they be higher then the Earth.
4. Whether there be more Water then Earth.
5. Whether the Earth be founded upon the Waters.
6. The originall of Rivers; as also why the Seas be salt and Rivers fresh.
7. Of the Ebbing and Flowing of the Sea.

Unto which Section, an Appendix is joyned: and it concerns strange properties in certain Wells, Rivers, and Fountains.

Sect. 3. Of the Drie-land, appearing after the Waters were gathered: wherein the cause of Earth-quakes, together with the compasse and circuit of the Earth, is shewed.

Sect. 4. Of the Sprouting, Springing, and Fruclification of the Earth: wherein the varietie, and vertues of sundry Herbs and Trees, is largely discovered, according to the best Authours.

Unto which two last Sections, an Appendix is joyned concerning all kinde of Metals, as Gold, Silver, Stones of all sorts, and such like things as are under ground.

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CHAP. VII.

THe seventh Chapter concerneth the fourth day, together with such things as are pertinent to the work done in it; namely the Matter, Names, Natures, Motions, and Offices of the Starres. It hath three Sections.

Sect. 1. An entrance towards the discourse of the Stars and Lights.

Sect. 2. Of the Matter, Place, Motion, and Height of the Starres, &c. This Section hath two Articles.

1. That the Starres consist most of a Fiery matter, and are cherished by the Waters above the Heavens; as was mentioned, Chap. 4.
2. Of their Order and Place in the Skie: and why one is higher then another.

Sect. 3. Of those offices given to the Starres when they were created. This third Section hath three Paragraphs.

Parag. 1. Shewing that their first office is to shine upon the Earth, to rule the Day and Night, &c. Here we have two Articles.

1. Of Light, what it is: and whether the Sunne be the onely fountain of Light.
2. Of the Starres twinkling, and Sunnes dancing.

Parag. 2. Of that other office; viz. that the Starres should be for Signes, &c. This Paragraph hath three Articles.

1. That the Starres work upon the inferiour world, and are signes of future events.
2. Whether it be not a derogation from the perfection of things created, to grant that the Starres may give an inclination to Man, in his actions.
3. Of Predictions, or understanding the Signes.

Parag. 3. Of that other office, wherein the Starres were made (as it were) heavenly clocks. This hath three Articles.

1. Of Seasons; as Spring, Summer, &c.

2. Of

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2. *Of Dayes and their kindes, &c.*
3. *Of Yeares and their kindes, &c.*

CHAP. VIII.

THe eighth Chapter concerneth the creatures made in the fifth day of the world; viz. *Fish, and Fowl.* This Chapter hath two Sections.

- Sect. 1. *Of Fishes, their names, kindes, properties; together with sundry emblemes drawn from them.*
- Sect. 2. *Of the names, kindes, and properties of Fowls; with many and sundry emblemes drawn from most of them.*

CHAP. IX.

THe ninth Chapter concerneth the creatures made in the sixth and last day; being such creatures as live neither in the Aire or Water, but upon the Earth. This Chapter hath likewise two Sections.

- Sect. 1. *Of Beasts, their properties, names, kindes, &c. together with sundry emblemes drawn from many of them.*
- Sect. 2. *The creation of Man, being created male and female, and made according to the image of God: together with the institution of Marriage, and blessing given to that estate.*

