

of wood, it drew the paper after it; whereupon the paper hung over our heads and moved: but all that saw it, believed the Devil was the cause of it."

Book Eight contains divers physical experiments, and preservatives against enchantments. The following are curious, as exhibiting opinions now obsolete, respecting witchcraft; the attempt at accounting for such powers is fancifully ingenious.

"There's some, I know not whose unlucky eye  
Bewitcheth my yong lambs, and makes them die.

"Isigonus and Memphodorus say, There are some families in Africa, that bewitch with their tongue the very woods: which if they do but admire somewhat earnestly, or if they praise fair trees, growing corn, lusty children, good horses, or fat sheep, they presently wither, and die of a suddain, from no other cause or harm."

"Cicero writeth of them; so Plutarch and Philarchus mention the Paetheobri, a nation inhabiting in part of the Pontick Sea, where are Inchanters who are hurtful, not onely to children that are tender and weak, but to men of full growth, who are of a strong and firm body; and that they kill with their looks, making the persons languish and consume away as in a consumption. Neither do they infect those onely who live among them, but strangers, and those who have the least commerce with them; so great is the power and witchcraft of their eyes."

"This efflux of beams out of the eyes, being the conveyers of spirits, strike through the eyes of those they meet, and fly to the heart, their proper region, from whence they rise; and there being condensed into blood, infect all his inward parts. This stranger blood, being quite repugnant to the nature of the man, infects the rest of him, and maketh him sick: and there this contagion will continue, as long as he hath any warm blood in his body."

"Some preservatives against love" may be found of more use in this generation, than those respecting witchcraft; for instance,

"Some preservatives against Love,—There are many prescribed by wise antiquity. If you would endeavor to remove the charms of love, thus you may expel them. Turn your face away, that she may not fasten her eyes on yours, nor couple rays with you; for you must remove the cause from the place, where it useth to make its impression: forsake her company, avoid idleness, employ your mind in business of concernment."

Book Nine is "on the adorning of ourselves" and Book Ten, is on "Distillation."

"An Invention of later times, a wonderful thing, to be praised beyond the power of man; not that which the vulgar and unskillful men use: for they do but corrupt and destroy what is good: but that which is done by skillful artists. This admirable art, teacheth how to make Spirits, and sublime gross bodies; and how to condense, and to make Spirits become gross bodies: and to draw forth of plants, minerals, stones and jewels, the strength of them, that are involved and overwhelmed with great bulk, lying hid, as it were, in their chests: and to make them more pure, and thin,