

III. in 1246; and Bishop Swinfield, in the same century, dined off it whenever he had an opportunity; it was served up at a sumptuous entertainment given to Richard II. at Durham House and at the grand installation of Archbishop Neville, in 1846, four porpoises were on the table. In 1491 the bailiffs of Yarmouth sent a fine porpoise as a present to Lord Oxford, whose favour they were anxious to propitiate, and accompanied it with the message that if they had any other "deyntes to do him a pleasir," they would have sent them also. The worthy bailiffs could find no more savoury present in all the fish-markets in Yarmouth. At the marriage of Henry V., the guests were treated with "roastid perpes," a dish fashionable in the fifteenth century. We find it again at the first course at the coronation of Henry VII. The king was probably fond of this dish, for it was served up at his table on the feast-day of St. George, and my lord cardinal courted his Majesty's favour by sending a fine porpoise to the palace. The cooks not only roasted and boiled it, but made it into pies and pasties; and a learned "Maister Coke" gives a receipt for a delicious "puddyng of porpouse," whilst another tells us how to serve it up in ferment; the wheat was to be seethed in milk, in which finely chopped almonds had been boiled to thicken it; the porpoise was to be dished up smothered in this delicate sauce, which was also coloured with saffron. A poet in 1452 gives directions how to carve "salte porpyesse and seele." In the "Boke of Kerving," mustard is recommended as the best sauce for porpoise, which was to be carved after the manner of venison; and the proper term to employ in asking the carver to help the guests, was to bid him "undertraunche that purpos." This coarse animal was esteemed as food until late in the sixteenth century; it was often on the table of Henry the VIII.; and Wolsey, Somerset, and other lords of the Star Chamber, having in 1509 a snug little official dinner together, feasted sumptuously off a porpoise which cost eight shillings. Even Queen Elizabeth, who was rather choise in her appetite, had porpoise among her Friday diet; and it was sold as food in the market of Newcastle, as late as 1575, from which time it appears to have fallen into disrepute.—*Our English Homes.*

THE DISCOVERIES OF GRAVITATION.—We may further mention that Sir Isaac Newton largely availed himself of Herrox's suggestions to explain the general principles of perturbation, as laid down in the 66th proposition in the first book of the *Principia*. These improvements are so substantial that there is no difficulty in ascertaining the author to whom they are to be assigned. They stand out as a landmark in the history of the science. Taken in connexion with his comments upon the subject of planetary motion, they prove that Herrox holds a prominent position amongst those who have succeeded in

developing that great principle by which creation is held together. Few men are permitted to originate, to confirm, and to promulgate a great discovery. This is usually the work of successive generations. Each master spirit pushes the enterprise a step further; and hence it is often difficult to decide who is fairly entitled to the credit. The final elucidation may be the result of an accumulated experience. The ground is first broken up, then the seed is sown the tender plants is trained, and it grows and thrives, until some one more fortunate than the rest gathers the fruit. So it was with the principle of gravitation, the discovery of which cannot be wholly attributable to one man. It was no doubt, reserved for the transcendent genius of Newton fully to define and to apply it; but the existence of such a power was known to others who came before him; and their ideas respecting it formed part of the data from which he drew his sublime conclusions. Thus Kepler had considerable knowledge of the subject, and many of his conjectures have been substantiated. Dr. Gilbert published similar doctrines in this country, and gave them a more extended application. But Herrox, by his explanation of the perturbative influence of the sun, and by his illustration of celestial and projectile motion, unfolded the theory more completely than any of his predecessors. He seems to have perfectly understood the identity and universality of this unseen power; for he often tells us that the planets in their orbits are affected by it in the same manner as bodies upon the surface of the earth. His accurate views were at length adopted by Newton, and made the foundation of his philosophy—*Memoir of Jeremiah Herrox*

GREEN, OR ARSENICAL PAPER HANGINGS.—Doctor George Selwyn Morris, of Guisbro', writes, as follows, to the *Leeds Mercury*: "Now that the season is approaching when many persons paper and re-paper their rooms may I be allowed to advise that they should never use green paper, on account of the great quantity of *arsenic* which it contains? From experience, as well as from what I have proved by testing green paper, I am convinced of its pernicious effect upon the system of *some people*. For more than four months my own children were suffering from irritable stomach, irritation of the bowels, loss of appetite, and a deadly paleness of countenance. I was dosing, and doubly dosing, and yet could not conceive the reason why they did not recover, the place being healthy, and the water good which they drank. At last it struck me that the green paper in the room in which they slept had something to do with it. I went up stairs and pulled down all the green paper, and from that day they have never required a single dose of medicine, and now, instead of pale faces, they have rosy cheeks."