

Book 15, treats of hunting, fowling, fishing, &c. As a specimen of the information contained in this book, we have the following ingenious method of changing a dog from white to black.

*"To change a Dogs colour.*—Since white dogs are seldom fit for hunting, because they are seen afar off; a way is found to change his colour, that will be done if you boyl quick Lime with Litharge, and paint the dog with it, it will make him black."

The book, "wherein are handled secret and undiscovered notes," treats of invisible writing. We pass over numerous methods—whereby intelligence may be conveyed from one place to another, without fear of detection in the way—and come to the following sublime process, by which words may be bottled for use as wine is.

*"To signifie to friends all things by a Trunk*—Let the pipe be of earth (but led is better) or of any matter well closed, that the voice may not get forth in the long passage; for whatever you speak at one end, the voice without any difference, as it came forth of the speakers mouth, comes so to the ears of him that hearkneth; and I doubt not but this may be done some miles off. The voice not divided or scattered, goes whole a long way. I have tried it for above two hundred paces, when I had no other convenience, and the words were heard so clear, as the speaker uttered them. Upon this it came into my mind, to intercept words spoken by the way, with leaden pipes, and to hold them so long as I pleased close in; that when I opened the hole, the words should break forth. I perceive that the sound goes by degrees, and that being carried through a pipe, it may be shut up in the middle; and if a very long trunk should take away the convenience of it, that many winding pipes might shut it up in a close place. I read that Albertus made an artificial head, that spake at a set time: I might hope to do the same by this invention."

Book 17, is of Burning, and other glasses: among its experiments we find an approach to the modern Kalsidescope. Here also, we have an account of a glass, by which one of the Ptoleemics saw his enemies at six hundred miles distance! Query—at what height should Ptolemy stand, to enable him to see so far over the surface of the earth, supposing him to have a telescope of sufficient power? Or, should not such an instrument, have a virtue, similar to that of the gun, which could shoot round a corner? We here meet with a further specimen of losing a subject in a dust of words—in describing how the glass might be made which would burn at an infinite distance, it is said—

"Yet I think it an unworthy act to divulge it to the ignorant common people: yet let it go into the light, that the immense goodness of our great God may be praised, and adored. Because a proportional Radius doth proceed from the greater Section, from the less is made the greater: to avoid this, make it of a Cylindrical Section, for it is the mean, and let it be set for the axis of the small and of the greater dissection, which may pass through