

“ for a tame raven, I make no doubt but it
“ would have been now living. This bird, one
“ day, seeing it at the mouth of its hole, pulled
“ it out, and, although I rescued it, pulled out
“ one eye, and hurt it so, that, notwithstanding
“ its living a twelvemonth, it never enjoyed
“ itself, and had a difficulty of taking its food,
“ missing the mark for want of its eye. Be-
“ fore that accident, it had all the appearance
“ of perfect health.”

Valisnieri also mentions a circumstance to prove that toads, if even taken internally, are no ways dangerous. This author says, “ in the
“ year 1692, some German soldiers, who had
“ taken possession of the castle of Arceti, find-
“ ing that the peasants of the country often
“ amused themselves with catching frogs,
“ and dressing them for the table, resolved to
“ provide themselves with the like entertain-
“ ment, and made preparations for frog-fishing
“ in the same manner. It may easily be sup-
“ posed that the Italians and their German
“ guests were not very fond of each other; and
“ indeed it is natural to think that the soldiers
“ gave the poor people of the country many
“ good reasons for discontent; they were not a
“ little pleased, therefore, when they saw them
“ go