

drops of its milk, which, rarefied by the heat, issued through all the pores of the skin, but in greater quantities from the head and dugs, and that it immediately became hard. It is needless to say that this milk is not sufficiently abundant to extinguish even the smallest fire.

M. de Maupertuis, in the course of his experiments in vain irritated several salamanders; none of them ever opened their mouths; he was obliged to open them by force. As the teeth of this lizard are very small, it was difficult to find an animal with a skin sufficiently fine to be penetrated by them: he tried, without success, to force them into the flesh of a chicken stripped of its feathers; he in vain pressed them against the skin; they were displaced, but they could not enter: he, however, made a salamander bite the thigh of a chicken after he had taken off a small part of the skin: he made salamanders, newly caught, bite also the tongue and lips of a dog, as well as the tongue of a turkey: but none of these animals received the least injury. M. de Maupertuis afterwards made a dog and a turkey swallow salamanders whole, or cut into pieces; and yet neither of them appeared sensible of the least uneasiness. Mr. Laurenti also has since
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