

quibus literis circumscriptum spatium arenam mediocrem vix superat."

I have copied these first remarks of L^{eeu}wen^{hoek} from the Philosophical Transactions, because, in matters of this kind, observations made without any systematical view are those which are the most faithfully described, and even this able naturalist no sooner formed a system on spermatic animals, than he began to vary in essential points.

It is evident by the above dates, that Hartsoeker is not the first who published, if he was the first who discovered spermatic animals. In the Journal de Scavans, in the year 1774, there is a letter from Mr. Huguens, on the subject of a microscope, made by one small ball of glass, with which he asserts he perceived animals in the water, wherein pepper had been infused for two or three days, as L^{eeu}wen^{hoek} before had observed with the like microscopes, but whose balls were not so minute. "There are also other seeds, he continues, which engender such animals, as coriander seeds, &c. and I have seen the same thing in the pith of the birch tree, after having kept it for four or five days; and some have observed them in the water where nutmegs and cinnamon have been