

the basis of these experiments, but even in the manner of making them, for he expressly says, that he always diluted the liquor with water, in order to separate, and to give more motion to these animalcules: nevertheless, in his letter to Lord Brouncker, he says, that having mingled an equal quantity of rain water with the seminal liquor of a dog, in which he had before perceived an infinity of living animalcules, yet the mixing of this water killed them. The first experiment of Leeuwenhoek's therefore was made, like mine, without any mixture; and it even seems, that he was not of opinion to mix any water with the liquor till a long time after; because he thought he had discovered, by his first essay, that water caused the death of the animalculæ; which however is not the fact. I think that the mixture of the water only dissolves the filaments very suddenly; for I have seen but very few filaments in all the experiments I have made after mixing the water with the seminal liquor.

As soon as Leeuwenhoek was persuaded that spermatic animals were transformed into men, and other animals, he imagined he saw two sorts in the seminal liquor of every animal, the one male, and the other female; and this difference, according to him, served not only for the generation