

the vulgar disbelieved, albeit credulity may be their besetting sin, when even naturalists, familiar with all the miracles of the insect world, were amazed and wist not what to do. "Il faut"—exclaimed Reaumur—"il faut porter la foi humaine plus loin qu'il n'est permis à des hommes éclairés, pour le croire sur le premier témoignage de celui qui le raconte, et assure l'avoir vu. Peut-on se résoudre à croire qu'il y ait dans la nature des animaux qu'on multiplie en les hachant, pour ainsi dire, par morceaux?"* But this illustrious naturalist was himself the first to promulgate, and experimentally to verify, the discoveries of Abraham Trembley, which have been fully confirmed by many subsequent inquirers, and are now made so familiar to us by their admission into elementary works and treatises on natural theology, that we read of them with little surprise and without incredulousness.

* Hist. des Insectes, vi. pref. 49.