

This seminal liquor was at first very thick, but by degrees it became more fluid ; in less than an hour it was almost transparent ; and in proportion as this fluidity increased, the phenomena changed, as I shall relate.

II. When the seminal liquor attained more fluidity, the filaments were no longer to be seen, but the little bodies appeared in great numbers ; they have for the most part a motion like that of a pendulum, and they draw after them a long thread, which it may clearly be perceived they want to get rid of ; their motion forwards is very slow, vibrating to the right and left. The motion of a boat fastened in the midst of a rapid stream to one fixed point, pretty well represents the motion of these bodies, excepting that the boat remains in the same place, whereas they advance by degrees ; but they do not always keep the same parts in the same direction ; but at each vibration they take a considerable rolling motion ; so that, besides their horizontal motion, they have one of a vertical balance, which proves that these bodies are of a globular figure, or, at least, that their lowest part is not sufficiently extended to maintain them in the same position.

III. At