

posited either in water, or held in the air, they begin to act ; the spring ascends, followed by the piston, the barrel, and the spongy substance which contains the liquor ; and as soon as the spring and the tube which contain it begin to quit the case, the spring folds up ; and all that remains within begins to move, till the spring, the sucker, &c. are entirely come out : as soon as that is done, the remainder immediately follow, and the lacteal liquor, which has been pumped out, and which was contained in the spongy substance flows out by the barrel.

As this observation is very singular, and incontestibly proves that the moving bodies found in the milt of the calmar are not animals, but simple machines, a kind of pumps, I have deemed it necessary to give Mr. Needham's own words.*

“ When the small machines, he says, are arrived to their perfect maturity, many of them act the moment they are in the open air ; nevertheless most of them may be commodiously placed, so as to be seen with a microscope, before their action begins ; and even to make them act, the upper extremity of the external
case

* See New Discoveries made with the microscope by Mr. Needham, chap. vi. Leyden, 1747.