

justam magnitudinem non excrevissent.” * Here then are animalcules of different sizes, some with tails and others without, which much better agrees with my experiments, than with Leeuwenhoek’s own system. We differ only in one particular ; he says, that those without tails were young animalculæ, which were not arrived at their full growth ; while I, on the contrary, have seen these pretended animals quit the filaments with tails or threads, and afterwards lose them by degrees.

In the same letter to Boerhaave, he says, in the semen of a ram, he perceived animalcules following each other in swarms like a flock of sheep. “ A tribus circiter annis testes arietis, adhuc calentes, ad ædes meas deferri curavimus, cum igitur materiam ex epididymibus eductam, ope microscopii contemplarer, non sine ingenti voluptate advertebam animalcula omnia, quotquot innatabant semini masculino, eundem natando cursum tenere, ita nimirum ut quo itinere priora prænatarent eodem posteriora subsequerentur, adeo ut hisce animalculis quasisit ingenitum, quod oves facitare videmus, scilicet ut precedentium vestigiis grex universus incedat.” This observation, which

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* See vol. IV. pages 280 and 281.