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Philosophus
No. — OR, —
THE DEAFE
AND
Dumbe Mans Friend.

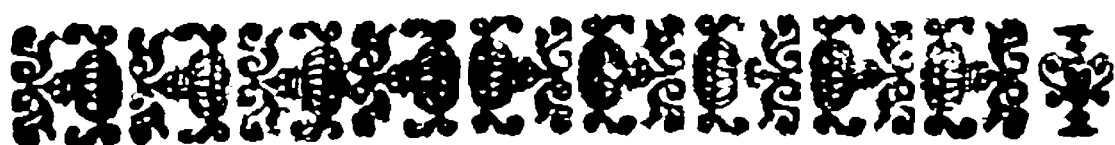
EXHIBITING THE
Philosophicall verity of that sub-
tile Art, which may inable one with
an *observant Eie*, to *Heare* what any
man speaks by the moving of his lips.
UPON THE SAME
Ground, with the advantage of an Hi-
storically Exemplification, apparently
proving, That a Man borne Deafe and
Dumbe, may be taught to *Heare* the
found of *words* with his *Eie*, & thence
learne to speake with his Tongue.

By *I. B.* surnamed the *Chirofopher*.

Sic canimus Surdis —

London, Printed for *Humphrey Moseley*,
and are to be sold at his shop in Pauls
Church-yard 1648.

dispute whether he heares with his eye or no: for wee are not so magistrall in this matter, as to have any thought of deceiving others with a vaine Philosophy of swelling words.



Observation. II.

H*He was borne Deafe and Dumbe.*
Great are the Nation of those (otherwise ingenious men) who have fallen under this unhappy accident; the causes being various and unknowne: there are who suppose that this happens to some through the *propriety* of their *place of birth*. *Soranus* affirms, that those who are borne in Ships at Sea, are by a *proprietie* of their place of birth, like Fishes, *mute*. *Montuo* confidently affirms, that by a *proprietie* of the place, they who were borne within the walls of the Castle of Claramont, proved *dumbe*; as it happened to all the Barons that were borne there. Astrologers say that Childe will be *deafe*, that is borne
when

when *Mercurie* is Lord of the sixt house, and infortunate by evill aspects with *Saturne*, chiefly if he be in the sixt house: Likewise they will have great impediment in their hearing, in whose nativity Jupiter and Saturne bee both impedit and infortunate above the earth; that is, if they be retrograde or combust in evill places. And if *Mercurie* be impedit of Saturne in a Childes nativity, it doth hinder the tongue; but it is worse when they be corporally conjunct together, especially, in the Ascendent, or in the seaventh house, and in the same signe with the Sun. (*Mercurie* being then Occidentall:) or if *Mercurie* be above the earth corporally conjunct with Saturne, or else in an evill aspect of Saturne, and in a *dumbe signe* called *Signum mutum*, and also is unfortunat, that is to say, in an evill place, retrograde or combust and peregrine, that party then borne, will have great impediment in his *tongue*, or else will be *dumbe*, and cannot speake. Sometimes the sinne of the Parents are exemplarily punished in their children. Dr. *Joachim* the brother of *Camerarius*, told him he saw in the Court of the Lant-

grave of Hesse, a Boy *deafe* and *dumbe* so witty, that hee could not wonder enough at his dexterity in executing the commandements that were given him; for by a winke of the eye, hee conceived of the will of the Prince and of his household : The Lantgrave seeing him wonder at the sight, hee told him : You see this young Boy, his use is to declare with a marvelous readinesse by gestures of his body, and by *motions* of his fingers, any new thing he seeth done in the Court or City. He is an example of Gods justice, for, his mother being accused of stealing when shee went with childe with him, used such an imprecation, that if that which she was charged with was true, her Childe might never speake when it came to be in the World, but remaine Dumbe all his life.

To some this is an hereditary evill and an *imperfection ex traduce*.

But why Deafe men should get deafe children ? may be from that similitude which springeth from the seede, in as much as it flowes from the whole œconomy of the Body ; that is, sometimes it flowes out more from the Father, sometimes

times from the Mother ; from this plenty of provision proceedeth the similitude, so some part in children resembleth the Mother, another part the Father ; as that seed hath more copiously issued from the parts of either Parent. And commonly when a Deafe and Dumbe man hath got his Wife with childe, there is a solicitous expectation in their Friends whether the child should prove Deafe and Dumbe or no : For it falleth not out alwayes , that the children of Deafe and Dumbe men inherit that imperfection of their parents , as intailed upon them : whereof the reason above mentioned may serve, that is, the seed of the perfect parent may be more luxuriant and predominant, whereof I have known some examples. What the issue of a Deafe and Dumbe man and woman would prove, there hath beene no opportunity afforded to trie , because few Philosophers have beene bidden to such a wedding. The like reason may be, why they should have deafe Children who are deafened by some disease, or by reason of some over-potent object which hath destroyed their sense of Hearing. Upon which a Quære

might be raised, whether the children of those who dwell neere the Catarrachs of Nile (whose parents are all deafe,) are not commonly borne deafe also, rather then afterwards so made.

We doe not heare indeed, that any of the brethren or family this Lord was of, were unfortunate in the like defect, although that hath beene the sad condition of many eminent Families. *Fernelius* writes of a Senatour, whose Wife being healthy, yet all the children hee had by her were *deafe* and *dumbe*; the cause he judgeth to be very darke and obscure. *Cardan* speakes of a woman that had five and twenty children, of two of which number shee was delivered within tenne moneths, both *deafe* and *dumbe*, which both lived, and lived in his time; the one with three Mola's, the second with two, not onely dead but putrified; who while she went with them felt not her selfe as with her others, but shee felt as it were a weight of lead in the bottome of her belly. It being very likely that the Mola's growing to by reason of their frigiditie (for they are as congealed blood) did hurt their braines, thence the hearing, and

and so dulle the facultie of speech, especially when they putrified.

Nor are examples of these sad accidents very rare among us; such therefore as I have either knowne, or by credible intelligence gained notice of from others, I shall here annex, conceiving it fit to enlarge the Forreigne story of Deafe and Dumbe men, with such additionall notions. The rather that wee may come a little out of these outlandish Writers debt, and in some reasonable sort, vie Historicall observations with them.

Sir *Edward Gostwick* of *Wellington* in the County of *Bedforashire* Baronet, a Gentleman otherwise very accomplished, was borne *deafe* and *dumbe*; hee hath attained unto writing, which is a substitute of speech. and from whence there lyes a way if well followed, to the recovery of an Articulate voice. Hence, writing to them that are deaf and dumb, may serve in stead of speech, who therefore doe best begin to write, and afterwards learne to speake. The first invention of Writing was to make *Verba visibilia, missilia, & permanentia*, to re-

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medy the defect of speech that vanissheth away, is onely audible, and cannot bee wrought into discourse but by two that are present together, whereas this invention puts an eare, as it were into the eye, and presents our cogitations visible and legible, writing being the later invention; speech by it selfe signifies all our conceptions, and writing signifies our speech; for, writing to words, is as words to cogitations: Yet this order is not of necessity, that speech must bee learnt first, and afterwards Writing should succcede, to signifie our words; rather then words writing: there being no naturall necessity for it, so that the contrary cannot bee done: But it happens rather by reason of the facility, and because men that are deprived of none of their senses, are apt sooner to speake, then to write; the tongue being sooner fitted by nature for that employment, then the hand for this: But the cleane contrary may be done, as appeares in the atchievement of this honourable Gentleman, and others mentioned in this book. For as they who have their hearing doe as the readyer and better way begin at speech,