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sangvisvgis, vvlgo sic dictis Vampyren, by Johann Gottlob Hertel and Johann
Christoph Pohl**

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Title: Dissertationem de hominibvs post mortem sangvisvgis, vvlgo sic dictis Vampyren

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Release date: August 13, 2015 [EBook #49697]

Language: Latin

Credits: Produced by Carolus Raeticus

*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK DISSERTATIONEM DE HOMINIBVS POST MORTEM
SANGVISVGIS, VVLGO SIC DICTIS VAMPYREN ***

DISSERTATIONEM
DE
HOMINIBUS
POST MORTEM
SANGVISVGIS
VVLGO SIC DICTIS
VAMPYREN,
AVCTORITATE INCLYTI PHILOSOPHORVM ORDINIS,
PVBLCICO ERVDITORVM EXAMINI
DIE XXX. AVG. AN. M. DCC XXXII.
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LIGNICENS. SILESIVS.
ET
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STVDIORVM SVORUM PROMOTORIBVS AD CINERES VSQVE DEVENERANDIS.**

HANC OPELLAM

IN

DEVOTAE MENTIS RELIGIONIS

ET

PLENISSIMAE OBSEQUII SANCTIMONIAE

DILIGENTIAEQVE

PERENNE MONVMENTVM

D. D. D.

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§. I. Veritatis inquisitio difficilis.

Quo praeclarius atque utilior censetur res, eo maiori in pretio non solum habenda, sed et omni modo promovenda est. An vero quaedam inveniri possit veritate praestantior, quae in nostrarum cogitationum convenientia cum externa sensione consistit, nullus non dubito. Generosus enim animus non fucum, non umbram, non lecythinos colores exoptat, sed corpus et omne certum amplectitur. Qua de re etiam iste lubentissime acquiescit, si instituta accuratior veritatis inquisitione, rem sic, et non aliter, comparatam esse deprehendit. Haud tamen negandum, quod quandoque in DEMOCRITI puteo eadem latitet, adeo, ut verum videatur illud: Difficilia quae pulchra.

§. II. Inter impedimenta veritatis investigandae inprimis refertur superstitio.

Namque ut nihil dicam de auctoritatis praeiudiciis, praeconceptis opinionibus, affectibus, philautia, odio, metu, timore, et quae sunt alia obstacula; praesertim hac vice superstitionis, multum omni tempore veritati repugnantis, meminisse iuvat: haec nempe fuit olim fertilis multorum errorum mater, haec etiamnum ceu nutrix illos sustentat, eosdemque omni cura nutritos in sinu suo fovet. Quin tanta eius est potentia, ut regna, populosque in iisdem degentes imperatoris instar saepenumero gubernet potentissime. Idcirco eam tanquam nocivam, sapientes non sine summo mentis taedio ex hominum animis pellere omnibus annis sunt viribus, superstitionis inprimis fontes, ex quibus oritur, summa cum cura detegere cupiunt, quo eo facilius remedia, quorum ope huic vitio auxilium ferendum sit, inveniri queant. Ita nunc animi dona a natura denegata, nunc subacti iudicii defectum, nunc atram bilem, nunc nimiam fiduciam saepenumero ex negligentia promanantem, incuriam, atque alias innumeras superstitionis cernere potes causas, quibus facile, mediante bona educatione, fideli informatione, familiari cum prudentioribus conversatione obviam ire poteris, si modo medelam admittere vellent homines, hoc vitio contaminati.

§. III. Transitio ad Vampyros.

Sed proh dolor! tantum abest ut sapientiam omnes uno prope suscipiant consensu, ut potius magis se oblectent barbarie. Hinc oppida, regiones, nationes fere dixerim, interdum hoc superstitionis vitio laborare, nemo negabit. Quamvis autem plerisque in locis non immedicabile malum plane iudicandum sit; attamen multum temporis requireretur ad illud ex mortalium pectore prorsus eradicandum. Et etiamsi scientiae ac artes pene vastum repleverint terrarum orbem, nihilo tamen minus, ubicunque oculos convertere placet, protinus invenies multas gentes, quae se totas dederunt superstitioni.

VAMPYRI, quos exemplo ponimus, et qui tam plebi ignobili, quam prudentioribus crucem hactenus fixere, id satis superque probare nobis videntur.

§. IV. Relatio de VAMPYRIS.

Cum autem relatio de sic dictis VAMPYRIS, quorum quidem nomen antea ignotum fuit, in ephemeridibus, et in primis in litteris Alba graeca Viennam et Lipsiam datis, typisque impressis, tam abunde suppeditata sit, ut omnium pene repleverit ora et aures, supervacaneum duxi eam hic prolixè inserere, summam rei, qua fieri poterit, brevitate, propositurus. Postquam nimirum MEDWEDIAE, quae pagus est REGNI SERVIAE, rumor, Vampyros sanguinem exsugendo interfecisse quosdam homines, exortus, et ad Magistratum militarem delatus est, ille in loco supra denominato inquisitionem hac de re instituendam iussit, qua facta, ex relatione cuiusdam SIGNIFERI, ALEXANDRI SIEGFR. von KOTTWITZ dicti, qui inquisitioni interfuit, sequentia haec nobis comperta fuerunt: annis scilicet ab hinc quinque miles quidam pedestris, nomine ARNOLD PAOLE, qui ex lapsu a curru foeno onerato mortuus erat, cum adhuc in vivis esset, saepenumero dixisse fertur: Se quondam in SERVIAE regione prope CASSOVAM a Vampyro strenue vexatum fuisse, eam ob causam aliquid terrae de illius Vampyri sepulchro comedisse, istiusque sanguine se illivisse, eum in finem, ut liberaretur. Spatio viginti vel triginta dierum a morte eius elapso, nonnulli se ab illo torqueri conquesti sunt, quatuorque ab ipso vere interempti traduntur. Suasu HADNACKII protracto ex sepulchro Arnolde Paole, sanguinem sincerum ex oculis, naribus, ore et auribus effluentem, adeo, ut indusium, integumenta cum loculo commaculata fuerint, deprehenderunt, qualis quoque cruor, palo per pectus ac cor, more illorum solenni, non sine suspirio demortui notabili, transfixo, affatim erupit.

Nec minus totum corpus a putredinis labe immune repertum esse, unguis manuum et pedum decidisse, locoque horum novos excrevisse, affirmant. Ex his omnibus, genuinum esse VAMPYRUM, cunctosque a VAMPYRIS interfectos eiusdem generis sanguinem sugentes rursus fieri, concludunt. Ipsum vero ARNOLDVM PAOLE non homines solum, sed et bestias aggressum, suctuque abstulisse sanguinem ita, ut, quibus caro talium animantium in usum cessit, VAMPYRI redditi fuerint, ultro commemorant.

Huc partim referuntur quidam, qui absque praecedente morbo intra secundum tertiumque dies obierunt, postquam somno sepulti noctu subito non sine terrore expergefacti, se a mortuis strangulari, doloremque pectoris sentire exclamaverint. Partim, qui VAMPYRORVM sanguine se perunxerunt, tales quoque evasisse perhibentur. Facta cadaverum sectione nonnullorum, ventriculos, pectora, corda, sanguine extra vasa evagante referta fuisse; in quodam vero infante simul cerebrum in pus conversum observatum fuit. Porro VAMPYRORVM alium ex sepulchro revertentem uxorem superstitem compressisse, ac plane ex legibus thalami venerem exercuisse, (hac tantum observata differentia, quod semen emissum frigidum erat;) inde uxorem concepisse, et elapso gestationis consueto termino XL hebdomadarum in lucem edidisse infantem, pueruli quidem figuram prae se ferentem, ast sine membris distinctis conformatum, eundemque inconditam quippe molem carneam repraesentantem, triduo elapso, instar farciminis corrugatum apparuisse, sat lepide, si sat vere, enarrant.

§. V. Examinis instituendi ratio suppeditatur.

Quid ergo cum naturae legibus ex his prolatis conveniat, quidve pugnet cum iisdem, huius erit loci perspicere. Ne autem momentum aliquod notabile ex his praetermittatur, lubet secundum relationis suppeditatae ordinem nostram instituere diiudicationem.

§. VI. Inquisitio sine Medico perito facta insufficiens et illegalis fuit.

Primum igitur, quod nostram meretur attentionem, momentum, existit disquisitio in rem vere singularem ac mirabilem, a Magistratu militari iussa, et a duobus Praefectis militum subordinatis Chirurgoque castrensi instituta. Quemadmodum vero sententia et decretum de investiganda huius rei veritate a Magistratu suppeditatum, sua laude minime defraudare volumus; ita sane magis dolendum esse censemus, quod inquisitio hac de re non rite et accurate peracta fuerit. Licet enim illorum, qui inquisitioni huic praefuerunt, famae aut dignitati a nobis detrahi aliquid, non cupimus, tantum tamen abest, ut talem veritatem inquirendi modum sine Medico ordinario et perito adhibitam approbemus, ut potius pro insufficiente et plane illegali habeamus. Non enim Chirurgis solis inspectionem huiusmodi committendam, sed Medici in arte sua satis exercitati adhibendam opem requiri, ipsi etiam ad unum omnes Iurisperiti postulant. *Medico quippe in hac re maiorem fidem esse habendam, quam decem et viginti testibus non Medicis, CARPZOVIVS*^[1] cum aliis satis nervose asserit. Ecquis enim viscerum naturalem vel praeternaturalem conditionem, quis morborum, mortisque inde secutae indolem a militum Praefectis vel Chirurgis castrensibus facile exquiret? Partis enim cuiuscunque situs, connexionis, functionis, verbo anatomes, ceu legalis inspectionis, accuratiorem cognitionem, quam illi, qui arti salutari non addicti sunt, spondent Medici. In primis si res aut etiam morbi post mortem indagandi sunt altioris indaginis, quique qualitatibus quibusdam singularibus limites naturae primo intuitu transcendere videntur. Omnis proinde superstitio aut credulitas procul exulet, maior autem mentis acies arte exercitata, iudicijque quaedam gravitas praesto sit, necesse est, exquisitissima. Occurrunt enim non raro in praxi Medica miranda morborum phaenomena, quae priscis temporibus pro miraculis et Daemonum praestigiis habita fuerunt, et etiam nunc hodie ab incautis minusque peritis inter prodigia referuntur. Verum cordatiores, inque praxi clinica magis exercitati Medici vires naturae tam arctis non circumscribunt limitibus, quotidiana scilicet observatione edocti, quod saepius eventus et sectio post mortem rite instituta veras et physicas detexerit causas morborum, qui antea leges et modum naturae penitus excedere videbantur. Ex quibus, ut arbitramur, satis superque patescit, quam utilis, quamque necessaria in historia VAMPYRORVM rite investiganda fuisset Medici cuiusdam periti diiudicatio. Nunquam enim adeo monstrosa et superstitione plena, imo absurda provenisset relatio, qualem nunc ex reliquorum monumentorum ponderatione demonstrabimus ulterius.

[1] in praxi criminali p. 1. qu. 16. n. 43.

§. VII. Singulatim instituitur, et absurda inde varia proferuntur.

Arnoldus scil. Paole, cuius traditione summa nititur huius historiae, a Vampyro quondam vexatus, quo ab hoste crudeli immunis evaderet, aliquid terrae de eius sepulchro comedisse, sanguinemque eius sibi simul illivisse dicitur. Quod si

autem hoc remedio vere liberatus a Vampyri tormentis fuisset, cur denuo Vampyrus factus, aliis, quorum recensentur quatuor, nocere potuit? Si vero frustra adhibita haec medicina fuit, cur tamdiu supervixit, et cur more aliorum non intra breve temporis spatium extintus fuit, sed potius decidens de curru morte defunctus perhibetur? Posito autem, terram ab mortui sepulchro desumtam, eiusdemque sanguinem remedii instar specifici ipsi inservivisse, nonne pessime actum cum miseris nostris sequentibus, qui neglecto pharmaco hoc praesentissimo, mortis faucibus non sine aliorum lethifera vena traditi fuerunt, cum tamen facile eodem remedio adhibito servari potuissent. Periculum fuisse regeris, ne per sanguinis infecti applicationem plures redderentur contaminati, quemadmodum STANNA post unctionem paria VAMPYRORVM fata passa perhibetur. Ego vero potius, uxorum VAMPYRI naturam induisse compressione, de qua tamen contrariam in relatione legimus sententiam, putarem. Quibus omnibus accurate pensatis, unusquisque facile contradictoria et absurda deprehendet.

§. VIII. Contradictiones aliae producuntur.

Porro Putrefactionis absentia, ceu signum essenziale in relatione saepius fuit allegata, ubi tamen servi sit mentio, hoc morbo (sic ipsi nominant malum VAMPYRORVM genuinum) extincti, cuius cadaver non nisi putredine consumptum repertum esse, asserunt. Idem iudicium esto de sanguine salvis visceribus in pectore reperto, quem si recentem offenderunt, VAMPYRVM communi suffragio renunciarunt mortuum, cum tamen STANCKO eum, non nisi putrefactum monstravit, et nihilominus eorum numero adscriptus fuerit. Qua de re incertos ipsos defunctorum inspectores fuisse, inde ni fallor clare elucescit, cum corpora a corruptionis labe immunia reperta, nescio, qua superstitionis lege ducti, poena capitali affecerint, putrida tamen, quanquam pro VAMPYRIS habita, poena iudicantur eximenda. Deinde quid sibi velit filiolus, plene ac perfecte proportionatus, tamen sine membris, et rudi, indigestaeque moli carnae similis, in lucem a gravida editus, nec dum perspicio, nisi forte illis mola imposuerit. Nonne igitur historiam VAMPYRORVM contradictionum, aut forte fabularum, censere quis posset plenissimam.

§. IX. Tota relatio ut dubia, obscura, et superstitionis plenissima sistitur.

Tametsi igitur strenui satis fuerint quidam in asserenda re, et ad varias causas cum sympatheticas tum antipatheticas, occultasque qualitates, et nescio, ad quem spiritum intermedium, astralem, sidereum, Archaeum seu spiritum mundi, imo interdum ad cacodaemonem provocaverint; eam tamen rem ceu maxime dubiam et obscuritatem tenebris implicitam nullum alium in finem, quam ut incerta facta praeter necessitatem multiplicentur, frustra hoc modo tractari, arbitror. Quo enim pacto superstitionis ingentis notam detrectabunt, quicumque ex fallaci persuasione admodum mortuos semel terrae mandatos protrahendo turbare quasi suscipiunt? Multominus assertionem suam roborabunt, postquam intaminatum conspexere cadaver sanguine refertum, ut infra probabo.

§. X. Quaestio: an dentur Vampyri?

Quamquam igitur videri potest ob fundamentum tam dubium omni deductione ulteriori supersedendum esse; lubet tamen paulo longius progredi, et quid de tota re sentiendum sit, dispicere, pauloque accuratius inquirere, ubi autem summa eo redit: AN DENTVR VAMPYRI SEV MORTVI VIVIS PER ABLATIONEM SANGVINIS DAMNVN INFERENTES, IPSAMQVE VITAM AVFERENTES?

§. XI. Definitio VAMPYRORVM.

Scilicet ex supra dictis satis clare patet, VAMPYRVM dici hominem defunctum, post mortem ex sepulchro redeuntem, ex aliis adhuc viventibus hominibus, animalibusque sanguinem exsugentem, cuius vestigia, a VAMPYRIS interfecti, premunt, aliisque iterum post fata similiter insidiantur. Unde autem nomen VAMPYR. originem suam traxerit, nondum satis constat; variae enim foventur opiniones: Quidam pro voce Illyrica accipiunt, alii a lingua Turcica derivant. TOVRNEFORT^[1] in descriptione itineris sui mentionem facit insulae MYCONA dictae, cuius incolae VROVCOLACAS vocant homines defunctos, qui eodem modo, ut supra in definitione monuimus, viventibus terrorem, imo ipsam mortem inferunt.

[1] Relation d'un Voyage du Levant, par M. PITTON de TOVRNEFORT. Huc etiam verba ex GEORGII FEHLAVII annotationibus ad CHRISTOPHORI ANGELI Enchirid. de statu hodiernorum Graecorum cap. 25. pag. 158 referri merentur, quae cum TOVRNEFORTII relatione conveniunt.

§. XII. Quaestionis antecedentis resolutio.

Si ARISTOTELI^[1] fidem adhibeamus, *aves quaedam lac capris et nutricibus, infantibus autem sanguinem clam subtrahunt;* secundum LIBAVIVM^[2] vespertiones humanum sugunt sanguinem; secundum VETERES POETAS *striges infantum sanguini insidiantur; sed quae haec sit avium species, nondum sufficienter constat.* Notatu digna est historia, quam TH. BARTHOL.^[3] affert: *Tres infantes Pastoris FIONENSES LYKISHOLMI, in cubiculo consueto dormientes, insueto ploratu et inquiete per aliquod temporis intervallum turbabantur, quod se mulgeri a quodam sentirent. Puerorum suspicionem firmarunt papillae, diligentius a parentibus tractatae, quae lactantis foeminae papillarum in figuram eminebant. Ad hoc averruncandum fascinum alexipharmacis amarisque illitae fuere papillae. Hinc umbilicus illorum tam vehemente suctione atterebatur, ut non tantum manifeste promineret, sed et oris sugentis magnitudinem impresso velut vestigio monstraret.* Cum his fere conveniunt quae IOH. SOPHRON. KOZACK^[4] refert, utpote qui *spiritus naturales, elementares, ephialtas dictos, lac et sanguinem sugere docuit.* Nonne vero haec fictio a re vera abludit, quae nonnullarum gentium erat persuasio, sanguine delectari eundemque bibere animas. *Quare antequam iusta fiebant, dum circa letheas oras adhuc vagari credebantur, nec ad campos admittebantur Elysios, sanguis ad radices tumuli fundebatur, cum vino, vel lacte mixtus, quod ex LVCIANO^[5] patet. Quid vero animae cum sanguine?*

[1] Histor. animal. L. IX. c. 30. et CASP. SCHWENCKFELD (Theriotroph. Siles. p. 232.)

[2] L. VI. Hexaëm. f. 30. p. 555.

[3] Cent. I. histor. anat. IX. p. 20.

[4] Anat. vital. microcosm. c. 17. pag. 175.

[5] T. I. op. in Necyomant de quo etiam GARM. L. II. T. 7. p. 609. scribit.

§. XIII. Mortis ratio genuina, atque inde deducta impossibilitas reviviscendi.

Si vero in mortis indolem sollicitius inquiramus, vitales, naturales ac animales actiones ita abolitas, ut modo restitui queant nullo, reperiemus. Sistitur nimirum in circulo suo sanguis ex corde, vita adhuc durante per omnes corporis partes propellendus et aequaliter distribuendus. Hoc intercepto, viscera, omnes solidae partes reliquae naturali quippe humorum secretionem, et exinde nutritione dependente inhibita necessario destruuntur. Imo semel subsecuta animae et corporis solutione, nihil nec naturae, nec arti superest, per quod hocce vinculum restitui possit. Qui enim sanguinis in apice arterioso stagnationem novit rectius, eiusque resolutionem admodum difficilem interdum difficillimam; tamque ingentis copiae cruoris in morte perpetuo quiescentis, reductionem spatio tam diuturno elapso, in cursum suum praevia resolutione, non nisi impossibilem censebit. Ut taceam omnem ex firmis aliis partibus praestandum motum, ob harum rerum destructionem plenissime cessare. Quae si in corpore animali contingere deprehenduntur, animam a corpore suo separatam dicunt. Quod vero eadem ob amorem, qui ei cum corpore suo intercedit, non deserat prius habitaculum suum, quam si idem sit ita labefactum, ut functiones in eo exercere amplius nequeat, extra dubium est. Locum vero repetendae vitae, dari nullum, inde elucescit manifeste, quoniam exitialis organorum labes omnem supra dictum amorem utriusque superare atque vincere valet. Si enim mors vinculum, quod animae cum corpore intercedit, dirumpit, in cadavere non permanebit anima. Vitam enim et mortem simul in eodem cadavere hospitari posse, quis credat? Vix enim ac ne vix quidem nobis persuadere possumus, animam ad corpus quasi postliminio redire, perque hoc actiones varias perpetrare posse. Sibi enim semper summus rerum, vitae mortisque arbiter, hanc, animam e corpore egressam revocandi potentiam servavit.

§. XIV. Corruunt hinc Vampyris attributa ex usu functionum tripliciter denegato.

Quando igitur nobiscum perpendimus, quod de Vampyris litteris consignatum habetur, tantum abest, ut a mortuis ille, qui vivis et sanis tantum competit, impetrari possit status omnibus numeris absolutus. Affectus enim in mortuis voluntatem ita determinare posse, ut partes actitentur, non est quod asseramus. Siquidem nec suctio absque pulmonum respirationisque officio, nec deglutitio absque linguae musculorum variorum, ac maxillae motione fieri potest. Quis, quaeso, mortuis, quae vivis sunt in usu, adscribere velit? Multominus cruoris concoctio, rei admodum difficilis digestio, sine ventriculi virtutis, intestinorum, calorisque a sanguinis circuitu provenientis concursu continget. Cadit hinc omnis succi nutritii inde praeparati deductio ad massam sanguineam, eiusdemque a venis cordeque receptio, vigente motu tantum possibilis. Ut nihil de edendi ac bibendi desiderio atque appetitu dicam, quippe qui, non nisi perabsurde, mortuis attribuitur. Quaeso igitur, in quem finem haec cruoris assumptio, cum nutritio nulla, nullumque dispendium, quod vivis tantummodo secundum naturam familiare est, locum ulterius inveniat? Quin imo si vel optime valentes, terrae demandati, nec per momentaneum temporis tractum, aëre nempe omni privati, superesse possint, quis, mortuos reviviscere posse, hariolabitur? Nil dicam de impossibilitate sanguinis educendi, quae sine oris applicatione, cuius mentio fit nulla, fieri haud potuit. Multo minus attentionem ullam merebitur compressio uxoris a VAMPYRO marito facta, cum, quanta ad hunc actum exercendum requiratur vis, eam rectius declarent Medici.

§. XV. Quae porro infringuntur.

Undenam porro, quaeso, prorumpendi ex sepulchris vis, ambulandi, motumque exercendi voluntarium, sperma in testiculis discernendi, secretumque, sanguine interim in motu suo quiescente, excernendi facultas, et quae aliae functiones hic allegantur, non a spiritu tantum, sed cum corpore materiali unito expectandae. Crediderim potius uxorem ob mariti apparitionem non solum, sed propter infame hoc VAMPYRI facinus, terrore percussam, exanimem redditam, ineptamque plane fuisse ad recipiendum semen. Si rem invertere, atque Virum vivum complexum esse foeminam mortuam, asserere velimus, dubio opus esset nullo, cum eo proterviae insatiabilis salacitas atque malitia hominum processerit non semel, ut mortuis non pepercerit, sed cum vitio detestabili ac turpi coire maluerit. Quod vero ulla unquam inde observata fuerit impraegnatio, etiam atque etiam pernegamus, quia in cadavere nullae actiones vel vitales vel animales peragi possunt, uti superius demonstratum fuit. Proinde magis pro fabula habenda est historia, quam superstitionis plenus KORNMANNS,^[1] *de puella DEYSA mortua a milite impraegnata*, proferre sustinuit.

[1] de miraculis mortuorum P. IV. cap. I. p. 98.

§. XVI. Nec propria in physicis confessio sufficit.

Quanquam itaque uxor allegata, tum reliqui morbo hoc affecti, se a Vampyris vexari cum querimoniis variis fatebantur, nihil tamen secius illorum confessioni parum aut nihil esse credendum, arbitror, quoniam isti aut vero morbo, aut ad minimum perversa imaginatione et superstitione laborant. Quot et quales autem obveniunt aegrotantibus imaginationes rerum, quae tamen minime saepe existunt, optime clinici norunt Medici. Cum enim ingens morborum copia febrilibus suis stipetur motibus, iisque cum suo impetu praesentibus, cerebrum sollicitetur, sanguineque copiosius ac velocius transfluente oneretur, ecquis tunc temporis phantasiae rationisque exercitium pronunciet integrum? Sensus incolumitate sua gaudentes, non decipere, verum est, si vero cerebrum ac sensio organica obruuntur humoribus, aut quovis alio modo irritantur, fallunt et falluntur admodum. Praeterea propriam in physicis rebus confessionem, hoc seculo, mancam esse ac mutilam, sagarum ac veneficorum historiae pridem nos docuerunt. Inde ni fallor, non ea propter Vampyros fuisse, qui id professi sunt.

§. XVII. Sanguis ob causas naturales post mortem effluere potest.

Si autem quaeris, unde sanguis sincerus ex oculis, naribus, ore, et auribus cum absentia putrefactionis tanta copia, ut et linteum cum loculo eodem infecta fuerint, sciendum est, non paucos obvenire morbos, corporisque affectiones, ubi post mortem ex certis cadaverum cavitatibus tale cruoris profluvium animadvertitur. Apoplecticorum nempe cadavera Vampyris similes non raro excretiones monstrare, compertum est. Ut nil de fluxitate sanguinis dicam, quam in apoplexia mortuis, si forte cerebri cerebellique excipias cruorem, per frequentiores cadaverum incisiones demonstravit WEPFERVS.^[1] Id quod etiam PLATERVS^[2] testimonio suo corroborat, referens *se in plethoricis apoplecticis ob ruptam venam saepenumero observasse, et cum in viventibus adhuc, tum et post mortem, magnam sanguinis copiam per os, atque nares erumpentem.* LIBAVIVS^[3] quorundam mentionem iniicit, *qui morbo epidemico quodam et sideratione aut epilepsia interemti a morte demum per os, nares, aures et alias vias sat copiosum profuderunt sanguinem.* IO. SOPHRON. KOZACH:^[4] *mortuis strangulatis et suffocatis solet quoque e naribus vel faucibus meare sanguis interdum aliis humoribus mistus. In febre maligna et pestilentiali mortuis nares gossypio lanuginosoque, quod fert Bombax, semine vel alia quadam re occludendas esse, ne per easdem cruor effundatur, annotat et suadet ZACCHIAS.*^[5] In peste CHEMNICENSIS:^[6] *Virgo praeclara stirpe nata, post mortem tantum sanguinis e naribus profudit, ut vestes ferales pollueret, fluxusque ille usque ad sepulturam profluens nullo conatu inhiberi posset.* Huc faciunt quae RIOLANVS^[7] monuit: *inter dissecandum non te terreat, et ab incepto opere revocet stillicidium sanguinis, e naribus vel ore, quod saepius contigisse vidi, primo vel altero, tertio et quarto sectionis die, quandoquidem meticulosi id phaenomenon in sinistrum omen interpretantur, quasi nefas esset corpus illud attricare, cuius anima nondum a sanguine separata sui adhuc corporis curam haberet, qua de re apud Poetam POLYDORVS AENEAM^[8] hortatur:*

Parce pias scelerare manus!

Alios praeterea haemoptycos sistere possem, quorum rupta in pulmonibus vasa, sanguinem non raro fluidum in bronchia admissum, indeque in fauces deductum post obitum fundunt. Alios in affectibus inflammatoriis, tum in ardentissima sanguinis exaestuatione constitutos proferre nolo. Sanguinem caeterum ad notabile post mortem tempus in venis et arteriis non concretum, sed fluidum satis reperiri, dissectiones corporum anatomicae testantur. Multum autem interesse reor, probeque dispiciendum duco, utrum corpus praevio morbo, inprimis diuturno emaciatum ac humoribus necessariis privatum, an potius veloci extinctum fuerit nece, quoniam intra brevissimum temporis tractum consumi nequit, quod ipsum est, quod accidisse legimus mortuis nostris, qui intra biduum vel triduum enecati dicuntur.

[1] in Hist. de apopl. mort. 1. p. 4. et 5.

[2] Tr. I. prax. L.I. c. 2. p. 27.

[3] de cruent. cad. pag. 149.

[4] Lib. de haemorrh. c. 9. p. 266. et Tr. de Sale c. 5. s. 10. p. 214

[5] in Tr. I. quaest. legal. consil. 19. n. 5. p. 34.

[6] vid. GARMANN. Lib. II. Tit. VII. de cruentat. cadav. p. 558. § 30.

[7] in Lib. anthropol. c. 18. p. 61.

[8] conf. L.III. Aeneid. v. 42.

§. XVIII. Veritati non consentaneum videtur unguis in mortuis accrescere.

Ungues vero non saltim accrevisse, sed et pristinis reiectis, ac resectis, novos repullulasse, res est, quae fidem pene excedit, quam tamen PARAEO id affirmanti adhibendam statuunt Misc. N. Cur.^[1] Interim quod prius attinet, marcescentia et corrugatio tam corporis totius, quam digitorum in defunctis contingens, unguis constrictionis expertes sistit in cadaveribus longiores visui, cum tamen nil quicquam post mortem incrementi eis impendatur. Quod vero posterius concernit, omnes, antequam aliquid statuitur, rectius examinari debuissent circumstantiae; Qui enim semel, nedum pluries, ut demonstratum supra fuit in relatione, errat, semper praesumitur talis. Quid si laminam ultimam infra unguem ita positam, ut, elevato hoc, appareat, pro novo ungue venditasse dicam?

[1] Dec. II. Anno 2. observ. 155. pag. 354.

§. XIX. Absentiae putrefactionis aliaeque naturales suppeditantur causae.

Putredinis labe non inquinata VAMPYRORVM corpora, peculiarem horum mortuorum statum miraculosumque denotare forte poterat, nisi variae aliae circumstantiae, eaeque naturales, hunc arcere putrorem quandoque solerent. Sunt quorundam brutorum, ut de Gallis gallinaceis, anseribus aliisque aetate grandiore conspicuis abunde constat, tales membranarum, ligamentorum, musculorum, aliarumque partium constitutiones, ut nec ulla in plures dies continuata coctione macerari et in usum humanum praeparari possint, sique vel plane non deplumata animantia, emaciato summe corpore praedita, inprimis autumnali aut hiberno tempore asserventur, sine ulla balsamationis artificialis ope conservari in plures commode poterunt annos. Ita etiam iudicandum est de siccoribus strictiorisque habitus corporis hominibus, aut sanguine per praecedentes haemorrhagias, aut vulnerationes graviore privatis. Qualem succorum pene omnium absentiam in marasmo senili, phthisi aut hectica consummata defunctis observare est, quippe quorum corpora non nisi ossa, cartilagine, ligamenta, cutem, praetereaque nihil continent.

§. XX. Plures adducuntur causae putredinem impediennes.

Ab astris incorruptibilitatem talem derivare annisus est REIES^[1] DE FONTECHA: *mortis tempore talem aliquando influxum dari contendens, qui corpori influens putrefactioni ineptum reddat, unde post multorum annorum decursum absque ullo miraculo integrum reperiatur;* et BEDA^[2] in anno tres esse dies ac noctes statuit, in quibus qui nati fuerunt, corpora illorum absque dubio integra et incorrupta manebunt usque in diem iudicii. Refertur vero *dies XXVII. et XXX. Jan. et XIII.*

*Febr. quos suum mysterium mirabile valde dicere non erubuit. Et ANTON. PALVANVS inquit:^[3] Die primo et secundo Februarii natos non putrescere. Facile me isti auctores consentientem haberent, si sermo iisdem non de Die natali, sed emortuali esset, praesertim si hoc assertum, habita scil. variae tempestatis ratione, non promiscue ad omnes extenderetur annos. Est enim plerumque in multis EVROPAE regionibus hoc anni tempore gelidi frigoris intensissimique potentia, ut rigida cadavera terrae mandata frigidae, diu admodum illaesa a corruptionis labe sistat. Hoc etiam in carne mactatorum animantium, inque cadaveribus hoc tempore cultro anatomico subiectis non obscure apparere credo. Nec ultra dubito, quin pene omnes VAMPYRORVM circumstantiae cum his non difficulter comparari possint. Fuit enim mortis eorundem non aliud tempus, quam ubi gelidum regnat frigus, eoque magis, quo magis regio ipsa ei favet. BARTHOLINVS^[4] ita disserit: *qui Spitzbergae Groenlandiae parte ad nos redeunt mercatores Hafnienses testantur, nihil ibi ob frigus intensum putrescere aut corrumpi, ut etiam sepulta cadavera per XXX. annos inviolata et integra sine putredine conserventur. Corpora Stockholmii tota hyeme in patibulo suspensa sine putredine deprehendisse affirmat IOH. IOACH. BECHERVS.*^[5]*

[1] de privil. praegn. c. l. p. 411.

[2] de Nat. infl.

[3] Vid. eiusdem caten. temp. annul. 16. p. 53. et de quo etiam GARMANN. de miracul. mort. p. 965. legi meretur.

[4] de nivis usu med. c. l. p. 80.

[5] c. l. n. 125. p. 312.

§. XXI. Salia animantium corpora integra diu conservare apta sunt.

Praeterea satis notum est, nonnullis terrarum oris quasdam peculiare esse conditiones, quae corpora animantium integra diu servare aptae sunt. Quod de regionibus sale gemmae aut alumine refertis non obscure intelligitur. Salia enim huius generis sat valide putredini resistunt, id quod perbene oeconomii norunt, utpote qui ad carnes variorum animalium eo melius conservandas iisdem utuntur. Quamvis autem nobis de terrae indole, qua REGNVM SERVIAE praeditum est, nihil certi constet, haec tamen coniectura occasionem forte eandem accuratius inquirendi subministrari poterit. Ex his modo allegatis, ni fallor, aliisque pluribus addendis, si opus esset, causis, clare elucescit, nil quicquam miraculosi inde sequi, quando et VAMPYRI corpus incorruptum monstrarint, tempore post mortem notabili. Cum vero non omnia tali putrefactionis labe exempta reperta fuerint cadavera, in memoriam iterum revocamus, quod monitum fuit: incertam relationem esse ipsam, cum quidam mortuorum incorrupti, quidam e contrario putredine depravati fuerint, prout nempe tempestatis, aetatis, temperamentorum, subiectorumve constitutiones tulerint.

§. XXII. Ex causis naturalibus sonus, palus per pectus transfixo, explicari potest.

Si quis porro ad sonitum suspiriumque illud, quod adstantes ab ARNOLDO PAOLE perceperunt, cum palus per pectus ac cor more ipsis consueto transfugeretur, provocare velit, difficultatem minorem me in huius phaenomeni explicatione spero inventurum. Nimirum talis est pulmonum post expirationem constitutio, ut tametsi notabiliter collabantur, aëris tamen multum in cellulis suis vesiculisque retineant, qui compresso tam violenter pectore, non poterat non cum impetu et strepitu quodam manifesto erumpere, qualis etiam stridula et suspiriosa veluti aëris ex pectore expulsio, vehementi abdominis percussione facta, in cadaveribus non raro percipitur.

§. XXIII. Superstitiosa executio in mortuis facta, ob finem, quem forte intenderunt, approbatur.

Quisquis tandem felicem mali extinctionem clamitas, postquam Vampyrorum corpora, metu imaginario incolarum ita exigente, detruncata fuerunt, vide quaeso, ne etiam haec res, veluti omnes reliquae allegatae circumstantiae, superstitionis sit plenissima; qui enim sanus et vivus nemini detrimentum attulerat, nec ulli forte afferre, cum vires adhuc aderant, in animum susceperat, mortuus eheu! sententiam suam mutasse putatur, et capite proinde plectitur! Interim non possum non vestram hac in re conniventiam approbare ludices! cum forte credulis et superstitiosis incolis omnem hoc pacto terrorem adimere atque eradicare funditus annisi fueritis, quo poena atque vindicta hac utcunque caeteroquin ridicula, exercita in mortuis, mentem illorum erigeretis felicius, remedioque uteremini ad statum aegrotantium apprime accomodato. Metum enim in epidemicis eiusmodi malis, terroremque non infimum inter causas reportare locum, dudum experientissimi agnoverunt Medici, utpote qui etiam eundem in finem varia amuleta et periammata suis aegrotantibus non solum concesserunt verum etiam non raro commendarunt.

§. XXIV. Non dantur Vampyri, sed mortis genuina causa potius morbo epidemico est adscribenda.

Rebus igitur sic stantibus, VAMPYROS tales, quales iuxta definitionem descripsimus, non dari existimamus; tanta enim nec vivis relicta libertas, ut alios pro lubitu suo e medio tollere queant, multo minus competet mortuis talis potentia. Morbo autem potius epidemico eos fuisse interfectos vero videtur simile. Multi namque inveniuntur morbi, ubi aegri mente adeo sunt capti, ut sibi nescio quas imaginentur phantasias. Et, quaeso, quid est, quod imaginatio praesertim in plebe efficere non possit? Sic enim in aegrotantibus sive existente temperie atrabiliaria, sive ab hypochondriaco morbo viscerumque infimi ventris obstructionibus, sive ab sic dicto incubo, seu ephialte, et ab aliis innumeris fontibus, variae in corpore sese exerunt morbosae affectiones, quae cum metu, tremore, tristitia, suspitione, variaque imaginatione falsa coniunctae esse solent. Quapropter incolas loci cuius supra mentionem fecimus, febre maligna et contagiosa fuisse correptos, lubenter cum MEDICO^[1] consentimus VINARIENSI.

[1] *Eines Weimarischen Medici muthmaßliche Gedancken von den Vampyren*

§. XXV. Conclusio.

Quae pauca de sic dictis Vampyris in medium protulisse sufficiant. Ac quemadmodum minime existimationi illorum, qui vel hanc ipsam historiam litteris consignare, vel meditationes, diiudicationesque suas orbi litterario communicare voluerunt, aliquid detractum cupimus; Ita etiam nulli has nostras cogitationes, pro ea, qua gaudemus libertate sentiendi, ceu indubias ac omnibus suis numeris absolutas obtrudendas statuimus, utpote, qui tantummodo, quid in arduis valeant humeri tentavimus. Interim summum Numen precibus ardentissimis imploramus, ut omnes nostros in sui gloriam, proximique salutem vergere conatus iubeat.

FINIS.

Transcriber's Notes

The following typos in the text have been corrected:

CONSPECTVS DISSERTATIONIS:

- "XVI. Corruunt hinc..." -> "XIV. Corruunt hinc..."

§. XVII.

- "in affectibus inflammatariis" -> "in affectibus inflammatoriis"

*** END OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK DISSERTATIONEM DE HOMINIBVS POST MORTEM SANGVISVIGIS, VVLGO SIC DICTIS VAMPYREN ***

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