



INSTRUCTIONS  
RESPECTING THE ART  
of  
TRANSMUTING  
and  
AMELIORATING  
THE METALS  
*von schroeder*



**DR. S. BACSTROM'S**

**COMMENTARY**

**ON THE WORK**

**of**

**Von Schroeder**

## REMARKS TO FOLLOW BARON VON SCHRODER.

Dr. Bacstrom's remarks on the Baron's process are very ingenious, but, nevertheless, I would explain his meaning differently; it is little wonder that the meaning of the alchemists should be often mistaken, by even the most acute and discerning; for, though in some points they were pretty generally agreed, their philosophy was erroneous in many particulars and hardly any two of them had exactly the same system, and, besides, they wrote designedly in an obscure style. To comprehend their writings it is however necessary to have some knowledge of, and to explain them by their own philosophy, otherwise they will remain forever impenetrable: It is also necessary that their quibbles be guarded against.

In the work before us there is no small share of sophistry. The author says that some searched for the FIRST matter "in Cinnabar, in the Regulus of ☉ and other foolish things," and, afterwards, "I warn you not to be led astray by the star of ☉ as happened to Dr. Herdott." and yet it will appear, from what follows, that his first matter is neither more nor less than ☉.

The quibble lays here: ☉ reduced to a *M* PER SE will exhibit a star, but this is not "the star that comes from the east-" "the star of the wise men," for such a *M* would be unprofitable in this work. The East means the eastern sign ♃ : in this

house, according to Irenaeus Philaletha, the ♀ necessary to coagulate the ♂ial was found by the wise men; now ♀ is the house of ♂: consequently ♂ is the metal that furnishes the active ♀. When ♂ is joined to ♀ and the M properly purified, it is then the Mtü♂; "The sevenfold radiated star-" the highly purified heavenly ♀."

According to this author it is not every ♀ that is fit to be used in preparing the stellated martial M of ♀: "Take it early in the morning towards the day- do not misunderstand the words." That is not the ♀ only must be found in ♀ but the ♀ itself IN THE MORNING OF THE YEAR, when the ☉ is in that sign, for he says, before, that "we know some who had the matter, but as they did not take it AT THE RIGHT TIME their labour was in vain." Almost all who have wrote upon this subject insist upon the necessity of procuring the matter, or at least on beginning the work; when the sun is in ♀ or ♂, though the author of COELUM PHILOSOPHORUM says if you only proceed right you will succeed in any season."

When the Baron bids us "take the shell and let others take the kernel," he only intimates, that ♀ is used on this work not on account of the corporeal ☉ which is to be found in it. Rich specimens are sometimes worked upon the best for the sake of the ☉ that may be obtained from them, but the Alchemists employ this subject because of its ♀ and ♀ -not its external

but its metallic may they even (according to this author) makes use of the scoria itself, and indeed all of them declare that in the 1st. scoria a  $\odot$  or  $\otimes$  may be found.

Where he makes the matter speak the language agrees with the philosophy of the Alchemists. The corporeal  $\odot$  which it contains is the smallest part of its worth- it contains  $\odot$  IN POTENTIA, which, by a skillful artist, may be drawn forth in the form of sophic  $\odot$  ; whereas had its mother the  $\nabla$  concocted it perfectly it would have been born only vulgar  $\odot$  , and therefore unfit for the great work, having no more than a natural perfection necessary for its own formal existence. It might be used as a ferment to receive, itself, a higher power, but has no power to communicate to other metals till it first receives it.

No man values,  $\otimes$  on account of any mechanic use to which it can be applied; for, alone, it is useless; and even when used in combination, is applied to hereby any other use than that of hardening lead; but though useless in the arts it is esteemed by the Alchemists.

We now come to another quibble; for though CINNABAR be not the Barons FIRST matter, MERCURY is his SECOND matter. -"Bend all your thoughts on  $\otimes$  "- "take our philosophical  $\oplus$  or  $\otimes$  which is as heavy as lead, but without taste or sharpness, and extract out of it, (by means of  $\otimes$  ) a central  $\ominus$  "  $\otimes$  . By extracting a central  $\ominus$  from the ALL he intimates that the  $\otimes$  to

be employed in this second work must first be sublimed with common  $\ominus$ , by which means the  $\sim$  of  $\ominus$  is united to the  $\text{♀}$  in a concrete form, almost or altogether free from humidity. The  $\mathcal{M}$  being distilled with the  $\text{♀}$  a  $\text{♂}$ ial butter of  $\text{♂}$  is obtained "a troubled slimy  $\nabla$  which when rectified is perfectly transparent." "With this  $\sim$  extract its own sulphureous anima." that is: sublime or distill the rectified butter from the first scoria obtained in making the  $\mathcal{M}\text{♂}$ .

How often he purifies his  $\mathcal{M}$ , how often he rectifies the butter, how often he cohobates the  $\sim$  upon the  $\odot$  of the scoriae he does not inform us, but it is probable these operations were frequently repeated as he allows 2 months for this labour.

When this labour is finished you have then obtained "the  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$  Basilus's liquid key. A crystalline  $\nabla$ , ponderous as lead; and now deeply tinged like  $\odot$ ." By the animation received in the distillations from the scoriae- perhaps after digesting on the same.

He calls this purified, animated Martial butter of  $\text{♂}$  "A SPIRIT OF  $\text{♀}$ ", apparently for no other reason but because in distillation it rises and comes over the receiver as any  $\sim$  from matters yeilding a  $\sim$  come over by the same process.

Where he makes the  $\text{♀}$ ial  $\sim$  speak he is only describing the matter by its  $\mathcal{H}$  nine characteristics.  $\text{♂}$  belongs to the family of  $\mathcal{H}$ .  $\mathcal{H}$  considered as time produces all things, destroys all

things, renovates all things; but  $\Omega$  mundi is the efficient cause of all these changes. Time as Time does nothing itself: It is in fact only the periods of the operations of  $\Omega$  mundi, without which nothing is produced, nothing lives; it kills all that die, but only for this end, that by means of corruption it may produce regeneration and a new life.

What the ancient philosophers thus declare respecting nature in general our author applies particularly to the  $\Omega$  of  $\Psi$  in the labours upon metals; for from  $\Psi$  they all come, by this  $\Omega$  of  $\Psi$  they may be devoured, and by the coagulation of the same  $\Omega$  may afterwards be revived to a more noble existence.

The coagulation is probably accomplished by simply inclosing some of the  $\Omega$  of  $\Psi$  in a spherical glass and then digesting in a proper heat for a sufficient length of time. After the tincture is finished the first time imbibe it with the same  $\Omega$  and again digest and coagulate. Repeat the operation till the Tincture is exalted as high as you will it. After the first coagulation it will prove Sophic  $\odot$  but not a Tincture, -after the second it will be a Tincture, and every succeeding imbibition and fixation or coagulation, will increase it not only in quantity but in power.

Finis.

P.S. If you employ common  $\odot$  in the  $\Omega$  of  $\Psi$  the first coagulation will give only sophic  $\odot$  - If you work with animated sophic  $\Psi$  without common  $\odot$  the first coagulation yeilds the medicine of the first order, or a Tincture upon 10 parts. Finis.

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INSTRUCTIONS

RESPECTING THE ART OF

TRANSMUTING AND AMELIORATING

THE METALS.

BY WILLIAM BARON VON SHROEDER, F. R. S.

1684.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN

BY S. BACSTROM M. D.

1797



The following translation is interspersed with quotations from Basil Valentine, T. G. Tugel, M. Pott etc. Accompanied with remarks by the translator. The remarks are included in parinthesis (thus) to distinguish them.

**WILLIAM BARON VON SCHRODER**

**FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY IN LONDON**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**CONCERNING**

**THE ART OF TRANSMUTING AND AMELIORATING**

**THE METALS.**

**WRITTEN IN 1684.**

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**TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN**

**BY S. B. 1797.**

My intention is not to enter into Disputes as my time is too precious for that; what I propose writing I have seen and partly elaborated myself, and am still employed in bringing the same to perfection.

Although it is hardly worthy a Man's while to bring any proofs concerning the Reality and Existance of our Art, yet if we were not to mention something, our silence would by many be deemed inability, therefore almost against our inclination we see ourselves obliged to relate a few Tracts, the Truth of which cannot be taken in question.

It is positively known that THEOPHRASTUS PARACELSUS was well acquainted with the knowledge of transmuting ♀ and ♂ into ☉; this has even been attested by some of his enemies.

RAYMUNDUS LULLIUS transmuted a great quantity of ♂ into ☉, which he gave to King HENRY of ENGLAND, to enable him to assist other powers in re-taking the Holy Land from the Turks; this is well authenticated in History, and there exists yet a Letter written by the same RAYMUNDUS LULLIUS to King Henry, where he comments having furnished ☉ to the King, as he employed it contrary to agreement, to go to war with France. Through this Letter RAYMUNDUS LULLIUS was put in the Tower of London, as a prisoner of State.

I have seen several Rose Nobles, which have all been made of that ☉ procured by LULLIUS. But what need have we to quote

Examples of remote times? We have plenty of a later date, and even have no occasion to go out of Germany!

Whosoever doubts, let him go to DRESDEN in SAXONY, and examine the so called ☉-HOUSE, and let him enquire what has been translated in that Laboratory, in the times of ELECTOR AUGUSTUS, ELECTRESS ANNE and their Son CHRISTIANUS I, and let him ask from where proceeded those superb buildings seen at Dresden? If He, the unbeliever, wants still stronger proofs, let him go to the Electoral Libraries and enquire for the Chemical Acts and Journals of the Middle and latter End of the 15th CENTURY, and if he goes to the Secret Chancery, he will see such an immense quantity of manuscripts and Large volumes, some written by the Elector AUGUSTUS himself, wherein he may read how from time to time the tinging powders were elaborated and what immense quantities of ☉ was procured thereby weekly, that he may well be astonished, as we have been ourselves.



On the other hand in the Chamber of Public Accounts, where all the immense Expenses were set down, for erecting such magnificent buildings, he will not find a single GROSCHEN set down as received. For defraying such enormous Expenses.

Such Buildings were the PALACES, STABLES, GARDENS, AUGUSTUS-BURGH etc; for erecting them, the Expenses flowed from the Secret Chancery, as they received it from the Gold-HOUSE.

It is well known at VIENNA that BARON CHAOS had a Powder



in his possession, wherewith he made projection in presence of our Late EMPEROR FERDINAND III, when His Imp. Majesty who was a Lover, a Wise and good man; made BARON CHAOS a COUNT OF THE EMPIRE.

BARON CHAOS had not made the Tincture himself, but had received it from an EARL of MANSFIELD, who was a General at RAAB in HUNGARIS, who died, and the Tincture fell into the hands of CHAOS.

There is at this day a gold medal in the Imperial Cabinet of Curiosities which attests, that that  was made out of  in the presence of his Imp. Majesty FERDINAND III.

The many projections which have been made at Vienna with a Tincture of the well known WENTZEL by his present Imp. Majesty and by many others, and that the said WENTZEL was made BARON OF RIENBURG, are so fresh in memory, that it is superfluous to repeat it here; Although BARON REINBURG could not prepare the Tincture no more than BARON CHAOS, which is well known.

What DOCTOR HELVETIUS at the HAGUE related to me with his own mouth, many years ago, when I paid him a visit, every one may read in his own publication. (The Golden Calf)

BARON WAGNOR ECKO, who departed this life only last year, had a Tincture, whereof 1 grain transmuted  $3 \frac{1}{2}$   of any imperfect metal into pure  . Consequently 1 part transmuted and fixed 1680 parts.

The whole City of PRAAG, many wise men, and men of Rank can

testify the truth of this, to whom the Baron showed the Transmutation without fear, and made them presents of small pieces, as Testimonies of the Truth of the Art.

So much I know that the Barons Tincture was elaborated VIA UNIVERSALI; a ♀ ial ∇ was made first and then united with a ♂ or most subtil Crocus of ☉, and observing the degrees of △, it passed through the black, white, yellow and red colours and was multiplied by the same ♀ ial ∇. This Tincture was of a very fiery colour.

The Baron de Wagner Eko's Furnace was an Athanor built of bricks and was fired with charcoal.

There are at present living possessors, some of them are my friends, others I only know, but I cannot divulge their names, whilst they are living.

I know one amongst them, who, but a very few years ago, was very poor, but at present is a very different man.

FRANKFORT and AUSPURG can tell long stories concerning this man's ☉ and ☾. At first I would not believe him, that he was a possessor, because he did not immediately discover himself, and I knew his former Indigence!

Men generally make use of their good fortune according to their genius and natural capacity.

It is yet fresh in memory, that not long ago a Hollander, a goldsmith, of the name of SOMMER resided in VIENNA, who fixed

out of a Tincture of  $\text{♀}^4 \text{♁}$  into pure  $\text{☾}$ .

I have made the Experiment with my own hands; I have seen his Medicine under two forms.

The first, whereof he gave some to the Lord Bishop at Neustadt, was a grey  $\text{♁}$ , which I have dissolved in common  $\text{▽}$ , and found that it consisted of 3 parts of salts and 1 part of a fixed white metallic essence.

The other medicine was a red fixed glass, whereof he gave some to one of the Commissaries of his Imp. Majesty.

I have once seen the operation of preparing the Medicine, which was performed in 16 hours, in a strong  $\text{△}$ , in the open air, on account of the poisonous fumes.

The Basis of the Medicine was a fixed  $\text{○○}$ , which fixation, I found, had been made with Borax in a  $\text{▽}$ .

The tinging powder proceeded from a  $\text{♁}$  of  $\text{♀}$  or of Verdigrice and from  $\text{♁}$ ;  $\text{♁}$ .

In our days we also had in MORAVIA a certain person, who during a CEMENTATION of 7 hours, after having Cemented some  $\text{☾}$  previously in order to render it compact as they call it, enriched it so much with a graduating  $\text{♁}$ , that 3 parts out of 4 were fixed and tinged into good  $\text{⊙}$ , of nearly 24 Carot.

To do still more than relate Facts, we will communicate here an experiment, which will prove at once that our Art is true.

Experiment to demonstrate the possibility and Truth of Metallic Transmutation.

Take fine ☾ 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ , hungarian Copper 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or according to this proportion 9:10.

Melt the 2 metals together, then granulate the mass, as is customary, as much as this weighs take  $\bar{a}\bar{a}$   $\frac{1}{2}$ , mix it well in a ☽, so that it may lay in the ☽, as if it were S.S.S..

Place the ☽ in a  $\therefore$  heat, and distill the ♀ from the mixture into a Receiver with  $\nabla$ , and you will find and see the matter in the ☽ flowing together like a gum, which is of as easy fusion as Bees wax and burns if set on fire.

This matter project into melted  $\bar{h}$  on a test and copell it, and you will obtain a pure metal, which dissolve in  $\nabla$ , and a small proportion of fine  $\odot$  will fall down in the  $\nabla$  solution; half of your ☾ is become volatile, and by this volatilisation of ☾ you might learn something. I could communicate something useful here, if I had a mind to communicate indiscriminately, but I only want to prove here the possibility of a partial transmutation of some small quantity of ☾ into  $\odot$  by the power of the  $\sim$  of ♀.

I request also the unbelieving Chemical artists or such Lovers as are full of doubts, to try that common and well known



## EXPERIMENT WITH CINNABAR.

Take pure fine ☾ in filings 1 part or 1  $\frac{3}{2}$ , common ~~33~~ in longish pieces, as thick as a straw, or a little thicker,  $\bar{a}\bar{a}$ .

~~33~~ Dry the ~~33~~ in the white of an egg, then roll them about in the filings of ☾, so that plenty of the ☾ filings sticks on the ~~33~~ all round. Place these pieces into a glass body, and make an even S.S.S. with filings and pieces of ~~33~~, and lay them very regularly.

Apply an Alembic on the body, unluted; put the body deep into the .:., and in such a manner that you may have it in your power to give  $\triangle$  at the Top over the alembic, as well as under the body. Thus arranged begin with your  $\triangle$  at the Top, but very gradually the first 2 hours, afterwards give  $\triangle$  below, which increase until the ♀ in the ~~33~~ comes over into a Receiver half full of  $\nabla$ ; mind that the pipe of the alembic goes deep into the Receiver and that you lute nothing, or your vessel must absolutely fly to pieces.

In a day the operation is performed.

After the vessels are cooled, take your ☾ out of the body, which is reduced to ashes or  $\psi$ . The ~~33~~ pieces, as only the superfluous ♀ is come over, lay entire in the body, and look black like lead.

If you melt this in a  $\nabla$ , you will find a strange sort

of ☾, which ∇ does not dissolve as it is ☾ FIXA.

Now tell me how this pythagorean Transmutation of Bodies and Spirits has happened?

Ocular Demonstration will now convince you, I hope!

(See Tugels Experiments with ~~33~~ and ☾ and ⊙.) (I shall give them hereafter.)

The operation of the Adepts differs according to the subject, which is not always one and the same. (Stahl confirms this.)

In respect to Books my opinion is this: Who soever has a good Foundation, may become more perfect by study, but He that knows nothing, will never become possessed of a Tincture, by reading alone! Because the Philosophers style is this: They keep the subject a profound Secret, and tell their process enigmatically, and to hinder an experienced operator from discovering their matter, they intermix common operations with ∇, ♀, or S.V. and thus lead you from one Labyrinth into another, and still they write the Truth, but intermix it with Sophistry.

Where they speak too openly, there is Deception, but where they write enigmatically, there lays concealed the Truth.

The most honest and plainist Writers are RAYMUNDUS LULLIUS and BASILIUS VALENTINUS, but you read all the good authors and mind where they agree in the main point, and then you must endeavor to obtain a ⊕ and ♀ out of one subject only. (MR. TUGEL gives us such a process, to prepare a genuine ♀ of

♀ and a philosoph: ⊕ or ⊖ by one operation only, from crude Red Calaminaris from AIX LA CHAPELLE; this ♀ of ♀, says MR. TUGEL will perform every operation, which even Basilius; his ♀ of ♀ can possibly do; I shall hereafter give you this process of MR. TUGEL with several other valuable operations, from his universal and experimental Chymistry.

BASILIUS in all his writings has in one particular place only, named openly the true and most universal subject. ( ~~77~~ 22 )  
ore and ♂ )

Who soever takes this mineral subject, will nevertheless be deceived, as BASILIUS does not tell you THE CHARACTER nor THE RIGHT TIME, whereby you are to know and at what time you are to get THE GENUINE SUBJECT.

Without such knowledge, to know the name of the subject merely, is of no use, as the matter varies in different mines.

If you can get the right subject and know how to extract the ♀ of ♀ out of it, you have all that is needful.

BERNHARDUS TREVISANUS teaches what to do with your ♀ of ♀ more plainly, if you can but obtain his and our genuine universal mineral subject.

Otherwise every subject requires a different operation and purification, which may appear strange to an unexperienced artist.

(BASILIUS'S PROCESS and UNIVERSAL MINERAL SUBJECT, which

is also that of Count BERNARD TREVISAN, quoted by BARON SCHRODER, and is HIS FAVOURITE SUBJECT also, may as well come in here, as in any other place;)

"Basilius of Natural and Supernatural Things," Hamburg  
german edit: 1694-p. 241.

\* Ed. note-This tract is included in "The Last Will and Testament of Basilius Valentinus".

"Take in the name of God a red quicksilver ore, which looks like Cinnabar, and the best gold ore (this is hungarian  $\text{♁}$ )  $\bar{a}\bar{a}$ , grind them together, before they have been in the  $\Delta$ ."

"Pour upon this mixed powders, an  $\text{♁}$  of  $\text{♀}$  made per se out of Common purified and sublimed  $\text{♀}$  (I.C.  $\text{♀}$ ) digest it for a whole month, and you will obtain an extraction, which is heavenly.

"Distill the Liquor gently in a Baln: vaporis, and the phlegma will come over, whilst the ponderous  $\text{♁}$  remains in the bottom of the glass body.

"This  $\text{♁}$  dissolves all the metals in a moment.

"Pour gradually and with caution, 3 times as much rect: S.V. to this  $\text{♁}$ , digest them together, until the mixture is become blood red, and become perfectly sweet.

"The S.V. pour from the  $\text{♁}$ , and pour fresh S.V.R. upon the same  $\text{♁}$ , digest again, and the  $\text{♁}$  will become still sweeter, pour the S.V. off again and new S.V. upon the corrosive, and digest, and

continue in this manner by dulcifying the  $\overset{U}{OO}$ , until the  $\overset{U}{OO}$  is quite saturated and is become sweet and is red as a Ruby, and transparent.

"After every digestion you must distill the S.V. from the  $\overset{U}{OO}$  in a Baln: vap:, which will come over very clear like  $\nabla$ .

"Now take the remaining ruby red transparent Liquor and pour it into a  $\curvearrowright$  upon calcined  $\square$ , and distill in ashes pretty strongly, and the  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$  will come over into the Receiver, and will carry over its own  $\triangle$  and  $\ominus$  into one Liquor, whilst the remaining S.V. will stay behind with the  $\square$ .

"If you dissolve  $\odot$  in this treble or animated  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$ , you may fix the whole into such a Tincture, which will heal Diseases and procure Riches abundantly."

(this is a Via humida, as are all the processes of Frater BASILIUS)

BARON SCHRODER continues thus: The Rays of Sun and Moon and the Influences of the Stars act and penetrate the Earth continually by means of  $\triangle$  and  $\nabla$ , and meet towards the central  $\triangle$  of the  $\nabla$ . From whence they are repelled in Vapours towards the Superficies or Circumference all round.

In passing they impregnate and inspissate the Subterraneous  $\nabla$  and form it into a Saline Essence. (remember BECHORS OCDIPUS CHYMICUS his remarkable expression there, in the foregoing msc:)

This Saline Essence is further contracted by succeeding vapours and becomes a ponderous metallic  $\nabla$ , which we call

QUICKSILVER, and ought to be named the first metal.

This ♀, by further inspissation by succeeding vapours is gradually fixed into ☉ or ☾.

The generation of Metals commences towards the Center of the Earth and terminates towards the Superficies. The nearer the Metals lay towards the Superficies, the less they do yield, the reason is, that they are remote from the Central Heat and more exposed to the pressing atmosphere, which hinders their Maturation and Fixation. According to this philosophy the ancients have proceeded, and they have looked for immature Subjects, laying not so deep as the precious Metals.

Take therefore that which in the opinion of men seems vile and unworthy, and let alone that which is precious. (so says de la Brie.)

Some men have sought for the first matter and fallen into numberless absurdities.

Some have sought in Urine, in Excrements, in Hair, Dew, in a Slime which is collected in stagnating waters, in various minerals and salts, in Native Cinnabar, in the Regulus of Antimony and other foolish things.

BASILIVS names the matter openly in one place, where he says: Recipe .p. (p. 241) but as he does not tell the Signs and when you are to take the true matter, you will err nevertheless.

I know some that have this matter, but as they did not take it at the right time, their Labour is in vain.

A great difficulty arises, when you read the philosophers Books, that they have not every one made their Stone or Tincture from the most Universal Mineral Matter, therefore their operations and processes differ, and their Tinctures also, so that the one does not tinge so highly as the other, nor does every Tincture act on all metals, as the most universal does and ought to do. Therefore one philosopher does not always write like the other concerning his first matter or subject and process, which is to be noted to avoid errors.

In regard to THE MOST UNIVERSAL SUBJECT out of which RAYMUNDUS LULLIUS, BERNHARDUS comes TREVISANUS and BASILIUS VALENTINUS have made the most universal Tincture, it is named ELECTRUM IMMATURUM.

(now we are as wise as we were, before we heard this name!)

Art must begin where Nature left her work unfinished, this is the plainest Description the philosophers have ever given us of this universal matter.

There are many wonderful opinions concerning the most universal subject of the Philosophers; I for my part am not inclined to deny or contradict what I have never experienced; It is certain, that there is and does exist, independent of our universal mineral subject, a universal  $\omega$  which infuses and insinuates itself into every Matrix, and from which  $\omega$  all Things have

their Life and Existence. It is a pure, subtil, vivifying  
 ~ ; I have some knowledge of the virtues and powers of this  
 ⊖ ~ , in regard to vegetables, animals, and minerals, and  
 I suppose some know how to do more with this universal ~ than  
 I do.

Some receive this ~ in the form of ▽ , some like a Salt,  
 when the Sky is Serene and clear, either by means of particular  
 glasses by applying heat, or by laying certain Magnets, such  
 as Mumia, human blood, Minerals or Metallic ashes; or by means  
 of mirrors, attracting that ~ by night and by day; which must  
 be putrified and purified which purification is a Master piece,  
 as the Signs of perfection and purity are well to be minded;  
 afterwards it is to be multiplied by its own principle in In-  
 finitum and must lastly be fermented with ⊙ or ☾ . Therefore  
 I will not disturb any ones good Ideas concerning such a most  
 universal principle or Spirit, if he has more knowledge of it,  
 than I have; and I must confess, that ~ Mundi has of late  
 given me many serious Thoughts! But there is another matter  
 in the mineral Kingdom wherein that same universal ~ Mundi is  
 most plentifully infused, and wherein he dwells undetermined  
 and is in Spiritual operation and in full course to become a  
 Metal, yet has never been a Metal yet nor even a Mineral.

This our true and genuine matter; some have named it LUTUM AURI.



## PROCESS

To obtain the  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$  out of our matter.

Take THE MATTER, which BASILIUS VALENTINUS (p. 241) has named, and mind that it be AN UNRIPE ELECTRUM, and you cannot err, the operation teaches itself.

Without  $\text{♀}$  nothing can be done in our Art, therefore bend all your thoughts on  $\text{♀}$ .

Est in Mercuris quiequid quarunt Sapientes! Nothing in the World has such a power to open Metals radically as  $\text{♀}$ ; But we do not mean Vulgar  $\text{♀}$ , but our  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$ , although with Vulgar  $\text{♀}$  our  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$  is multiplied in quantity in Infinitum. Our  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$  converts vulgar  $\text{♀}$  into its own nature, and in the same manner does our  $\text{♀}$  ial  $\sim$  transmute  $\odot$  and every metal into its own nature, because it is PRIMUM ENS OF METALS.

This is COUNT BERNARD TREVISAN'S Fountain or Solvens, flowing from a beautiful 7 fold radiated Star-prepared from a highly purified heavenly Vitriol.

This matter must be taken in its Elevation that is not before it is ripe.

Seek therefore this matter in an open unlocked subject, early in the morning towards the day, do not understand these words wrongly although the great and Wise do not esteem this thing, and throw it away; you take the shell and let them keep the Kernel.

Try it by  $\triangle$  and  $\nabla$ , and the smoke and ill smell will teach you, what you have to hope or expect from your matter.

The Colour is beautiful, and shows by the royal garment, that something great is hidden therein. Follow him, until you see THE STAR OF THE WISE MEN, because this is an infallible token of approaching Felicity; but I warn you not to be led astray by the Star of Antimony, as happened to Dr. Herdott, because it is not every Star, that shows the right path, but that Star alone, which comes FROM THE EAST, and did never fall on the Earth, but remains standing right over the House, wherein the King of the World was born. Our matter has been generated by the Rays of the Sun and the Moon, and consists of  $\nabla$ , which on account of its internal Form is not yet inspissated.

OUR MATTER SPEAKS THUS:

Because I was never born, they made me a King. If my mother had brought me into the world, my Crown would have been lost.

It is true, no man values me, because nothing is made out of me, but I am esteemed and valued where the Stone of the Philosophers is prepared.

Second process concerning the preparation

of our  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$ .

IODOCUS VON RCHE has, in his process, plainly described the Extraction of the  $\text{♀}$  ial  $\sim$ . (you have that process in Coelum Philosophorum msc.)

Take our philosophical Nitre or philosophical  $\text{Ⓢ}$ , which is as heavy as Lead, but without taste or sharpness, extract out of it a central  $\text{⊖}$  and make thereof a troubled slimy  $\text{▽}$ , rectify it until it is perfectly transparent.

With this  $\text{Ⓢ}$  extract its own sulphureous anima, mind yourself, because it is a strong poison. Rectify it of its Faeces and your  $\text{Ⓢ}$  of  $\text{♀}$  is made and BASILIUS his liquid Key obtained, it is a crystalline transparent  $\text{▽}$ , as ponderous as Lead, and its Colour is deeply tinged like  $\text{⊙}$ .

#### ITS USE.

In this  $\text{Ⓢ}$  of  $\text{♀}$  all metals do melt and dissolve like Ice in  $\text{▽}$ . Nay vulgar  $\text{♀}$  melts therein and is radically dissolved therein, and by such a solution of  $\text{♀}$  COMMUNIS our  $\text{Ⓢ}$  of  $\text{♀}$  is multiplied in Infinitum.

The preparation of this  $\text{Ⓢ}$  of  $\text{♀}$  is the great Secret of the Philosophers; on this head they are all silent, and although I write somewhat darkly myself, yet it will be clear enough to those that have learned from my writings to know THE TRUE MOST UNIVERSAL MATTER, as our matter shows, itself, what must be done therewith.

I call it by its proper name a  $\text{Ⓢ}$  of  $\text{♀}$ , which others have expressed by enigmatical names; Now as in the preparation of this  $\text{Ⓢ}$  of  $\text{♀}$  does consist the first work, therefore be diligent and pay attention to this first operation, which may be done

very well in two months time.

The  $\Omega$  of ♀ speaks thus;

I am a wolf who devours all things; I thirst after the blood of my children (the metals) therefore I am called Devorer of Children. I eat, kill and tear to pieces, and return Life to those I have killed.

Nothing can live without me, and all that dies, I kill.

Whatsoever desires Life, must first be buried within me. All that is living calls me Father and is daily nourished by me; yet no one knows how to obtain me except he has stripped me first of my Coat. Therefore it happens but seldom that any man obtains a sight of me.

(I have never been able to discover the MINERAL UNIVERSAL SUBJECT of Baron v. Schroder. I have always doubted between CALAMINASIS, CINNABAR ORE, and AURIPMENTUM or Orpiment. As far as my knowledge reaches they are all three valuable Subjects, but after all, not one of the three might be the right matter used by Baron Schroder, Count Bernard and many others, amongst the more modern adepts. In order to make this msc: more complete, I will give you what I find in Potts Chemistry concerning ORPIMENT, but first I'll explain BARON SCHRODERS own process, as applicable to Orpiment, as far as I am able, although in some places it seems as if he meant ~~54~~ ore.

You have observed that the Baron says that BASILIUS names

it openly, where he says; Recipe. p.

This is the old Hamburg Edit. page 241, where BASILIUS says:  
Recipe or take in the name of God A RED QUICKSILVER ORE which  
looks like ~~33~~<sub>22</sub>, and the best  $\odot$  ore, which you can find.

What can we make of this else but nat. ~~33~~<sub>22</sub> and hungar.  $\oplus$ ,  
which generally contains  $\odot$ .

Now we must mind that BASILIUS extracts these 2 ores with  
a  $\ominus$  ial  $\odot\odot$  or Liquor made of  $\oplus$ . Observe also that ~~33~~<sub>22</sub>  
native or artificial consists of  $\ominus$  and  $\oplus$ .  $\oplus$  consists of  
 $\odot\odot$ ,  $\oplus$  and  $\ominus$ . Orpiment consists of  $\odot\odot$  and  $\oplus$ .

Note further that  $\oplus$  and  $\ominus$  or  $\oplus$  and  $\odot\odot$  are the first  
seminal principles of all the metals. These 2 principles are  
certainly the most homogeneous and most natural Keys to dissolve  
the metals radically, in order that death and Regeneration may  
follow.

BARON SCHRODER calls his subject an unripe Electrum, so  
does Paracelsus who names it ELECTRUM MINERALE IMMATURUM.  
 $\oplus$  AURIPIMENTUM as well as ~~33~~<sub>22</sub> ore and  $\oplus$  is an IMMATURE ELECTRUM,  
where the first metallic principles are found, but no metal yet  
brought to perfection by nature. Such ores as actually con-  
tain metal, can not be called ELECTRUM IMMATURUM!

Then he says "without  $\ominus$  nothing can be done," note this  
on account of BASILIUS'S process and POTTS, hereafter.

What he means by  $\ominus$  of  $\ominus$ , is Spiritual  $\ominus$ , or the  $\ominus$  ial

Vapour, either before it is running ☿, or running ☿ reduced into a ☿ial ▽ or ~, as BASILIUS made one of ☿, for extracting the ☿ and ♀ out of his two Ores.

Concerning the multiplication of his ~ of ☿ by vulgar ☿ in Infinitum, RIPLEY mentions the same of his ☿ial ▽, if you remember. He says that his ~ of ☿ is the PRIMUM ENS of METALS; so is every ☿ if animated by ♀, so is ☿, so is ☿, so is ☿.

Further he says;

Take for this matter in an open unlocked subject, EARLY IN THE MORNING TOWARDS THE DAY. (☿ is extremely open, and comes from the East, from Turkey.)

Take the Shell, and let them keep the Kernal. (this I do not understand.)

The Smoke and ill smell will teach you. (this is applicable to ☿.)

The Colour is beautiful, and shows by the Royal garment, that something great is hidden therein. (Native ☿ is a most beautiful ☉ coloured ore, foliated or interleaved with Scarlet and ☉ COLOURED LEAVES.)

Follow him until you see the Star of the Wise Men. That Star alone which comes FROM THE EAST shows the right path. (it seems that he has made a *m* ☿ stellatus which can be done, as POTT says; the Star coming from the East, may allude to the

subject coming from the Levart, from Turkey, as we have very little of it in the West of Europe, as Mr. Pott observes.)

(where the matter speaks.....I do not understand the meaning.)

### THE SECOND PROCESS.

Take our philosoph.  $\textcircled{D}$  or philosoph.  $\textcircled{A}$ , which is as heavy as lead. ( $\textcircled{A}$  is nothing near so ponderous as lead, not even as heavy as  $\textcircled{D}$ .)

Without taste or sharpness. (so is  $\textcircled{A}$ ) Extract out of it a Celestial  $\ominus$ , and make thereof a troubled Slimy or viscous  $\nabla$ , rectify it, until it is perfectly transparent.

(this is the  $\text{—}$  of  $\textcircled{A}$ , or  $\textcircled{A}$  philosophorum Simplex.)

With this  $\text{—}$  extract ITS OWN SULPHUREOUS ANIMA; mind yourself, because it is a strong poison. (Now it is  $\textcircled{A}$  philosoph: duplex, Sive animatus.) Rectify it of the Foeces etc. etc.

It is a Crystalline transparent  $\nabla$ , as ponderous as Lead, and its Colour is deeply tinged like  $\textcircled{D}$ .

(now we must examine what Mr. Pott teaches us in DISSERTATIONS CHYMIQUES DE MONI MR. POTT, Tome 1 a' Paris. 1759. vol. 1 page 140. Says Mr. Pott: "Risigallum or Auripimentum is a mineral of a  $\textcircled{D}$  colour, divided in Safron and Scarlet Coloured Lamella, proceeding from the  $\textcircled{A}$ eous Vapours combined with the volatile mercurial very penetrating Spirits, which renders this mineral

extremely proper to open the metals. Some have called it Sandarach.

PLINIUS in his 33 Book of Natural History, says: that there exists a process whereby  $\odot$  is made by means of orpiment; a process which invited the Emperor CALIGNLA, a prince very covetous of Riches, to cause some men to work a great quantity of orpiment; by which operation perfect  $\odot$  was procured, but so small a quantity that the Emperor had reason to repent of his avarice.

Nevertheless 14  $\frac{1}{8}$  weight of orpiment had been converted into  $\odot$ . This process has never been attempted since says PLINIUS.

There is in Turkey a Single Vain orpiment, which furnishes all what is sold in Europe. (there is also a FACTICIOUS ORPIMENT made and sold in London, which the painters use.)

Orpiment is a brittle ore, and disposed in Lamella like Talk, whose leaves are strewed with sandy particles; its colour is a fine yellow of a greenish Hue; some parts are frequently of a beautiful Scarlet Colour.

This kind of Sandarach is preferred above others by Alchymists. This Sandarach by its beautiful Colour resembles native  $\frac{33}{22}$ .

It is a mineral resulting from a superficial mixture of  $\infty$  and  $\triangle$ .

The  $\triangle$  is composed of a phlogistic  $\nabla$  and the universal acid. The  $\infty$  is composed of vitrifiable  $\nabla$  and of a great quantity of volatile, fluid, mercurial  $\nabla$ . Or in plain terms; its  $\infty$  is



composed of a metal and if the  $\Delta$ eous mercurial  $\nabla$  found in Sea  $\ominus$ .

The  $\text{♀}$  of the Philosophers is also composed of this  $\nabla$  united to the purest  $\text{♀}$ ial principle, (says MR. POTT.)

Orpiment contains a metallic mercurial substance; when treated in the  $\Delta$  with soap and  $\text{♀}$ , it furnishes a  $\mathcal{M}$  as brilliant as fine  $\text{D}$ , but so subtil, that the  $\Delta$  consumes it in time.  $\text{O}^{\circ}$  and concentrated fixed alkaline Lyes dissolve it, as well as they do  $\infty$ .

If you fulminate  $\text{O}^{\circ}$  with  $\text{D}$ , the  $\Delta$  in the  $\text{O}^{\circ}$  is destroyed, and there remains an  $\infty$  al  $\mathcal{M}$  fixed by the alcalised  $\text{D}$ .

This matter mixed with  $\text{♀}$  in fusion, renders it white, but takes away its malleability.  $\text{O}^{\circ}$  melted with fat, or soap, or  $\text{O}^{\circ}$  of  $\text{♀}$  or any fixed alkali, observing the danger of its poison, gives a metallic brilliant  $\mathcal{M}$ .

The  $\Delta$  unites with the fixed alkali and forms a scoria, high coloured, the same as the Scoria of  $\text{♂}$ .

Egg shells contain particularly THE MOST FIXED VITRIFIABLE PRINCIPLE.

(from the small pebbles, which the Hen swallows, and which alone gives hardness to the shell; deny the fowls  $\therefore$  or gravel, and their Eggs have either no shell at all, or a very soft one, like thin white red leather; I have seen the Experiment; GLAUBER consequently is right, when he speaks so highly of his LIQUOR and

VITRUM SILICUS, for fixing of volatil Tinctures; TUGEL says the same.)

SPERLINGIUS gives a process to make a  $\text{♁}$ ial  $\mathcal{M}$  with  $\text{♁}$ ; he says; Take 8  $\frac{3}{4}$  of  $\text{♁}$  6  $\frac{3}{4}$  of  $\text{♁}$  and  $\text{♀}$  fulminated together, 4  $\frac{3}{4}$  of Limatura  $\text{♁}$ , 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  of  $\text{♁}$  charcoal, melt these ingred. together in a  $\text{♁}$ , but beware of the  $\text{♁}$  fumes, and you will have a  $\mathcal{M}$ .

The  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\text{♁}$  as well as the  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\text{♁}$  penetrates  $\text{♀}$  makes it white and brittle, on account of its  $\text{♀}$ ial  $\text{♁}$ .

When such a  $\mathcal{M}$  is melted, it imbibes all the Metals, which you put to it, and those metals, when afterwards treated and distilled per  $\text{♁}$  with  $\text{♀}$  form a metallic  $\text{♁}$  or butter in the same manner as if you had used  $\mathcal{M} \text{♁} \text{♁}$ .

The  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\text{♁}$  or of  $\text{♁}$  absorb metals quicker than the  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\text{♁}$ , and renders the metals more volatile. The  $\text{♁}$  in the  $\text{♁}$  when detached from its  $\text{♀}$  is as violent a poison as common  $\text{♁}$ , for men or beasts.

Butyrum  $\text{♁}$   $\frac{4}{5}$ .

I took  $\frac{1}{2}$   $\text{♁}$  of  $\text{♁}$  finely powdered, and 1  $\text{♁}$  of  $\text{♀}$  also in fine  $\text{♁}$ . I put the two  $\text{♁}$  into a glass  $\text{♁}$ , and mixed them by shaking the  $\text{♁}$ , whose neck must be wide; I have placed the  $\text{♁}$  in the cellar, where I let it remain 24 hours, to attract moisture; afterwards I placed my  $\text{♁}$  in a  $\text{♁}$  furnace, and burried it pretty deep in the  $\text{♁}$ , I adapted a large receiver and luted

the joinings carefully, as the fumes, if they should escape, prove mortal, when received in the lungs.

I have begun with a very gentle  $\Delta$  at first which I increased gradually; the mass in the  $\curvearrowright$  melts and boils and a  $\omega$  comes over like clear  $\nabla$ , whose quantity is astonishing, considering that the  $\oplus$  and  $\ddagger$  are both dry powders.

I found this  $\omega$  equally abundant, when I had not attracted in the cellar.

Some call this  $\omega$ , which must afterwards be rectified per se, with the same precautions, an  $\overset{u}{oo}$  or Butyrum.

Its specific gravity is equal to that of  $\ddagger$ , and it smokes constantly.

After this  $\omega$  an  $\overset{u}{oo}$  came over, which floated upon the  $\omega$ , and would absolutely not mix with the  $\omega$ , although I shook the glass above 100 times.

Increasing the  $\Delta$  I obtained a good quantity of  $\overset{33}{\ddagger}$ , which sublimed itself in the neck and upperpart of the  $\curvearrowright$ , and there remained a small  $\odot$ , containing the sandy  $\nabla$  intermixed with the  $\oplus$ .

AGRICOLA gives the following process; Mix equal quantities of  $\ddagger$  and  $\oplus$  nativeum, finely powdered separately, put the mixed  $\ddagger$  into a glass  $\curvearrowright$ , which place in a cellar during  $\odot$  and  $\odot$ .

Then place the  $\curvearrowright$  in a  $\therefore$  pot, adapt a roomy receiver which

lute carefully to the  $\infty$ ; begin with a very gentle  $\Delta$ , which do not increase before you see it necessary, and a yellow subtile  $\infty$  or  $\infty$  will come over, which smokes continually, and consumes metals like a  $\Delta$ .

This  $\infty$  ameliorates  $\infty$  in digestion, but it is too much volatilised therein, so that it must be refixed, and by these means you obtain A WHITE  $\odot$  or LUNA FIXA.

AGRICOLA says that the foregoing process is of POPPIUS; he adds that  $\infty$  is blackened by this process but not enriched with  $\odot$ , and that there is no benefit from this digestion. He adds that this Liquor has some rapport with But:  $\infty$ , and that if you cohobate this yellow  $\infty$  or  $\infty$  several times upon its own  $\odot$ , your  $\infty$  will become of a ruby Colour. If you distill this  $\infty$  or  $\infty$  from EMERIL (is  $\infty$ ) this matter will give you an  $\infty$  as red as blood. AGRICOLA says also: That he knows, that  $\infty$  and  $\infty$  mixed, distilled and cohobated upon their own  $\odot$ , in order to impregnate the  $\infty$  with its own fixed  $\Delta$ , contained in the  $\odot$ , produces a dark red  $\infty$ , which gives always proofs of the presence of  $\odot$ , in small quantities.

By means of this red body: The partial transmutation of  $\infty$  into  $\odot$  is certainly demonstratable.

BARON SCHRODER, whom we have quoted several times, tells us, that some distill  $\infty$  with  $\infty$ , until they obtain therefrom a golden  $\infty$ , wherein they digest a Calx of  $\infty$ ; but the Baron adds:

that the small trifle of ☉ obtained by this process, does not pay its expences."

This is what I have collected from POTT; it seems the process of making a Butyr. ☉, which is done in one day, cannot be that of BARON SCHRODER, which takes 2 months, besides that we are by no means certain that ☉ is the Baron's Subject.

BARON SCHRODER continues thus:

Who soever wants to make a Tincture, must get a Mercurial Menstruum, which has the power to open and destroy metals, to extract their ☿s, and to unite and form with them a Chaos.

This Mercurial Menstruum can be made universally out of the primum Ens of ☿, that is out of the Limus, as we have mentioned before, and this is the most perfect process, by which afterwards a universally tinging medicine is made. Those who prepare a ☿ of ☿ from any other Electrum immaturum; obtain only particular and not universal Tinctures.

There is nothing nearer related to metallic mercuries than urinous ☿. The urinous ☿s and ☉s reduce metals either into an unreducible matter or into a running ☿, according to the knowledge and application of such urinous ☉s. Note! That ☿ is the principle out of which the tinging and transmuting power does proceed. In all Alchymical operations you must also observe:

1. Not to undertake destructive calcinations of the metals, which in resolving the bodies destroy the metallic ☿.

2. To purify your materials as much as possible, and to rectify every Thing.

4. Most Labours depend upon the Composition of the 3 principles, therefore nothing must be rejected from the matter, but the Foeces.

I do not doubt but there are other methods to elaborate Tinctures! Who has the means and time, and lives long enough to try every process? As Nature is inexhaustible!

What I have written, I have either seen or elaborated with my own hands.

Anyone that possesses the  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$ , can very soon accomplish particular Transmutations, independent of the Great Work; particulars flowing from the genuine Fountain are profitable, others are not so.

It is also true, that the power to attract and communicate the Solar  $\text{♁}$  can proceed FROM NO OTHER BUT THE MERCURIAL PRINCIPLE. This is in every metallic body, and by this particular Tinctures can be made; because the Philosophical  $\text{♀}$  shows itself in various shapes and Forms, and in as many different powers; sometimes as a running  $\text{♀}$ , at other times as a dry  $\infty$  al  $\text{♀}$ , at other times as a humid  $\sim$  of  $\text{♀}$ ; Therefore a practical Philosopher sees the Sophic  $\text{♀}$  in a different Form, according to the matter he works upon.

The true Sophic  $\text{♀}$  DOES HEAT ITSELF and is a  $\text{♁}$ . Vulgar  $\text{♀}$  is cold.

Without a Mercurial medium it is difficult or perhaps impossible, to elaborate either particular or universal Tinctures.

THE SOPHIC MERCURIES must be impregnated with a pure Solar  $\triangle$ , which  $\triangle$  must be taken from such bodies as possess a Solar  $\triangle$ : Be not surprised, if I class the urinous  $\ominus$ s among the mercurial menstrums! ISACUS HOLLANDUS extracted the metallic  $\triangle$ s with urinous menstrums.

1. The Art of all particular medicines consists in that the Sulphurs be extracted out of metallic bodies, radically opened.
2. That such Sulphurs be highly purified and separated from all terrestrial Foeces.
3. That your  $\Omega$ s, although they should be corrosives, be prepared from purified materials, and separated from all phlegma.
4. That if  $\odot$  is to be transmuted by a particular Tincture, such  $\odot$  be first prepared.

Amongst all chemical Labours Cementation is the most difficult; there is no man who can call himself a Master in Cementations.

The safest and surest particular Transmutations are such, where, in Via Humida, 2 Liquors are digested and Matured together.

The Solar  $\triangle$  is found in other metals and minerals as well as in  $\odot$ .

About 15 years ago I presented the King (about 1669) of England a Goblet of Ruby glass, which glass I had tinged by projection.

Those that know how to elaborate a mercurial menstruum from man's ☐ ; if they know how to apply it, they may obtain universal Tinctures, and they will see such curious phenomena, as Tinctures entirely metallic do not produce.

Our universal mineral matter, whilst in its crude state, has lately made a great noise in Germany amongst some physicians.

IN ENGLAND that same matter has also lately been praised by physical people above other medicines.

Yet no body knows what he has in hands, they undertake preparations and corrections, and they do more harm than good, in spoiling the matter.

If they took the matter IN ITS CRUDE STATE, and used it so, provided they knew how to chuse and select the genuine matter, they would effect much more good.

IN ENGLAND our matter is dear and scarce, but in Germany abundant enough, and whosoever knows it will, finds more of the true matter than of the false or spurious.

BERNHARDUS TREVISANUS and the little Treatises ENCHIREDION PHYSICAE RESTITUTAE and ARCANUM PHILOSOPHIAE HERMETICAE under the name of SPES MEA IN AGNO, have discribed our process with our matter as plainly as possible.

FINIS.