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Good Mr Martleb

Paris the 24 of October 1687

The many marks of

affection you have been pleased to expresse unto me in divers of your letters to Mr Aldenburg, are cause of this trouble I now give you; by wch I think my self obliged to let you know not only my hartly thanks for the particular favours I have received from you, but also for the generall obligations, (in which I, desiring to be a Cosmopolite, have a great part,) that the whole public owe ~~you~~ to the care you take for the advancing of ~~publith~~ learning. I humbly thank you for those observations you communicated me about the generation of perles. For me I am of opinion, that they are engendred in the cockell fishes of the same manner, as the stone in our body; wch I endeavour fully to shew in a discourse of mine about the generation of perles; wch, when I shall have donne it, shall waite upon you from my part in revenge of your observations. I heard lately a very remarquable story about Marquants from a person of quality and honor in this towne, wch you will be glad, I believe, to heare. A certain German Baron of about 24 years old, being in prison here at Paris in the same chamber with a French man, (who told this as having been eye-witnesse of it to him that told it me) they having both need of money; the Baron sent his man to a Goldsmith to buy 4 or 5 ordinary perles of about 20 pence a piece; wch he put a dissolving in a glasse of vinegar; and being wch dissolved, he took the paste and put it ~~in~~ together with a powder (wch I should be glad to know) ^{into} a golden mould, wch he had in his pocket, and so put it ~~in~~ warming for some time upon the fire; after wch opening the mould, they found a very great and lovely orientall perle in it, wch they sold for about 200 Crowns, although it was a great deal more worth. The same Baron, throwing a little powder, he had with him, into a

fisher of water, and letting it stand about 4. Hours, made the best wine, that a man can ~~possibly~~ drink. I am very glad it heare almost every part of the great advancement of learning in England. I hope, God bringing me back into my owne country, to contribute my best to that so usefull a worke. In the meane while I remaine
 Pray Mr Martleb doe me the favour to procure for me good Mr Martleb
 your affectionate humble servant
 R. Jones

R. Jones abt making
pearles

Jones

I think this is of Lord Ranelagh's hand
D. F.

For Mr Samuel Hartleb

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