A N ESSAY<br>Towards a<br>REAL CHARACTER, And $a$<br>PHILOSOPHICAL LANGUAGE.

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L O N D O N
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## Of MEASURE.

人. III. Hofe feveral relations of Quantity, mbereby men ufe to judge of the measure. Multitude or Greatneß of things, are fyled by the name of MEASURE, Dimenfon, mete, Jurvey, Rule; to which the relative term of PROPORTION, Portion, Rate, Tax, size, scantling, Pittance, share, Dofe, Ateß, Symetry, Avalogy, commenfurate, dijpenfe, allot, adapt, is of fome Affinity, fignifying an equality or Gimilitude of the refpects that feveral things or quantities bave to one another. They are diftinguifhable into fuch as refpect either
(MULTITUDE. I.
MAGNITUDE. II.
GRAVITY. III.
VALOR. IV.
Duration.
\{ More GENERALLY CONSIDERED. V.
\{As RESTRAINED TO LIVING CREATURES. VI.
I. Multi- I. To the Meafure whereby we judge of the MULTITUDE of things tude. may be annexed NUMBER, cnumerate, reckon, compute, mufter, count, $r$ cocount, Tale, tell, Arithmetic $c_{9} C_{y p h}$ hering. If the way of Numeration were now to be fated, it would feem more convenient to determine the firft Period or Stand at the number Eight, and not at Ten; becaufe the way of Dichotomy or Bipartition being the moft natural and eafie kind of Divilion, that Number is capable of this down to an Unite, and according to this fhould be the feveral denominations of all other kinds of Meafures, whether of Capacity, Gravity, Valor, Duration. So eight Farthings would make a Peny, eight Pence a Shilling, eight Shillings an Angel, eight Angels a Pound. So eight Grains fhould make a Scruple, eight Scruples a Dram, eight Drams an Ounce, eight Ounces a Pound, $\mathcal{B}^{c}$. But becaufe general cuftom hath already agreed upon the decimal way, therefore I hall not infilt upor the change of it.

The diffierent degrees of Number gencrally received, are thefe.

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ONE, Ace, Z) inite, Once, Firf, Imprimis, single.
    TWO, a Couple, a Brace, a Pair, a Yoke, second -ly, Troice, Double,
        Twofold, Bipartite.
    THREE, a Leafh, Ternary, Trey, Third-ly, Tertian, Thrice, Treble,
        Threcfold, Tripartite, Trine -ity.
|FOUR, Fourth-iy, Quartan, Quaternion, Fourfold, 2uadruple, 2ua-
    drupartite. शuartile.
FIVE, Fifth-ly, Quintuple, Fivefold.
SIX, sixth-ly,sixfold, Sextuple, sextile, senary.
SEVEN, seventh-ly, Septuple, sevenfold.
EIGGT, Eighth-ly, octuple, Eightfold.
NINE, Ninib -ly, Ninefold.
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How other numbers befides thefe here enumerated may be expreffed beth in writivg and Jpeech, fee hereafter, Chap.
II. Meafures

## Of MEASURE.

Those several relations of Quantity, whereby men use to judge of the Multitude or Greatness of things, are styled by the name of MEASURE, Dimension, mete, survey, Rule; to which the relative term of PROPORTION, Portion, Rate, Tax, Size, Scantling, Pittance, Share, Dose, Mess, Symetry, Analogy, commensurate, dispense, allot, adapt, is of some Affinity) signifying an equality or similitude of the respects that several things or quantities have to one another. They are distinguishable into such as respect either
$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { MULTITUDE. I. } \\ \text { MAGNITUDE. II. } \\ \text { GRAVITY. III. } \\ \text { VALOR. IV. } \\ \text { Duration. }\end{array}\right.$

## \{ More GENERALLY CONSIDERED. V. AAs RESTRAINED TO LIVING CREATURES. VI.

I. To the Measure whereby we judge of the MULTITUDE of things may be annexed NUMBER, enumerate, reckon, compute, muster, count, re-count, Tally, tell, Arithmetic, Cyphering. If the way of Numeration were now to be stated, it would seem more convenient to determine the first Period or Stand at the number Eight, and not at Ten; because the way of Dichotomy or Bipartition being the most natural and easy kind of Division, that Number is capable of this down to a Unit, and according to this should be the several denominations of all other kinds of Measures, whether of Capacity, Gravity, Valor, Duration. So eight Farthings would make a Penny, eight Pence a Shilling, eight Shillings an Angel, eight Angels a Pound. So eight Grains would make a Scruple, eight Scruples a Dram, eight Drams an Ounce, eight Ounces a Pound, \&c. But because general custom hath already agreed upon the decimal way, therefore I shall not insist upon the change of it.

The different degrees of Number generally received, are these.
1 r ONE, Ace, Unity, Once, First, Imprimis, Single.
TWO, a Couple, a Brace, a Pair, a Yoke, Second-ly, Twice, Double, Twofold, Bipartite.
THREE, a Leash, Ternary, Trey, Third-ly, Tertian, Thrice, Treble, Threefold, Tripartite, Trine-ity.
FOUR, Fourth-ly, Quartan, Quaternion, Fourfold, Quadruple, Quadrupartite, Quartile.
FIVE, Fifth-ly, Quintuple, Fivefold.
SIX, Sixth-ly, Sixfold, Sextuple, Sextile, Senary.
SEVEN, Seventh-ly, Septuple, Sevenfold.
EIGHT, Eighth-ly, Octuple, Eightfold.
NINE, Ninth-ly, Ninefold.

How other numbers besides these here enumerated may be expressed both in writing and speech, see hereafter, Chap.
II. Measures
II. Meafures of Magnitude do comprenend both thofe of Length, and II. MAGN ${ }^{-}$ of Superficies or Area, together with thofe of Solidity; both compre- TuDE. hended in that which is adjoyned, viz. the word CAPACITY, bold, contain. The feveral Nations of the World do not more differ in their Languages, then in the various kinds and proportions of thefe Mea, fures. And it is not without great difficulty, that the Meafures obferved by all thofe different Nations who traffick together, are reduced to that which is commonly known and received by any one of them ; which labour would be much abbreviated, if they were all of them fixed to any one certain Standard. To which purpofe, it were moft, defirable to find out fome natural standard, or univerfal Meafure, which hath been efteemed by Learned men as one of the defiderata in Philofophy. If this could be done in Longitude, the other Meafures might be eafily fixed from thence.

This was heretofore aimed at and endeavoured afterin all thofe various Meafures, derived from natural things, though none of them do fufficiently anfwer this end. As for that of a Barly corn, which is made the common ground and original of the reft, the magnitude and mexight of it may be fo various in feveral times and places, as will render it incapable of ferving for this purpofe; which is true likewife of thofe other Meafures, an Inch, Palm, Span, Cubit, Fathom, a Foot, Pace; \&c. none of which can be determined to any fufficient certainty.

Some have conceived that this might be better done by fubdividing a Degree upon the Earth : But there would be fo much difficulty and uncertainty in this way as would render it unpracticable. Others have thought, it might be derived from the Quick-filver experiment: But the unequal gravity and thicknefs of the Atmophere, together with the various tempers of Air in feveral places and feafons, would expofe that alfo to much uncertainty.

The moft probable way for the effecting of this, is that which was firdt fuggefted by Doctor Chrijtopher Wren, namely, by Vibration of a Pendulum: Time it felf being a natural Meafure, depending upon a revolution of the Heaven or the Earth, which is fuppofed to be every-where equal and uniform. If any way could be found out to make Longitude commenfurable to Time, this might be the foundation of a natural Standard. In order to which,

Let there be a folid Ball exactly round, of fome of the heavieft metals : Let there be a String to hang it upon, the fmalleft, limbereft, and leaft fubject to retch : Let this Ball be fufpended by this String, being extended to fuch a length, that the fpace of every Vibration may be equal to a fecond Minute of time, the String being, by frequent trials, either lengthned or fhortned, till it attain to this equality: Thefe Vibrations fhould be the fmalleft, that can laft a fufficient fpace of time, to afford a confiderable number of them, either 6 , or 500 at leaft; for which end, its paffing an arch of five or fix degrees at the firf, may be fufficient. The Peindulumi being fo ordered as to have every one of its Vibrations equal to a fecond minute of time, which is to be adjufted with much care and exactnefs; then meafure the length of this String, from its place of fufpenfion to the Centre of the Ball; which Meafure muft be taken as it hangs free in its perpendicular polture, and not otherwife, becaufe of ftretching: which being done, there are given thefe two Lengths, viz, of the String, and of the Radius of the Ball, to which a third Propertional muft be found out;
II. Measures of Magnitude do comprehend both those of Length, and of II. Superficies or Area, together with those of Solidity; both comprehended in that which is adjoined, viz. the word CAPACITY, hold, contain. The several Nations of the World do not more differ in their Languages, than in the various kinds and proportions of these Measures. And it is not without great difficulty, that the Measures observed by all those different Nations who traffick together, are reduced to that which is commonly known and received by anyone of them; which labour would be much abbreviated, if they were all of them fixed to any one certain Standard. To which purpose, it were most desirable to find out some natural Standard, or universal Measure, which hath been esteemed by Learned men as one of the desiderata in Philosophy. If this could be done in Longitude, the other Measures might be easily fixed from thence.

This was heretofore aimed at and endeavoured after, in all those various Measures derived from natural things, though none of them do sufficiently answer this end. As for that of a Barley corn, which is made the common ground and original of the rest, the magnitude and weight of it may be so various in several times and places, as will render it incapable of serving for this purpose; which is true likewise of those other Measures, an Inch, Palm, Span, Cubit, Fathom, a Foot, Pace; \&c. none of which can be determined to any sufficient certainty.

Some have conceived that this might be better done by subdividing a Degree upon the Earth: But there would be so much difficulty and uncertainty in this way as would render it unpracticable. Others have thought, it might be derived from the Quicksilver experiment: But the unequal gravity and thickness of the Atmosphere, together with the various tempers of Air in several places and seasons, would expose that also to much uncertainty.

The most probable way for the effecting of this, is that which was first suggested by Doctor Christopher Wren, namely, by Vibration of a Pendulum: Time it self being a natural Measure, depending upon a revolution of the Heaven or the Earth, which is supposed to be every-where equal and uniform. If any way could be found out to make Longitude commensurable to Time, this might be the foundation of a natural Standard.

In order to which,
Let there be a solid ball exactly round, of some of the heaviest metals: Let there be a String to hang it upon, the smallest, limberest, and least subject to retch: Let this Ball be suspended by this String, being extended to such a length, that the space of every Vibration may be equal to a second Minute of time, the String being, by frequent trials, either lengthened or shortened, till it attain to this equality: These Vibrations should be the smallest, that can last a sufficient space of time, to afford a considerable number of them, either 6 , or 500 at least; for which end, its passing an arch of five or six degrees at the first, may be sufficient. The Pendulum being so ordered as to have everyone of its Vibrations equal to a second minute of time, which is to be adjusted with much care and exactness; then measure the length of this String, from its place of suspension to the Centre of the Ball; which Measure must be taken as it hangs free in its perpendicular posture, and not otherwise, because of stretching: which being done, there are given these two Lengths, viz. of the String, and of the Radius of the Ball, to which a third Proportional must be found out;
which
192 Menfure. Part. IL.
which muff be, as the length of the String from the point of Sufpenfion to the Centre of the Ball is to the Radius of the Ball,fo muft the faid Radius be to this third: which being fo found, let two firths of this third Proportional be fet off from the Centre downwards, and that will give the Meafure defired. And this (according to the dificovery and obfervation of thofe two excellent perfons, the Lord Vifcount Broincker, Prefident of the Royal Society, and Mfon. Huygens,a worthy Mcmber of it) will prove to be 38 Rhinland Inches, or (which is all one) 39 linches and a quarter, according to our London Standard.
Let this Length therefore be called the Standard; let one Tenth of it be called a Foot; one Tenth of a Foot, an Inch; one Tenth of an Inch, a Line. And fo upward; Ten Standards flould be a Pearch; Ten Pearches, a Furlong; Ten Furlongs, a Mizie; Ten Miles, a League, \&זc.

And fo for Meafures of Capacity: The cubical content of this Standard may be called the Buffiel: the Tenth part of the Bufhel, the Peck; the Tenth part of a Peck, a Quart ; and the Tenth of that, a Pint,\&c. And fo for as miany other Meafures upwards as thall be thought expedient for ufe.

As for Meafures of Weight ; Let this cubical content of difilled Rainwater be the Hundred; the Tenth part of that, Stone; the Tenth part of a Stone, a Pound; the Tenth of a Pound,an Ounce ; the Tenth of an Ounce, a Dram; the Tenth of a Dram, a Scruple ; the Tenth of a Scruple, a Grain, \&c. And fo upwards; Ten of thefe cubical Meafures may be called a Thoufand, and Ten of thefe Thoufand may be called a Tun, \&c.

As for the Meafures of Mony, tis requifite that they fhould be determined by the different Quantities of thole two natural Metals which are the moft ufual materials of it, viz. Goid and silver confidered in their Purity without any allay. A Cube of this Standard of either of thefe Metals may be flyled a Thoufand or a Talent of each; the Tenth part of this weight, a Hundred; ; the Tenth of a Hundred, a Pound; the Tenth of a Pound, an Angel; the Tenth of an Angel, a sbilling; the Tenth of a Shilling, a Peny; the Tenth of a Peny, a Farthing.

I mention thefe particulars, not out of any hope or expectation that the World will ever make ufe of them; but only to thew the poffibility of reducing all Meafures to one determined certainty.
Thefe meafures of MAGNITUDE (to which may be annexed the Notion of CONTENT) may be reduced to thefe Heads.

| I Line. | 6 FURLONG. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 INCH. | 7 MILE. |
| 3 FOOT. | 8 LEAGUE. |
| 4 STANDARD. | 9 DEGREE. |
| 5 PEARCH. |  |

Each of which is applicable either to Longitude, Area, or Bulk: the laft of which comprehends the Meafures of Capacity.
${ }_{\text {IIII }}$ GRAVI- III. Meafures of GRAVITY (to which may be annexed for affinity TYo the thing by which Gravity is meafired, flyled WEIGHT, Roize, counterpoije, Plummet, ) may be diftributed nato thefe kinds.
1 GRAIN.
2 SCRUPLE.
DRAM.
4 OUNCE.
5 POUND.

6 STONE
7 HUNDRED.
THOUSAND.
iv. The
which must be as the length of the String from the point of Suspension to the Centre of the Ball is to the Radius of the Ball, so must the said Radius be to this third: which being so found, let two fifths of this third Proportional be set off from the Centre downwards, and that will give the Measure desired. And this (according to the discovery and observation of those two excellent persons, the Lord Viscount Brouncker, President of the Royal Society, and Mon. Huygens, a worthy Member of it) will prove to be 38 Rhinland Inches, or (which is all one) 39 inches and a quarter, according to our London Standard.

Let this Length therefore be called the Standard; let one Tenth of it be called a Foot; one Tenth of a Foot an Inch; one Tenth of an Inch a Line. And so upward, Ten Standards should be a Pearch; Ten Pearches, a Furlong; Ten Furlongs, a Mile; Ten Miles, a League, \&c.

And so for Measures of Capacity: The cubical content of this Standard may be called the Bushel: the Tenth part of the Bushel, the Peck; the Tenth part of a Peck, a Quart; and the Tenth of that, a, Pint, \&c. And so for as many other Measures upwards as shall be thought expedient for use.

As for Measures of Weight; Let this cubical content of distilled Rainwater be the Hundred; the Tenth part of that a Stone; the Tenth part of a Stone, a Pound; the Tenth of a Pound, an ounce; the Tenth of an Ounce, a Dram; the Tenth of a Dram a scruple; the Tenth of a Scruple, a Grain, \&c. And so upwards; Ten of these cubical Measures may be called a Thousand, and Ten of these Thousand may be called a Tun, \&c.

As for the Measures of Mony, 'tis requisite that they should be determined by the different Quantities of those two natural Metals which are the most usual materials of it, viz. Gold and Silver, considered in their Purity without any alloy. A Cube of this Standard of either of these Metals may be styled a Thousand or a Talent of each; the Tenth part of this weight, a Hundred; the Tenth of a Hundred, a Pound; the Tenth of a Pound, an Angel; the Tenth of an Angel, a Shilling; the Tenth of a Shilling, a Penny; the Tenth of a Penny, a Farthing.

I mention these particulars, not out of any hope or expectation that the World will ever make use of them, but only to show the possibility of reducing all Measures to one determined certainty.

There measures of MAGNITUDE (to which may be annexed the Notion of CONTENT) may be reduced to these Heads.

| 1 Line. | 6 FURLONG. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 INCH. | 7 MILE. |
| 3 FOOT. | 8 LEAGUE. |
| 4 STAND ARD. | 9 DEGREE. |
| 5 PEARCH. |  |

Each of which is applicable either to Longitude, Area or Bulk: the last of which comprehends the Measures of Capacity.
III. Measures of GRAVITY (to which may be annexed for affinity the thing by which Gravity is measured, styled WEIGHT, Poise, Counter-poise, Plummet,) may be distributed into these kinds.
1 GRAIN.
2 SCRUPLE.
3 DRAM.
4 OUNCE.
6 STONE
7 HUNDRED.
8 THOUSAND.
5 POUND
9 TUN.
IV. The

Chap. VII.
Meafure.
193
IV. The Gradual differences of that common Meafure of the VA-IV. Valod. LUATION or worth of all wendible things (to which may be adjoyned that which is ufed as ibis common Meafure, Atyled MONY, Cafh, Coin, Bank, Treafure, pecuniary, Mint, stamp, Medal, Connter, Purfe, may be diAtinguifhed into

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1 FARTHING,Dodkiw.
2 PENY.
3 SHILLING.
4 ANGEL.
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V. Unto the Meafure of TIME may be adjoynied for its affinity the $\nabla$. Trike. word which fignifies the Permanency of any thing in its exiftence, from its beginning to its end, DURATION, abide, continue, perfff, endure, bold out, laft long, perfeverc, everlafting, furvive.

Time is ufually diftributed by the Revolution of the heavenly Bodies, or rather of the Earth and Moon, into fuch Spaces as are required to a revolution of the
Earthinits Orb; according to the
SWhole
I. YEAR, Twelvemonth, Anniverfary, Annual, Biennial, \&e.

Parts; confiderable as being the proper Seafons for the
Groxth and ripening of Vegetables.
2. $\{$ SPRING, Vernal.

ZSUMMER.
Decaying of Vegetables, according to \|a leffer: or greater degree.
3. SAUTUMN, Fall of the Leaf, Harveft.
3. ¿WINTER, Hybernal, hyemal.

Moon in its own proper courfe about the Earth: to which may be ad. joyned the ufual name given to the fourth part of this.
4. SMONTH, Men frual. ${ }^{\circ}$
4. ¿WEEK, Sennight, Fortnight.

Earth abont its $A x$ is; according to the
SWhole
5. DAY NATURAL, 2uotidian.
(Parts;
[Greater;
TTime while the Sun continues \|aboves or below the Horizon.
1 6. SDAY AR TIFICIAL, Diwrnal.
${ }_{1}$ Part of the day artificial, $\|$ former: or later.
7. SMORNING, Mattins, early, dawning, betimes.
7. ZAFTERNOON, Evening.

Lefferparts of time; being each of them $\|$ the $24^{\text {th }}$ part of a natural day, called an Hour : or the $6 c^{\text {th }}$ part of an hour.
8. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { HOUR, Horary. } \\ \text { MINUTE. }\end{array}\right.$

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IV. The Gradual differences of that common Measure or the VALUATION or worth of all vendible things (to which may be adjoined that which is used as this common Measure, styled MONEY, Cash, Coin, Bank, Treasure, pecuniary, Mint, Stamp, Medal, Counter, Purse,) may be distinguished into
\begin{tabular}{ll}
1 FARTHING, Dodkin. & 5 POUND. \\
2 PENNY & 6 HUNDRED. \\
3 SHILLING. & 7 THOUSAND. \\
4 ANGEL. &
\end{tabular}
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V. Unto the Measure or TIME may be adjoined for its affinity the word which signifies the Permanency of any thing in its existence, from its beginning to its end, DURATION, abide, continue, persist, endure, hold out, last long, persevere, everlasting, survive.
Time is usually distributed by the Revolution of the heavenly Bodies, or rather of the Earth and Moon, into such Spaces as are required to a revolution of the
Earth in its Orb; according to the
$S$ Whole

1. YEAR, Twelvemonth, Anniversary, Annual, Biennial, \&c.

Parts; considerable as being the proper seasons for the
(Growth and ripening of Vegetables.
$\left\{2\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { SPRING, Vernal. } \\ \text { SUMMER. }\end{array}\right.\right.$
Decaying of Vegetables, according to $\|$ a lesser: or greater degree.
$3\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { AUTUMN, Fall of the Leaf, Harvest. } \\ \text { WINTER, Hybernal, hyemal. }\end{array}\right.$
Moon in its own proper course about the Earth: to which may be adjoined the usual name given to the fourth part of this.
4. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { MONTH, Menstrual. } \\ \text { WEEK, sennight, Fortnight. }\end{array}\right.$

Earth about its Axis; according to the


| $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text { Greater; } \\ \text { Time while the Sun \\| continues above: or below th } \\ \text { Horizon. } \\ \text { D. DAY ARTIFICIAL, Diurnal. } \\ \text { NIGHT, Nocturnal. Pernoctation, lodge. } \\ \text { Part of the day artificial, } \\| \text { former: or later. } \\ \text { 7.\{ } \begin{array}{l} \text { MORNING, Mattins, early, dawning, betimes } \\ \text { AFTERNOON, Evening. } \end{array} \end{array}\right.$ |
| :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Lesser parts of time; being each of them the $24^{\text {th }}$ part of $a$ natural day, called an Hour: or the $60^{\text {th }}$ part of an hour.
8. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { HOUR, Horary, } \\ \text { MINUTE. }\end{array}\right.$
C c
VI. Life
$194 \quad$ Natural Power. Part. 11.
VI. AGE: VI. Life-time, or the AGE of LIVING Creatures, (as particularly applied to Men, to which there is fomething anfwerable in other Animals; to which may be adjoyned the word SECELLUM, Age, Efate, Generation, ) is, according to common ufe, diftinguifhed by fuch Terms as do denote the gradual differences of it.
The firt and moft imperfect state, when \|defitute of the ufe of reafon: or baving but little ufe of it,comprehending the two firft ten years.
SINFANCY, Babe, child, cub.
I. $\{\mathrm{CHILDHOOD}$, Boy, Girl, Wench, green years.

The Lefß imperfect Age, Jubject to the fway of Palflons; \|either more, or le $\beta$, containing the third and fourth ten years.
ADOLESCENCY, adult, Lad, springal, Stripling, Youth, Laß, Damofel, Wench. YYOUTH, Juvenile, Youm桽r.
The perfecia Age as to the Body: or the declining Age of the Body, but.mofz perfeit for the Mind,ftyled vergens atas, or the Age of Wirdom; the former comprehending the fpace betwixt the $40^{\text {th }}$ and the $5 \mathrm{c}^{\text {th }}$, and the latter containing the fpace betwixt the $5 c^{\text {th }}$ and the 60 th SMANHOOD, virile, middle age.
(year.
3. \{DECLINING AGE, elderly.

The laft and mof imperfecit Age, by reafon of the decay of Vigor, which commonly happens both in Body and Mind, \|either according to the fir $\ell$ and better part of it: or the laft and pwor $/ t$ part of this State, reaching from the $6 \mathrm{c}^{\text {th }}$ to the $7^{\mathrm{th}}$, and from thence for the SOLD AGE.
(time after.
4. $\{D E C R E P I D N E S S$, Crone. which there is something answerable in other Animals; to which maybe adjoined the word SECULUM, Age, Estate, Generation,) is, according to common use, distinguished by such Terms as do denote the gradual differences of it.
The first and most imperfect State, when $\|$ destitute of the use of reason: or having but little use of it, comprehending the two first ten years.

1. $\{$ INFANCY, Babe, Child, Cub.
2. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { CHILDHOOD, Boy, Girl, Wench, green years. }\end{array}\right.$

The less imperfect Age, subject to the sway of Passions; \|either more, or less, containing the third and fourth ten years.

YOUTH.
2.
\{ ADOLESCENCE, adult, Lad, Springal, Stripling, Youth, Lass, Damosel, $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { Wench. } \\ \text { juvenile }\end{array}\right.$
The perfect Age as to the Body: or the declining Age of the Body, but most perfect for the Mind, styled vergens aetas, or the Age of Wisdom; the former comprehending the space betwixt the $40^{\text {th }}$ and the $50^{\text {th }}$ and the latter containing the space betwixt the $50^{\text {th }}$ and the $60^{\text {th }}$ year.
$3\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { MANHOOD, virile, middle age. }\end{array}\right.$ $\{$ DECLINING AGE, elderly.
The last and most imperfect Age, by reason of the decay of Vigor, which commonly happens both in Body and Mind, ||either according to the first and better part of it: or the last and worst part of this State, reaching from the $60^{\text {th }}$ to the $70^{\text {th }}$ and from thence for the time after.

4 $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { OLD AGE. } \\ \text { DECREPIDNESS, Crone. }\end{array}\right.$

My thanks to Mark Dominus who alerted me to the work of John Wilkins when I read his web page at http://blog.plover.com/physics/meter.html Subsequently, I was able to visit the libraries of Wadham College, Oxford; Trinity College, Cambridge, The Royal Society, London; and the Library of Congress, Washington DC, where I was able to confirm Mark Dominus' observations and to research related materials. I have also had the opportunity to discuss John Wilkins and the metric system with members of the United Kingdom Metric Association, the Canadian Metric Association, and the United States Metric Association.

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