

MOORE'S COLUMBARIUM

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Moore's Columbarium by John Moore

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JOHN MOORE

**MOORE'S
COLUMBARIUM**

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COLUMBARIUM.

*Reprinted Verbatim et Literatim from the Original
Edition of 1735, with a brief notice of the Author,*

BY
W. B. TEGETMEIER, F.Z.S.

MEMBER OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.



LONDON:
THE FIELD OFFICE, 348, STRAND, W.C.
1879.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE "Columbarium" of Moore is the earliest English work giving a description of the different varieties of the domestic pigeon. From the accuracy of its details it possesses considerable interest both to naturalists and fanciers. By its aid the former may trace the alterations produced in varieties of the same species by the most careful breeding, continued for 150 generations; and to fanciers it is known as the source from whence all subsequent works have taken their rise.

Original copies of Moore are of the greatest rarity; beyond the four existing in the Library of the British Museum, and the one now lying before me (the property of my friend Mr. Esquilant, who has kindly placed it at my disposal) I know of no other. The present reprint is an exact reproduction of the original of 1735. It is reprinted page for page, line for line, and word for word.

Some of Moore's writing is very discursive, and might without much loss be omitted. But a reprint, to be of value, should be literally accurate. I have, therefore, reproduced the Columbarium letter for letter.

Mr. John Moore was a worm doctor living in the City of London. Twenty-two years before the issue of the Columbarium he published a work with the following title:

Arcana Mooreana, or a Succinct and Lucid Discourse of the
Origin, Essence, Scituation Symptoms Causes, and Cure

of the Cholick In all its various Denominations, different Kinds, Degrees, and Complications. Done by Mr. John Moore, Apothecary, at the Pestle and Mortar, in Abchurch-Lane, near Lumbard-street.

London: Printed for the Author 1713.

It is probable that the writer must have then been in business some time, as he states:

“If ever any person upon the face of the universe that dedicated his whole life to the doing good, and rendering himself beneficial to mankind, has reason to complain of the ill and barbarous usage he has encountered * * * *
* * * I am the Man.”

His worm powders were advertised in the newspapers of the period, and he was sufficiently well known to attract the notice of Pope, who published the following epistle in 1716:

“To MR. JOHN MOORE,

Author of the celebrated worm powder:

“How much, egregious Moore, are we
Deceived by shows and forms,
Whate'er we think, whate'er we see,
All human kind are worms.

“Man is a very worm by birth,
Vile reptile, weak, and vain;
Awhile he crawls upon the earth,
Then shrinks to earth again.

“That woman is a worm we find
E'er since our grandame's evil;
She first convers'd with her own kind,
That ancient worm, the Devil.

“The learn'd themselves we bookworms name,
The blockhead is a slow worm,
The nymph whose tail is all on flame,
Is aptly termed a glow-worm.

“The fops are painted butterflies,
That flutter for a day;
First from a worm they take their rise,
And in a worm decay.

INTRODUCTION.

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- "The flatterer an earwig grows.
 Thus worms suit all conditions:
 Misers are muckworms, silkworms beans,
 And death-watches physicians.
- "That statesmen have the worm is seen
 By all their winding play;
 Their conscience is a worm within
 That gnaws them night and day.
- "Ah, Moore! thy skill were well employ'd,
 And greater gain would rise,
 If thou could'st make the courtier void
 The worm that never dies.
- "O learned friend of Abchurch-lane,
 Who sett'st our entrails free!
 Vain is thy art, thy powder vain,
 Since worms shall eat e'en thee.
- "Our fate thou only canst adjourn
 Some few short years, no more!
 E'en Button's wits to worms shall turn,
 Who maggots were before."

Moore died very shortly after the publication of the *Columbarium*; his death is thus announced in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1737, page 252.

"April 12. Mr. John Moor, of Abchurch-lane, the noted worm doctor. He will now shortly verify Mr. Pope's witty observations, viz:

- "O learned friend of Abchurch-lane,
 Who sett'st our entrails free,
 Vain is thy art, thy powder vain,
 Since worms shall eat e'en thee."

The *Columbarium* has been laid under contributions by every subsequent writer on the subject. Twenty-eight years after the death of Moore, a reprint with very few additions, and some badly executed copper plates, appeared under the title of the "Treatise on Domestic Pigeons;" this with slight additions was again published as "The Complete Pigeon Fancier," by Daniel Girton, a *nom de*

plume; and in 1852, the late Mr. Eaton, issued his "Treatise on Pigeons," which consisted of the Columbarium, cut up into numbered paragraphs, with many additional erratic notes by himself.

The whole of these works are now difficult to procure; and believing that an accurate verbatim reprint of the original Columbarium would be acceptable, I have availed myself of my opportunity of having this edition set up in type from the printed copy of 1735.

The importance attached to Moore's work may be inferred from the fact that one of the four copies now in the British Museum is from the King's Library, another is from that of Sir Joseph Banks and the third from that of Sir Hans Sloane, both celebrated naturalists. Nevertheless, the fourth, which bears the signature of "David Jones" on the title page, is the most interesting, as it contains twenty pages that appear to have escaped notice, and is numbered to p. 80. The additional matter is thus headed:

An ACCOUNT of some MEDICINES prepar'd by JOHN MOORE, Apothecary at the Pestle and Mortar, in Lawrence Pountney's Lane, the first great Gates on the left Hand from Canon Street; who formerly lived at the Pestle and Mortar, in Abchurch Lane, London, with a faithful Narrative of some cures effected by them.

This account is written in the style usual in puffs of quack medicines, and fully justifies Pope's epithet of "Egregious Moore." Having no bearing on the subject I have not thought it necessary to reproduce it in the present reprint.

W. B. TEGETMEIER.

Finchley, N.

COLUMBARIUM:
OR, THE
PIGEON-HOUSE.

BEING AN
INTRODUCTION

TO A
NATURAL HISTORY

OF
Tame Pigeons.

GIVING AN
ACCOUNT of the several Species known in *Eng-*
land, with the METHOD of breeding them,
their DISTEMPERS and CURES.

*The two chief Advantages, which a real Acquaintance
with Nature brings to our Minds, are first, by in-*
structing our Understandings and gratifying our Cu-
riosities; and next by exciting and cherishing our
Devotion.

BOYLE'S Experimental Philosophy, p. 2.

By JOHN MOORE.

LONDON:

Printed for J. WILFORD, behind the Chapter-House in St. Paul's
Church-Yard. MDCCLXXXV.

