

made experiments with the same view: he forced grey lizards to swallow the milk proceeding from the salamander, and they died very suddenly. The milk, therefore, of the salamander, taken internally, may hurt, and even be fatal to certain animals, especially those which are small; but it does not appear to be hurtful to large animals.

It was long believed that the salamander was of no sex, and that each individual had the power of engendering its like, the same as several species of worms. This is not the most absurd fable which has been imagined with respect to the salamander; but if the manner in which they come into the world be not so marvellous as has been written, it is remarkable in this, that it differs from that in which most other lizards are brought forth, as it is analogous to that in which the chalcydæ and the seps, as well as vipers, and several kinds of serpents, are produced. On this account, the salamander merits the attention of naturalists much more than on account of the false and brilliant reputation which it has so long enjoyed. M. de Maupertuis having opened some salamanders, found eggs in them, and, at the same time, some young perfectly formed; the eggs were  
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