

viewed objects horizontally. If this is true, it is necessary to remark, that most of the plates given by Leeuwenhoek of microscopical objects, especially spermatic animals, represents them much thicker and longer than he really saw them, which renders the microscopes we speak of preferable to the horizontal, as they are more stable; the motion of the hand, with which the microscope is held, producing a little trembling, which causes the object to appear wavering, and never presents the same part for any time. Besides, there is always a motion in the liquors caused by the agitation of the external air, at least, if we do not put the liquor between two plates of glass, or even fine talc, which diminishes somewhat of its transparency, and greatly lengthens the experiment; but the horizontal microscope, whose tables are vertical, has the still greater inconvenience, that the most ponderous parts of the drop of liquor fall to the bottom; consequently there are three motions, that of the trembling of the hand, the agitation of the fluid by the action of the air, and also that of the parts of the liquor falling to the bottom: from the combination of which, certain small globules, which we see in these liquors,