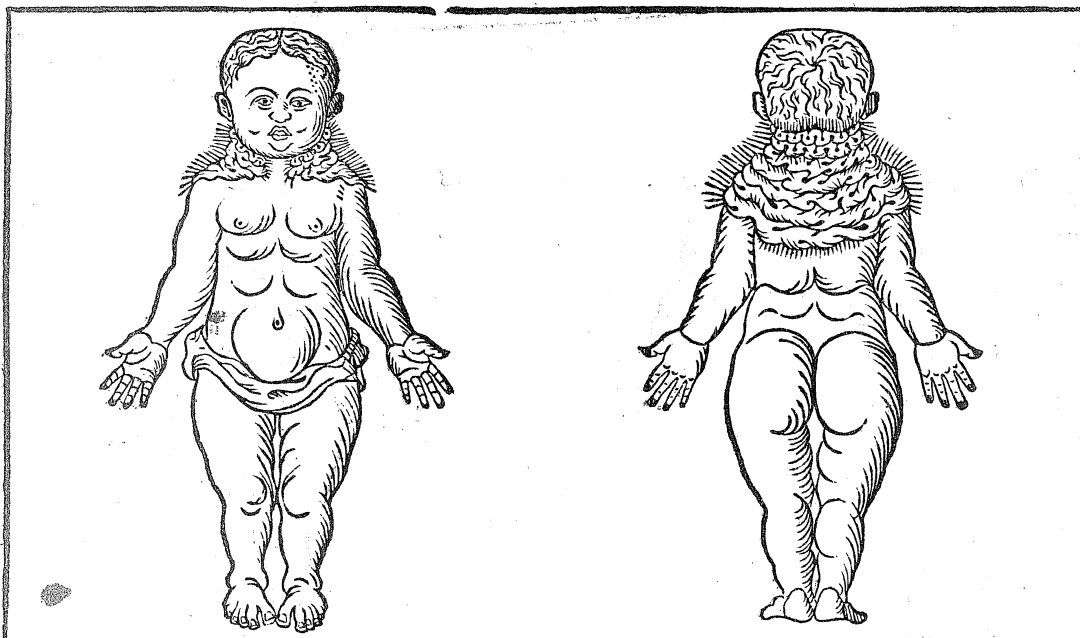


The true description of a Childe with Ruffes borne

in the parish of Dicheham in the Countie of Surrey in the yeere of our Lord M.D.LXvi.

The fore part

and the back part



This present yeere of our Lo: M. D. LXvi the .xii. day of June one Helene Termin the wife of John Termin Husbandman Dwelling in the parish of Dicheham was deliuered of a Woman Childe named Christia being after this maner & fourme following. That is to say, the face comly & of a cheerful countenance. The Armes and hands, Leggs and feet of right shape, and the Body wth all other members therunto apperteyning, wel proportioned in due fourme & order, sauing y^t it is as it were wunderfully clothed with such a fleshy skin as the like at no time hath ben seene. For it hath the said fleshy skin behinde like vnto a becherche growing from the veines of the Back vp vnto the neck as it were with many Ruffes set one after another and being as it were something gathered, euery Ruff about an inche brode hauing here growing on the edges of the same, & so wth Ruffes coming ouer y^e Shoulders and couering some part of y^e Armes proceeding vp vnto the nape of the neck behinde and almoste round about the neck, like as many womens Gownes be, not cloce to gither before: but that the chote being (with a faire white skin) bare betweenebothe the sides of the ruffes, the said ruffes about the neck being double and as it were thick gathered, muche like vnto the Ruffes that many do vse to weare about their necks.

This Childe before said (the day of the date vnder written) was to be seene in Glene Alley in Southwark being iue and y^e weeks olde and in i. dayes not vnlikly to liue long.

An Admonition vnto the Reader,

This picture press in paper white:
our natures doth declare:
whose fourme so straunge by nature
may lerne vs to beware. (iures spite)

By natures spite, what do I saye:
doth nature rule the rolle?
By god it is say wel I may:
by whom nature is toll.

The face full faire, the members all,
in order stand and place:
But yet too muche: by natures thral,
doth work a great disgrace.

This ruffling world in ruffes al rolde,
doth God detest and hate:
As we may lerne the tale wel tolde,
of Children borne of late.

What meanes this childe by natures
thus Ruffed for to be? (work:
But by these Ruffes our natures spurk,
we might be holde and se.

Her squares our squaring doth set out,
this here our hers doth checke:
This monstrous monster out of doubt,
agrath in eche respect.

Our fleshy liues in Piggs are shewd,
our pride this Childe doth bere:
Our raggs and Ruffes that are so lewd,
beholde her fleshe and here.

Our Beasts and Cattel plagued are,
all monstrous in their shape:
And eke this Childe doth wel declare,
the pride we vse of late.

Our curled here her here doth preche:
our ruffes and gises gale:
Our straunge attre wherto we reche,
our fleshe that plese we may.

The poet telleth how Daphnes was,
transformed into a tree:
And so to a Cow vsd passe,
a straunge thing for to se.

But poets tales may passe and go,
as trifels and vntrueth:
When ruffes of fleshe as I do trowe,
shall moue vs vnto ruthe.

Deformed are the things we were,
deformed is our hart:
The Lord is wroth with all this gere,
repent for feere of smarte.

Pray we the Lord our hart to turne,
whilest we haue time and space:
Lest that our soules in hel do burne,
for holding of his grace.

And y^e England whose womankind,
in ruffes do walke to soft:
Partwade them fill to here in minde,
this Childe with ruffes so soft.

In fourme as they in nature so,
a maid she is in deed:
God graunt vs grace how euer we go,
for to repent with speed.

F I I S. Q D W.

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