

URBIGERUS (BARO). *Continued.*

II. Viele Manieren wie ein jedwedes Metall vor und an sich selbst Via Particulari zu verbessern sey,

III. Die Tugenden und Eigenschafften des Antimonij und eine sichere Methode das Aurum potabile so wol in forma Sicca als humida zu machen,

IV. Allerhand rare Secreta für Medicos und Chirugos,

V. 101 Gewisse Regeln oder kurtze Aphorismi durch 3. Wege das grosse Elixir der Philosophorum zu bereiten, &c. Mit saubern Kupfern heraus gegeben von Baron Urbigero, Gottes getreuen Priestern im Tempel der Natur.

Hamburg, Bey Benjamin Schillern, Buchhändlern im Thum, Anno 1705.

8°. Pp. [8, frontispiece included] 109 [1], [40, 14-56] frontispiece included. The Aphorisms, Circulatum Minus, and 138 Regeln are unpagged, and have separate titles. This copy wants seven plates.

Petraeus, in his preface, speaking of certain persons who wrote on transmutation not from practical experience but from mere conjecture, adds: 'which I can almost affirm also of a person well known by his writings, called Baro Urbigerus, Borghese or C. de Siebenb [Siebenburg, or Siebenberg?] who died only a few years ago in Saxony, though it is certain that in his 'Aphorisms' a truth is concealed, which Duke Frederick of Saxe-Gotha, to whom the 'Aphorisms' were dedicated tested, according to the process given, and found correct. A chemical medal was struck at the time of the size of an eight-groschen piece, one side of which bare at the top 'a Numine Lumen' with the sign ☉ and ☽ in the middle a double triangle, at the bottom a phoenix with [the symbol of] antimony on its head and in its bill [those of] salt, sulphur and mercury, with the motto 'Suscipio & reddo,' Gotha, 1685. On the other side: Fridericus D. G. Dux Sax. I. C. & Mont., below 'Sorberger,' out of which by an anagram Borghese can be got. Yet Urbigerus himself, though he had repeatedly begun this process, had never succeeded, on account of various fatalities, in carrying it to Perfection. The author of the 'Unvorgreifliche Gedancken' allots great praise both to Philaetha and Urbigerus for having written of the mystery as clearly as ever was done, though he otherwise passes severe strictures on other philosophical writers, and thinks that no more need be written about the 'Lapis,' though the reasons he alleges' while true in part, are not quite conclusive. Eugenius Philaethes, though a great writer, was considered, by all who knew him in London, as a speculative philosopher, and to have been rather poor, whereas Irenæus Philaetha made projection before-Charles II., as

Urbiger assures us he heard from his Majesty's own lips."

The identification of Urbiger and Borghese, and the statement about Philaetha are repeated in *Jungfer Alchymia* and by Schmieder. I cannot however, homologate Petracus' reading of the passage in the 'Unvorgreifliche Gedancken' for while the author certainly speaks of the clearness of the writings, he says that Urbiger's 'Scripta' appear to be very sophisticated, and he doubts whether Urbiger was himself in possession of the key of the secret. The author's concluding wish is that the adepts would either reveal the secret in plain terms or cease writing about it.

Nothing (so far as I can find) is on record about the person who calls himself Baro Urbiger or Urbigerus. His Aphorisms appeared in English at London, 1690, small 8°, pp. [10 with the frontispiece] 1-51 [52-60] 61-86, and in his dedication he explains how this happened. "Being at present in England, tho' we are no Native of this Kingdom, we think it necessary to set forth these Aphorisms in the English Tongue not in the least doubting, but that the Knowing, minding only the Sense, will easily pardon any Impropriety, they may find in our Expressions: and when Providence shall carry us into any other Country, we, having attain'd to some competent knowledg of most European Languages, shall again take care to publish them in the Speech of the Place, where we shall be." And so the German edition above was by the author himself as he states.

The author of the *Beytrag* says the Aphorisms are neither fundamental nor reliable.

Semler, *Unparteiische Samlungen zur Historie der Rosenkreuzer*, 1788, iv. p. 49.

Gmelin, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1798, ii. p. 314.

Schmieder, *Geschichte der Alchemie*, 1832, p. 391.

Figuiet, *L'Alchimie et les Alchimistes*, 1856, p. 277.

Ladrague, *Bibliothèque Ouvraroiff, Sciences Secrètes*, 1870, No. 1186.

Kopp, *Die Alchemie*, 1886, ii. p. 384.

Keren Happuch, . . . oder Teutsches Fegfeuer der Scheide-Kunst, 1702, p. 123.

*Unvorgreifliche Gedancken, von Alchymischen Schriften*, 1708, p. 17.

*Die Edelgeborne Jungfer Alchymia*, 1730, pp. 197, 205.

Lenglet Dufresnoy, *Histoire de la Philosophie Hermétique*, 1742 iii. p. 327.

Fr. Basilius valentini . . . Chymische Schriften, ed. Petraeus, 1769, i. Neue Vorrede, sig. f1 recto.

*Beytrag zur Geschichte der höhern Chemie*, 1785, pp. 539, 643.

URIM & Thumim Moysis.

See MENSENRIET, 1737.

*Beytrag zur Geschichte der höhern Chemie*, 1785, p. 665.

Kopp, *Die Alchemie*, 1886, ii. p. 370.

URTHEIL (Das) oder Vergleichung des Gotts vnnd Richters Mercurii im vralten

Ritterkrieg.

See SENDIVOGIUS (MICHAEL), *Lumen Chymicum Novum. Epilogus et Recapitulatio Orthelii*, 1674, p. 227.

See STERNHALS (JOHANN).

See THEATRUM CHEMICUM, 1661, vi. p. 519.

This last is a Latin translation of the 'Urtheil'

USUFUR womit ein vornehmer Italiänischer Fürst von einem vermeinten

Chymico listiger Weise betrogen worden. Vor einigen Jahren Welsch,

nun aber Teutsch publicirt. So als ein Anhang zum Fegefeuer der Chymisten

dienen kan. Franckfurt und Leipzig, zu finden im Taubriscchen Buchladen.

1717.

8°. Pp. [24].

The person who played the trick here described is called Daniel aus Siebenbürgen. It is narrated also by Tharsander, by Kopp, and it was known to Voltaire, who was rather pleased with the ingenuity of it.

Tharsander, *Adeptus Ineptus*, Berlin, 1744, cap. 3, § 3, p. 91.

*Beytrag zur Geschichte der höhern Chemie*, 1785, pp. 230-232.

The term Usufur denoted cinnabar, here it was used for the supposed gold producing powder. The same or a similar story is told by the author of the *Beytrag*.

Kopp, *Die Alchemie*, 1886, i. p. 163.

Schelenz, *Geschichte der Pharmazie*, 1904, pp. 257, 282.

UTIS UDENIUS.

Non-entia Chymica.

See ELSHOLZ (JOHANN SIGISMUND), *Destillatoria Curiosa*, 1683, p. 155.

The name 'Utis,' I take it, is [[O5utiw]], the same as That with which Ulysses deceived Polyphemus, and 'Udenius' looks as if it had been made out of [[&Ude2iw]], So that the author is 'Nobody at all.' A good many authorities indicate Michael Kirsten or Kirstenius as the author, whersby by others 'Utis' is identified with Georg Wolfgang WEDEL (*q.v.*).

Michael Kirsten, who is not connected with Georg, was born 25 Jan., 1620, at Beraun in Moravia, where his father was clergyman. When his father removed to Sunola in Silesia, Kirsten had his schooling there and then went to Breslau where he distinguished himself. In 1637 he pursued the study of philosophy and medicine at Rostock, and after three years went to Stettin and lived with Lorentz Eichstad, a clever physician who took a liking for him, and was ably assisted by him in drawing up his *Ephemerides astronomicae*. He at the same time helped Detharding who was then writing against the alchemists, and he himself published the present book on the same theme: Non-entia chymica.

In 1642 he was offered the chair of the mathematics at Frankfurt a. d. O., but he declined it, and the following year went to Denmark and Norway. He stayed at Copenhagen for some time and translated the anatomical institutes of Caspar Bartholinus

and the explanations of Casserio's anatomical tables into German.

In 1648 he was in Hamburg and refused the offer of certain posts because he wished to visit Italy. He did so and graduated at Padua, in 1653. When he came back to Hamburg he received the professorship of mathematics in 1655, to which was added in 1660 that of physics.

He died 2 March, 1678, at Hamburg.

He composed a great deal of Latin verse for which Placcius puts him among the poets of the first rank during his time. In reply to a violent satire by Johann Blom, librarian at Hamburg, he wrote as coarse a reply, *Aletophilus paradigmatic-komenos*, Hamburg, 1654, 4°.

At Frankfurt appeared 'Non-Entia Chymica, sive Catalogus eorum operum operationumque Chymicarum, quae, cum non sint in rerum natura, nec esse possint, magno tamen com strepitu à vulgo Chymicorum passim circumferuntur & Orbi obtruduntur, Francofurti, 1645, 12°. Ibidem, apud Thomam Matthiam Götziun, 1670, 12°. This edition was published with a preface by Georg Wolfgang Wedel.

It was reprinted at Berlin in 1674, along with Joh. Sigism. Elsholz's *Destillatoria Curiosa*, under the name of Utis Udenius, pp. 99, 140.

UTIS UDENIUS. *Continued.*

- König, *Bibliotheca Vetus et Nova*, 1678, p. 446 (Michael Kirstenius).
- Mercklin, *Lindenius renovatus*, 1686, p. 1049.
- Witte, *Diarium biographicum*, 1688, sig. Nnnn 4 verso, Ann. 2 Mart. 1678.
- Moller, *Bibliotheca Septentrionis eruditi*, 1699, i. pp. 101, 335.
- Georg. Paschius, *De Novis Inventis, quorum accuratiori cultui facem prætulit Antiquitus*, Lipsiæ, 1700, p. 344.
- Placcius, *Theatrum Anonymorum et Pseudonymorum*, 1708, p. 243 (No. 1002, 'Non-entia Chymica'), 461, (No. 1821 'Anatomicæ Tabulæ').
- Kunckel, *V. Curiose Chymische Tractätlein . . . I. Chymische Anmerkungen, mit Anhang einer Chymischen Brille, contra Non-Entia Chym.* 1721, pp. 129-154 (a criticism of views propounded in the book).
- Manget, *Bibliotheca Scriptorum Medicorum*, 1731, II, ii. p. 461.
- Kestner, *Medicinisches Gelehrten-Lexicon*, 1740, p. 445.
- Lenglet Dufresnoy, *Histoire de la Philosophie Hermétique*, 1742, iii. p. 320.
- Moller, *Cimbria literata*, 1744, pp. 412-417.
- Jöcher, *Allgemeines Gelehrten-Lexicon*, 1750, ii. col. 2105.
- Matthiæ, *Conspectus Historiæ Medicorum chronologicus* 1761, p. 597 (about M. Kirsten).
- Eloy, *Dictionnaire Historique de la Médecine*, 1778, ii. p. 641.
- Fuchs, *Repertorium der chemischen Litteratur*, 1806-08, p. 151.
- Biographie Médicale*, Paris, Panckoucke (1820-25), vii. p. 430.
- Poggendorff, *Biographisch-literarisches Handwörterbuch*, 1863, i. col. 1262.