

George Humphreys

# MUSEUM CALONNIANUM.

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## SPECIFICATION

OF THE

*VARIOUS ARTICLES*

WHICH COMPOSE THE

## MAGNIFICENT MUSEUM

OF

NATURAL HISTORY

COLLECTED BY

M. DE CALONNE IN FRANCE,

*And lately his Property*

CONSISTING OF

AN ASSEMBLAGE

OF THE MOST

*BEAUTIFUL AND RARE SUBJECTS*

IN

ENTOMOLOGY, CONCHOLOGY, ORNITHOLOGY,  
MINERALOGY, &c.

AMONG WHICH ARE

The most elegant and finely-coloured of the BIRD and INSECT TRIBES, the most splendid and uncommon SHELLS, many of them unique; the various ORES of GOLD, SILVER, and other METALS, remarkable for Colour, Figure, or Richness; the different CRYSTALLIZATIONS of SPARKS, FLUORS, &c. all the high GEMS, AGATES, and other beautiful STONES; containing many superb and valuable SPECIMENS; together with some curious ECHINI, FISH, AMPHIBIA, matchless LUDI NATURÆ, being PORTRAITS in EGYPTIAN PEBBLES, &c. and various miscellaneous Subjects.

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*All which are now exhibiting at Saville House, on the North Side of  
Leicester Square, previous to the Sale thereof.*

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LONDON, MAY 1, 1797.

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## P R E F A C E.

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AS a connoisseur of the fine arts, *Monf. de CALONNE*, the collector and late proprietor of the Museum about to be described, is sufficiently known by the sale of, perhaps, the most superb collection of paintings, prints, drawings, &c. &c. that was ever disposed of by an individual in this, or indeed in any other country: but his attachment for, and knowledge of, the productions of nature, may possibly be known but to few. By an attentive perusal of the following sheets, however, as also of the *Conchology* of *Monf. de Favanne* (a work begun under the auspices of *Monf. de Calonne*, but not completed in consequence of the troubles in France), and by a careful examination of the Museum itself, his celebrity as a collector of natural history will at least appear to vie with, if it will not even be thought superior to his skill in the arts.

His fortune was ample, and his situation as a minister of France afforded him the means of obtaining early information whenever curious articles were to be disposed of in any country of Europe, whether brought thither by the different circumnavigators, or they were the contents of cabinets

collected by preceding amateurs. By the former means he obtained the most rare and curious productions brought from Africa, the East and West Indies, the islands of Ceylon, Amboyna, and Borneo; from China, Peru, New Zealand, and the newly discovered islands in the southern ocean. By the latter means he procured every thing which he did not before possess in greater perfection from the cabinets of Prince Charles of Lorraine, M. Blondel d'Azaincourt, M. de Montriblou, M. de Nanteuil, M. le C. De la Tour d'Auvergne, Mynheer Gevers, the late Duchess Dowager of Portland, and many others.

It must, however, be observed, that this collection will not be distinguished so much for the number of articles as for the care with which they have been selected; and it is proper also to remark, that of its parts the Conchologia, or Shells, seems to have been M. de Calonne's principal attraction; for amongst them will be found a greater number of the most perfect and unique specimens than will be seen in any other collection; every piece that was mutilated, of a bad colour, or too common, has been excluded. It is certainly not too much to assert the superiority of this part to every thing of the kind in Europe.

It is matter of great regret to the proprietors, that owing to the length of time required to compile the following sheets having been considerably greater than they were at all aware of, but little more than

1320. *Chætodon Argus* — L'Argus — *Chetodon Argus* — East Indies — *Chætodon Argus* Linn.
1321. *Chætodon Octofasciatus* — La Bandouliere à Huit Bandes — The Eight-streaked *Chetodon* — East Indies — *Perca Nobilis* Linn. *Chætodon Octofasciatus* Bloch.
1322. *Chætodon* — Le Baudrier — Banded *Chetodon* — East Indies.
1323. *Ammodytes Tobianus*? — Le Lançon — Sand Lance — Normandy — *Ammodytes Tobianus*? Linn.
1324. La Chauve Souris Volante — Bat Flying Fish — East Indies.
1325. Le Gournard Osseux — Bony Gurnard.
1326. Le Ventru — Beilied Lump.
1327. *Chætodon* — Le Baudrier Brun — Brown *Chetodon* — East Indies.
1328. Inconnu — Unknown.
1329. Idem, different — Unknown, different.
1330. Idem — ditto.
1331. Idem — ditto.
1332. Idem — ditto.
1333. Idem — ditto.
1334. Idem — ditto.
1335. Idem — ditto.
1336. Idem — ditto.
1337. Idem — ditto.
1338. Idem — ditto.
1339. *Loricaria Cataphracta* — Le Plecoste — *Loricaria Cataphracta* Linn. — Brasil.
1340. Septagonal plate of a fish of the *Ostracion* genus.
1341. Singular bony palate of a fish of the *Diadon* genus.
1342. Curious jaw of a fish of the Ray kind, from Japan.

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 CLASS VII. AMPHIBIA — AMPHIBIE — AMPHIBIOUS, &c.

1343. Back of a land tortoise — Dos d'Une Tortue de Terre — North America.
1344. Back of a land tortoise, different — Dos d'Une Torture, different — East Indies.
1345. *Lacerta* — Le Lézard Gouatreux.
1346. *Lacerta Squamosa* — Scaled Lizard — East Indies — *Lacerta Superciliosa*? Linn.
1347. *Manis Tetradactyla* — Armadillo, or Hog in Armour — North America — *Manis Tetradactyla* Linn.
1348. Castor Fiber — Beaver — Castor Fiber Linn.
1349. A large calcalus of some animal.
- 1349.\* Calculus from an Ape — Japan.
1350. A large hair ball from the stomach of a Cow.
1351. Horn of a quadruped of the goat kind.
1352. A very large horn of a rhinoceros, being three feet one inch long — Cape of Good Hope.