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Experiments on the Generation of Insects (Paperback)

By Francesco Redi

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.From the INTRODUCTION. The life of Francesco Redi centers in a period favorable to his fame. He was born in Arezzo, Tuscany, in 1626, sixteen years after the publication of Galileo's Sidereus Nuncius and six years before his Dialogues on the Ptolemaic and Copernican Systems, at a time when the twenty century old authority of Aristotle was still undiminished. The speculative philosophers Bruno, Campanella, Varini, and Kepler, all critics of Aristotle, prepared the way for the new Master, who was creator as well as critic. There was a third influence, however, to be considered: the Jesuits had monopolized all branches of learning, and had made Aristotle their own. His observations presented in the form of concrete and isolated facts, and especially his theories concerning the stability of the earth and the fixity of species, were not subversive of theological doctrine, hence the fathers invoked his name to clench every proposition. But the Mathematician put the Biologist's simple qualities together and on comparing them with his own ascertained quantities, found new values, hence new truths. The combination of mathematical and natural...



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