# Center [ 150 ]

# Double Rule

# Center ACenter CURIOUS MAN

[V]ALUES things not by their Us*e or*
*[V]Worth, but Scarcity. He is very tender*
*and s*crupulous of his Humour, as [i] Fantatics [i]
are of their Cons*ciences, and both for the mos*t
part in Trifles. He cares not how unus*eful*
*any Thing be, s*o it be but unus*ual and rare.*
*He collects all the Curious*ities he can light upon
in Art or Nature, not to inform his own
Judgement, but to catch the Admiration of o-
thers, which he believes he has a Right to, be-
caus*e the Rarities are his own. That which*
*other Men neglect he believes they overs*ee,
and s*tores up Trifles as rare Dis*coveries, at leas*t*
*of his own Wit and Sagacity. He admires*
*subtleties above all Things, becaus*e the more
s*ubtle they are, the nearer they are to nothing;*
*and values no Art but that which is s*pun s\*o

# Center A CURIOUS MAN. 151thin, that it is of no Us*e at all. He had rather**have an iron Chain hung about the Neck of a**Flea, than an Alderman's of Gold, and [i] Ho-**mer's [i] Iliads in a Nuts*hel than [i] Alexander's [i] Ca-binet. He had rather have the twelve Apos*tles**on a Cherry-Stone, than thos*e on St. [i] Peter's [i]Portico, and would willingly s*ell [i] Christ [i] again**for the numerical Piece of Coin, that [i] Judas [i]**took for him. His perpetual Dotage upon**Curious*ities at length renders him one of them,and he s*hews hims*elf as none fo the meanes*t**of his Rarities. He s*o much affects Singula-rity, that rather than follow the Fas*hion, that**is us*ed by the res*t of the World, he will wear**dis*s*enting Cloaths with odd fantas*tic Devicesto dis*tinguish hims*elf from others, like Markss*et upon Cattle. He cares not what Pains he**throws away upon the meanes*t Trifle, s*o it be**but s*trange, while s*ome pity, and others laugh**at his ill-employed Indus*try. He is one ofthos*e, that valued [i] Epictetus's [i] Lamp above the**excellent Book he writ by it. If he be a Book-**man he s*pends all his Time and Study uponThings that are never to be known. The[i] Philos*opher's Stone [i] and [i] univers*al Medicine cannot#center L 4

152 A CURIOUS MAN.
pos*s*ibly mis*s him, though he is s*ure to do them.
He is wonderfully taken with abs*trus*e Know-
ledge, and had rather hand to Truth with a
Pair of Tongs wrapt up in Mys*teries and Hiero-*
*glyphics, than touch it with his Hands, or s*ee
it plainly demons*trated to his Sens*es.