HENRI-LOUIS DUHAMEL DU MONCEAU

“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY
July 20, Saturday (Old Style): Bouhereau wrote in French to Gabriel Bernon. Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau was born in Paris, a son of Alexandre Duhamel, lord of Denainvilliers.

NOBODY COULD GUESS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT

Du Monceau

“Stack of the Artist of Kouroo” Project
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau was able to distinguish clearly between two different types of alkaline substance, potash versus soda.

DO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION? GOOD.
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau discovered the cause of a disease that was destroying saffron in Gâtinais. A parasitical fungus was attacking the roots. On the basis of this important discovery he was elected to the French Academy of Sciences (and would serve three times as that group’s president).

**LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARD?**
— No, that’s giving too much to the historian’s stories.
**LIFE ISN’T TO BE UNDERSTOOD EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.**
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau was named Inspector-General of the Marine.

THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT

"Stack of the Artist of Kouroo" Project
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau began keeping a record of his meteorological observations, and of the influence of the weather on agricultural production.

CHANGE IS ETERNITY, STASIS A FIGMENT
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau created a school of Marine science which in 1765 would become the Ecole des Ingénieurs-Constructeurs.

**THE FUTURE CAN BE EASILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT**
July 31, Friday (Old Style): Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau participated in the founding of the Académie de marine de Brest.
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau’s *Traité des arbres et arbustes qui se cultivent en France.*

The Trees of France, I
The Trees of France, II
After the untimely death of René Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur due to a fall from a horse, Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau took up the cause of the project for a *DESCRIPTIONS DES ARTS ET MÉTIERS, FAITES OU APPROUVÉES PAR MESSIEURS DE L'ACADÉMIE ROYALE DES SCIENCES* and opposed the project for an *ENCYCLOPÉDIE, OU DICTIONNAIRE RAISONNÉ DES SCIENCES, DES ARTS ET DES MÉTIERS*.
A new edition of Henri-Louis Duhemel du Monceau’s *Éléments de l'architecture navale, ou traité pratique de la construction des vaisseaux*. Also, his *Traité général des pêches, Éléments d'agriculture*, and *La Physique des arbres*. He had discovered that when you turn a seedling upside down, its roots and shoots will reorient so that the root continues to grow downward while the shoot continues to grow upward. Omigod!
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau’s *Traité des semis et plantations des arbres et de leur culture*. 1760
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau made additions to *ART DE L’ÉPINGLIER (THE ART OF THE PIN-MAKER)* in Tome 5 of the *ENCYCLOPÉDIE DE DIDEROT*, in which in an analysis of production efficiency he made use of a concept “division of labor”: a major task, divided carefully into a series of subtasks, with each labor item in the series potentially to be enacted by a different person of limited skills. There are those who credit this with having been the inspiration for Professor Adam Smith’s 1776 insight into *THE NATURE AND CAUSES OF THE WEALTH OF NATIONS*. 
ART DE L'ÉPINGLIER. (1)

INTRODUCTION; par M. Duhamel (.fits).

1. On fait en général, que les épingles font des bouts de fil de métal, pointus par un bout, & garnis d'une tète à l'autre bout, & que leur usage est d'attachée de la toile ou d'autres étoffes sans les endommager, de façon qu'on puisse sur-le-champ, & en tirant l'épingle, déployer l'étoffe & la rattacher de nouveau: les femmes en font une grande consommation, surtout pour leurs coiffures.

2. Il n'y a personne qui ne soit étonné du bas prix des épingles; mais la surprise augmentera sans doute quand on aura combien de différentes opérations, la plupart fort délicates, font indispensablement nécessaires pour faire une bonne épingle. Nous allons parcourir en peu de mots ces opérations, pour faire naître l'envie d'en connaître les détails; cette énumération nous fournira autant d'articles qui feront la division de ce travail.

3. Comme le fil de laiton se vend en botte aux épingleurs, il se trouve

(1) L’art de l’épinglier est un des premiers qui ait été donné par l’académie. Il fait partie du premier volume de la traduction allemande, publiée en 1762, avec les notes de M. de Juffi.

(2) On n’a trouvé dans le dépôt de l’académie, qu’un simple projet de mémoire sur l’épinglier, fait par M. de Reaumur, & trois planches gravées, mais sans lettres de renvoi & sans explication des figures. M. Duhamel, qui s’est chargé de mettre ce mémoire en état d’être imprimé, y a fait encore graver trois nouvelles planches (2). M. Perronnet a fourni aussi plusieurs articles qui enrichissent cette description. On a cru devoir indiquer ce qui appartient à chacun de ces auteurs, en mettant leur nom à la fin des articles qu’ils ont fournis.

(2) Ces planches, chargées de détails inutiles, & dessinées avec l’œuf, se trouvent ici réduites à une feuille, sans que cette économie nuise à la clarté du discours.
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau's *Traité de l'exploitation des bois.*
The school of Marine science that Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau had created in 1741 at this point became the Ecole des Ingénieurs-Constructeurs (it is now known as the Ecole du Génie Maritime).
Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau’s *Traité des arbres fruitiers*, and *Traité du transport des bois et de leur conservation*. He was elected to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

L’eroe cinese, a dramma per musica by Domenico Cimarosa to words of Metastasio, was performed for the initial time, in the Teatro San Carlo of Naples.
Alexander von Humboldt and Aimé Bonpland’s Personal Narrative of Travels to the Equinoctial Regions of America, during the year 1799-1804 ... translated and edited by Thomasina Ross (Three volumes; London: Henry G. Bohn, York Street, Covent Garden — unfortunately, only volumes one and three have been scanned by Google Books).

This edition would be available to Henry Thoreau at the Concord Public Library and he would make notes from it in his Fact Book.

Thoreau copied material into his Fact Book from Professor Carl Adolph Agardh’s Systema Algarum, printed as part of John Claudius Loudon’s Encyclopedia of Plants, comprising the description, specific character, culture, history, application in the arts and every other desirable particular respecting all the plants indigenous, or cultivated in, or introduced to Britain.

At about this point Thoreau copied from Henri-Louis Duhamel du Monceau’s Traité des Arbres et Arbustes
The original notebooks are held by the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York, as manuscripts #596 through #606. There are photocopies, made by Robert F. Sayre in the 1930s, in four boxes at the University of Iowa Libraries, accession number MsC 795. More recently, Bradley P. Dean, PhD and Paul Maher, Jr. have attempted to work over these materials.
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Thoreau would copy this into his Fact Book, and refer to the material in Cape Cod:

**Cape Cod**: One species of kelp, according to Bory St. Vincent, has a stem fifteen hundred feet long, and hence is the longest vegetable known, and a brig’s crew spent two days to no purpose collecting the trunks of another kind cast ashore on the Falkland Islands, mistaking it for drift-wood. (See Harvey on Algæ.) This species looked almost edible, at least, I thought that if I were starving I would try it. One sailor told me that the cows ate it. It cut like cheese; for I took the earliest opportunity to sit down and deliberately whittle up a fathom or two of it, that I might become more intimately acquainted with it, see how it cut, and if it were hollow all the way through. The blade looked like a broad belt, whose edges had been quilled, or as if stretched by hammering, and it was also twisted spirally. The extremity was generally worn and ragged from the lashing of the waves. A piece of the stem which I carried home shrunk to one quarter of its size a week afterward, and was completely covered with crystals of salt like frost. The reader will excuse my greenness—though it is not sea-greenness, like his, perchance—for I live by a river shore, where this weed does not wash up. When we consider in what meadows it grew, and how it was raked, and in what kind of hay weather got in or out, we may well be curious about it. One who is weather-wise, has given the following account of the matter:-

> “When descends on the Atlantic,  
>   The gigantic  
>   Storm-wind of the equinox,  
>   Landward in his wrath he scourges  
>   The toiling surges,  
>   Laden with sea-weed from the rocks.

> “From Bermuda’s reefs, from edges  
>   Of sunken ledges,  
>   On some far-off bright Azore;  
>   From Bahama and the dashing,  
>   Silver-flashing  
>   Surges of San Salvador;

> “From the tumbling surf that buries  
>   The Orkneyan Skerries,  
>   Answering the hoarse Hebrides;  
>   And from wrecks of ships and drifting  
>   Spars, uplifting  
>   On the desolate rainy seas;  
> “Ever drifting, drifting, drifting  
>   On the shifting  
>   Currents of the restless main.”
But he was not thinking of this shore, when he added—

“Till, in sheltered coves, and reaches
Of sandy beaches,
All have found repose again.”

These weeds were the symbols of those grotesque and fabulous thoughts which have not yet got into the sheltered coves of literature.

“Ever drifting, drifting, drifting
On the shifting
Currents of the restless heart,”
And not yet “in books recorded
They, like hoarded
Household words, no more depart.”

“MAGISTERIAL HISTORY” IS FANTASIZING: HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY
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“It’s all now you see. Yesterday won’t be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago.”

- Remark by character “Garin Stevens” in William Faulkner’s Intruder in the Dust

Prepared: September 15, 2014
This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.
Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology—but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary "writerly" process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.