

*In 1768, the snails of France suffered an unprecedented assault. They were decapitated in their thousands by naturalists and others to find out whether or not it was true, as the Etalian Spallanzani had recently claimed, that they would equip themselves with new heads...*

*... Thus, the study of regeneration in animals which had recently been put on a scientific footing by Reaumur, Bonnet and Trembley, became, perhaps, the first of all branches of experimental biology to be popularised.*

- Newth, 1958

(From A history of regeneration research: Milestones in the evolution of science - Dinsmore, 2007)